

# AMBASSADOR

ASBURY UNIVERSITY

SUMMER 2024

RESTORE TO ME THE JOY OF YOUR SALVATION PSALM 51:11

## Restore

REUNION 2024



## CULTURAL CLIMATE

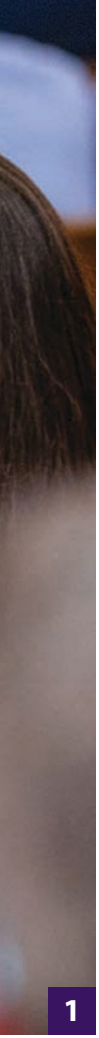
AN 'ELEVATED SPIRITUAL TEMPERATURE' ON CAMPUS

*Part two of President Brown's Strategic Focus*

# Restore

REUNION 2024





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1 Reunion attendees range from 0 years old to 99 years old! 2 Alumni worship during the annual Hymn Sing. 3 Rev. Keith Brown '54 is recognized for his 70th reunion. 4 Jazz band and handbell choir alumni performed a concert for the event's attendees. 5-6 Glide-Crawford Residence Hall celebrated a concert for the event's attendees. (RA) Reunion in the newly renovated common space. Read more on p. 19. 7 Reunion's Saturday activities concluded with a fireworks show visible from the Miller Center for Communication Arts. 8-9 Asbury hosted the annual President's Dinner in the Shaw CLC's Luce Auditorium.



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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 over 130 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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## Cultural Climate

In a very general sense, a university can be understood as having four significant components: programs, processes, messaging, and culture.

We provide educational **programming** and credentialing to prospective students in a formative, Christ-centered environment. Our **processes** exist to originate, sustain, service, evaluate, and effectively deliver our programs. Our **messaging** is the strategic and deliberate communication of value to prospective students, alumni, stakeholders, and the broader community.

But, importantly, the effectiveness of each of these independent yet overlapping functions will rise and fall proportionate to the **cultural climate** they exist within.

As a recent Harvard Business Review article makes clear, an organization's culture — church, school, business, or non-profit — carries implications for morale, sustainability, and future success.

“Simply put, culture is an organization's DNA. It is the shared values, goals, attitudes, and practices that characterize a workplace. It is reflected in how people behave, interact with each other, make decisions, and do their work. It impacts everything — including your happiness and career.”

For some institutions, culture is organized around optimizing a financial metric (quarterly sales, annual earnings, market share, etc.). For others, culture may have more to do with process or procedures (safety, quality assurance, policy adherence, etc.). A team culture may strictly relate to winning; it may be more about having fun. It may be customer-centric; it may be employee-centric. In sum, an institution's mission is worked out through the norms and practices of its culture. Because mission matters, culture matters.

### SO, WHAT KIND OF CULTURAL ENVIRONMENT DOES ASBURY STRIVE FOR?

Much can be said here, but I believe that a robust and flourishing Christian university must, among other things, correlate to missional integrity and support, effective communication, and trust. This was demonstrated at Reunion this summer as alumni from 1945 to present gathered on campus with family and friends.

Missional integrity means that Asbury staff and faculty recognize and support the character of our university; its tradition, priorities, doctrinal commitments, and practices. A uniform fidelity to the mission of Asbury moderates every dimension of our university activity. As a Christian university, Asbury must first and foremost reflect a culture that takes the descriptors “Christian” and “university” seriously.

How, and how often, we communicate impacts our culture as well. Like other colleges and universities, there is a temptation in higher education for departments to fragment into separate units with uniquely vested interests. To maintain unity and advance our shared mission, we aspire to a culture that communicates frequently, respectfully, and effectively.

In addition to effective communication, there must be mutual trust among staff and faculty. The “speed of trust” thesis posits that organizational advancement will occur proportionate to the level of shared trust among its members. Asbury has always transacted work through the currency of relationships, trust, and goodwill. When these cultural attributes are high, we are at our best.

A strong cultural climate produces two important outcomes. First, a healthy culture of missional support, communication, and trust will naturally **enhance employee satisfaction**. Second, a strong cultural climate **benefits our students!** That is, we better fulfill our student-centric mission of “Academic Excellence and Spiritual Vitality.”

Our programs, processes, and messaging are important. But successful practices and strategies of any organization — including Asbury — will ultimately correlate to its culture. We don't always get this right. There are always opportunities for improvement. But outlining the kind of culture we want as well as the means for how we will get there provides a roadmap for an environment that will best help us to realize our mission.



Kevin J. Brown, Ph.D.  
President



**COURAGEOUS CLASS VERSE**

*Have I not commanded you?  
Be strong and courageous.  
Do not be frightened, and do not  
be dismayed, for the Lord your  
God is with you wherever you go.*

JOSHUA 1:9



The Courageous Class celebrated graduating from a college experience impacted by complications of the pandemic.

**THE COURAGEOUS CLASS TURNS THE TASSEL**

After spending their collegiate journey at Asbury, Courageous Class students walked across the stage and received their degrees. For many students it was a special honor, with their high school graduations disrupted by the COVID-19 pandemic.

The graduated class sat through more than 213,435 classroom hours. Consisting of 314 students, many double-majored, and one student even triple majored! Here are some fun facts about the Courageous Class.



**MOST POPULAR WOMEN'S NAMES**

- Abigail
- Ann
- Emily
- Rebekah



**MOST POPULAR MEN'S NAMES**

- Connor
- Ethan
- Caleb
- Andrew



**MOST POPULAR MAJORS ON THEIR DIPLOMAS**

- Media Communication
- Business Administration
- Equine Studies
- Psychology
- Accounting

Members of the Courageous class began their college years in the midst of the pandemic's isolation, with some of their most important relationships coming from phone screens and message inboxes. Many of these students even missed out on their high school proms and graduations.

Courageous Class Advisors **Keith Barker '91** and **Michelle Kratzer** celebrated with students as they hit their commencement milestone. They said in a joint statement, "We reflected on what a great class of students the Class of 2024 was, how they surmounted many unique challenges and navigated college life through COVID-19. We enjoyed working with the different class cabinets over their four years, watching them grow, and helping guide them as they planned and executed their many activities, retreats, and events. The class is a quality group of students who will make a difference in the places they find themselves in the coming years!"

**Tif Walz '08 Hassler** officially welcomed the graduates to the global Asbury alumni community. She said, "Today marks a significant milestone in your journey — the moment you become a member of the Asbury Alumni Association. You are stepping into a vibrant community more than 23,000 strong, spread across more than 80 countries and in every corner of our nation. As you celebrate this momentous occasion with your loved ones, know that there is an extensive network of alums across the globe ready to welcome you to life after Asbury with friendship, church connections, job offers, fellowship and support."

Trinity Forum President Cherie Harder was the Commencement speaker.

Prior to joining the Trinity Forum in 2008, Harder served in the White House as Special Assistant to the President and Director of Policy and Projects for First Lady Laura Bush. She holds an Honors B.A. (magna cum laude) in government from Harvard University and a post-graduate diploma in literature from the University of Queensland in Brisbane, Australia, where she was a Rotary Scholar.

"Nearly all of the spiritual disciplines aim on focusing our attention in order to cultivate our affections. What you give your attention to will form your mind, your affections, and your priorities and determine how you think, what you think, what you know, and, thus, what you love," Harder said. "We live in a world fundamentally hostile to sustained attention and structurally opposed to behold flowers, friends, or our Father in heaven. It's no exaggeration to say that you [students] are graduating into the most distracted and distracting time in all of human history."

## CELEBRATING A LEGACY OF EDUCATION AND SERVANT LEADERSHIP

**Dr. Roy Lauter '64** served as an exemplary professor in the School of Education for 33 years, inspiring a lineage of educators dedicated to creating immersive and memorable methods of teaching.

One of those former students is current School of Education Associate Professor **Dr. Barbara Adams '91 Hamilton**, who began her teaching journey in both Lauter's classroom in Wilmore and in the northwestern Caribbean Sea.

"Prof took me on my first mission trip to Jamaica and modeled servant leadership through his teaching, preaching, and student government sponsorship here on campus and around the world," said Hamilton. "Fast forward... I thought I'd teach middle school for the rest of my career and never imagined I'd be at Asbury teaching future teachers!"

In June, Hamilton took 12 education students to teach English as a second language (ESL) at a camp in a rural village in Hungary, serving a community through the local church in partnership with One Mission Society. This travel course experience was birthed by **Olivia Parsons '25**, one of Hamilton's students.



**1** Michelle Kratzer, Associate Dean of the Catalyst Center for Applied Learning, recognized Olivia Parsons '25 as the Roy L. Lauter Servant Leadership Award. **2** Education students taught English as a second language (ESL) at a camp in Letenye, Hungary, resulting in nearly 40 children coming to Christ.

"It [the Hungary trip] truly was a 'mustard-seed' idea from the Lord," said Parsons. "Through many different connections to different organizations, God used a plethora of people around me to bring it together. Throughout the whole process, God has been in every detail and seamlessly opened doors when we did not even know what to ask for. I am so excited that we had the opportunity to go and know that God's hand was with us throughout our time in Hungary!"

Lauter and Hamilton recently reunited in celebrating Parsons' receiving the 2024 Roy L. Lauter Servant Leadership Award, an accolade given to several students showcasing service and ministry to both the local community and Asbury University.

"It was an amazingly rewarding experience," expressed Lauter. "I was always passionate about teaching, and say it is 'the mother of all other professions.' It's so very heartening to see strong Christian people going into the profession." Parsons noted that meeting Lauter in person made the award that much more meaningful to her.

"Dr. Lauter is fiery and passionate in his pursuit to provide resources for those around him and for furthering of the Kingdom," she said. "I am better for getting to meet him and truly grateful to have received a scholarship in his honor."

Hamilton added, "Prof's investment in me is continuing. It now extends through Olivia to the next generation here on campus and around the world!"



# Celebrating 20 years



## CREATING WITH TYLER CHONG

This spring, the Highbridge Film Festival celebrated 20 years of inspiring, promoting and supporting creative storytelling for Asbury students and local high schoolers.

For Media Communication student, **Tyler Chong '24**, the process of filming constitutes more than translating a script to screen. Films speak through carefully crafted shots, editing fluidity, and creating a story that effectively shapes culture. Highbridge recently awarded Chong with the Best Documentary and Best Editing awards for his film "Racing the Empire," Best Cinematography on Ian Wang's "Buddy," and Best Screenplay, Best Director and Best Comedy for his film "The Labtob."

Ambassador editor **Madison Anderson '23** had a conversation with Chong following his recognitions:

- MIA** You were extremely successful at the Highbridge awards ceremony. What's an award that you're particularly proud of?
- TC** I love creating visuals and really like the cinematography on "Buddy." All my other projects were one-man-bands, so that film was an opportunity to focus on something specific and put everything I had into the project. Seeing that dedication recognized during the awards was very rewarding.
- MIA** How do you feel your directing style has evolved since your first student film?
- TC** I don't think it evolved but has gotten more effective. Instead of just writing down shots I need to get, I'm thinking about what the frame is and how to artistically fill that frame, as well as how each shot contributes to the story.
- MIA** Do you think that filmmakers have a responsibility to comment on current culture?
- TC** Film is such a powerful machine to help people empathize with each other, but if your film is going to comment on certain current events or social situations, you have to know what you're talking about and take the time to be an expert.
- MIA** Where will you take your film career outside of your Asbury education? Should we expect to see any productions from you in the near future?
- TC** I want to explore sports filmmaking a bit more. "Racing the Empire" was a big sports documentary, but I'd love to create a film that means something to me in my personal sports journey. Running has been a big part of my life in recent years, so that's something I want to be involved in.

## AND THE WINNERS ARE..



Many media students received awards ranging from best directing, best editing, and best visual effects. Below are some of the Highbridge award winners.

### AUDIENCE CHOICE AWARD

Love at First Sight – Sam Santrock

### BEST CINEMATOGRAPHY

Buddy – Tyler Chong

### BEST COMEDY

The Labtob – Tyler Chong

### BEST DIRECTOR

The Labtob – Tyler Chong

### BEST DRAMA

Plant Mom – Carmen Clemente & Canaan Yan

### BEST DOCUMENTARY

Racing the Empire – Tyler Chong

### BEST EDITING

Racing the Empire – Tyler Chong

### BEST SCREENPLAY

The Labtob – Tyler Chong

### BEST VISUAL EFFECTS

Buddy – Ian Wang

Asbury welcomed director, producer, and screenwriter Christine Swanson along with cinematographer and producer Matt Giblin and studio executive Katie Hooten to serve as judges for Highbridge 2024. Swanson has won multiple awards, such as the 2020 Best TV Movie award, Critics Choice Award for Best TV Movie, and other awards for her film "The Clark Sisters: First Ladies of Gospel." Giblin has worked for the Special Olympics World Games and Taylor Swift's "The Eras Tour." Hooten is head of MPC Studio in Los Angeles and has worked on films like "Hoodwinked," "Lilo & Stitch," and "Spirited Away."



## NEW DINING SERVICE BRINGS “FRESH IDEAS” TO CAMPUS



With a focus on student engagement, technology, and fresh food, Asbury has selected Fresh Ideas Food Service as its dining service partner effective for the Fall 2024 semester. Fresh Ideas shares a bold vision of an engaging, healthy, and enjoyable community dining experience for the campus.

“After a lengthy and thorough process involving student leaders and administrators, we came to a strong consensus to bring Fresh Ideas to our campus,” said Asbury University Vice President of Student Life & Dean of Students **Dr. Sarah Thomas ’93 Baldwin**. “We can’t wait to taste and enjoy their take on fresh, modern food this fall. Students are going to love the new options and experience tasty meals with extended hours.”

Pioneer College Caterers provided Asbury University with excellent service and food for decades, and the Administration offers gratitude for their contribution to community life during this time.

## ADVANCEMENT AND GIVING UPDATES

- More than \$18 million was raised in gifts, pledges, and estate commitments this fiscal year.
- Multiple churches made commitments to significantly support students in their four-year degree.
- The Kairos Fund was established by a donor family to support spiritual life initiative.



## OUTDOOR VENUE PHASE II UPDATES

- More than 100 donors gave to honor **Dr. Rita Pritchett ’69** in naming the Outdoor Venue stadium seating area.
- Phase I, pictured above, has been widely used, including, more than 100 participants in the first all-comers track meet in June ranging from 2 to 70 years old.
- Summer 2025 at Reunion is the anticipated dedication of the Outdoor Venue honoring President Emeritus **Dr. Sandra Gray**.
- Phase II of construction is underway, and more than 95% of funds have been raised, with a final push until October.

## FINAL PRESS TOWARD THE GOAL

Join us in raising the last \$250,000 to complete the fundraising for the Outdoor Venue by **October 15** to have your name included in the Honor Roll of Donors.

Make your gift or pledge online at [asbury.edu/outdoor-venue](https://asbury.edu/outdoor-venue) or contact us at **(859) 858-5136** or [development@asbury.edu](mailto:development@asbury.edu).

## QUICK HITS

### Campus Corner

The Renewed Class of 2028 announced Class sponsors **Caleb Rushing ’25** and **Sarah Grimes ’25** who will serve alongside, Class advisors **Don Mink ’93, Kristi** and **Larry Boss ’87**. The class verse is Isaiah 43:18-19.

In May, more than 50 students, faculty, and staff traveled to Colorado on the Set Apart Retreat! Students hiked at Garden of the Gods, worshipped together, and learned more about their identity in Christ.



“Mr. Manhattan,” a Great American Pure Flix film shot in collaboration with Asbury, premiered at The Kentucky Theatre in May. The film produced by alumnus **Brady Nasfell ’93** and

directed from an original screenplay by **Andrea Gyertson ’95 Nasfell**, employed many Asbury students, faculty, and staff from pre- to post-production. The film was the No. 1 streaming film on Pure Flix this summer.

Asbury saw more than 300 campers at SummitCamp (pictured below), ImpactU, Youth Becoming Leaders (YBL), and Asbury Eagle Sports Camps.



Incoming students visited campus over three summer Eagle Days, allowing them to meet future classmates, take care of enrollment business, and get acquainted with campus.

## STUDENT-ATHLETE PROFILE

# Reese Bolton



Women's soccer senior defender **Reese Bolton '25** maximizes her Asbury student-athlete experience with commitment to her faith, her studies, and her team. The psychology major from Nicholasville, Ky., earned Scholar-Athlete honors (3.5 cumulative GPA or above) and was named to the NCCAA Midwest All-Region Team in 2023 during her first season for TeamAU. Starting in all 15 matches averaging two goals, Bolton also scored the first-ever goal at the Asbury Outdoor Venue on Nov. 27, 2023, against Bob Jones University.

"Reese has carried a positive impact since she set foot on campus at Asbury," said Asbury Women's Soccer Head Coach **Zach Welch '13**. "She has earned the respect of her teammates in one season to be voted as a team captain for the 2024 season. Our program is grateful for Reese's investment in the team and the campus community."

The Ambassador editorial team spoke with Bolton.

**Q How have you grown spiritually during your time at Asbury?**

**A** *Asbury has given me a new confidence in my faith. The supportive environment from my friends, teammates and coaches at AU has brought me courage to be so much more open and has allowed me to feel comfortable asking and answering questions that I would've never attempted before.*

**Q What life lessons have you learned from managing the demands of being a student-athlete?**

**A** *One of the main parts of being a student-athlete to me is having the ability to balance priorities well. It can be very easy to get wrapped up in our responsibilities and lose track of what is really important. I've learned that if I'm consistently reminded of what is most important, I am much more able to balance academics, soccer, and relationships.*

**Q How has God used soccer in your life?**

**A** *I know that God started my path in soccer to meet a support system of friends and mentors, as well as to eventually lead me to Asbury, where I have grown closer to Him each day. I know that this part of my life is only the beginning as His plans become clearer in my life.*

**Q What advice would you give to new Asbury student-athletes?**

**A** *Get all that you can out of Asbury and take every step forward in front of you. You are only here for a short period, and it truly goes by fast. Do the work, build the relationships, go to the early non-mandatory weightliftings, and never let your faith waiver.*

## #TEAMAU GOLF EXPERIENCE | SEPTEMBER 24, 2024

Asbury Athletics announces the 2024 TeamAU Golf Experience will take place on Tuesday, Sept. 24, at Keene Run Golf Club in Nicholasville, Ky. All proceeds go directly to funding special projects for AU student-athletes. Register at [www.asburycommunity.org/events/golf-experience](http://www.asburycommunity.org/events/golf-experience).

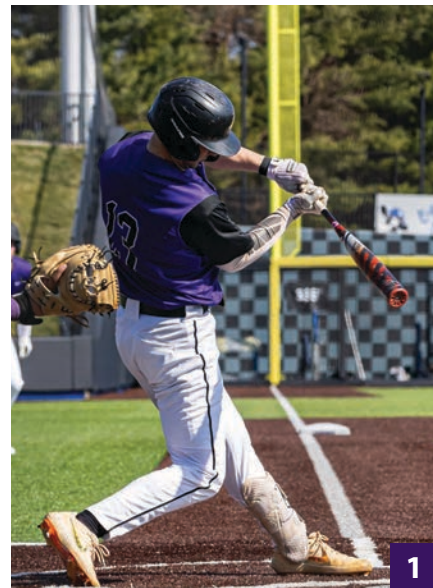
## COACH MAYES HONORED BY NCCAA

The National Christian College Athletics Association (NCCAA) honored Asbury Women's Basketball Head Coach Chad Mayes (pictured at right with Vice President for Intercollegiate Athletics and University Communications **Mark Whitworth '84**) as the 2024 Paul & Carolyn Berry NCCAA Male Staff Award recipient at the Hall of Fame Banquet. Whitworth said, "Coach Mayes is one of the most committed and servant-minded leaders I have ever been around. His interaction and involvement extend well beyond the women's basketball team or the athletics department. Coach Mayes has earned the trust and respect of many on campus."



## ASBURY NAMES CRIST TO LEAD TRACK AND FIELD PROGRAM

The Asbury University Department of Intercollegiate Athletics announced Dr. Randy Crist as the new head coach for the AU men's and women's track and field program. Crist, also entering his 17th season as the Asbury men's and women's cross country coach, spent 27 years as a head track and field coach at the high school level and coached



22 individual track and field state champions. He served as the Asbury track and field associate head coach during the program's returning season as an intercollegiate sport in the 2023-24 campaign.



"I am very excited about the opportunity to lead the track and field program at Asbury," said Crist. "The administration at Asbury has embraced athletics and most recently the sport of track & field, recognizing the role it has for developing strong Christian leaders in our world. I am proud to be a part of this mission."

"We are extremely fortunate to have someone with Randy's expertise and experience to lead our track and field program," Whitworth said. "His love for the sport combined with his love for Christ make him the perfect fit for the role of establishing this program. Randy's willingness to lead, along with the blessing of having a spectacular new facility, creates strong momentum for our program."

## NCCAA NAMES THREE FROM TEAMAU AS ALL-AMERICANS

The National Christian College Athletics Association (NCCAA) announced **Taylor Enlow '24** (softball), **Matthew Johnson '23** (baseball), and **Quinn Nobles '25** (baseball) as 2024 All-Americans.

Enlow, a senior social work major, earned First Team All-American honors, her third consecutive year as an All-American. She was also named the 2024 NCCAA Midwest Region Player of the Year for her 44 hits, 40 RBIs, 13 doubles, and a .415 average. The shortstop from Bowling Green, Ky., finished her Asbury career with the AU school-record in hits (195), RBIs (131), runs (108), and home runs (18). **2**

Master of Business Administration (MBA) student and Asbury Athletics Graduate Assistant, Johnson led AU with 55 hits and a .387 average for First Team All-American

recognition. Johnson was also named 2024 NCCAA Midwest Region Player of the Year for his year that included 17 multi-hit games. **1**

Nobles, a sophomore business administration major, tallied 10 doubles, five triples, 24 stolen bases, and a .346 average to be named Second Team All-American. His defensive play in the outfield was also awarded as he was named a member of the NCCAA Midwest Region Gold Glove Team. **3**

## TEAMAU ANNOUNCES OVERALL 3.46 GPA IN 2024 SPRING SEMESTER



Asbury Athletics announced an overall department GPA of 3.46 for the 2024 spring semester. AU also celebrated 28 graduating Scholar-Athletes (3.5 cumulative GPA or higher during undergraduate studies), a total of 188 Asbury student-athletes earned Honor Roll honors (3.25 or above semester GPA), as well as 145 achieved the status of Scholar-Athletes (3.5 cumulative GPA following the semester).

Also, 25 spring sport student-athletes earned NCCAA Scholar-Athlete status for the 2024 spring semester, maintaining a cumulative 3.40 or higher. Teams represented included baseball (12), softball (7), men's and women's tennis (3), men's and women's track and field (5).

## TEAMAU CELEBRATES 2023-24 YEAR WITH ASBURY EAGLE AWARDS

Asbury Athletics celebrated the 2023-24 academic year with the 2024 Asbury Eagle Awards in April. Student-athletes, coaches, staff, and faculty joined to fellowship and commemorate the season and 23 awards were distributed. The Asbury Student-Athlete Advisory Committee (SAAC), 16 TeamAU intercollegiate athletic programs and cheerleading were highlighted. **4**



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Previously the Department of Christian Studies & Philosophy, Asbury celebrated the launch of the School of Christian Studies with an on-campus event in April. Pictured from left are: Dean of the School of Christian Studies Dr. Brian Shelton '89, Provost Dr. Sherry '77 Powers, President Dr. Kevin Brown, Professor of Pastoral and Christian Ministries Dr. Brian Hull, and Christian Studies students Josh Head '25, Haven Emery '25 and Grace Goddard '25.

## ASBURY LAUNCHES SCHOOL OF CHRISTIAN STUDIES

On June 1, the Asbury University Department of Christian Studies & Philosophy became the School of Christian Studies. Professor of Theology and Wesley Scholar-in-Residence **Dr. Brian Shelton '89** serves as the dean for the School, combining theory and application for innovative ministry.

"As a Christian Liberal Arts University, and in addition to the suite of relevant and varied academic offerings, Asbury has always emphasized the missional importance and enduring timelessness of rigorous biblical and theological education," said Asbury University President Dr. Kevin Brown. "Advancing from a Department to a School of Christian Studies offers new opportunities to uniquely equip and prepare students for a life of ministry and service, and to enhance our mission of academic excellence and spiritual vitality."

Shelton brings 20 years of higher education experience as professor and academic dean to the new School. With a Ph.D. in historical theology from Saint Louis University, his areas of interest include the early church in Rome, patristic exegesis, martyrdom, and Italian religious history. Shelton is a CCCU Leadership Development Institute Fellow, a Georgia Governor's Teaching Fellow, and a senior fellow with the John and Charles Wesley Center for Christian Thought.

"Christian Studies is an instrumental component to any Christian liberal arts university, providing a foundation of biblical, theological, and philosophical thought to the curriculum for every student," Shelton said. "This has long been the case for Asbury, whether students major in ministry or experience an initiation into Christian thinking. With the advancement to a new School of Christian Studies, these faith-based initiatives can find new application in the vision for an innovative ministry graduate degree, the elevation of these programs to higher level in university life, and the strengthening of biblical and theological training."

Learn more at [asbury.edu/christianstudies](https://asbury.edu/christianstudies).

## ASBURY IS NATION'S FIRST ARRI CERTIFIED FILM SCHOOL



This summer Asbury became an ARRI Certified Film School. Asbury is the only school in the United States to have been given this certification. The other 27 certified film schools are in Europe and Asia. ARRI is the largest film production equipment manufacturer in the world, and their equipment is considered to be the industry's best, with 80 percent of the top grossing films shot on an ARRI cameras and 65 percent of all award-winning films at the Oscars, Cannes and Sundance are shot on ARRI cameras. As part of the certification process, Asbury sent two film faculty, **Sarah Leckie '03 Hogencamp** and **David Whitaker '10**, to Munich, Germany, for specialized training this summer. Asbury is now licensed to issue ARRI certification. Students now have the option of being ARRI certified when taking Asbury's cinematography class. Asbury can also offer certification courses to the public.

## ASBURY RECEIVES EDUCATION GRANT FROM THE APPALACHIAN REGIONAL COMMISSION

Asbury recently received a \$230,000 grant from the Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC) for the Education in Appalachia to Graduate Leaders that Excel (EAGLE) project. In addition to ARC funds, local sources will provide \$73,080 in match, bringing the total project funding to \$303,080. Through ARC's investment, hundreds of eastern Kentucky students will be served. Led by Asbury education students, EAGLE will offer two hands-on STEAM Days for all Knott County P-8 students and will sponsor a local Educator's Rising chapter in Knott County leading to state competition participation as well as professional development and continuing education, including scholarships, for teachers.

TO STAY UP TO DATE ON ASBURY, VISIT [ASBURY.EDU/NEWS](https://asbury.edu/news).

## ASBURY ANNOUNCES COMPUTER SCIENCE MAJOR

Beginning in Fall 2024, students will have the option to major in Computer Science within the Shaw School of Sciences under the school's renamed Department of Mathematics and Computer Science, involving new programming that emphasizes relevant technical skills for competitive and high demand fields combined with a robust liberal arts educational foundation.

"The launch of Computer Science is timely and relevant for our students," said **Dr. Cheryll Crowe '03 Johnson**, associate dean of the Shaw School of Sciences and the Department of Mathematics and Computer Science chair. "Coding and computing quickly is becoming an essential twenty-first century workplace skill across disciplines. Computer Science encourages problem-solving, analytical skills, and logical thinking while helping people develop teamwork and interpersonal skills.

## MORE THAN 25 ASBURY GRADUATES RECEIVE ADMISSION TO MEDICAL AND PH.D. PROGRAMS

More than 25 of this year's graduating students — a record number — from Asbury University's Shaw School of Sciences received admission into medical school, graduate school, nursing programs, and physical therapy programs.

More than a dozen students received admission into M.D. and D.O. programs. Five students received admission into Ph.D. programs in chemistry, biology, and mathematics, and two students received admission into Doctor of Physical Therapy (DPT) programs. These students will head to a variety of schools, including Purdue University, University of Georgia, University of Dayton, Lake Erie College of Osteopathic Medicine, University of Kentucky, Lincoln Memorial University, and University of Arizona.

## ASBURY ANNOUNCES KENTUCKY OUTDOOR INSTITUTE

Offering programming for the public and Asbury community, the Kentucky Outdoor Institute at Asbury University (KOI) is an educational enterprise focused on growing individuals and teams in and through outdoor and adventure experiences. KOI tailors group and individual outdoor and adventure programs in a variety of settings in Central Kentucky and beyond, including rock climbing indoors or out, caving, day hiking, rappelling, hammock camping, overnight paddling trips and backpacking.

Operating an academic major and minor in Adventure Education and Leadership (AEL) for students at Asbury and an instructional adventure outfitter for the public, KOI's primary goal is to educate. Whether guests want to learn to be better rock climbers or lead their organizations to success, KOI's fully customizable programs fit every need and skill level. Learn more: [asbury.edu/koi](https://asbury.edu/koi).



## ASBURY WELCOMES AWARD-WINNING SCREENWRITER TO TEACH MEDIA WRITING COURSES THIS FALL

Seasoned film professional **Andrea Gyertson '95 Nasfell** will teach both undergraduate and graduate-level courses beginning fall 2024 at Asbury University. Her expertise will extend to the Media Communication and English programs through teaching undergraduate courses (MC212: Writing for Media and ENG 371: Intermediate Creative Writing/Fiction) and graduate courses (DSG550: Master Storytelling).

For more than 20 years, Nasfell wrote and continues to write film and television screenplays, including "Moms' Night Out" (2014), "The Resurrection of Gavin Stone" (2017), "Every Other Holiday" (2018), "Mr. Manhattan" (2024), and other projects in theaters and on streaming platforms. "Mr. Manhattan" was produced by her husband, **Brady Nasfell '93**, and the film rose to the number one spot on Great American Pure Flix shortly after its world premiere. Andrea also wrote the television movies, "Silver Bells" (2013) and "Christmas Angel," the most-watched movie on UPTV in 2012.

## ASBURY LAUNCHES FULLY ONLINE BUSINESS PROGRAM

Beginning Fall 2024, the Asbury University Online Undergraduate Program will launch the fully online Bachelor of Science degree in Business Administration within the Dayton School of Business (DSB).

"We believe that education extends beyond the walls of a classroom," said DSB Dean and Associate Professor of Accounting Dr. Alesha Graves. "It is our desire to provide relevant and engaging opportunities for our students to be prepared for the jobs of the future. Our faculty continually review courses and programs so that they meet the needs of a changing marketplace."

## ASBURY DUAL CREDIT COURSE OFFERS FINANCIAL LITERACY FOR HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS

Asbury University is helping Kentucky high school juniors and seniors fulfill their financial literacy requirement while earning college credit. The 16-week online dual credit course, BU 281: "Give, Save, Spend: Personal Finances God's Way," includes financial literacy from a biblical perspective, is open to public, private, and home school students, and is available for free through KHEAA Dual Credit Scholarship funds.

The course covers practical topics such as family budgeting, savings for emergencies, banking, insurance, financial loans, credit cards, income tax, investment principles, and retirement. Implementing hands-on financial tools and exercises, students also get to memorize scripture for each lesson (there are 2,350 verses in the Bible on money!). Non-Kentucky residents can take the course for only \$279 and earn three hours of college credit. Learn more: [asbury.edu/givesavespend](https://asbury.edu/givesavespend).



## BUSINESS AS MISSION

*Asbury students tour Stanley Tam's kingdom-minded United States Plastic Corporation*

Every spring, the Dayton School of Business offers a "Business as Mission" class to share stories of generous giving, the fusion of business and faith, and current thriving businesses that give profits to the Lord.

In April, students toured one of these mission-centered businesses, United States Plastic Corporation (U.S. Plastic), committed to the distribution and manufacturing of quality plastic products and founded in 1936 by R. Stanley Tam, a former Asbury Board of Trustees member in the 1980s. It is now owned by One Mission Society, and 100 percent of its profits go to fund missions.

"Stanley was not only known for his drive to succeed in business but also for his commitment to God and passion for sharing the Gospel message," said current U.S. Plastic CEO Kevin Kempton. "In 1955, Stanley Tam decided to turn United States Plastic completely over to God and dedicated himself to making as much money as possible to invest in Christian missionary work."

U.S. Plastic has invested not only financially, but fundamentally in students by creating an educational and encouraging space to learn about the logistical side of giving back to God in the professional field.

"Actions speak louder than words, and rather than telling students about business as mission, it is way more powerful to show them," said Adjunct Professor Dr. Dan Lewis, who has taught the Business as Mission class for five years. "At the end of our visit to U.S. Plastic, Kempton looked at the students and said, 'If two or more Stanley Tams were to emerge out of this group, that would make a significant impact on the Great Commission. Who's in?' A classroom or a textbook or a video could not come close to having the same impact that that one statement had on the students."

The Corporation has also given back to Asbury with the establishment of the U.S. Plastic Business as Mission Scholarship and the U.S. Plastic Cross-Cultural Mission Fund which will benefit students majoring in a field of study within the Dayton School of Business, equipping them to serve the Lord through their businesses across the globe.

## QUICK HITS

# Academic News

In May, at the 59th International Congress on Medieval Studies, Associate Professor of Classical Languages Randy Richardson and Professor of History (Emeritus) **Dr. Burnam Reynolds '70** served on a roundtable about their recent book, "Gregory of Tours: The Book of the Miracles of the Blessed Andrew the Apostle."

On May 18, **Dr. Shawn Okpebholo '03** premiered his new work of "Two Black Churches" (baritone and orchestra) with the Lexington Philharmonic at the University of Kentucky's Singletary Center for the Arts Concert Hall.

The annual SEARCH Symposium, held April 8-9, allowed students, faculty, staff and guests to share their research and academic passion with their peers. Two students received the SEARCH Symposium Student Scholar of Excellence: **Ashton Montgomery '26** for her paper, "Political Polarization, the Israel-Hamas War, and Language," with faculty-sponsor Dr. Glenn Harden and **Amanda Vick '24** for her paper, "Thundering Voices: The Rise and Fall of Greek Rhetoric in the Roman World," with faculty-sponsor Dr. David Swartz.

In March, Asbury Psychology professors Dr. Laura Dryjanska and Dr. Marcus Kilian presented research at the Christian Association for Psychological Studies (CAPS) conference in Atlanta, Ga. Undergraduate students **Elizabeth Bower '24** and **Landon Roberts '24** served as research assistants and presented a research poster with Kilian and Louisville psychologist Dr. Paul Schmidt (founder of The Well, Inc.).

The Dayton School of Business's Asbury Sales Team competed in multiple events this spring, with students securing first-time wins in challenging new products and sales situations. **Yuri Tirado '24** and **Franco Patino '26** excelled in the virtual round of the Global Bilingual Sales Competition in February, winning second place for their team and receiving an invitation to the semifinals in Miami.

This fall, the Asbury Social Science & History Department will launch a renewed History major and minor that brings an innovative and timely new focus on global topics and digital methods. The renewed program provides a stronger focus on subjects, methodologies, and skills that prepare students for our interconnected world and help them thrive in the global marketplace.

The Office of Graduate Admissions is happy to announce the +Grad program for students interested in graduate programs in Business, Communication, and Education. With the +Grad program, qualified Asbury University students can earn a master's degree as soon as one year after completing their bachelor's degree. It offers a seamless transition from undergrad to grad programs.

# An 'elevated spiritual temperature' on campus

## THREE-YEAR STRATEGIC FOCUS

BY PRESIDENT DR. KEVIN BROWN

*Stewardship*

*Cultural Climate*

*Sustainable Growth*

## CULTURAL CLIMATE IS A PART OF THE PRESIDENT'S THREE-YEAR STRATEGIC FOCUS

Asbury University has an enduring and irrefutable purpose: to offer excellent higher education coupled with an unchanging, eternally significant mission to further God's Kingdom through spiritual training and discipleship. To sustain growth in today's challenging climate that's dismissive of a faith-based liberal arts education, Asbury must faithfully cling to its founding principles as an unapologetically Christian institution.

Creating and sustaining a cultural climate among not only the student body but with faculty and staff is critical to this mission. With a commitment to a student experience that includes belonging, becoming, and ultimately being set apart ambassadors for Christ, an Asbury education is never transactional. It's baked into the university culture — from the longest standing alumni to the newest incoming students.

Culture is formed and formative; it is shaped by intentional decisions that represent what is most important to a given community. One intentional move under President Dr. Kevin Brown's leadership has been creating regular faculty and staff worship, teaching and testimony opportunities to help 'raise the spiritual temperature' on campus, allowing for more effective ministry to students.

"Our mission is to cultivate opportunities for our staff and faculty who pour into our students in a tremendous way," said Associate Vice President for Intercultural Affairs & Spiritual Development Rev. Dr. Esther D. Jadhav. "Over the last year, we introduced the opportunity for All Employee Worship. These services exist for the purposes of greater unity and edification among the employee community of Asbury University. Now, we are adding Wesley Sermon Workshops each fall and spring semester. It has been very meaningful to work with our faculty and staff to invite them to participate and share life together in this way."

She added that the services come at a critical time for everyone.





## PRESIDENT DR. KEVIN BROWN ACCEPTS FAITH ON FIRE AWARD ON BEHALF OF ASBURY UNIVERSITY

On May 6, the Midwest Prayer Breakfast honored Asbury University with the Faith on Fire Award for Asbury’s impact in the lives of Gen Z around the world as a result of the Outpouring. Hosted by the Midwest Foundation, the Midwest Prayer Breakfast (modeled after the annual Washington, D.C., National Prayer Breakfast) brings together business, governmental and spiritual leaders in a time of fellowship and prayer.

“It is a true privilege for Asbury University to receive the 2024 ‘Faith on Fire’ Award from the Midwest Prayer Breakfast,” said Asbury President Dr. Kevin Brown. “The award recognizes two important things. First, by referencing the 2023 Outpouring, the award is an acknowledgment of the spiritual hunger exhibited by younger generations and how that hunger is being met. Second, the award recognizes the extraordinary men and women at Asbury University — their spiritual temperature, holy imagination, and willingness to make room at the table for tens of thousands of guests to descend upon Asbury’s campus and experience a transformative encounter with God. We are honored and very grateful.”

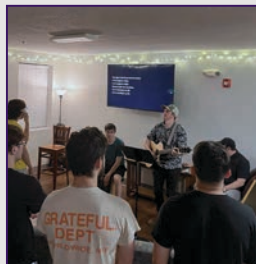
## TRUSTEES DOING “CHURCH”

Encouraged by coaches, faculty and mentors, students have taken the initiative to provide opportunities for community worship and discipleship among their peers. Last spring, residents of Trustees organized and facilitated services in the lobby of the hall. Student leaders provided music, guided prayer and led devotions. The services affectionately became known as “Trustees Church.”



Residential Life and Spiritual Life staff saw hearts changing, and baptisms were a regular occurrence on campus as well as on Set Apart Retreats. All over campus were student-led times of prayer and worship.

“I saw fellow students on fire for Jesus,” said **Casey Hileman ’27**, regarding student-led worship on Reasoner Green that began during Welcome Week and continued throughout the academic year. “It was simple and very genuine. There was no pressure to be perfect. I was new to campus, and I was welcomed into this community. It made Asbury feel like home and my faith journey really started here.”



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## PRESIDENT’S UPDATE: A “HOLY GLOW” ON CAMPUS

During Reunion weekend, President Brown shared his vision for Asbury for the upcoming year, noting the “holy glow” present on campus since the Outpouring in February 2023. “There’s been an amazing spiritual residue. While I will be forever grateful for what happened here during that time, my prayer since then is and will be in two, five, ten years, we would all be able to say, ‘That was nothing,’” he said in his President’s Update. “My prayer has been that there will be outpourings in the future that would eclipse anything we would see here, throughout the United States and throughout the world.”

For the movement to continue among the student body and Generation Z as a whole — a generation he described as “spiritually starved” — he emphasized the need to live authentically and boldly in faith because students will believe it if it’s modeled to them.

“They don’t just want words, they want action,” Brown said. “They don’t just want to hear your thoughts or what you believe. They don’t want another theory or opinion; they want to know if it works. They want to see holiness. In 2024, seeing is believing.”

To view the President’s Update from Reunion weekend, visit [asbury.edu/reunion](http://asbury.edu/reunion).

“As one who serves at the intersection of academe, faith, culture and society, the moment we find ourselves in compels us to act,” Jadhav said. “We, as members of our American society, are working through several fractures within our cultural context that challenge us to deepen our lives of faith. John Wesley raises a caution towards this end in his famous words, paraphrased here – ‘lest we exist having the form of religion without the power.’ He encourages us to hold fast to doctrine, spirit and discipline, which are cultivated in daily practices of discipleship.”

At both initiatives — All Employee Worship and Wesley Sermon Workshop — the feedback has been encouraging.

“Employee worship allows us to let go of our various roles at Asbury and simply come together as brothers and sisters in Christ for refreshment and renewal.”

**DR. JIM SHORES**  
PROFESSOR AND PROGRAM  
DIRECTOR FOR COMMUNICATION

Hispanic/Latino Student Specialist Rev. Juan Gonzalez added that it “brings a pause to our daily/weekly routine allowing us to enter in communion with God and with one another. It reminds us that what we do in our jobs has meaning beyond daily tasks and that we share common goals and purposes.”

It’s also a special time when faculty and staff are able to gather together to worship.

“For me, our all-employee worship experiences have meant coming together in a sacred space to reflect, connect, and find inspiration,” said Associate Professor of Education **Dr. Brittany Polis ’08 Worthen**. “It’s a time to bond with one another and to seek a sense of peace and purpose during the everyday hustle and focus on personal growth and spiritual well-being. It also fosters a sense of belonging and unity within our Asbury community.”



For Associate Director of Undergraduate Admissions **Jeremiah Gonia '14**, it's a chance to live out what he shares with students on campus tours.

"In Mark 6:31, Jesus states, 'Come away with me by yourselves to a quiet place and get some rest,'" Gonia said. "Having the opportunity to take time during the day to spend time in prayer and worship with colleagues across the campus community — that is part of what makes working at Asbury different from other workplaces. The 'intentionality' that I share about the Asbury community while working in admissions, that can also describe the intentionality of our staff and faculty and the time set aside for a space to worship."

### **INTENTIONAL PROGRAMMING THAT MEETS MARKETPLACE NEEDS AND GLORIFIES GOD**

The cultural climate extends beyond these fruitful meetings on campus, and Jadhav encouraged donors, alumni and friends to stay in the moment together through prayer, support, and notes of encouragement.

Another aspect of campus culture is the intentional and continuing development of cutting-edge academic programming that underscores Asbury's commitment to timeless marketplace competencies with a biblical worldview; skills such as research, investigation, critical thinking, and project management.

There is exciting news in the classroom this year and more to come.

The Dayton School of Business includes the Center for Professional Selling which trains students to excel in problem-solving and to communicate persuasively with empathy and clarity.



Faculty and staff begin each semester with a prayer meeting.

High school students from Asbury's Christian Education Partnership schools have dual enrollment and scholarship opportunities that make it possible for them to transition seamlessly to a university setting.

Continuing Asbury's tradition of preparing students for Kingdom impact in every field, the School of Christian Studies was launched this summer. (See more on page 10.) Here, students are encouraged to combine academic knowledge, Scriptural wisdom, and spiritual discipline with practical applications for life and ministry. As they do so, they are furthering the impact of Asbury's unique culture of discipleship and learning.

Underlining all of it is an understanding of the missional impact of all that Asbury says and does as an university.

“And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.”

COLOSSIANS 3:17

## *Join Asbury University on a Mediterranean* **Passages of the Bible Cruise**

with President Dr. Kevin & Maria Brown from September 19-30, 2025, from New York aboard the Norwegian Viva.

You will see Santorini, Cairo, the Pyramids of Giza, the Great Sphinx of Giza, Alexandria, the Catacombs, Pompey's Pillar, the Amphitheater of Alexandria, the Citadel of Qaitbay, Limassol, Rhodes, Mykonos, Ephesus, Istanbul, and much more!

To learn more, visit  
[asbury.edu/bible-cruise](https://asbury.edu/bible-cruise)





# Restore to me the joy of Thy salvation.



range of ages from a few weeks old to 99 years old — congratulations, **Dr. Wayne Culp '45** (pictured above left), for celebrating your 79th Reunion.

There is nothing like the sweet sound of recognition as classmates come together. Some have not been back on campus in 50 years, but it's like coming home. Class leaders prepared for their gatherings, collecting trivia, sharing stories and singing their Class hymns. The 50th Class started planning for their time together before last year's Reunion ended. Under the leadership of **Billy Glover '74** and **Ron Brown '74**, they hosted more than 100 people at their Class events.

"My heart had been restored from the tremendous spirit of the Hymn Sing — there is none like it," said Glover. "Our Class time together gave us such a blessed opportunity to reconnect and share memories in our common bond of God's love. Asbury's Reunion experience is like none other!"

Campus vibrated with the sounds of laughter, stories, singing, handbells, fireworks and so much more. Asbury welcomed back 1,300 alumni, families and friends for this Reunion 2024 celebration. Some came from as far away as Uganda, expanding the

The Merciful Class of 2019 came for their first banner-year Reunion and it was a great success.

“Reunion was a breath of fresh air and a respite in a space that feels very much like home. It was encouraging to reunite with college friends and talk about all the things we have learned and accomplished since we left Asbury. It was also a great reminder that many of us are still working towards our ultimate career goals, and we are not alone in the process of getting there.”

BETHANY KELLY '19

A signature of Reunion is the Hymn Sing. With a thousand voices filling the space, Hughes Auditorium reverberates with a rich vibrancy of joy, a beautiful offering of praise. This multi-generational congregation sings — loudly, boldly and with great intention.

"This time together is my favorite part of Reunion," **Lisa Falin '90 Harper**, director of alumni relations, said. "Looking out at this wonderful and incredible group of people, at their smiles and their tears, is just beautiful. Hearing these voices cascade over you is a waterfall of joy, strength and peace. It refreshes your soul, and the joy of the Lord is palpable."

The theme of *Restore* was woven through programs and conversations as **Rev. Dr. Sarah Thomas '93 Baldwin** and **Dr. Brian Shelton '89** shared about the meaning of restore and their hope for our alumni family.



"We prayed that each alum would experience refreshment in fellowship and a new sense of restoration in Jesus of what the "locusts have eaten" (Joel 2:25)," said Baldwin, who serves as Asbury's vice president of Student Life and spoke in Saturday's Chapel service.

"Reunion is not only an opportunity to reunite with college friends, but to reunite with the Lord," said Shelton, who serves as dean of the new School of Christian Studies at Asbury. "We hope this theme of 'restore' will afford us all the opportunity to reconnect with the God of hope."

Hope could be seen across the campus as children ran around on the Green and friends collected on the deck of the Student Center. Everywhere you looked, connections were made. There were mini-Reunions, like the Glide-Crawford resident life staff with former resident director, **Koby Miller '76**; the Handbell Choir and Jazz Ensemble; former Board of Trustees members; and members of the President's and John Wesley Hughes Societies. The campus was full. As **Dr. Joe Brockinton '74** said, "He restores my soul."

Sometimes the restoration spreads to relationships that are rekindled during Reunion.

"We are really just our relationships. Thirty-one years into being an alum, I feel as though I just might understand Reunion," said Baldwin. "Our relationship with God and with each other: this connection and reconnecting matters. It's the real stuff that will last. I know 'homecomings' can be hard, especially if you feel like a different person than when you were here. Yet, it can be good to remember your story, and to see yours and others from a different perspective after growth and change. What a beautiful perspective because we have a long time to be known for who we are yet to fully be."

**Anna Matthews '99 Warner** celebrated her 25th Reunion this year.

"What a weekend! Asbury Reunion weekend on a banner year is the best!" she exclaimed. "Time with friends on old stomping grounds where God grew you up is so sweet. And when He continues to mold you during a Chapel service 25 years later you remember that 'Holiness Unto the Lord' isn't just a college reminder, but one for a lifetime of walking with Jesus! May we all continue to live out the vision of our founders and surrender to the Lord so that we may be restored by revival in our own hearts every day."

**Ron Ford '79** reflected on the remnants of the Outpouring evident on campus.

"It's clear the Outpouring is not over," he said. "It's the only thing I can identify as to why it was different. The weekend planning is always good, events always run smoothly, speakers are always excellent, the music is always good, and campus is always groomed, but God's presence took it to the next level."



## QUICK HITS

# Reunion 2024

1,300+  
guests attended Reunion.

> 1,000  
voices filled Hughes for  
the Hymn Sing.

> 110  
Patriots (Class of 1974) and guests  
celebrated their 50th reunion.

> 35  
former RAs attended the Glide-  
Crawford Resident Staff reunion.

Attendees ranged in age from three  
weeks (daughter of **Zeke '19** and  
**Ali Rexford '19 Friedeman**) to 99  
(**Dr. Wayne Culp '45**, 79th reunion).

34  
alumni were featured in  
programs in Hughes.

26  
Hymns were sung –  
16 at the Hymn Sing.

50+  
attendees at the 2019  
Merciful Class gathering.

There was standing room only for  
the Outpouring discussion with  
author **Skip Elliott '69** and **Sarah  
Thomas '93 Baldwin**.

We recognized these award  
recipients: **Skip Elliott '69**, **Denny  
'84** and **Michelle Hoffman  
'82 Craker**, **Marcus Rixon '14**,  
**Marcella Vanlandingham '92**  
and **Becky Wood '72**.

250  
alumni and guests attended  
the President's Dinner.

> 2,000  
bottles of water.

70  
events were hosted  
throughout the weekend.



## ASBURY DEDICATES NEWLY RENOVATED DONALDSON CHORAL ROOM

On June 21, during the first night of Reunion, music department alumni, friends, and family of the Donaldsons gathered to dedicate the significantly renovated choral room, which was named in memory of Dr. Donald D. Donaldson.

“The Donaldson family is humbled and honored to be a part of this wonderful gift to the choral room,” said Dr. Donaldson’s wife, Bernita, and daughter, Dena. “We’re so excited about the renovations and the future the room holds for music students to come. Thank you to everyone who donated, and may blessings be on the music students at Asbury!”

Dr. Donaldson served in the music department from 1984 to 2000 as a professor of music education and choral studies, and he also held the position of chair of the music department. His influence impacted the lives of generations of students he taught, directed, and mentored.

Through the generosity of donors, the choral room is adorned with new flooring, windows, double glass doors, cabinetry, high-tech screens for teaching classes, a new sound system, and a mahogany piano. The room also displays Ephesians 5:19-20, which reads, “Sing and make music from your heart to the Lord, always giving thanks to God the Father for everything, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.”

“This is a fabulous space for our students,” said current music department chair, **Dr. Mark Schell '87**. “When putting up the different walls and ceilings of the room, they thought about it acoustically, and now it’s a wonderful space to sing and allows us to do things with our choir that we couldn’t do in a normal room.” **1**

## RESTORATION THROUGH SINGING

Asbury hosted its annual Reunion Hymn Sing on June 21, marking a cherished tradition of musical fellowship. The event in Hughes Auditorium brought together alumni, students, faculty, and friends of all ages in worship, singing popular hymns and Class hymns such as “All Hail the Power of Jesus’ Name,” “A Charge to Keep I Have,” “To God Be the Glory,” “Wonderful Grace of Jesus,” “And Can It Be,” and “It Is Well.”

The hymn sing also held special music from alumni including **Sarah Matthews '09 Baillie**, **Kelli Rehmel '18**, **Liz Asberry '08 Barber** and **Brooke Way '19**. **2**

## ALUMNI CELEBRATE GLIDE-CRAWFORD COMMON SPACE RENOVATIONS

Glide-Crawford Residence Hall celebrated its 100th birthday and received sizeable renovations to its common area. It was finished just in time to reveal to alumni at Reunion during a Glide-Crawford 100th birthday celebration and Resident Assistant (RA) reunion. Included in the work was new wood flooring, sleek chandeliers adorning the ceiling to give the space a more open look and new furniture that doubled the amount of seating for hall events, visitors, and student hangouts.

“The renovated lobby (parlor) creates a much more modern and enjoyable space for students in keeping with the historic beauty of the place,” said Vice President of Student Life **Rev. Dr. Sarah Thomas '93 Baldwin**.

The Reunion event also unveiled a mantle painting by former Glide-Crawford resident **Christiane Palpant '93**. Titled “Eternal Connections,” the artwork represents spiritual and personal connections between God and the women residents of the dormitory. **4**

## HONORING OUR SENIORS WITH A TIMELESS GIFT

The alumni association has a cherished tradition of presenting Bibles to seniors at graduation. Starting in 2015, the Alumni Board made a meaningful transition to gifting Bibles from the traditional padfolio. The Bibles-to-graduates initiative is a beautiful investment in our newest alumni, serving as a reminder to stay rooted in the Word of God.

During the Alumni Board’s annual spring meeting, each Bible is dated and a special verse for that Class is highlighted.

Support for this meaningful gift comes from **CJ '81** and **Nancy Donehoo '81 Hunter**.

“We are so thankful to participate in this meaningful project,” said CJ and Nancy. “It is wonderful to be able to give a lasting gift of God’s Word to each graduate.” **3**

# Class Photos

Patriot Class of 1974  
Celebrating 50 years



**ROW 1**

Sandra Arrance  
Colleen Kimball  
Rachel Rasmussen  
Mary Blair  
Linda Crooks  
Paula McGuire  
Patty Bliss  
Esther Cann  
Bonnie Descoteaux  
Janet Campbell  
Joy Fleming  
Bonnie J  
Mohrbacher  
Amy Ball  
Nancy White  
Billie Sue Dunn  
June Leasure  
Susan Rives  
Mary Turnbull  
Patty Carmony  
Ramona Neeman

Lois Scroggins  
Sylvia Cummings  
Cheryl-Ann  
Reynolds  
Diane Mercado  
Sharon Runyon  
Marilyn  
Highlander  
Keri Muir  
Sharon Ruff  
Darlene Grandy  
Dale Timco

**ROW 3**

Billy Glover  
Joe Nail  
Don Clarke  
Fred Orr  
Ron Brown  
Richard Crooks  
Gary Reese  
Bill Richardson  
Don Simmons  
Joe Lewis  
Barry Bupp  
John Long  
Daryl Docterman  
Ron Busroe  
Jack Ewing  
Joe Brockinton  
Mike Powers  
Jim McClrath  
Terry Rueger  
Barry Beeker  
Kathy Crook  
Walter Turnbull  
Ann Vance  
Priscilla Daniels  
Gus Lange  
Gordon Beardslee  
Don Norton

**ROW 2**

Sarah Stein  
Carol Bittinger  
Phyllis Howell  
Judy Mock  
Ruth Ann Shepherd  
Warren Lathem  
Larry McPherson  
Ric Holladay  
John Hall  
John Tanksley  
Bob Canary  
David Gerber  
Cheryl Sowash  
Linda Ford  
Pat Barnett  
Kay Custer  
Margaret McKay

## REUNION GIFT PROJECT

The 2024 Reunion Gift Project has raised more than **\$153,000** as of June 30 to continue remodeling of community spaces in the residence halls. The top 3 classes for 2024 with a combined giving of **\$76,995** were: Patriot, Crusader, and Knight. The winning class was the **Patriot Class of 1974**, raising **\$29,370**.



We also celebrated the completion of residence hall renovations funded by the 2023 Reunion Gift project.

Glide-Crawford's lobby was transformed with tasteful updates that complement its historical and architectural character, and Trustees dorm received a new kitchen floor.

Visit [asbury.edu/reunion](https://asbury.edu/reunion) to view all class photos from Reunion.



# Award Recognitions



**L to R:** Marcus Rixon '14; Denny Craker '84, Michelle Hoffman '82 Craker, Dr. Kevin Brown, Becky Wood '72, Marcella Vanlandingham '92, Mark "Skip" Elliott '69

## A Award Recipients

### DR. MARK "SKIP" ELLIOTT '69

Dr. Skip Elliott, a graduate of the 1969 Knight Class, is a distinguished scholar and dedicated servant of God whose life's work exemplifies a profound commitment to faith, education, and advocacy.

He has served as a history professor at several esteemed Christian universities, including Asbury. This experience was complemented by his role as the editor of the East-West Church and Ministry Report for more than 25 years. Elliott has published numerous articles, an anthology, and several books. One of his notable works, "Taken by Surprise," chronicles the Outpouring at Asbury in February 2023.

As the former director of the Institute for East-West Christian Studies at Wheaton College, Elliott played a crucial role in fostering relationships between Western and Eastern Christian communities. His consulting work has aided approximately 100 church and parachurch ministries in former Soviet bloc countries, highlighting his deep commitment to supporting and guiding Christian organizations in challenging environments.

Elliott is also a founding member of the Russian American Institute in Moscow where he negotiated and led a student exchange program with Moscow State University, bridging gaps between American and Russian academic institutions.

His legacy is marked by unwavering faith, scholarly excellence, and tireless advocacy for the church, especially in Russia and Ukraine, and its mission worldwide in a multifaceted career marked by his dedication to God and passion for nurturing both spiritual and intellectual growth.

### DENNIS '84 AND MICHELLE HOFFMAN '82 CRAKER

Denny and Michelle Craker are exemplary servant leaders who have dedicated nearly four decades to serving the greater Chinese community in Asia through their work with World Gospel Mission (WGM). Their diverse roles and unwavering commitment reflect their deep faith and calling.

Dennis has played a pivotal role in leadership and ministry training for pastors and leaders. His focus on pastoral care and counseling has been instrumental in nurturing and equipping church leaders in the region and have significantly contributed to the growth and strengthening of the Church.

Michelle initially served at the Morrison Academy, a Christian international school in Taiwan, and later as an administrative assistant to a senior pastor at an international English church. She is known for her hospitality and opening their home to pastors, leaders, and students, fostering a welcoming and supportive community.

Together, the Crakers have continued their ministry after transitioning back to the United States. Dennis now conducts much of his leadership and pastoral training ministry online, while Michelle coordinates WGM's efforts to mobilize non-U.S. global workers for missions in non-U.S. areas, a work crucial in expanding the reach of WGM's mission. Dennis also pastors a local Chinese church in South Carolina, maintaining his close ties to the Chinese community.

"It has been an indescribable journey of experiencing the power of God, the power of prayer, and the power of perseverance," the couple shared. "What an incredible experience to partner with Him on this journey and to experience first-hand the growth of the church, the power and faithfulness of God, and to see His mighty hand and glory displayed in the lives and testimonies of believers."

## *Distinguished Young Alum Award*

### **MARCUS RIXON '14**

Marcus Rixon is a dynamic young alumnus whose entrepreneurial spirit, passion for music, and unwavering work ethic have propelled him to a successful career in the music industry. As the owner and president of Rixon Entertainment in Nashville, Tenn., Marcus has established himself as a prominent artist manager, working with notable clients such as Mark Schultz and Selah.

Marcus moved to the United States from India to attend college with a dream of entering the music industry. He has since represented Platinum-selling, Grammy nominated, multi-Dove Award winning artists, as well as working at a high level for the Olympic Broadcasting Services in for the Olympic Games in Sochi, Russia, and Tokyo, Japan.

Marcus's work is deeply influenced by his love of Christ and gratitude for the generosity and support he received from others. During a Chapel message at Asbury, Marcus expressed his deep appreciation for those who poured

into his life, particularly the staff from the Physical Plant who provided him with shelter and sustenance during challenging times as a student.

His story is a powerful reminder of the importance of mentorship, community, and the impact of a supportive network. Marcus remains actively involved with Asbury, serving on the Alumni Board and sharing his story to inspire current students and alumni.

## *Volunteers of the Year*

### **HONORING DR. RITA PRITCHETT'S LEGACY: REBECCA A. WOOD '72 AND MARCELLA VANLANDINGHAM '92**

As plans were announced for Asbury's new Outdoor Venue, former Asbury Professor Becky Wood and Marcella Vanlandingham, head softball coach at Ohio Dominican University, spearheaded the effort to name a prominent area of the venue in memory of **Dr. Rita Pritchett '69** by contacting alumni from each decade Pritchett taught at Asbury. Dr. Pritchett was a trailblazer and an influential figure at Asbury, serving as a professor, coach, mentor, and the first female athletics director in the Commonwealth of Kentucky.

As a former athlete under Rita's mentorship, Vanlandingham summarized this groundswell of support in honor of Pritchett by saying, "My life was changed, and the career path I chose was a direct result of the mentoring I received from Rita Pritchett. I have been in collegiate athletics for nearly 30 years, and I have yet to come across anyone with quite the same passion, leadership, and life-changing influence that she had." She continued, "I think many of her former students and athletes would agree, she was one of a kind."

When the project is complete, students and alumni will come together to cheer from the Pritchett Stadium seats, celebrating the enduring spirit and legacy of Dr. Rita Pritchett.



**Coming this fall, This is Asbury's second season brings new guests, compelling conversations, and explores the heartbeat of Asbury's community.**

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**We want to hear from you!**  
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# In Christ Who Gives Us Strength

Coming off of a fabulous Reunion weekend and a summer full of meaningful alumni and donor interactions I'm reminded as I shared at our President's dinner that "We thank our God upon every remembrance of you" (plural added to the original Greek by Troyer).

As I travel around reporting on the many wonderful things happening at Asbury, I am reminded of Paul's words to the Philippians. Every time he thought of them, of their encouragement and care, he thanked God for them. We are thankful for you.

The prayers and support of faithful alumni, family and friends cannot be overstated. We are currently enjoying the glow of what God blessed us with in the Outpouring on a spiritual basis and enjoying what He blessed us with on a physical basis celebrating more than \$40 million in new facilities dedicated in the last two years. (It sure made Reunion planning easier with new beautiful spaces to use for dozens of gatherings.)

Paul also said in Phillipians, "I can do all things through Him who gives me strength." We like to make that plural as well. We, as an institution made up of people, can do all things through him who gives us strength.

These are challenging times in our country and in Christian higher education, but we are as encouraged as we have been in a long time with confidence that great days are ahead of us. We don't always get it right and we aren't perfect, but we strive to do the best we can with God's strength as we continually prepare students and impact lives for the Kingdom.

Next year at Reunion 2025, with the grace of God and your prayers and support, we will dedicate the Outdoor Venue in honor of President Emeritus Dr. Sandra Gray. Dr. Gray modeled the thanking of God for you, leaning on His strength and goodness. It's not too late if you want to be included in the group honoring her with a gift to that project.

Most importantly, thank you. Thank you for your prayers and encouragement. "In Him, we can do all things."



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

## COMPLIMENTARY Estate and Gift Design



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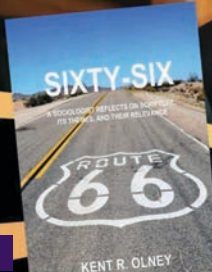
Office of Estate & Gift Planning





# NEW RELEASE

In *Sixty-Six: A Sociologist Reflects on Scripture, Its Themes, and Their Relevance*, author **Kent R. Olney** calls readers to renew their understanding of and commitment to God's Word.



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## 1970s

**Sharon Martin '70 McGuire** and **Darius Salter '70**

collaborated to revise a book by one of their classmates from Kentucky Mountain Bible College, where they attended before coming to Asbury. The original author, Rev. Sam Miller, served in pastoral ministry for more than 50 years. The title of the book is "From the Orphanage to the Parsonage" and it is available on Amazon.

**Dr. Kent Olney '77** wrote "Sixty-Six, A Sociologist Reflects on Scripture, Its Themes, and Their Relevance." It is published by Francis Asbury Press. **1**

## 1980s

**Robert '80** and **Karen Slucher '80 Leonard**

volunteered for a week at the Tel Hadid Archeological Expedition's 2023 summer season. Tel Hadid [Hadid mentioned in the Bible] is 15 km from Tel Aviv, Israel. This dig site is co-sponsored by the Archeology Departments of Tel Aviv University and the New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary. **2**

**Mandy Dawson '84 Farmer** published a children's picture book, "Soft Hugs for Mommy." It focuses on a family learning about fibromyalgia.

## 1990s

**Dr. Ruby L. Edwards '92 Owiny** recently had a book published, "The Practical Guide to High-Leverage Practices in Special Education: The Purposeful 'How' to Enhance Classroom Rigor," with co-author, Dr. Kyena E. Cornelius. **Dr. Allie Rhodes '97**, Assistant Professor at the School of Education at Asbury, along with Dr. Victoria Slocum, Director of Academic Accessibility Resources at Asbury, contributed book chapters. In early 2024, Owiny launched an advocacy company, Pamoja Special Education Advocacy ([pamojaspecialeducationadvocacy.com](http://pamojaspecialeducationadvocacy.com)) to support families in navigating special education for their child with disabilities. **3**

**Andy McConell '93** retired after serving 29 years in education, 22 with West Jessamine High School. He is now the Director of Custodial Services for Jessamine County Schools. He lives in Nicholasville with his wife, Melinda.

**Dr. Charles '93** and **Valorie Satterwhite** are pastoring a growing and thriving Global Methodist Church congregation in Jackson, Ala.

**Derek Swee '95** traveled to South Carolina this summer for an invited externship

at the Hilton Head Society Bakery South in Hilton Head Island with award winning Chef Phillippe Feret through the Culinary Institute of America. **4**

**Daniel Tsukamoto '94** accepted a part-time position at Trinity Global Church in Opelika, Ala.

**Dr. Sean Moore '96** is the Division Director of Gastroenterology, Hepatology and Nutrition at Cincinnati Children's Hospital in Ohio.

**David Rodriguez '96** is the Technical Engineer at the Grand Ole Opry in Nashville, Tenn.

## 2000s

**Margaret Percy '03 Wilson** completed her Certified Public Finance Officer Certification through the Government Finance Officer Association, and in February 2024, she was chosen as the comptroller for the City of Franklin, Tenn.

W. Bradford, a marketing agency owned by **Will Sears '08**, was listed among the Cincinnati Business Courier's 55 fastest-growing privately-owned businesses in Cincinnati and 15 surrounding counties.

**Dr. Thaddeus Salmon, III '08** was awarded the

University of Kentucky's 2024-2025 Outstanding Teaching Award. He is an assistant professor of internal medicine and pediatrics in the College of Medicine.

## 2010s

**Dr. Amy Lesperance '11 Hope** earned her Doctor of Physical Therapy from the University of Florida in May 2022 and married Michael in June 2022. They welcomed their first child, Samuel, in July 2023. They live in Lebanon, Ore., and Amy specializes in pelvic physical therapy. **5**

**Harold Brabon '17** graduated from Kent State College of Podiatric Medicine with his DPM degree. His residency will be in Detroit. He was also honored at graduation with the 2024 Leadership Award, "Presented by the Ohio Foot and Ankle Medical Association to the student who has demonstrated excellence in both academic and clinical skills and a continuing record of leadership at the student, state, or national/professional association levels."

**Judah '17** and **Mindi Wafford '17 Robinson** welcomed their third child, Harvest Mertie, in March 2024. Harvest was welcomed home by older siblings, Harmony and Haven.



# 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

**Helen Rhudy '44 Scharer**,  
Music Education/Music  
Ministry/Musician,  
9/7/2023, Boca Raton, FL

**Ann Wages '46 Dixon**,  
Ministry Administration,  
3/1/2024, North Vernon, IN

**Mary Overmeyer '49  
Moon Davis**,  
Education/Missions,  
3/17/2024, Franklin, TN

**Mary Lacey '49 Smith**,  
Education,  
5/22/2023, Muncie, IN

**Betty Bumgarner '50  
Keibler**,  
Education/Ministry,  
3/20/2024, Pittsburgh, PA

**Frances Hughes '50  
Middlebrooks**,  
Education/Volunteer,  
4/15/2024, Jackson, GA

**Elizabeth "Betty"  
Sandmeyer '50 Minter**,  
Homemaker/Ministry,  
4/11/2024, Louisville, KY

**Margaret Randerson '50**,  
Education/Geophysicist,  
3/31/2024, Spring, TX

**Rev. John Ozley Sr. '51**,  
Education/Ministry,  
11/14/2023, Covington, GA

**Carolyn Pritchett '52  
Edwards**,  
Dietetic Technician,  
2/23/2024, The Plains, OH

**Martha Seymour '52  
Marlowe**,  
Education/Librarian/Ministry,  
3/4/2024, Sumter, SC

**Elizabeth Gamble '52 Mott**,  
Education, 3/17/2024,  
Albany, GA

**Juanita "Nita" Bingham '52  
Rummans**,  
Education/Family Therapist/  
Ministry Administration,  
3/24/2024, Fayetteville, NC

**John "JC" Stafford '52**,  
Management/Military,  
3/12/2024, Shreveport, LA

**Wilma Greene '53 Andrews**,  
Education/Ministry,  
2/13/2024, Lizella, GA

**Dr. Richard Hunt '53**,  
Business Owner/Education/  
Ministry/Veteran,  
3/4/2024, Charleston, WV

**Elizabeth Pollok '53 Young**,  
Business Owner/  
Education/Missions,  
4/18/2024, Dewitt, MI

**Frances Carlock '54 Anderson**,  
Education,  
12/16/2023, Mt. Gilead, OH

**Rev. Dr. Richard Ferrell '55**,  
Ministry,  
1/17/2024, Canton, OH

**Rev. Harry Baas Jr. '56**,  
Ministry,  
6/2/2024, Jacksonville, FL

**James "Jimmy" Burchell '56**,  
Author/Dairy Farmer/Social  
Work/Taxidermist,  
5/5/2024, Manchester, KY

**Kay Steele '56 Kinder**,  
Education Administrator/  
Special Education,  
3/7/2024, Charleston, WV

**R. Gladys Williford '56 Marks**,  
Education Administrative  
Assistant,  
5/12/2024, Pembroke, GA

**Alice "Faye" Bruce '56 Round**,  
Education/  
School Psychologist/  
Volunteer,  
4/27/2024, Huron, OH

**June Stewart '57 Haubiel**,  
Cosmetology/Homemaker,  
4/27/2024, Chillicothe, OH

**Nancy Mollison '57  
McCullough**,  
Education,  
3/2/2024, Amherst, OH

**Mildred Wynn '58 Aist**,  
Education,  
4/19/2024, Monkton, MD

**Ruth Kelley '58 Harting**,  
Medical Assistant,  
4/20/2023, Woodbridge, VA

**Rev. Oliver "Gene" Wells '58**,  
Ministry,  
3/26/2024, Mason, OH

**Marjorie Smith '59 Cox**,  
Business Owner/Education,  
3/22/2024, Naples, FL

**Arthur Osborne '59**,  
Business Owner/Education/  
Missions/Veteran,  
2/22/2024, Jackson, MI

**Rev. Billy Stamey '59**,  
Ministry,  
3/7/2024, Rutherfordton, NC

**Pastor David Wilson '59**,  
Chaplain/  
Construction/Ministry,  
4/26/2024, Trenton, NJ

**William "Bill" Wright '59**,  
Education/Guidance  
Counselor/Missions/  
Music Ministry,  
5/22/2024, Bartow, FL

**Dorothy Hacker '60 Blue**,  
Physical Education/  
Professional Golfer,  
4/17/2024, Mason, MI

**Rosalie Brooks '60 Quarry**,  
Education/Volunteer,  
3/18/2024, Cincinnati, OH

**Rev. Norman Williams '60**,  
Ministry,  
3/19/2024, Pensacola, FL

**Brenda '62 Gough**,  
Education/  
Guidance Counselor,  
2/28/2024, Pendleton, KY

**Dr. Wayne Goodwin '62**,  
Education/Ministry,  
3/1/2024, Wilmore, KY

**Nancy Crouse '62 Ralls**,  
Education/Ministry,  
2/25/2024, Venice, FL

**Dr. Ronald "Ron"  
Koteskey '63**,  
Psychology/  
Retired Asbury Professor,  
5/21/2024, Wilmore, KY

**Joan Bundt '63 Mitchell**,  
Christian Education/  
Medical Supplies,  
5/23/2024, Lisbon Falls, ME

**Linda Edmiston '63 Wilson**,  
Education,  
6/18/2023, Fort Lauderdale, FL

**Dr. James "Tom" Butts III '64**,  
Dentistry, 4/11/2023,  
Birmingham, AL

**William "Bill" Kimberlin '64**,  
Athletic Coach/Farmer/  
Physical Education,  
3/30/2024, Lexington, IN

**Sammy "Sam" Kyzar '64**,  
Aviator/Education/Military,  
3/22/2024, Georgetown, TX

**Catherine Wurtzler '64  
Waters Pendergast**,  
Education,  
1/22/2024, Akron, OH

**Dr. Paul Beecham '66**,  
Missions/Psychiatry,  
2/16/2024, Woodstock, GA

**James Davis '67**,  
Nonprofit Director,  
8/27/2023, Rowlett, TX

**Roger Griffith '68**,  
Counselor/Education,  
5/15/2024, Mentor, OH

**Rev. Dr. William "Bill"  
Dean '70**,  
Education/Ministry,  
5/16/2024, Bourbonnais, IL

**Carol Amstutz '70 Seamands**,  
Education,  
5/15/2024, Wilmore, KY

**Larry Hawkins '71**,  
Business Owner/  
Ministry/Real Estate,  
2/12/2024, Carrollton, KY

**Thomas "Thom" Tolhurst '71**,  
Education,  
12/28/2023, Chicago, IL

**Daniel "Dan" Wood Sr. '73**,  
Business Owner/Planned  
Giving/Salvation Army,  
4/25/2024, Upland, CA

**Lt. Col. Sheila  
Brewer '74 Lanier**,  
Salvation Army Officer,  
4/14/2024, Marietta, GA

**Rev. James "Jim"  
Brennan '76**,  
Military/Ministry,  
3/7/2024, Houston, TX

**Darlene Cockrell '76 Hucks**,  
Education Administrative,  
3/13/2024, Galivants Ferry, SC

**Rev. Dr. F. Levon Hucks '76**,  
Ministry,  
2/10/2023, Galivants Ferry, SC

**Martin Hatmaker '79**,  
Dance Instructor/Landscape  
Designer/Musician,  
3/6/2024, Lake Worth, FL

**Dr. Harold Layton '79**,  
Education, 11/1/2023,  
Kitchener, ON, CANADA

**Barney Brack '84**,  
Education/Ministry/Veteran,  
3/13/2023, Belleview, FL

**Pastor Jonathan  
"Eric" Woods '84**,  
Ministry, 4/10/2024,  
Pikeville, NC

**Lisa Link '85 Atkinson**,  
Education, 2/29/2024,  
Pataskala, OH

**Ladina Stoltzfus '95 Rishel**,  
Homeschool Educator/  
Youth Ministry,  
4/26/2024, Gordonville, PA

**Pamela "Pam" Bays  
Downing (Grad Program)**,  
Former Asbury Staff/  
Social Work,  
4/21/2024, Nicholasville, KY

## Friends

**Angela Sheldt Allison**,  
4/11/2024, Mobile, AL

**Margie "Mickey" Black**,  
10/9/2023, Delaware, OH

**Rev. James Burdette**,  
5/8/2024, Little Hocking, OH

**Kathy Miles Chrisman**,  
4/29/2024, Munfordsville, KY

**Rev. William "Bill" Coker Sr.**,  
Former Asbury Faculty,  
3/7/2024, Indianapolis, IN

**Carol Ross Corbishley**,  
5/3/2024, Bad Axe, MI

**Rev. Clarence Dinnen**,  
2/27/2024, Jamestown, OH

**Evelyn Rhodes Ferrell**,  
Former Asbury Staff,  
12/5/2023, Canton, OH

**Pastor Jamey Gremillion**,  
2/28/2024, Stoutsville, OH

**Connie Stewart Hadley**,  
Former Asbury Staff,  
1/27/2024, Wilmore, KY

**Dr. Lance Haluka**,  
11/28/2023, Hahira, GA

**Ken Hanson**,  
4/12/2023, Owenton, KY

**Raymond "Ray" Hartman Jr.**,  
4/11/2024, Loudon, TN

**Dola Schwab Joseph**,  
1/14/2024, Middletown, OH

**Robbie Bowles Joy**,  
1/30/2024, Wilmore, KY

**David "Dave" Lindquist**,  
1/15/2024, Ellicott City, MD

**Nancy Whitlock Lindquist**,  
5/9/2024, Ellicott City, MD

**Russell Loudon**,  
2/9/2024, Lexington, KY

**Dr. Rosita Navarro Martinez**,  
2/18/2024, Lakeland, FL

**Rev. James "Roy" McCook Sr.**,  
3/15/2024, Gordon, GA

**Janet Reed McGill**,  
3/22/2024, Tifton, GA

**Jerry Meeks**,  
7/16/2023, Eden, NC

**Norma Hambrick  
Mingledorff**,  
3/5/2023, Columbus, GA

**Roger Nettles**,  
3/21/2024, Newton, NC

**Rev. Dr. Bishop  
Gerald Reliford**,  
4/30/2024, Columbia, KY

**Dr. C. Edward "Ed" Smyth**,  
3/10/2024, Lexington, KY

**Velma Simms Sparks**,  
5/1/2023, Modesto, CA

**Chi Tsang**,  
3/12/2024,  
Mississauga, ON, CANADA

**Dr. Stanley "Stan" Walters**,  
3/4/2024, Upper Sandusky, OH

**Dr. Lilburn Wesche**,  
4/28/2024, Boise, ID

# Photo Finish



Asbury University partnered with the Kentucky Community and Technical College System (KCTCS) to create a seamless and supportive transfer opportunity for KCTCS students to continue their education at Asbury, helping further the institutions' mission of increased educational attainment in the Commonwealth. "With a shared commitment to keeping talented Kentucky students in the Commonwealth, Asbury is excited to partner with KCTCS; to maximize the application and acceptance of student transfer credit, provide program-to-program degree agreements, and provide intuitive and relevant pathways for students to meet their educational goals," said Asbury President Dr. Kevin Brown. Read more, visit [asbury.edu/news](https://www.asbury.edu/news).

## Schedule of Events<sub>2024</sub>

**AUGUST 10**

*President's Brunch in Philadelphia*

**AUGUST 26**

*Fall Semester Begins*

**SEPTEMBER 7**

*President's Brunch in Cincinnati*

**SEPTEMBER 26-27**

*Fall Preview Visit Event*

**SEPTEMBER 27-28**

*Family Weekend*

**OCTOBER 8**

*President's Dinner in Charlotte*

**OCTOBER 19**

*President's Brunch in Dallas*

**OCTOBER 21**

*President's Dinner in San Antonio*

**OCTOBER 24-25**

*Equine Visit Event*

**NOVEMBER 14-15**

*Winter Preview Visit Event*

**DECEMBER 6**

*Songs of the Season Concert*

**DECEMBER 12**

*Fall Semester Ends*

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Information

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