

# AMBASSADOR

ASBURY UNIVERSITY

SUMMER 2022

## Goodness of God

*Reunion 2022 Brings Celebration and Fellowship*

Holding on to  
Hope in Kyiv

**PG 18**

Empowering the  
Next Generation  
of Film Students

**PG 17**

Alumni Artist  
Paints Asbury  
History on a Horse

**INSIDE BACK COVER**







# Goodness of God

REUNION 2022: JUNE 24-26







1



3



4



5



6



7

## REUNION 2022

Goodness of God: Reunion 2022 saw more than 1,000 visitors celebrating the past, present and future together on campus. They enjoyed fellowship, connection and rekindling of old friendships. The weekend was highlighted by the dedication of the Walt and Rowena Shaw Collaborative Learning Center, fireworks, and tours to witness firsthand God’s faithfulness to Asbury in the form of a revitalized campus for students learning in an ever-changing world.

Alumni supported and received updates on this year’s Reunion Gift Project, a Garden Plaza at Kirkland Complex. The planned Plaza is a large, elevated area next to the Luce Center and adjacent to the baseball and softball facilities and overlooking the soccer field. It will consist of artfully designed hardscaped and landscaped areas which will provide practical seating.

**Visit [asbury.edu/reunion](https://asbury.edu/reunion) for photos and livestream links from Reunion.**

**1** The annual Hymn Sing is the highlight that kicks off a weekend of Reunion fun, and this year’s did not disappoint. **2** More than 30 student Ambassadors served to help ensure that Reunion was a success. **3** Alumni children were treated to a range of fun that campus has to offer, including canoeing on the Kentucky River. **4** Former piano students celebrated Dr. Don Zent, retired professor of piano, at a recital given in his honor. Dr. Zent taught at Asbury for more than 30 years. **5** Children from members of the Class of 2002 enjoyed a tour of the Walt and Rowena Shaw Collaborative Learning Center. **6-7** The Shaw CLC dedication was the highlight of Saturday night, complete with food trucks, fellowship and cold Ale-8-Ones. The evening concluded with fireworks over the baseball field.



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is a private, Christian, liberal arts institution, providing academic excellence in a context of spiritual vitality. This nationally recognized, nondenominational university offers more than 150 undergraduate majors, plus degree-completion, graduate degrees and high school dual-enrollment programs to a student body of more than 1,600. 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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**PICTURED IN BACKGROUND:** Inside the Walt and Rowena Collaborative Learning Center is a multi-use auditorium that will host a variety of events.





## President's Message

# “The Fifth Gospel”

During our Asbury Reunion in June, well over 1,000 Asburians of all ages gathered to worship, fellowship and dedicate the recently completed Walt and Rowena Shaw Collaborative Learning Center. The reunion theme was “Goodness of God.”

God is indeed good. His character is unchanging. His love is enduring. Amidst the dynamism in our day-to-day lives — God’s Kingdom is undeterred. But there is a question I have been asking myself in the last few years: How does the world know of God’s goodness?

A few years ago, I came across a powerful quote from Rabbi Jonathan Sacks.

“Look at where we are right now in the evolution of human civilization. To explain the world today, we don’t need revelation, we have science. To control it, we don’t need oracles and magic, we have technology. To control power we don’t need the prophets, we have elections (even if sometimes they go the wrong way). If we are ill, we don’t go to a priest, we go to a doctor. If we are depressed, we don’t need the book of Psalms, we can take a pill. And if we are in search of salvation, we can go to the modern cathedrals of the consumer age, namely shopping centers. So, in functional terms, everything religion used to do is now done by something else.”

It’s a thought-provoking quote. To be clear, I’m a recipient, and a user, of these advances. For example, when I have a headache, I take aspirin. If I’m lost, I use Google Maps. To help my restless leg syndrome, I go to a sleep doctor. Amazon algorithms tell me what books I might enjoy reading next. Zoom allows me to make connections across the world.

So, I do not lament our technological advances. But here is an important point: nothing in our advanced modern society is equipped to address our spiritual need. No medicine, algorithm, machinery or scientific breakthrough is sufficient to fill what Pascal has referred to as a “God-shaped hole” in our lives.

These modern forms of power that we frequently consume can do a lot for me and in me. But...

- Forgiving my enemies?
- Saying ‘no’ to destructive inclinations?
- Emptying myself? Putting others first?



- Living “upright and Godly lives in this present age” as Paul talks about in Titus 2?
- Possessing and exhibiting joy and endurance in the face of pain and hardship?
- Being compelled to serve?
- Self-expenditure for the good of another?

This is a different power, coming from something else. Somewhere else. Someone else.

May I assert that this is perhaps the most profound, visible, compelling manner by which to exhibit God’s power in our lives today. This is how we show the world the “Goodness of God.” That is, we don’t simply articulate or describe God’s goodness; we perform it. We live it. We show it.

There is a quote I frequently share by the late British Evangelist Gypsy Smith. “There are five Gospels: Matthew, Mark, Luke, John and the Christian,” he says. “And most people will never read the first four.”

God is good. And we can reflect His goodness by living it out — being the “fifth gospel” to those around us. I am so thankful for our Asbury students, staff, faculty and alumni who demonstrate God’s goodness in their day-to-day lives.

Kevin J. Brown, Ph.D.  
President



# Celebrating The Goodness of God

*Asbury's annual Reunion welcomed more than 1,000 guests*

Reunion 2022 welcomed back alumni and friends from all over the world for a weekend of celebration, singing and fellowship. This year's theme, Goodness of God, was interwoven throughout the gathering, and the evidence of His goodness was clear. Dedicating the Walt and Rowena Shaw Collaborative Learning Center (Shaw CLC) in the presence of so many alumni and donors who helped make the building a reality served to highlight that God is indeed good.

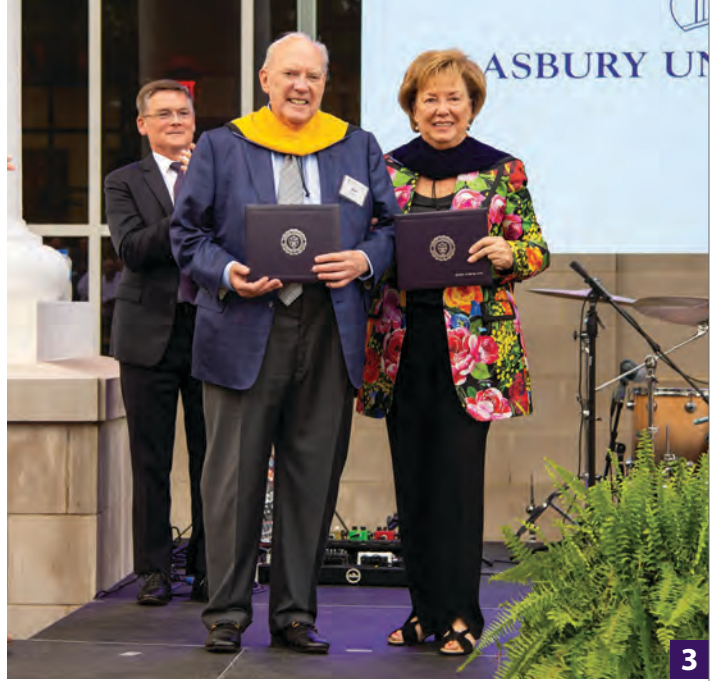
This year's Hymn Sing lived up to its reputation as the walls of Hughes reverberated with the sound of hundreds of uninhibited voices singing unto the Lord. The day's activities concluded with an Ice Cream Social.

The following morning in Chapel, Dr. Vic Hamilton delivered a stirring message on the faithfulness of God, focusing on the book of Lamentations. Amidst expressions of woe, strife and even outright anger towards God, the book also contains a well-known passage in Lamentations 3:21-23, "Yet this I call to mind and therefore I have hope: Because of the Lord's great love we are not consumed, for His compassions never fail. They are new every morning; great is Your faithfulness."

**1** A ceremonial ribbon for the Shaw CLC was cut during Reunion. From left: Alison Perfater '23, Student Body President; Dr. Timothy Wooster, Provost; Larry Brown '80, Chair, Board of Trustees; Dr. Kevin J. Brown, President; Dr. Walt Shaw '63; Dr. Rowena Phillips '63 Shaw; Dr. Sandra Gray, President Emeritus. **2** A celebration on Reasoner Green outside of the Shaw CLC for the building's dedication brought together alumni, students, faculty, staff and donors. **3** Dr. Walt '63 and Dr. Rowena Phillips '63 Shaw were awarded honorary doctorates during the dedication ceremony. **4** The 2022-23 Student Body President, Alison Perfater '23, expressed her gratitude to the faithful alumni and donors who contributed to the Shaw CLC. **5** Alumni had the opportunity to tour the all-new Shaw CLC.











**1-2** Alumni and their families gathered for Reunion, and many of them attended the Walt and Rowena Shaw Collaborative Learning Center dedication ceremony. **3** Asbury President Emeritus Dr. Sandra Gray reflected of God's faithfulness during the Shaw CLC dedication. **4** Alumni and families enjoyed treats on Reasoner Green, served up by Asbury student Ambassadors.

Dr. Hamilton shared a poignant reminder of God's ever-present goodness, even amidst hardship. "Sometimes, our greatest experiences of God's goodness and faithfulness are when we are in a Lamentations life situation," he explained. This event marked the 50th consecutive year of attendance at Reunion for Dr. Hamilton and his wife, Shirley.

Throughout a weekend packed full of events, alumni enjoyed class gatherings and campus tours, while their children were treated to all the fun that Asbury's campus has to offer, including zip lining, canoeing and games in the Luce Center.

Saturday night brought the dedication of the Shaw CLC. In addition to Reunion guests, members of the Board of Trustees, President's Cabinet and donors were on campus for the official ceremony and ribbon cutting. **Dr. Walt '63** and **Dr. Rowena Phillips '63 Shaw**, for whom the building is named, were awarded honorary doctorate degrees in recognition of a lifetime of service and meaningful impact on the scientific and business communities and personal lives of faith and commitment to Jesus Christ which exemplify the mission of Asbury University.

Asbury University President Dr. Kevin Brown announced that, in addition to their lead gift for the Shaw CLC, Walt and Rowena have generously provided a \$5 million gift to advance the sciences at Asbury. In recognition of their generosity, the Board of Trustees voted to rename the School of Science, Health & Mathematics as the Shaw School of Sciences, which currently includes science, math, equine and outdoor education.

Dr. Brown expressed his gratitude for the many people who took the vision of the Shaw CLC and made it a reality, including President Emeritus Dr. Sandra Gray, who was president when the fundraising campaign for the facility began. Addressing her, Dr. Brown remarked, "At your last Reunion as president in 2019, on the stage of Hughes, you talked about 'planting trees

under whose shade you did not expect to sit.' Today, and in the days to come, we will enjoy that shade."

Following the official ribbon cutting ceremony, the celebration continued into the night with praise and worship and refreshments from food trucks on Jewell Walk. Saturday ended with fireworks, a fitting conclusion to a joyous evening.

To finish the weekend, guests at Reunion enjoyed Sunday morning worship together in Hughes Auditorium. After a beautiful performance from the Alumni Concert Band and a solemn Memorial Observance, **Rev. Dave Nelson '87** delivered a sermon that highlighted his personal testimony. He gave witness to the truth that through every circumstance, God is working in our lives out of His abundant goodness. Romans 8:28 declares, "And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love Him, who have been called according to His purpose."

Rev. Nelson further explained, "Everything we go through, every circumstance, is about one thing. It's about you and your Father, and Him using this opportunity to help you and I to be conformed into the image of Jesus."

God's goodness was undeniably present throughout all the gatherings, meals, celebrations and services at Reunion 2022. Even more compelling is the thought of the lasting impact the weekend will have on those who attended. Dr. Brown commented, "God is good. But how will those around us know of God's goodness? How will we answer the questions bubbling up in today's culture? I submit to you — we answer with our lives. A compelling answer will be one that is not simply stated, but also performed."

Please visit [asbury.edu/reunion](http://asbury.edu/reunion) to view the livestreams and photo galleries, including class photos.



Introducing the 2022

# Alumni Award Winners



Dr. Kevin Brown, center, introduced the 2022 alumni award winners. Pictured from left to right: Stockton Brown '12, Derek Motsch '02, Chuck Christensen and Kathy Bowdoin '11 Christensen, Dr. Kay Fuller '57 Rader, Judith Hoover '67 Culver and Dr. Jonathan Culver '67, Andrea Toledo '97 Baker and Andy Baker '96.

Alumni Board President **Lisa Corbett '86 Bacon** introduced this year's alumni award winners during Reunion.

"Advancing the cause of Christ around the world is exactly what you have done and continue to do — all in very different ways, using the gifts God has given each of you to accomplish His purpose and His plan," she told the group on Saturday morning. "We are grateful. Since 1946, the Alumni Board has been recognizing outstanding alumni whose impact can be felt around the world."

## A AWARD HONOREES

*Asbury's highest alumni honor of distinction*

### **Dr. Kay Fuller '57 Rader**

Commissioner Dr. Kay Fuller Rader is retired from The Salvation Army, having served as the World President of Women's Organizations for The Salvation Army International. Leading through learning, her service and commitment to the Gospel has advanced the cause of Christ around the world — literally. Her advocacy for women in leadership has been wrapped in grace and determination, providing opportunities for women to grow in their faith and development.

### **Dr. Jonathan '67 and Judith Hoover '67 Culver**

"I will make you fishers of men." This describes the lifelong investment Jonathan and Judith Hoover Culver have made in our brothers and sisters in Indonesia and Malaysia. Heralding the Good News, they have given of their time, talent and gifts to answer God's call on their lives. They continue to serve with One Challenge International.

### **Andy '96 and Andrea Toledo '97 Baker**

Approximately 40 million people around the world are trafficked every day. Andy and Andrea Toledo Baker stand in the gap for these people in Bolivia. They have established safe places for sexually exploited women and children and provide jobs and training to help instill dignity and hope.

Their ministry shares Good News about a God who loves them. Andy takes this work beyond Bolivia with Rescue: Freedom International.

## DISTINGUISHED YOUNG ALUM AWARD HONOREE

*Created in 2000 to acknowledge younger alumni who are emerging as influential leaders*

### **Stockton Brown '12**

Growing up, Stockton Brown knew she wanted to help those who were unable to help themselves — she desired to be an advocate. After Asbury, she attended law school and then clerked for a District Judge before pursuing a dream of serving with International Justice Mission. She volunteered with IJM in Ghana as legal counsel in the fight against human trafficking.

## VOLUNTEERS OF THE YEAR

*Honoring those who selflessly give of their time, talents and resources in support of Asbury*

### **Derek Motsch '02**

Derek Motsch is a senior civil engineer at Element Design in Lexington, Ky. He used his expertise to create architectural renderings for a Garden Plaza at the Kirkland Complex, which is the 2022 Reunion Gift Project. The stunning images Derek created brought the concepts for the Garden Plaza to life.

### **Chuck and Kathy Bowdoin '11 Christensen**

With a background in construction and a desire to advance Asbury Athletics, Chuck Christensen has shared his expertise on such projects as the Kirkland Complex, the Bowdoin Athletic Practice Facility and the Softball Press Box. Kathy Bowdoin Christensen, a steadfast supporter of the University, offers her time, skills and resources to further its mission.

To read the full bios of our honorees, visit [asbury.edu/alumni-awards](http://asbury.edu/alumni-awards).





# Class Photos

## CLASS OF 1952 1

### FRONT ROW

Mary Davis Vettters  
Joanne Veydt Sutlive  
Marilyn Bedwell

### SECOND ROW

Robert Leonard  
David Williamson

## CLASS OF 1957 2

### FRONT ROW

Anita Taylor Strickhausen  
Norma Wynn Snowden  
Barbara Adkins Barker  
Nadara Rodeheaver  
Welling  
Elaine Graham Crowder

### SECOND ROW

Wilson Strickhausen  
Kay Fuller Rader  
Margaret McDougall  
Reitz  
Ron Welling  
Ernest Ray Throckmorton

## CLASS OF 1962 3

### FRONT ROW

Ruth Weller Tolson  
Dorothy Nace Bowen  
Ann Elliott Copeman  
Judy Gillam Amos

### SECOND ROW

Fred Gere  
Earle Bowen  
Dan McFarland  
Dan Schroen

## CLASS OF 1967 4

### FRONT ROW

Fred Coburn  
June Cosby Coburn  
Johanna Fitch Strange  
Brent Cobb  
Marty Weaver Cobb  
Mary Ellen Meier Gardner  
Carmen Ratcliff Johns  
Carol Sue Ray  
Jessie Lois Amstutz  
Webster  
Kaye Little Langer  
Nancy Saunders Lawrence  
Liz Berryman Peters  
Marilyn Riassetto Pyers  
Charlotte McGuire  
Detherage  
Terry Faris  
Thomas Atkins

### SECOND ROW

Kathleen Dickinson Phillips  
Clark Blade  
Judith Hoover Culver  
Sally Wallar Kight  
Linda Chilton Crouch  
Lolita Larabee Crouse  
Beverly Butler Knox  
Mary Stewart Puddington  
Ron Lane  
Carl Drennen

### THIRD ROW

Dan Meyer  
John Maun  
Jim Arey-Schank  
Tony Holifield  
Stephen Bennett  
Hal Simpson  
Jim Hosey  
Jonathan Culver  
Cullen Rivers  
Kevin Davies

### NOT PICTURED

Linda Johnson Smith

## CLASS OF 1972 5

### FRONT ROW

Linda Gaines Kemper  
Rebecca Shannon Peterson  
Louann McIntosh  
Mary John Shepherd Dye  
Candy Sommer Bridges  
Becky Payne Guthrie  
Becky Ratcliff Brittain  
Bev Goff  
Ann Gilreath Bengston  
Janet Sharrett Olson

### SECOND ROW

Margaret Bradley Tevis  
Janet Means Johnson  
Jackie Windross Wilson  
Cherith Brabon Rydbeck  
Nancy Ewing  
Sue Miller Swanson  
Kerry Fish Moore  
Linda Rustin Kilbourne  
Sarah McLendon Wilson  
Pat Blanchard Nelson  
Karen Kinney Goff

Linda Wheatley Premo  
Vickie Schellack Quilliams  
Sandy Seamands Sheppard

### THIRD ROW

Michael Peterson  
Tom Hatfield  
Paul Veldhuizen  
Alden Winslow  
Linda McDonald Six  
Sarah Luce  
Deborah Meyer Bryant  
Greg Wilson  
Ricci Arthur  
Ron Ball  
Dick Roth  
Paul Brunstetter

### FOURTH ROW

Paul Cummings  
James Sharp  
Russell Disharoon  
David Ditto  
Harvey Brown

## CLASS OF 1977 6

### FRONT ROW

Beth Feather  
Betsy Key Moran  
Cheryl Tompkins Miller  
Kristi Southard Helfen  
Lori McDaniel Jacobus  
Aliese Hill  
Betty Fleming Moon  
Kathy Morin Thomas  
Maribeth Velazquez  
Swanson

### SECOND ROW

Boone Logan  
Dianne Coil

Pam Cunningham Alverso  
Hope McFerrin McFadden  
Melanie Hindman Kinnell  
Alice George Rogers  
Jim Sigountos  
Sylvia Coker Cummings

### THIRD ROW

Ron Smith  
Joe Brockinton  
Victor Toney  
Frank McFadden  
Doug Markesbery  
Stuart Smith







1



4



2



5



3



6





10





**CLASS OF 1982 1****FRONT ROW**

Tamara Strickhausen  
Zrostlik  
Barb Hanson Howell  
Joy Erny Dupree  
Beverly Howell Telifero  
Lisa Meckstroth McKain  
Albin Whitworth  
Kim Everage Leake  
Dorena Ritzler Smith  
Cecille Sitarz Kinsey  
Carol Pingle Oetzel  
Greta Smith Schrock

**SECOND ROW**

Beth Smith Cook  
Pam Johnson McHugh  
Ann Wise Toadvine  
Elizabeth Dennis Birks  
Mary Armstrong  
Grace Roughton Harvey  
Dupree  
Lisa Bennett Martin  
LeAnne Oyler Gormong  
Faye Fleming Henning  
Carol Lehtikoinen Stratton  
Karen Barr Channell

Myra Fillmore Parker

**THIRD ROW**

Davis DeBord  
Stephen Toadvine  
Samuel Figueroa  
Garry Hogue  
John Birks  
Jon Telifero  
Gary Shaw  
Tom Milley  
Jon Bartmas  
Steve Stratton  
Demetrius "Frisky"  
Boucher  
Martin Barker

**FOURTH ROW**

Scott Smith  
Philip Tatum  
Tim Shell  
Steve Ganzel  
Mike Kinsey  
Glen Flanigan  
John Parker  
Jim McHugh

**CLASS OF 1987 2****FIRST ROW**

Sherri Allen Lockridge  
Kathy Reeves Houpp  
Ron Houpp  
Dennis Norton  
Jeff Stryker  
Anita Josphe Rainwater  
David Nelson  
Jennifer Ball Wayson  
Steve Heitkamp  
John Lee  
Lucy Simpson Harkness  
Tim Bracken

**SECOND ROW**

Heidi Russell  
Holly Hall Dieterlen  
Debbie Goodwin  
Sue Lauter, *class advisor*

Roy Lauter, *class advisor*  
Rachel Amspauigh Friend  
Sherry Douglas Irely  
Denise McCray Hintz  
Abby Beck Ernst

**THIRD ROW**

Diane Draper Butler  
Lynn Hendry Owens  
Pat "Putt" Pahutsky Taylor  
Tricia Carnes  
Erick West  
Regina O'Nan  
Priscilla Martz Ross  
Carl Heinlein  
Larry Boss  
Brian Small  
Kirk Hintz  
Kellie Rowe Bracken

**CLASS OF 1992 3****SEATED**

Tom Proper  
Robert Lewis

**FRONT ROW**

Alison Baker Simpson

Barbara Adams Hamilton  
Kim Kyriakidis Race  
Dawn Hively James  
Teadora Petrovic Lewis  
Jennifer Ray Pinto

Jill Rider Lane

Maureen Miller Miller  
Melodi Minor Stiefel

**SECOND ROW**

Kevin Dean  
Jennifer Gillispie Lewallen  
Jennifer Kennedy Gilcreast  
Janice VanHorne Lane  
Judy Bush van de Yenne  
Susan Tudor Wiggam  
Amy Robinson Glandon  
Sarah Bonewald  
Humphries  
Heidi Rupprecht Jahnke  
Rita Rawlings French

**CLASS OF 1997 4****FIRST ROW**

Phil Thornton, *class advisor*  
Jan Stevens Thornton,  
*class advisor*  
Rebecca Norris  
Matyasovski  
Katianna Fulcher  
Rickwood  
Marian Daye-Kent  
Kristina Osborn  
Andrea Toledo Baker  
Heidi Raass Spencer  
Susan Stallsmith

**SECOND ROW**

KJ Parenteau  
Rebecca Wiley Cablish  
Marcy Warden  
Fitzpatrick  
Julie Redick Hobbs  
Sonya Kays Clark  
Erin Klinsing Gildner

**CLASS OF 2002 5****FIRST ROW**

Derek Motsch  
Billie Rice Motsch  
Sarah Delaney Camp  
Kelly Rambo Hallahan  
Ciah Robinson Griffin  
Elizabeth Cowart Tingle  
Andrea Kramer  
Williamson  
Abby Miller Douglas  
Erin Ward

**SECOND ROW**

Rebecca Biederman  
Place  
Elizabeth Mayer Rader  
Marianne Decker Wallin

**THIRD ROW**

John Lane  
Scott Byrom  
Nathan Lane  
Bill Pinto  
Susan Bonner Brandon  
Jamie Tuttle  
Joe Glandon  
Kurt Jahnke  
James Hamilton  
Angela Schonauer  
Crawford  
Paul Cooney  
Brian Stiefel

Kristen Klinsing  
Von De Linde

Amy Thomas Wills  
Cherri West  
Amy Street Cannon

**THIRD ROW**

Julie Keller Provasi  
de Lemos  
Brian Hurley  
Doug Veal  
Galen Chun  
Jeff Knisley  
Tim Vaughan  
Sarah Kell Farley  
Allie Smyth Rhodes  
Nelson Wesley  
Neil Noah  
Henry Zonio  
Scott Curell

Kristi Bevins Lu  
Christie Mee Marzano  
Bethany Anderson Watson

**THIRD ROW**

Amy Outhwaite Lawson  
Jessie Bowman Thelen  
Jennie DeVries Schmidt  
Lael Butler  
Dana Putney Harvey

**FOURTH ROW**

Amanda Geren  
Eric Gilchrest  
Kendel Byron Gilchrest  
Joanna Neff Coppedge  
Sarah Moon Rathel

Heather Perrin Covington

Amy Petery Grethey  
Sarah Garrard Grimm

**FIFTH ROW**

Patrick Whipple  
Billy Coppedge  
Gwen Jurisich  
Lynsi Weaver Hoyt  
Mark Evans

**SIXTH ROW**

Ked Kantz  
Doug Kaste

Ryan Phillips  
Nathaniel Schmidt  
Jon Douglas  
B.J. Whitaker  
Tim Smith  
Rich Hoyt  
Larry Jarrard,  
*class advisor*

**SEVENTH ROW**

Scott Wallin  
Matt Grimm  
Shane Hinderliter

**CLASS OF 2007 6****FRONT ROW**

Becca Aylor Renaud  
Christy Perkins Sulfridge  
Celia Eby Jacobus  
Sierra Leonard  
Amanda Bailey  
Caitlin Woodward Koné  
Lisa Hall  
Ruth O'neal Tate  
Lisa Falin Harper,  
*class advisor*

**CLASS OF 2012 7****FRONT ROW**

Mary Clark Watson  
Hope Tumblin  
McPherson  
Stockton Brown  
Taylor Bobb  
Collingsworth  
Elinor Blankenship

Mary Meadows  
Michael George

**THIRD ROW**

Jackie Nichols Peters  
David Williams  
Daniel Browning  
Matthew Renaud  
Taylor Vinson  
Jonathan Grant  
Tyler Tate

**BACK ROW**

Matthew Watson  
Melissa Siard Altman  
Rachel Fry  
Paul Moran  
Rebecca Wallace Vaughn  
Michael Vaughn

**CLASS OF 2017 8****FRONT ROW**

Lynnette Cagle Cooney  
Morgan "Lizzy"  
Sherwood Becht  
Claire Lafferty  
Destiny Cole  
Victoria McClary  
Hannah Ramsey  
Kelsey Bundy Poynter

**BACK ROW**

Luke Cooney  
Colton Cary  
Sean O'Connor  
Seth Ury  
Zack Andrews  
Andrew Wittenberg

To order class photos, visit  
[asburyphotoevents.com](http://asburyphotoevents.com)





#TEAMAU

NCCAA

#KING CHASING



**TOP LEFT:** Asbury baseball standout Walker Paris '22 was named TeamAU's Male Athlete of the Year for 2021-22. **BOTTOM RIGHT:** The Asbury baseball team took home the 2022 NCCAA Division I Mideast Regional Championship in May. AU finished the 2022 season with an impressive 29-16 record, an NCCAA regional title, and a win in the NCCAA World Series in Kansas City.

# NCCAA Provides Unique Opportunities for TeamAU

Asbury's first year in the National Christian College Athletic Association (NCCAA) has provided meaningful experiences for TeamAU. The 2021-22 season marked the return of Eagle Athletics to full membership in the NCCAA, after more than a decade of not being an active member.

The NCCAA not only provides TeamAU with post-season championship competition, but also the opportunity to align with a nationwide organization that is comprised of 90 Christian institutions.

"In athletics, the term 'Ring Chasing' is used by athletes to describe their goal of winning a championship," Dan Wood, NCCAA Executive Director said. "Within the NCCAA, there is a focus on King Chasing which helps lay a foundation of seeking Christ first.

"The King Chasing program uses the four values of the Game Plan 4 LIFE — Love, Integrity, Faith and Excellence — to enhance the purpose of collegiate athletics to be more than winning championships. The mission of the #KingChasing program is to keep Christ at the center of the student-athlete experience."

Asbury student-athletes and coaches earned NCCAA national and regional recognition throughout the 2021-22 academic year. This includes character, ministry and performance awards such as National Player of the Year, National Coach of the Year, All-American, Scholar Athlete and All-Region.

Seven Asbury teams advanced to the 2021-22 NCCAA National Championship Tournament in their respective sport: men's golf, women's soccer, women's basketball, men's basketball, baseball and men's and women's tennis. The year was highlighted by the men's golf team capturing Asbury's first-ever national championship by winning the 2021 NCCAA title in Palm Coast, Fla., last October.

"We are grateful to reconnect with the NCCAA," **Mark Whitworth '84**, vice president for Intercollegiate Athletics & University Communications said. "Our involvement with the NCCAA provides an added dimension of competition, ministry and service for our student-athletes and coaches. I pray that we can continue this affiliation for many years to come. The NCCAA experience is particularly important as Asbury moves through the NCAA Division III membership process and is not eligible to compete in NCAA post-season competition until the 2024-25 academic year."



## DUNCAN NAMED AU SWIMMING HEAD COACH



Graham Duncan '16 takes the helm as Asbury's swim coach.

**Graham Duncan '16** was named Asbury's men's and women's swimming head coach in May and begins his duties this summer. Duncan brings strong connections to Asbury swimming and a rich family history in the sport. He graduated summa cum laude from AU in 2016 with a double major in Political Science and Spanish. Duncan was a member of the Asbury swimming team

from 2012 to 2016 and was a member of former Coach Alex Keyser's first recruiting class. Most recently, Duncan has served as a club coach in both Waco, Texas, and Cookeville, Tenn.

"I'm very excited to begin working as Asbury's new swim coach," Duncan said. "I can't believe that God has led me back to my alma mater, and I can't wait to join all the great work that has been done in Asbury athletics. I'm grateful for the opportunity, and I'm looking forward to getting to know the swimmers and continuing to develop them in the pool and as leaders in the community. I can't wait to see what God has in store for the swim team. Go Eagles!"

Duncan was a three-time NAIA national qualifier, NAIA Scholar-Athlete and men's team captain. The Owensboro, Ky., native scored individually in the 200 Freestyle and 500 Freestyle at the 2013 NAIA National Championships in Oklahoma City. Duncan's sister, Katie, was also a member of the AU program from 2010 to 2014. She still holds school records in the 400 Medley Relay, 200 Freestyle Relay, 100 Backstroke and 200 Backstroke.

Duncan is married to **Mariah Humphrey '16 Duncan**.



## TEAMAU GOLF EXPERIENCE 9.27.22

Asbury alumni and friends are invited to the 3rd annual TeamAU Golf Experience on Tuesday, Sept. 27, 2022, at the Keene Run Golf Course in Nicholasville, Ky. Participants will interact with student-athletes and coaches throughout the round while enjoying one of the state's top courses, catered lunch and a gift pack that includes a variety of branded AU items.

Visit [asburyeagles.com](https://asburyeagles.com) for more information on the event and how to support TeamAU.



← Scan here to register for the Team AU Golf Experience.

## CLASS OF 2022 SCHOLAR ATHLETES

The class of 2022 featured 30 TeamAU Scholar Athletes, who graduated with a 3.5 or higher cumulative GPA.



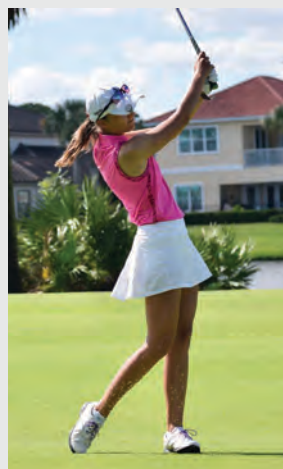
TeamAU honored 30 Scholar Athletes at Commencement this year.



← Scan here to view all of the TeamAU Scholar Athletes.

## EAGLE AWARDS

Asbury Athletics announced the winners of the annual Eagle Awards. Senior baseball standout **Walker Paris '22** was named TeamAU's 2021-22 Male Athlete of the Year for the second consecutive year. He also was named the 2022 NCCAA National Player of the Year and first-team All-American. Senior golfer **Faith Wiley '22** and women's basketball player and graduate student **Autumn Herriford '21** were named Co-Female Athletes of the Year. Wiley also earned 2021 NCCAA All-American honors, while Herriford was named 2022 second-team NCCAA All-American. Herriford also received the NCCAA's Game Plan for Life Student-Athlete of the Year on June 2, 2022, at the NCCAA Convention in Virginia Beach.



Senior golfer Faith Wiley '22 (left) and women's basketball player and graduate student Autumn Herriford '21 (right) were named Co-Female Athletes of the Year.





# Academic News

## SCIENCE STUDENTS TAKE THEIR SKILLS OFF CAMPUS THIS SUMMER

Senior Chemistry-Biochemistry major and AU swim team member **Lillie Lewis '23** took her finely-tuned Asbury University lab skills to the transplant research laboratory at the University of Kentucky this summer to assist with research that focused on increasing success rates of whole organ transplant surgeries.

"My Asbury education prepared me well for the laboratory," said Lewis, who plans to begin medical school in Fall 2023. "Most of the laboratory portion involved pipetting samples and calculating concentrations, which I've had extensive experience with during my upper-level biology and chemistry labs. The courses and labs in my lower and upper-level classes have given me a good foundation for the immunology concepts I am learning, despite not having taken immunology at Asbury yet."

The skills honed by Lewis are not uncommon for Asbury students, who benefit from the guidance of highly acclaimed faculty, small class sizes and well-equipped lab spaces. A large feature of the new Walt and Rowena Shaw Collaborative Learning Center (Shaw CLC) is expanded and upgraded lab spaces. Lewis will return to Asbury upon completion of her research at UK.

"Our biggest project currently is a clinical trial for a new immunosuppressant drug," she explained. "My role focuses on sample preparations and data analysis. I have learned so much in a short time working in the transplant research lab."

With plans to become a neurosurgeon, the research experience will serve her well in the future. Ultimately, Lewis said her dream job involves clinical work with underserved populations.

"I would like to live permanently in the States to be close to family and do part-time medical missions to advance the hope of the Gospel," Lewis said. "I also would love to be involved in healthcare policy and nonprofit organizations."

## RESEARCH PEDIGREE AND PERSONAL CHARACTER

**Alexis Ruffing '20** also worked in the transplant center at UK and was recognized for both her scientific research and personal character — a hallmark of Asbury students who are working in the field.

"I must [also] emphasize her outstanding personal behavior: always polite and respectful, punctual in her schedule and appointments, and never discouraged (even when several experiments in a row did not work as expected)," said her supervisor Dr. Francesc Marti, who also commented on Ruffing's "impeccable lab notebook and genuine enthusiasm for research."

Marti noted the successful UK-Asbury research collaboration and hopes it will be increased in the future.



Lillie Lewis is anticipating with gratitude working in the new lab spaces in the Walt and Rowena Shaw Collaborative Learning Center this fall.

In Boston this spring, **Alaina Zacharias '23** successfully completed her internship in the Pediatric Epilepsy Research Internship Program in the Loddenkemper Lab at Boston Children's Hospital — Harvard Medical School.

The mission of the Loddenkemper Lab is to prevent, predict, detect and treat every seizure and status epilepticus in children before they occur, with the vision of a future without seizures and status epilepticus.

"As Alaina's supervisor for the duration of her internship, I have seen her grow as a researcher and a leader," said Tobias Loddenkemper, M.D., Department of Neurology. "She gained real-life expertise working with novel and innovative clinical patient research data and with clinical and engineering, as well as database specialists, to ultimately improve the lives of children with seizures."

This summer on campus, **Dr. Ben Brammell '98** and his team of biology students conducted research surrounding environmental DNA of darter fish species in rivers and streams.

"With recent developments in DNA technology, the future of medicine includes genetics-based therapy," said **Abby Fletcher '23**, a Biology major and Spanish minor and member of the AU softball team. "I have enjoyed studying the molecular biology mechanisms, and I anticipate that it will help me to reach my goal of becoming a family doctor."

**Sara Brewer '24**, a Biology major, also served on the research team. "The collected data will be included in scientific papers that we hope to publish. I've enjoyed learning new lab techniques and look forward to pursuing dental school upon graduation."

## A NEW MASTER'S PROGRAM

A new Master of Arts in Communication was announced this summer. The 30-hour online program is designed for professional communicators and recent graduates seeking a creative emphasis while expanding their strategic and global communication insights and abilities to excel in



public relations, advertising, and corporate or nonprofit communication careers.

"We are very excited about this master's degree because of its strong emphasis and practical application of international and strategic communication that prepares graduates for the ever-changing world we live in," said **Dr. Jim Owens '79**, dean of the School of Communication Arts.

The M.A. focuses on the study of communication at an advanced level of theory and practice, emphasizing strategy, planning and evaluation, as well as organizational rhetoric and global awareness. Core and elective courses include Advanced Intercultural Communication, Viral Marketing Methods, Global Communication, Cross Platform Storytelling, Media Ethics & Criticism, and Advanced Public Relations.

### JOURNALISM STUDENTS TAKE FIRST PLACE

In the spring, *The Asbury Collegian*, the University's student newspaper, won the 2022 Kentucky Broadcasters Association (KBA) award for best website, along with journalism student **Allie Sutton '22** winning three KBA awards in different news story and reporting categories.

"I am truly honored," said Sutton. "However, I am even more proud to be a part of a program that has equipped me with the skills and confidence to shoot for the stars! I owe everything to my professors and the program that taught me to believe in myself to fulfill God's purpose for me in this life."

Both *The Asbury Collegian* and Sutton were competing against large universities such as the University of Kentucky and Western Kentucky University.

### HONORS PROGRAM TO WELCOME JOHN LENNOX



John Lennox will visit campus for a public conversation in September.

On September 8, the Asbury University Honors Program (AUHP) Director, **Dr. Paul Nesselrode '89**, will host a conversation with John Lennox in the Shaw CLC on the topic of Christianity and science.

Lennox is emeritus professor of Mathematics at Oxford University and emeritus fellow in Mathematics and Philosophy of Science at Green Templeton

College. He is an internationally renowned speaker on the interface of science, philosophy and religion, well known for public debates with intellectuals such as the late Christopher Hitchens, Richard Dawkins and Peter Singer.

Lennox kicks off a vibrant speaker series hosted by AUHP for the 2022-23 academic year. AUHP's theme is Studies in Virtue and Human Value. Other planned speakers include professor, author and speaker, Dr. Rebecca DeYoung, and Emmy-winning French/American documentary filmmaker, Pierre Sauvage.

To learn more, visit [asbury.edu/honors](http://asbury.edu/honors).

## ASBURY ANNOUNCES NEW ACADEMIC LEADERSHIP



Dr. Alesha Graves was announced as the new Dayton School of Business dean.

Provost Dr. Timothy Wooster announced in June that Dr. Alesha Graves will serve as the next dean for the Dayton School of Business (DSB). Graves joined the Asbury community full-time in 2016 as an assistant professor. She was promoted to associate professor in 2022.

Graves holds a D.B.A. from George Fox University and a M.S. in Accounting from the University of Connecticut. She is a Certified Public Accountant in Kentucky since 2001 with professional experience at Dean Dorton, PLLC, and Crowe Horwath, LLP. Graves taught at the University of Cincinnati Blue Ash College, Mount St. Joseph University and Liberty University. Her research interests include Nonprofit Financial Management, Stewardship and Stewardship Theory, and Accounting Education.

“Those who have worked closely with Alesha recognize her as a grace-filled leader focused on collaboration and consistency,” Wooster said. “Her leadership style is rooted in stewardship theory and servant leadership.”

With a desire to work collaboratively, Graves states her commitment to “respect and value each person as uniquely called, gifted and equipped by God. We are designed to effectively work together to advance His kingdom.”

As Dean, Graves will lead the DSB through a process of strategic visioning and renewal to enhance the faculty and student experience, strengthen student retention, and advance the DSB. Graves takes the helm from Dr. Mike Yoder who served as interim dean. Yoder provided stability for the program, led the launch of two new MBA Programs, and successfully completed two faculty search processes.





ImpactU Camps involved hands-on learning in a variety of subjects.



Youth Becoming Leaders hosted students from around the nation for two weeks this summer.

# Campus Corner

## CAMPS ARE A HIGHLIGHT OF SUMMER

During the summer months, Asbury continued to fulfill her mission of providing academic excellence and spiritual vitality to students from all around the world through summer camps. Asbury students experienced transformation as well while serving as counselors, worship leaders, physical plant workers and more.

**Youth Becoming Leaders (YBL)** is an immersive high school student experience of worship, engaging global issues, and theological instruction to support students as they develop ministry projects in their home communities.

When asked about his favorite part of serving with YBL, Media Communication major **Canaan Yan '25** shared, "Students opened up about their testimonies, about the struggles they've had, and about how God helped them to overcome. Their transparency also encouraged other students to share."

Accounting and Finance major and YBL counselor **Hope Odubena '22** added, "I have faith in this generation because at YBL I saw their incredible gifts, knowledge, and most importantly, love for God."

For **ImpactU Camps**, high school students enjoyed a five-day college experience in which they explored an academic area in the context of Christian community. They formed friendships, worked on films, solved a mock crime scene, went electrofishing on the Kentucky River, put on a play, experienced equine life and more.

**Eswin Monroy '23** served as a counselor at the ImpactU equine camp and said, "It was refreshing to see students cultivate their love for horses through exploring what Asbury has to offer. Our camp gives them insight into their future education and careers."

Summit Ministries returned to Wilmore for a second year of **SummitCamp**, which equipped students to stand fearlessly for truth through engaging with top worldview thinkers and apologists. Students dove into topics of navigating faith and culture in the marketplace. **Carter Hammond '22**, a recent graduate and MBA student, served as a counselor at the SummitCamp.

Hammond shared, "My favorite part of SummitCamp was not only the fun memories that students made, but also the opportunity to watch each student grow intellectually and relationally with their peers over time. I am proud to attend a university that pours not only into current students, but also into the students of the future!"

TeamAU hosted its annual **Asbury Eagle Camps**. Elementary, middle and high school students came to camps for baseball, basketball, soccer, softball, and volleyball. **Nick Fort '22**, a recent graduate and MBA student, served as an instructor for the men's basketball Youth Day Camp.

"I have played for two years in the program and have been given so many opportunities. This camp inspired me to share my story and to help students grow spiritually, physically and mentally," Fort said.

The **Summer Ministry Team** encouraged students that attended Asbury camps through leading worship and sharing devotions. The team also traveled off-campus to lead worship at a Hollow Rock Camp Meeting in Ohio.

**Crowner Beck '24**, a History major and Worship Arts minor, was a guitarist and vocalist on the Summer Ministry Team. "I love that students have been so willing to worship and have allowed themselves to be vulnerable. Students have wanted to grow in their faith, which has impacted each of us and helped me to grow in my faith."

## NEW CLUB SPORTS COMING THIS FALL

For the 2022-23 year, under the leadership of the athletics department and **Zeke Friedeman '20**, Asbury students will have the opportunity to play three competitive Club Sports.

Friedeman was previously a standout on Asbury's Roundnet team, which routinely beat, NCAA Division I schools in Spikeball roundnet Association tournaments.

Adding to Roundnet, Asbury will also offer Club Pickleball and Club Disc Golf in the activities lineup.

To learn more, visit [asburyeagles.com](http://asburyeagles.com).



# Empowering the Next Generation of Film Students

*The Baileys were deeply impacted by Asbury and now are giving back*

**Shannon Czaplinski '92 Bailey** recalls late nights in a video editing suite in Corbitt Hall to finish up her Asbury senior film project. Now — 30 years later — she is thrilled that along with her husband, Blake, they can give back to the program she credits with changing her life.

Her desire to establish the Blake and Shannon Bailey Endowed Fund for Senior Storytelling Project was the result of benefiting from the leadership of **Dr. Jim Owens '79**, dean of the School of Communication Arts, and thinking of a creative way to alleviate the stress of the senior film process for future students.

“Since my father died when I was 17, Jim has had a larger impact on my life than anyone else, with the exception of my husband,” Shannon said. “When I showed up here, Asbury was my fourth school. I never wanted to come here, but Jim was one of the only people who could figure out how to motivate me.”

Owens said Shannon forged a new path out of Asbury’s Media Communication program even though getting started was not easy.

“Shannon went from a student who was crying in my office that she couldn’t tell the difference between her right and her left so she couldn’t direct cameras, to writing ‘L’ and ‘R’ on her fingers, to being the first graduate ever to direct network television, which was Discovery Channel,” he recalled. “She grew a whole lot in that process.”

The Baileys have been involved with Athens Christian School in Athens, Ga., and helped create a media program they modeled after Asbury.

“We’re in a place where we want to give back,” Shannon noted. “Blake was one of the founding board members for Downtown Academy in Athens that services the one percent of the bottom. He helped start it and funded it. Now, they’re generationally changing the lives of the poorest of the poor in Athens. So, when this came up and Carolyn [Ridley] and I started talking about it, I saw it as bookends. We’re addressing this issue in Athens in our own neighborhood to change where we live, but then on the other side is changing the world from a broader perspective through this fund at Asbury.”

The Baileys believe that one person can make a difference in the world and working in the film and television industry can be a means to accomplish change.

“The only way we can change our culture is to change our culture from the inside,” Shannon said. “I used to work



Blake and Shannon Czaplinski '92 Bailey created a new fund for senior film projects. Pictured from left at the signing are: Vice President for Institutional Advancement & Strategic Partnerships Dr. Mark Troyer, Dean of the School of Communication Arts Dr. Jim Owens, Blake Bailey, Shannon Bailey, and President Dr. Kevin Brown.

Blake Bailey, who serves as chief financial officer for Zaxby's took time during the family's visit to speak at a Lunch and Learn with students from the Dayton School of Business.

in the industry for a long time, had kids, now I'm back in the industry. There is no other place that's going to prepare kids to change culture from the inside better than Asbury. I want to be a part of helping to develop that next generation of talent that will make the world better for my own grandkids.”

Owens explained that the Bailey Senior Storytelling Project will help students cultivate 'story.'

“This \$5,000 grant to a senior will provide an opportunity for our students to have funding behind their films. It's always been that you scrape together whatever you possibly can to produce it. But this has deeper meaning for us as a department because students will have to put together a script and get their story and their budget together a year early,” he said. “They'll pitch it to us, and we pick the right one that will be funded. So, for us it's putting money behind our whole concept that the story is the most important, not the equipment. We need to have great equipment; we know that. But at the same time, story is more important. We're excited that now in beginning screenwriting classes we're going to be saying, 'OK, if you really work on this you could get \$5,000 to produce it.' That'll be a huge incentive for our students.”

Shannon's own senior film project was created before it could be highlighted at the Highbridge Film Festival, which was founded in 2005, so she showed it in the basement of Kresge.





# Holding on to Hope in Kyiv

*In Wilmore and Ukraine, the Mikhaluk family clings to the faithfulness of God*

During the early days of the Russian invasion of Ukraine, Maia and Nick Mikhaluk went nearly everywhere with their daughter, **Sasha Mikhaluk '20 Shuliahina**, and her husband, Nikita. Sasha was nearly nine months pregnant, but it was not to keep her safe that they clumped together in the streets of Kyiv. It was so they could die together. If a Russian rocket struck their location, no one wanted to survive alone.

Five thousand miles away, in Wilmore, Ky., **Danny Mikhaluk '25** studied hard and tried not to worry. A political science major at Asbury, he followed his sister, Sasha, who had graduated from the media communication program in 2020. The separation, uncertainty and almost dream-like unreality of wartime life have been hard on them. And yet, says Maia, they continue to be amazed by God's provision.

"We keep seeing God's faithfulness, and I think it deepens our faith and our dependence on God," she said.

Sasha chose to attend Asbury on the strength of reputation for media communication and because of connections made through her parents' ministry. During the 90s, Nick and Maia had been part of CoMission, an organization that sent missionaries to spend a year in Soviet Bloc nations. One of those partnering organizations was One Mission Society, formerly led by the late **J.B. Crouse '55**.

"One thing led to another, and they introduced us to President [Sandra] Gray at that time. The University invited us to come with the promise that we'd be able to make it financially because education in the States is very expensive, and we are a ministry family here in Ukraine," Maia remembers.

Together, Nick and Maia lead International Partnerships, a church planting ministry in Ukraine. Nick serves as pastor of their church. During the war, they have continued to serve the spiritual needs of their community while also distributing food and supplies to war-torn areas.

On a recent humanitarian aid trip, Nick and Maia visited Yahidne, a village where Russian troops had imprisoned more than 300 people in a school, using them as a human shield for weeks. When they stood in the now-empty basement, they

**1** Pictured in Ukraine are: Nikita Shuliahina, Sasha Mikhaluk '20 Shuliahina, Danny Mikhaluk '25, and Maia and Nick Mikhaluk. **2** Danny is a current Asbury student and member of the Ignited Class of 2025. **3** Sasha graduated with the Visionary Class of 2020. **4-6** The Shuliahinas and Mikhaluks continue to do ministry in Ukraine, including leading worship and humanitarian aid trips. **7** Nadiya, whose name means Hope, is a widow and her remaining family members evacuated to Germany at the start of the invasion. Her house in the village of Budy has been destroyed.











looked at the names and messages scrawled on the walls. Maia said it reminded her of another place they had visited before: Auschwitz. But even in the basement, scrawled with suffering, Nick said his faith reminds him not to despair.

“Jesus’ sacrifice and His suffering showed us that we are not alone; that He suffered for us, for our sins,” Nick said. “And we have God who experienced everything that we have experienced right now — pain, loneliness — and He cried, ‘Father, why did you forsake me?’”

Nick, Maia, Sasha and Nikita have remained in Kyiv by calling, even as millions of people fled the country. Sasha and Nikita faced a more difficult choice about staying or leaving, as Sasha expected to give birth within one or two weeks after the Russian invasion began on Feb. 24, 2022.

“We stayed here and I’m really glad that we did, but it was scary,” Sasha said. “And I was really angry. I think we all were very angry, because there’s not a reason for this war.”

In their apartment, the family taped the inside of all their windows on the chance that it would help arrest the deadly hail of glass during an explosion. They also adjusted to a new routine of sleeping in their building’s interior hallways, away from exposed walls. Crowded onto mattresses in uncomfortably close spaces, they learned to love the Psalms like never before.

**“We maybe became more honest with God about our emotions,” Maia said. “Psalms became a very relevant book for us — you know, David’s emotional prayers, including the prayers of calling God to punish the enemy. We understand those prayers now.”**

“We would all pile up together there, and we’d be glued to the news or reading Psalms or praying or trying to sleep,” Sasha said. “It was quite uncomfortable. But even with all that, our family was really blessed. We haven’t lost anyone yet.”

### A NEW SOURCE OF STRENGTH

The family and their ministry community gained a new loved one. Briana Shuliahina was born on March 16, and proud grandmother Maia said she is a reminder of the goodness of God.

“Briana has been kind of our source of strength,” Maia said. “Her name means ‘strong,’ and we feel she’s bringing some strength to people around her. Just seeing the baby ... it just gives you hope. All these days, we’ve seen how faithful God is — how He took care of all the details.”

In Wilmore, Danny fought feelings of worry and powerlessness as he read dire predictions. Within a few weeks, though, it became clear that Russia would not take Kyiv or even occupy



Sasha and Nikita welcomed baby Briana in the midst of war in Ukraine.

most of Ukraine. That is when he dove into his studies to find relief.

He has been interested in political science since he was 14, fueled by a young idealist’s zeal to fight corruption in government. Now, in the shadow of war, his interest in politics has taken a pragmatic turn.

“I’m very shocked by this situation of thousands of Ukrainians being deported into Russia,” he said. “That’s something I would want to be involved in when the war is over — trying to get people back.”

In the fall, Danny plans to take a class on human trafficking and is thinking about directing his research in that direction, as well. He wants to make a difference.

In Kyiv, Sasha says she feels the support of the Asbury community. Professors and friends have reached out, and the Asbury Orchestra performed a piece by a Ukrainian composer as a gesture of support.

“It was nice to hear from people and know that we’re not forgotten, that people are praying for us,” she said. “If you feel called, you can donate to ministries doing humanitarian work; you can donate to our military; but really, please just pray. Because prayer is powerful.”

Learn more about the Mikhaluk’s ministry at: [ipministry.org](http://ipministry.org).



# God's Majesty in His Creation and in His People



Mark Troyer holds Caroline, granddaughter of the late Greg Isaacs '83 during Reunion 2022. The first floor of the Shaw CLC is named in honor of Greg, a former member of the Board of Trustees and campaign steering committee co-chair.

This summer, my wife Diane and I enjoyed an anniversary trip to Colorado. (Good news, she signed another five-year agreement, so she will put up with me for at least five more years!) The majesty of the mountains amazes me. God, in His creativity, gave us so many unique places on earth, each showing His power and goodness. We love the mountains, love walking a beach, love being on a boat on the ocean, and love a mesa in New Mexico. Even the hustle and bustle of a city can be amazing.

People inhabit those places. God's hand in each of our lives is also unique and tells a little paragraph of God's story. I loved this year's Reunion theme "Goodness of God" and the storytelling it encouraged. I also loved hearing stories from students who attended summer camps at Asbury; stories from visiting prospective students and their parents; even stories from contractors on campus, enthusiastic about progress being made and work well done. Thank you for being part of God's story and Asbury's. Thank you for sharing in the goodness of God with us.

We are excited about what is coming up. Members of the Restored Class of 2026 will be arriving on campus this fall as freshmen. New programs will be starting. We will enjoy new spaces like the Walt and Rowena Shaw Collaborative Learning Center, the revitalized Rader Student Center, the

Bayless Western Riding Arena, and outdoor patios and gathering spaces. These show God's goodness and favor.

Asbury holds a special place in this world. Diane and I are honored to serve here and honored to connect with so many who are part of God's story and creation. Getting to work with others to ensure that Asbury will continue to serve as a beacon of Christ's love for us and for others is a privilege.

As we do the honored work of advancing Asbury's mission and God's kingdom, I am often reminded to pause and look for God's goodness around us, both in His gift of creation and in His gift of people. Thanks for what you do in praying for us, supporting us, and telling God's story of goodness and blessings.

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

## Transforming Lives. *It's Easier Than You Think.*

Do you dream of making a transformational gift for the Kingdom of God? The kind that transforms the lives of students through a Christ-centered education? A gift that equips students to advance His Kingdom? Consider making a gift through your will or trust.

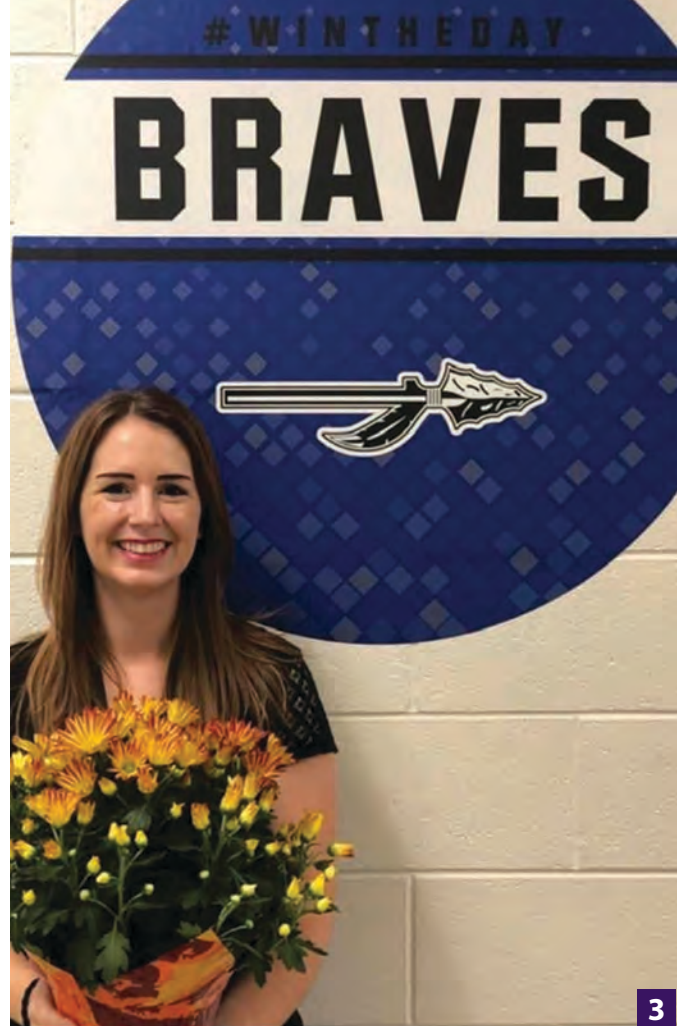
When you name Asbury University as a beneficiary in your will or trust, you build our long-term financial resources and enable us to continue to transform lives of students long into the future. Maybe you have already done this...we would love to know and celebrate your future impact now and add you as a member of the John Wesley Hughes Society.

Want to explore how to get started with your legacy planning through your Biblical stewardship? We are available to discuss your dreams of creating a legacy for Kingdom impact at Asbury University and beyond. Your conversation will be confidential and without obligation.

For more information, visit Asbury University's Planned Giving website at [asbury.giftlegacy.com](http://asbury.giftlegacy.com) or contact us at (859) 858-5544 or [plannedgiving@asbury.edu](mailto:plannedgiving@asbury.edu).







Summer 2022

# Class Notes

## 1970s

**Barbara Spicer '75 Graves** married former Asbury Professor Eric Lidh on June 9, 2022. They are living in Andalusia, Ala.

**Cinda Johnston '79 Swan** has retired from teaching in the religion department at Lindsey Wilson College. She continues to be active in ministry, including serving as a trustee at United Theological Seminary. She and her husband, **Terry Swan '80**, are retiring in Campbellsville, Ky.

## 1980s

**Gary Wheeler '83** recently published his fourth book, "The Messengers: Bridges." It is the second in his historical fiction series about a boy who finds Christ and grows in faith

through the friendship and preaching of a Methodist Circuit Rider and his wife in the 1820s.

**Mandy Dawson '84** released a children's picture book, "Holly the Holstein Talks About Milk Cows." It can be purchased from Amazon.

## 1990s

**James '97** and **Annette Juhl '96 Carroll** celebrated their 25th wedding anniversary on May 17, 2022.

**Kayleen Hilyer '97** is a Certified Peer Specialist in the state of Pennsylvania. In October 2021, she accepted the position of administrative assistant at her church, Transformation Church in Grove City, Penn.

## 2000s

**Ben Taber '03** was recognized for 10 years of service with One Mission Society. He serves as a videographer and AV specialist.

**Benjamin Arnold '04** is a therapist at Troy University's Student Counseling Center in Troy, Ala. In addition to providing individual counseling, mental health assessments and crisis intervention services to Troy University students, Benjamin is facilitating educational and mental health presentations and workshops on campus and throughout the greater Troy community.

**Thad Austin '07** co-authored a new book, "Philanthropy and Religion, Christianity."





4

**Kristen Reynolds '08 Donaldson** was selected by her peers as the 2021-2022 Teacher of the Year for Oconee County Middle School in Watkinsville, Ga. **3**

Stephen and **Laura Sweeten '09 Hunter** are proud to announce the arrival of Calvin Elias on March 13, 2022. He was welcomed home by big brother, Phen. **2**

### 2010s

Luke and **Taylor Techau '13 Boyd** announce the arrival of Saul Boyd in March 2022. Saul is welcomed home by big brother, Clyde. **1**

**Craig '16** and **Alyssa Bacon '16 Moberly** announce the birth of Carson David born on June 18, 2022. Proud grandmother is **Lisa Corbett '86 Bacon**. **4**

# ENGAGE

*with us today!*

**Asburycommunity.org offers you many opportunities to stay connected with the Asbury family.**

- Update your personal profile
- Look up alumni by class year, by name or by location
- Make connections with those who share your vocation
- Submit updates and class notes for the Ambassador magazine

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# IN MEMORIAM

To report a listing for In Memoriam, please contact **Kim Spillman** in the Office of Advancement at [kimberly.spillman@asbury.edu](mailto:kimberly.spillman@asbury.edu) or (859) 858-5173.

## Alumni

**Rev. Floyd Fought '46**, Author/Ministry/Missions/Woodworker, 3/17/2022, Fort Myers, FL

**Martha Williamson '46 Moe**, Christian Education, 1/26/2021, Wilmington, NC

**Theda Bratton '47 Wilson**, Education, 3/10/2022, Florence, KY

**Winona Lewis '48 Baker**, Banker/Former Asbury Staff, 4/20/2022, Wilmore, KY

**Emma "Jean" Kinzler '48 Englerth**, Education/Volunteer, 5/9/2022, Middleville, MI

**Edith Overton '50 Friend**, Business Owner/Education/Ministry, 3/30/2022, Avondale, PA

**Dr. Glenn Linnert Sr. '50**, Education/Education Administrator/Farmer, 12/10/2021, New Albany, IN

**Pauline "Polly" Odell '51 Aycock**, Nursing, 4/22/2022, Donalsonville, GA

**Helen Thurston '51 Eckstrom**, 6/5/2022, Alexandria, MN

**Rev. James Boggan '52**, Ministry/Missions, 11/21/2021, Bessemer, AL

**Rev. Theodore "Ted" Ochs '52**, Ministry, 4/27/2022, Winston Salem, NC

**Mary "Virginia" Rooks '52 Stanfield**, Education, 5/24/2022, Woodbine, GA

**Charles "Chuck" Barbo '53**, Engineering, 4/10/2022, Mount Vernon, WA

**Rev. James "Bill" Dupree '53**, Ministry, 6/4/2022, Americus, GA

**Martha Grant '53 Likins**, Education/Education Administrator/Ministry, 5/27/2022, Nashville, TN

**Betty Roberson '53 Potter**, Nursing, 3/22/2022, Murfreesboro, TN

**Rev. Jack Fitzgerald '54**, Correctional Officer/Ministry/Parole Officer, 6/16/2021, Severn, MD

**Dr. John Smith '54**, Education/Former Asbury Faculty/Ministry, 5/13/2022, South Bend, IN

**Juanita Spivey '54 Tew**, Education/Ministry/Missions, 2/28/2022, Birmingham, AL

**Richard Bolar '55**, Athletic Coach/Education/Education Administrator, 3/11/2022, Reynoldsburg, OH

**Rev. Benjamin "Ben" Cain '55**, Ministry/Missions/Volunteer, 3/16/2022, Flemingsburg, KY

**Dr. Jean Warren '55 Ganzel**, Ministry, 5/21/2022, West End, NC

**George MacDonald '55**, Bible Translator, 11/18/2021, Waxhaw, NC

**Rev. Gerald Munday '55**, Ministry, 4/28/2022, Gulf Breeze, FL

**Winifred Moore '56 Knox**, Education/Music Ministry, 3/15/2022, Smyrna, GA

**Rev. Donald Long '57**, Ministry/Veteran, 11/18/2021, Verona, VA

**Mary Ballou '58 Bartley**, Education, 10/20/2021, Minneapolis, MN

**Allen Crossley '58**, Administration/Veteran, 2/27/2022, Columbus, OH

**Joseph Lunsford '58**, Education/Ministry, 3/27/2022, Stacy, MN

**Gerald Brubaker '59**, Airplane Propeller Mechanic/Business Owner/Missions, 5/30/2021, McMinnville, TN

**Rev. Cecil Hazen '60**, Ministry, 12/10/2021, Macon, GA

**Dr. Charles Sommers '60**, Chaplain/Ministry/Veteran, 3/21/2022, Newburgh, IN

**Patsy Woodring '60**, Education/Ministry, 5/14/2022, Vancleve, KY

**Sandra "Sandy" Hull '61 Occhiono**, Education, 5/12/2022, Oneonta, NY

**Dr. Ivan Zabilka '61**, Author/Education/Former Asbury Faculty/Former Asbury Staff/Missions, 4/4/2022, Wilmore, KY

**Helen Kessler '62 Brown**, Education/Missions, 4/17/2022, Silver Lake, IN

**Patricia Coffee '62 Smith**, Education/Musician, 4/25/2022, Mount Juliet, TN

**Ronald Carman '63**, Management/Military/Volunteer, 2/22/2022, Dacula, GA

**Dr. Osbey Saylor '63**, Medicine/Missions/Veteran, 4/24/2022, Middleburg, FL

**Janet Myers '63 Secrest**, Executive Assistant, 10/19/2021, Estero, FL

**Beverly "Jean" Decker '64 Bauer**, Education/Missions/Postal Service, 3/29/2022, Columbia, SC

**Lois Ann Brubeck '65 Bye**, Education/Missions, 3/18/2022, English, IN

**Lois Reed '68 Cooperrider**, Education/Education Administrator Assistant, 3/20/2022, Warrenton, MO

**Judith "Judee" Hammerstrom '69 Alvarez**, Counselor/Education, 4/25/2022, Porter, TX

**Karen Blake '69 Olinik**, Accounting, 4/7/2022, Youngstown, OH

**Nancy Gatton '69 Orrin**, Missions, 2/18/2022, Germany

**Dr. Frank Tulak '69**, Ministry/Psychology, 6/1/2022, Williamsport, PA

**John Bertsch '70**, Education/Metallurgist, 6/4/2022, Humble, TX

**Carol Hall '72 Brandes**, 4/29/2022, Matthews, NC

**Susan "Carol" Durham '73 Claybrook**, Education/Volunteer, 4/29/2022, Wichita, KS

**Olean Kerchak '74 Lange**, Administrative Assistant, 4/19/2022, Fort Edward, NY

**Rev. Bruce Herrboldt '77**, Ministry, 3/24/2022, Rapid City, SD

**Dr. Roger Nichols '83**, Automotive Manager/Ministry/Volunteer Firefighter, 3/11/2022, Webb City, MO

**Thomas "Tom" Thomas '87**, Ministry/Music Education/Musician, 5/2/2022, Scottville, MI

**L. "Stan" Melton Jr. '88**, Editor/Marketing Director/Producer/Writer, 12/29/2021, Falls Church, VA

**Todd Thomsen '88**, Management, 3/2/2022, Lexington, KY

**Gary Lamb '94**, Psychology/Veteran, 4/26/2022, Townsend, TN

**Maj. Scott McNeil (APS)**, Salvation Army, 6/9/2022, Manchester, NH

**Debra Hannan Keyser** (Grad Program), 12/22/2021, Lexington, KY

**Gary Roberts** (Grad Program), Military/Special Education, 4/20/2022, Frankfort, KY

## Friends

**Rev. John Abbott**, 4/1/2022, Indianapolis, IN

**Emma "Jean" Glover Bridewell**, Former Asbury Faculty, 5/26/2022, Wilmore, KY

**Jermaine "Jerry" Thomas Cole**, 10/20/2021, Fort Wayne, IN

**Sheriff Kevin Corman**, 5/22/2022, Nicholasville, KY

**Eugene "Gene" Cox Jr.**, 4/23/2022, Winterville, NC

**James Eddy**, 6/4/2021, Ogden, UT

**Commr. Eva Gaither**, Former Asbury Trustee Spouse, 5/24/2022, Pittsburgh, PA

**Rev. Ronald "Ron" Greulich**, 3/26/2022, Fresno, CA

**Rev. Hugh Hannah**, 5/1/2022, Cleveland, TN

**Roger Hatton**, 5/6/2022, Clewiston, FL

**Shirley Chamberlain Hammerlee**, 4/23/2022, Meadville, PA

**Marjorie Jennings Ingram**, 4/28/2022, Marietta, GA

**Eugene "Bud" Jenness Jr.**, 3/5/2022, Nicholasville, KY

**Anne Vesser Kelley**, 4/6/2022, Tampa, FL

**Kenneth Krause**, 5/6/2022, Lakeville, MN

**Glenda Moon**, 4/15/2022, Marion, IN

**Evelyn Loven Ochs**, 1/14/2022, Winston Salem, NC

**Doris Fitz Shennum**, 1/23/2022, Saint Paul, MN

**Dr. Charles Sims**, 4/30/2022, Lancaster, OH

**Roger Southerland**, 4/11/2022, Hustonville, KY

**Ruth Whitworth**, 5/10/2022, Louisville, KY



# Photo Finish

**ASBURY'S HISTORY, ON A HORSE**  
*'CIRCUIT RIDER' IS PUBLIC ART WITH HORSE MANIA*



The talent of **Katie Palmer '16 Nelson** combined with the generosity of Board of Trustees member **Jeff '87** and **Barbara Lowe '86 Stryker** led to the creation of 'Circuit Rider,' who is part of the LexArts Horse Mania display in downtown Lexington through November. Nelson is pictured with her husband, **Tyler Meynardie Nelson '17** and the Strykers at the Horse Mania VIP kick-off event in June at the Ashland Henry Clay Estate in Lexington.

"The inspiration for Circuit Rider was actually given to me by Jeff," Nelson explained. "He gave me the historical information I needed to create one side of the horse telling the story of Francis Asbury, which was from a book written by Dr. Livingston at Asbury Theological Seminary. For the Asbury University side of the horse, I drew on some of my favorite sights around campus and images I knew would be familiar to anyone who has ever been on Asbury's campus."



Circuit Rider is adorned with depictions of Hughes, Asbury's picturesque location, police mounts, and so much more.

"This horse represents the impact Francis Asbury had on Christian education, and how horses played an integral part in that story," Nelson said, adding that the project allowed her to network with other artists in Lexington. "The purple ribbon ties everything together and creates a fun line to follow all across the horse."



She quipped, "This definitely opened up a few conversations with neighbors, since I had a horse in my window for a month."

Stryker was motivated to sponsor a horse for Asbury because he feels it is important for Christians to engage culture. "I do not have the talent to influence the arts," he commented, "but I can support those who can. And I believe Asbury is perfectly positioned to influence the horse world."

Until November, the public can view Circuit Rider and the other life-size horse statues around downtown Lexington. This unique art piece will then be displayed on Asbury's campus.

Circuit Rider's permanent home will be on the Stryker's farm, which is the site of the original Bethel Academy that was built in 1790 to 1794. "Our property is part of Asbury's history, and Barb and I are excited to have this piece of art on our farm. We believe the addition of Circuit Rider will make our farm a more enjoyable place to visit in the future."





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*the*  
**AMBASSADOR**

SUMMER 2022

## Schedule of Fall Events

**AUGUST 26 – 27**

*Cross Country Reunion*

**SEPTEMBER 10**

*Chicago Regional Event*

**SEPTEMBER 12 – 16**

*Fall Revival*

**SEPTEMBER 15 – 17**

*Alumni Board Meeting*

**SEPTEMBER 22**

*New Room Conference  
Alumni Gathering,  
Nashville*

**SEPTEMBER 27**

*TeamAU Golf Experience*

**SEPTEMBER 27**

*Eagle Choral Day*

**SEPTEMBER 29 – 30**

*Fall Preview Visit Event*

**SEPTEMBER 29 –**

**OCTOBER 1**

*Family Weekend*

**OCTOBER 8**

*Atlanta Regional Event*

**OCTOBER 13 – 14**

*Fall Break*

**OCTOBER 20**

*Multicultural Online  
Visit Event*

**OCTOBER 27 – 28**

*Equine Visit Event*

**OCTOBER 31 –**

**NOVEMBER 4**

*Great Commission  
Congress*

**NOVEMBER 5**

*Virginia Beach  
Regional Event*

**NOVEMBER 8 – 9**

*Embrace Conference*

**NOVEMBER 11**

*Homeschool Visit Day*

**DECEMBER 2**

*Songs of the Season  
Christmas Concert*

**DECEMBER 2**

*Accepted Student  
Online Event*

