

A PUBLICATION OF GRACE COLLEGE & SEMINARY

SPHERE*

SERVING PEOPLE HERE.

MATT METZGER SHELBY NORRIS MARK & JANICE WORKMAN MIKE YOCUM



SPRING 2012 | VOL. 32, NO.1

MATT METZGER FOUNDER OF METZGER OUTDOORS

JOIN US FOR A HAVVAIIAN ADVEN SEPT. 20-29, 2012

Grace Alumni, join us for a Hawaiian adventure of a lifetime! We'll be visiting the islands of Oahu, Kauai and Maui and exploring Pearl Harbor, Waikiki Beach and much more!

Dates: Sept. 20-29, 2012 Trip Host: Dr. John Boal To RSVP: Contact the Alumni Services Office (574) 372-5100, ext. 6129 or (866) 448-3472.

For more information, visit www.grace.edu/hawaii and look for upcoming informational webinars by email, Facebook or visit grace.edu/alumni/events.

Alumni Director Tammy Denlinger (BS 81, MA 88) is beginning a Grace Alumni Travel Program. We're launching this new program with an alumni trip to Hawaii! The Travel Program will offer periodic trip experiences for alumni, ranging from dream vacations, to educational or service opportunities, and varying in length and location. Stay informed about upcoming trip opportunities at www.grace.edu/alumni/events or by Facebook (search Grace Alumni Community and "like" our page).

Homecoming 2012 SAVE THE DATE | NOV. 2 - 4, 2012



Why don't we stop to think about our sphere of influence more? The "here" in our sphere is important. It's divine geography where God wants us to be intentional about serving the local opportunities around us. It makes me think I need to walk through the crowd a little more slowly and watch for ways to be mistaken for Jesus.

My uncle Dennis was a dairy farmer and an extremely good one. He inherited the family farm from my grandfather

and established a reputation as one of the area's preeminent agricultural leaders.

I have such fond memories of summertime adventures with my cousin Andrea, running all over his farm in central Pennsylvania.

But after a bout with a very aggressive brain cancer, diagnosed in November last year, his life ended abruptly on Jan. 16, 2012. He was 63.

At the funeral, attended by over 1,200 people,

memories of him and life on the farm came flooding back to me. But the most enduring memory in his life happened just a few days before he died.

The farming community is a tight band of brothers - an extended family that gives unconditional support. So when neighbors and friends heard that my uncle was dying, they decided to demonstrate their love, responding to a life that had such impact.

Relatives and hospice workers wheeled my uncle to the curbside of his home, where over 130 tractors, combines, sprayers, quad-runners and other heavy farm equipment passed by in a parade. It was a cavalcade that shut down traffic on the local road for several hours, a procession for an audience of one. They waved signs and shouted affections as they passed by a man who sat in tears knowing he would soon be with Jesus.

> Seared into my memory forever is the thought, "Oh, that my life, at the end of my days, would be worthy of a parade."

scene. A great cloud of witnesses cheering us on as we enter the arena and finish the race set before us. I like to think that my uncle's final hours were a parade that started on the road outside his farm and ended in heaven.

My uncle farmed his land well, but the parade tells me that he spent even more time harvesting his sphere of influence. This issue is full of local harvest stories. We hope they inspire you.



THINK ABOUT

OUR SPHERE

OF INFLUENCE

MORE?

Kevin Sterner (C 94) | Editor-in-Chief

WHY DON'T **WE STOP TO**

The book of Hebrews describes a similar

2 | TWO EIGHT & NINE

COMMUNITY

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The mission statement for Grace College and Seminary provides the campus with a context for understanding the

word "community." Using this word in the mission statement was a deliberate choice. Other words like "institution" and "organization" were considered, but, because of its rich meaning in the Bible, "community" was chosen. The word was used as imagery that referred to the body of Christ in the New Testament.

The body of Christ is diverse: differing cultures, languages, backgrounds, gifting, skin color, achievements, ages and opportunities. It's a remarkable spectrum. God intentionally chose and continues to choose a diversity of believers to express unity in the midst of diversity. This diverse body is designed to reach the corners of the earth as it expresses the Good News to the earth's increasingly diverse peoples. God is in the business of forming a global team to carry the global message.

That message is carried by deed and word. God scatters His people, asking them to live fully for Him in a multiplicity of places, careers, circumstances, communities and neighborhoods. In these places as members of His body, we are "Christ's ambassadors, as though God were making his appeal through us" (2 Cor. 5:20). In both life and word the message is one of grace and love and service and truth. We are to live for His glory by the very way we do our work. By the way we live in families. By the way we live in neighborhoods and communities. By our life in the church. By acts of compassion and integrity and service. By doing all we do for the glory of God. God wants all of us all of the time in every relationship and every place.

This body of Christ, this community of God, is to do His work His way. God asks us to live fully, passionately, humbly and persistently for His glory without hesitation.

The word "community" in Grace's mission statement reminds all of us at Grace of these truths about God's intention to distribute His followers in any setting, at any time, for His glory alone.



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Dr. Ronald E. Manahan (MDiv 70, ThM 77, ThD 82) | President



<mark>06</mark> Peddle, Paddle, Sprint, Serve

Matt Metzger (BS 11), owner of Metzger Trucking and founder of Metzger Outdoors, uses his expertise and resources to create opportunities for people and businesses to meet the needs in their community ... and Jesus!

09 Walking On-Air

STAR 88.3 on-air radio host Shelby (Tharp C 08) Norris explains why she's so passionate about sharing the message of God's love and truth to her community of 60,000 listeners every week.

12 Fostering Generosity

Mark (BS 77) and Janice (BS 75) Workman have fostered dozens of children and cared for countless people in their community, taking their faith from the pews to the streets.

14 Mike Yocum: In Three Acts

Whether he's on the stage or in the classroom, Mike Yocum (BS 79) — actor, director and associate professor of communication — devotes his days to loving others wherever they are in the journey.

18 Dr. Rebekah Watson's Playbook

Get to know Dr. Rebekah Watson, Grace's newest assistant professor of communication, and discover why ESPN is her most constant (and favorite) companion.

19 Exceeding Expectations

Be inspired by Dee Anna Muraski (BS 10) who spends her free time coaching, challenging and encouraging the next generation of young people to serve their community.





FRACECOLLEGE

<mark>20</mark> Trifecta

Grace Athletics had a record-breaking fall. See how men's soccer, women's soccer and volleyball finished their seasons at the 2011 NCCAA National Championships. Senior defender Victoria Casey pictured.



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Institutional Mission

Grace is an evangelical Christian community of higher education which applies biblical values in strengthening character, sharpening competence and preparing for service.

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On The Cover

Owner of Metzger Trucking and Founder of Metzger Outdoors, Matt Metzger (BS 11), photographed by Stephanie Witte (C 11).

Case V Award

2|8|9 received the 2011 Pride of CASE V Bronze Award for the Best Alumni/ Institution Magazine in the 2,999 full-time equivalency or fewer category. The Pride of CASE V Awards Program honors institutions and individuals who demonstrate outstanding achievement in the concept and execution of advancement programs and communications. CASE (Council for Advancement and Support of Education) is divided into eight regions through the United States. Grace is part of Region V, which includes the Midwest states.

What's In A Name?

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Two Eight ϕ -Nine references Ephesians 2: 8–9, the verses upon which Grace College and Seminary were founded. "For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith — and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God — not by works, so that no one can boast."

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PEDDLE DADDIE SPRNM SERVE

BY ANDREW JONES (BA 11) Matt Metzger (BS 11) doesn't like the word impossible. "If you want to get me to do something, just tell me that it can't be done," he says, all the while admitting to being somewhat of an unstoppable idealist. This is especially true when it comes to his passions — networking to bring people together, using the family business to do good and creating opportunities for people to meet Jesus.

You may have seen one of Metzger's advertising innovations rolling through a town near you. Metzger is the brain behind using his familyowned company's tractor-trailers as roving venue for organized races. A few sponsors and 150 racers later, Metzger Outdoors hosted its first race in Winona Lake, Ind. With over 100 acres of mountain bike terrain, 20 miles of newly minted running trails near Grace's campus and the full aquatic benefits of the lake, it wasn't hard to map out.

One might think that this increasingly popular "adventure venture" could be a rather lucrative side business, but the Metzgers pocket nothing. In fact the trucking business funds most of the races. "Metzger Outdoors is not a non-profit organization; we're a zero-profit organization,"

Every muddy footstep, every paddle thrust, is a dollar towards food for the poor, funds for the sick, or now, blessing for people like the students at Grace College ...

billboards for Grace College. The response nationwide has been phenomenal as alumni and others report back after seeing the trucks on interstates from Kokomo to California to the Carolinas.

But let's back up to three years ago and visit another one of his start-up ideas. Metzger and his brother Micah, both employees at Metzger Trucking, decided to start a company-sponsored racing event called Metzger Outdoors. "My brother and I enjoy adventure racing but there were no courses in Northwest Indiana." Adventure racing is a scavenger hunt/endurance race hybrid where tens to hundreds of people participate in a timed combination of two or more endurance disciplines. These might include orienteering, cross-country running, mountain biking and/or paddling. Some told Metzger this type of event wasn't feasible because of Indiana's lack of challenging terrain. Undaunted, the Metzger brothers decided to create their own

Metzger says, speaking to the fact that the races are uniquely engineered to benefit others and give away the proceeds to worthy recipients.

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"At first we just thought it'd be fun to do the adventure racing. But we realized that it was bigger than just us. It was a way to get Grace College, [local] businesses, the community and racing to all come together to do something good." Metzger recalls recent races where the whole family pitched in: Mom and Dad Metzger cooked and grilled; siblings organized, scheduled and even participated. "It's just like the trucking company: each of us knows our role and we all play to our strengths."

His philanthropic instincts and intentions are "pure gold" — both financially and relationally because Metzger's time, resources and network are compounded in bringing many people together to benefit organizations that are already serving.



Metzger Outdoors adventure race Nocturnal II: Military edition, October 2011.

The first race that they organized donated food towards Warsaw's Combined Community Services and World Compassion Network. Another race donated funds towards gas money for a family who needed to transport their wheelchair-bound daughter back and forth for treatments. It's a revolutionary kind of adventure racing. Every muddy footstep, every paddle thrust, is a dollar towards food for the poor, funds for the sick, or now, blessing for people like the students at Grace College — people who will turn around and go back out to do likewise.

"My whole goal is to get more people to go to Grace, because I think Grace is awesome." Metzger, who graduated from Grace's GOAL completion program in 2011 and is set to graduate from Grace's MBA program next year, says it's why he's dedicated the past couple races to funding programs at the school that enable and encourage students. He speaks of mentors like Provost Dr. Bill Katip (BA 74) and Dean of the School of Adult and Community Education Dr. Steve Grill (BA 70) as being inspiring and approachable massive influences in his life and business. Yet, as much as he appreciates their individual influences, he also recognizes Grace's need to be more and more steeped in the local community, something that he practices through organizing races. "I don't ever want to be the star. Our family philosophy is to let other people see Jesus through us." And they have. A recent 2|8|9 magazine article told of a young college student struggling with the loss of her father who was surprised, no, more like surrounded, by a cycling peloton, when dozens of riders rode up and gave her a cash gift to help her with school. And then raced away. The rest of the story? Those bikers, who hadn't even outlined a donation priority as a goal, were part of one of Metzger's adventure races. They just gave because they heard about the need and had Christ as an example.

"It's like a circle," says Metzger, tracing the circumference from his influences and time at Grace to leadership at Metzger Trucking to the adventure races and back to serving Grace College. Or, put another way, it's a practical lesson in character, competence and service.

So it's really not that difficult to speculate what would happen if every Grace alum thought like a Matt Metzger. There would be a lot more "impossible" things in this world actually getting done. *****



SHELBY NORRIS

MALKING ON-AIR

BY KERITH ACKLEY-JELINEK





Shelby (Tharp C 08) Norris, an on-air talent with Fort Wayne, Indiana's Christian radio station STAR 88.3, is best known as "Shelby Lynn" to tens of thousands of listeners. "When I was first approached about joining the radio station," Norris recalls, "one of my mentors asked me, 'If you took the job, what would your message be?' Instantly I responded, 'God's love and truth.' I realized I had a message to share, and it wasn't my own." Norris has always loved to communicate, but she wasn't always so confident or clear on her message.

"Although I was a Christian when I went to Grace, it was there that I learned what grace really was." Norris was raised in a Christian family and accepted Christ at the age of seven. She started dancing at an early age and quickly developed a love for the stage and for ministry. When college rolled around, Norris' short list included Grace because of its strong Bible teaching, her desire to go into ministry and some strong direction from God after winning Grace's Presidential Scholarship Competition. "I remember while I was at the competition thinking, This is silly. I'm never going to win. There are all of these brilliant students and I'm just a good student.' But then I won! And I knew I didn't do it on my own strength."

Shortly after arriving at Grace, Norris says her struggle with an eating disorder exploded. "I didn't have symptoms of a disorder before coming to college. While I was home, I was such a rule-follower and a people-pleaser. When I arrived at Grace, I had access to this gym that I'd never had before. I'd get up early before my roommate and go exercise. I did things undercover. No one knew how many times I was working out or whether I went to the dining commons to eat."

As God would have it, Norris started seeing Carol Yauger (BS 00, MA 02), one of the Grace counselors. At the time, Norris didn't recognize that she had an eating disorder. "I started seeing Carol because I was just so emotional and crying a lot during my freshman year." Looking back, Norris sees God's provision and leading in her life. "He knew I was going to need Carol even when I didn't."

When Norris returned home to Fort Wayne for the summer, her mom saw her extreme weight loss and told Norris they were going to drive back to Grace to get help. "We made an appointment with Carol that summer. I remember my



mom was sitting with me. Carol looked at me and said, 'Shelby, you have an eating disorder.' It was the first time I'd heard it out loud, and I knew she was right."

That summer, Norris began seeing her counselor weekly and began the healing process. As she uncovered the lies she believed, Norris experienced freedom, but she also felt guilt and shame. "How could I believe those things? I'd never really failed at anything before. I realized I wasn't perfect. I would never live up to how I wanted to be perceived. I realized I was an empty shell of a performer."

When Norris returned to school, she eventually told a few of her closest friends about the eating disorder, and she says they modeled I John 1:7 to her: "But if we walk in the Light as He Himself is in the Light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus His Son cleanses us from all sin."

"I would be afraid to go to the cafeteria. My friends were so patient with me. They'd say, 'Hey, time to go eat. You're going to come and you're going to be fine.' My friends just loved me by living out the truth as opposed to one of the lies I believed — that no one cared."

And then one evening, when Norris was reading the Bible, God enlightened her heart to His truth. "I read I Corinthians 5:21 that says 'God made Him who had no sin, to be sin for us, so that in Him we might become the righteousness of God.' And it dawned on me. On my own strength I don't have anything. But because of Jesus and His love for me, He died, and I now have God's righteousness. Why would I want a standard of human perfection when I can have the righteousness of God?"

That evening, Norris' message was born: Believe God's truth, know His love and watch how it sets you free. "It's where my burning passion comes from ... I will not be silent, I have to tell people. You don't have to try so hard or feel like you're worthless. He's given you His righteousness."

Now Shelby Lynn Norris is talking and walking out her faith every week on the air. She has impact on an entire city and beyond. She is also STAR 88.3's promotions and social media director and works daily to fulfill its mission to help make Fort Wayne, Warsaw, Huntington and the surrounding communities a better place to live and raise a family. Norris hopes that the people who live in these areas will discover STAR 88.3, hear the message of God's love through the music and the radio jockeys and then come out to a concert or community event they host. "Wherever people are in their journey, whether they know Jesus or not, we want to encourage them to take one step closer — to believe the message of God's love and truth." ★

To read more about Norris' journey, visit her blog at www.partdance.blogspot.com

To find out more about STAR 88.3, visit www.star883.com.





There are an untold number of Grace grads who, as Grace President Dr. Ron Manahan (MDiv 70, ThM 77, ThD 82) likes to say, "get off the pews and into the streets." And Mark (BS 77) and Janice (Thompson BS 75) Workman exemplify just that — faith in action.

But stories like theirs are surprisingly elusive to capture firsthand. People who are others-centered serve quietly, faithfully and anonymous, having no real desire for their work to be in the limelight.

So Mark and Janice Workman — who say they're just regular business owners and licensed foster parent who do their best to meet a need — don't tell this story. It comes from the mouths and hearts of the many who have been touched by their generosity and grace, who say the Workmans haven't just fostered dozens of children and helped countless people in their circle of influence, they've fostered a reputation in the entire community for "being Jesus" to people in some of life's most difficult moments.

Laurie Owen, dean of the School of Education, is now mother to one of the Workman's foster children and explains their impact. "It's like a ripple effect. To them, it's just doing what's right, one small action at a time. But their influence trickles and they have no idea the ripples they are creating." Owen and her family became good friends with the Workmans after becoming foster parents too. Owen says that they were their "foster heroes," walking with them every step of the way as they took in their first two children and learned the ins and outs of the foster care system. Several years later, the Owens adopted one of the Workman's foster kids. "Their greatest gift to us ended up being our youngest child, Eli. In fact, if you

ask him, he'll tell you that Mark and Janice are his 'real parents,'" Owen laughs.

But the Workman's impact doesn't stop with Eli. Owen says that for all three of her daughters, it's not a question of if, but when they'll foster and adopt. "That desire is from Mark and Janice. I wish I could say it was from us. But it was from watching Mark and Janice so wholeheartedly display Christ's love by bringing in children that have been – literally, at times – tossed aside."

Glenn and Patti (Reeves BS 87) Goldsmith tell a similar story. "Mark and Janice were the foster parents for our two boys before we became foster parents ourselves with the desire to adopt. We feel they were God's guardian angels for Braxton and Layton because they were in the right place at the God-appointed time to influence their lives and help save them for our family."

Micah and Stephanie (BM 04) VerHage met Mark and Janice after they gave birth to their son who has special needs. Janice was part of a group of women who began visiting Stephanie and her son. Stephanie says, "She loves and dotes on our son and always brings a little something for him. In fact, my son is now four years old and we've only had to buy him two pairs of shoes because of Janice's giving spirit. They both love people so much. They are quiet and unassuming, but have touched so many souls around them."

The Workmans have spent nearly 30 years helping Rhonda Raber's family. When Rhonda's husband Ron, former Grace English professor, battled chronic health issues and eventually ALS in 2007, the Workmans supported them throughout his illnesses. Rhonda recalls, "I lost count of how many times Janice and Mark watched my kids when they were young and I would have to run my husband to the hospital. When his ALS progressed, they stayed with Ron so I could go to church, and Mark began staying one night a week to take care of Ron so I could sleep."

Rhonda's daughter, Brandi (Raber BA 00) Wright, agrees. "They put their faith into action, without ever making you feel like a 'project.' When Mom had to be at the hospital with my dad, they created a second home for us. They are being Jesus to the people He puts in their path, using the gifts He has given them."

The Workmans recently were awarded the Chamber of Commerce 2011 Dimensions of Excellence Business Award for the significant growth of one of their local businesses. Janice is a Precinct Committeeman, MOPS and ESL childcare worker and has been serving in the church nursery for more than 40 years. Mark serves on the Winona Lake Board of Zoning Appeals, regularly goes on mission trips and sits on the board of 2nd Mile Missions. Together, Mark and Janice own and run three small businesses through which they fund mission trips, sponsor sports teams, support local families during the holidays and buy supplies for various ministries around the world.

They simply see needs and love their neighbors with the unconditional love that God lavishes on all. It's just a common everyday practice for them, hardly newsworthy from their perspective.

The Workmans are proof that there are, in fact, "angels among us" whose random acts of kindness deserve our respect, admiration and thanksgiving. *

NIKE OCCUPANTE BY ANDREW JONES (BA 11)

Any Grace College student could describe the scene to you. Two or three times a year the appropriately titled "Little Theatre" in Philathea Hall is packed on a weekend night. There's a buzz as people wait for the seasonal production to begin. All of a sudden, the crowd breaks out in applause because a man of ordinary height — and an extraordinary head of hair — has walked out on the stage: the director. He makes a few jokes, gives a quick lesson in theater decorum and promises that the upcoming play will be "fantastic" — his trademark word. Then, with a wave and a big exit grin, Mike Yocum (BS 79) walks backstage. The show begins.

Backstage, the sounds of the show are muted. Yocum lounges in the costume room with student actors and talks to, jokes with and encourages them. They love his personality and he loves his job. But behind Yocum's finesse at being a really nice, really funny guy and a master director besides, he's got what all college students are looking for: connections.

ACT I: HARD WORK

The production of Yocum's variegated career begins with Act I: Hard Work. He started out at Grace College majoring in Speech/ Business with a Music minor, then attended Ball State where he earned his master's in Theatre/Communications. Yocum, who has taught, directed, waited tables and even sold real estate over the years says that none of his education and experience has gone to waste, especially at Grace, to which he returned in 1999 after several years of work elsewhere.

Why? "I stay at Grace because I love what the school stands for," he explains. "I love working with the students and I love the opportunity to do things I enjoy. Also, the flexible schedule allows me to do other things that are important to me."

ACT II: THE GRACE YEARS

Which leads to Act II: The Grace Years. But this act isn't only about Grace, because Yocum's life isn't either. Sure, there are the 25 productions he's directed and the class-act communication courses he's taught, but he's also become known for shattering what students call the "Grace bubble" — that invisible dividing line between the Grace campus and the rest of the world. For Yocum, career, community and calling are all starring roles. Here's a good example. "One year, another Grace graduate and I decided to audition for the summer season [at the Wagon Wheel Theatre in Warsaw, Ind.] and, much to our surprise, we both got cast! I got to play Charlie Cowell in 'Music Man' that summer of 1983." This was only the beginning of a collaboration that continues to this day as Yocum participates in at least two shows at the Wagon Wheel — a professional theatrical organization — annually. "I love the opportunity to do things I enjoy," he says. He also loves getting students to do the same. "I've gotten a number of students involved at Wagon Wheel. [Some] have had small roles in shows and still more have worked behind the scenes."

But that's not all. While playing his roles at Grace, he has directed a show at the Kosciusko Community Theater; he advises the Grace College drama team "Remnant" which travels annually doing shows across the nation; and, on the side, he renovates and rents out apartments in the Warsaw/Winona Lake, Ind., area.

But at the heart of his dramatic role at Grace and his dedication to the community at large, there's a philosophy, a mission. And it can all be summed up in the story of Act III: Love the People.



ACT III: LOVE THE PEOPLE

"Some years ago one of the actors [from the Wagon Wheel] asked me a question. 'Mike, why is it that everyone in Winona Lake hates us?' I know this guy well and understood his question to mean, 'Why does it seem that conservative, Christian people don't like people involved in theater?' At that moment I became convinced that my role at the Wagon Wheel was to ... love the people with whom I work and share what I believe whenever possible. By first establishing relationships with my co-workers, they become more open to my sharing with them."

Yocum is a microcosm of Grace's desire to reach beyond the walls of the insidious "bubble" and into the hearts of the community and to enjoy doing it. "Even at my age I'm not sure I'm an adult," he confesses. "And my wife would probably agree!" But that makes sense. When you watch Yocum perform on the stage of life, he's friendly, funny, passionate and a little bit crazy. Exactly the kind of director/professor students want. Exactly the kind of man the harvest needs. *****



Faculty RAVE REVIEWS ******







Dr. Nathan Bosch, **D1** assistant professor of environmental science, has published part of his ongoing research on using computer simulation models to understand and protect water sources in the June 2011 issue of the Journal of Great Lakes Research. Dr. Bosch also presented a paper at the 2011 Conference on Great Lakes Research this year in Duluth, Minn.

In October, **Dr. Jared S.** Burkholder, **02** assistant professor of history, presented a paper to an international gathering of historians in Mexico City, Mexico. Dr. Burkholder's paper was titled, "Radical Protestants and the Politics of Empire: Moravian Aspirations in British North America." He also published an invited article on the pietist roots of evangelicalism in "Reflections: a Publication of the Missionary Church Historical Society," and he was appointed to the steering committee for the Pietist Studies Group, which promotes international research on pietism.

Dr. Mark M. Norris (C 83, S 05), os chair of the department of history and political science, recently delivered an invited lecture at Bethel College on Alva J. McClain and the founding of Grace Theological Seminary.

Dr. Tiberius Rata, **D4** professor of Old Testament studies and chair of the biblical studies department, was recently named to the advisory board of the Theological Journal of the Theological Baptist Institute, University of Bucharest, Romania.

Watson's Playbook

Although Assistant Professor of Communication Dr. Rebekah Watson's youthful appearance occasionally means she is mistaken for a student, don't let it fool you. While her boundless energy and technology prowess rival that of her students', Watson's had years of experience teaching at Purdue University and University of Missouri. Her primary research, publications and teaching center around sports, public relations and the media, which frequently allow Watson to display her uncanny knowledge of sports trivia. Not only are students engaged by her Colts and Pacer analogies, but they are constantly challenged by her insistence that every student maximize his or her learning potential. Before pursuing education, Watson joined the corporate world as a political campaign manager and later as a marketing associate for a small IT firm. In her spare time, she served as a speech coach, and she says, "I realized that God was leading me away from the boardroom and into the classroom. My life was so radically and abundantly enriched by great teachers. I recognized how passionate I was about seeing young people grow in similar ways." Watson joined Grace's faculty last fall, and when she isn't teaching, she spends much of her free time watching sports. With a twinkle in her eye, Watson explains, "It informs my research." Youthfulness and ESPN 24/7 – how convenient.

REBEKAH WATSON

Ph.D.: University of Missouri M.A.: Purdue University

FAVORITE SPORT: Basketball because in "49 other states it's just basketball, but this is Indiana." Growing up in Indiana, basketball is a way of life.

FAVORITE COACH: John Wooden. One of my favorite quotes of his is, "Adversity is the state in which man mostly becomes acquainted with himself, being especially free of admirers then." **FAVORITE PLAYER:** Former Indiana Pacer Rik Smits. The "dunking Dutchman" had such a great presence in the middle and played unselfishly.

WHERE ARE YOU ON A SATURDAY NIGHT? During college football season, I'm watching the Saturday night football game of the week, at a Pacers game during the NBA season and probably outside during the summer. **LITTLE KNOWN FACT:** I don't really like chocolate, which offends most people.

FIRST JOB: A server at a conference center. I've got mad wedding cake cutting skills!

MEANINGFUL VERSE: "The LORD bless thee, and keep thee. The LORD make his face shine upon thee, and be gracious unto thee. The LORD lift up his countenance upon thee, and give thee peace." Numbers 6:24-26

EXCEEDING EXPECTATIONS

BY ANDREW JONES (BA 11)

Like most adult students in Grace's MBA program, Dee Anna Muraski (BS 10) is not just a part of her community, she's an asset to it. It started when, at the age of 16, she volunteered for a local AT&T International Special Olympics event. "That day turned out to be one of my most joyful memories," she says, admitting that it was also the moment that started her on a career path to volunteer work.

Today, aside from finishing up her final semester at Grace, she works as program officer at the Kosciusko County Community Foundation. But a career hasn't gotten in the way of a passion. In fact, it's resulted in a program that is affecting the entire county: The 5 And 5 Volunteer Challenge. It's an initiative that Muraski created in response to her involvement with students whom she coaches in philanthropy and grant-making. Inspired by a possibility and motivated by the opportunity to volunteer outside of work, she initiated a program that puts five area schools in competition with each other to see who can put in the most volunteer hours. And the idea didn't just work. It thrived. The first year of 5 And 5: 800 hours total. This year: 1,013. Five teams of four students from grades 8 through 12 and a mentor pull all of those volunteer hours off, and they are hoping to do more next year.

"The Challenge [has been] incredible," says Muraski. "It exceeded my expectations." But it hasn't satisfied her desire to do more because, like a typical Grace graduate, she knows what's at the root of service. "I know I will not get into heaven through acts of service," she says, "but I know at any one time God can use me to fill a need, offer help or build hope."



LANCER TRIFECTA BY JOSH NEUHART (BS11)

For the first time in Grace College's history, three Grace Athletics fall sports teams qualified for the 2011 NCCAA National Championships. After outstanding regular seasons, men's

soccer, women's soccer and volleyball headed to Indianapolis International Airport to catch flights to Kissimmee, Fla. All three teams found success in the tournament held from Nov. 30-Dec.3, highlighted by the volleyball team's emotionally charged run to the NCCAA National Semifinals. In their first NCCAA Nationals appearance in a decade, the Lady Lancers were only halted from a shot at a national title by a five-set loss to Trinity Christian in the semifinals. The volleyball team finished 33-12. The women's soccer team (which finished in fifth) had its best record in NCCAA Nationals ever by winning two games and losing another in penalty kicks. The Lady Lancers tied the program record for wins in a single season in their final game, a 2-1 come-from-behind win over Colorado Christian. The Lady Lancers finished the season 14-7-3. The men's soccer team claimed seventh place when freshman Austin Altimus scored a goal in the final two minutes of regulation. The Lancers (11-9-4) earned their first winning season since 2003.



For the latest on scores, players, recruits and more, visit www.grace.edu/athletics.



Freshman outside hitter Hannah Clemmons (left) and sophomore middle hitter Dana Johnston, NCCAA National Semifinals.

Freshman forward Holly Bennett, Colorado Christian game.

GRACE 10

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Women's volleyball team, NCCAA National Semifinals.

Freshman midfielder Gift Sibukome (left) and freshman midfielder Nikola Blazic, Palm Beach Atlantic game.

TWO EIGHT & NINE | 21

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ALUM NOTES Connecting with our family of friends

DOWN THE AISLE



Brandon Garey and Kindra Stutzman (BS 09): November 20, 2010. The Gareys are at home in

Etna Green IN. ksgarey@hotmail.com

BJ McPheron (BS 06) and Heather Roberts: September 3, 2010. BJ is athletic director for Temple Christian School in Lima OH. The McPherons reside in Lima. mcpheron@inbox.com

Elisha Tucker (C 08) and Tommi Sauder (BS 10): July 16, 2011. Elisha works as an EMT both at Lutheran Hospital in Fort Wayne IN and at Parkview Whitley Hospital in Columbia City IN. Tommi is a marketing designer for Shindigz. The couple lives in Columbia City. sauderta@hotmail.com

FUTURE ALUMNI



Josh (BS 99) and Gretchen (Gunter CT 04) Bailey: Teegan Aislyn, June 17,

2011. Teegan joins Kellan (5) and Rogan (2) in Winona Lake IN. Josh serves as the controller for Grace Schools and Gretchen is the senior financial aid advisor. baileyga@grace.edu

Brian (BS 99) and Lindsey Christner: Clara Lynn, October 31, 2011. Clara joins Hailey (4) at home in Antioch IL. blchristner@comcast.net 01

Tom and **Susie (Workman** BA 94) **Owens:** Toby Lukas, August 10, 2010. Toby joins Travis (14) and Kylee (7) at home in Mansfield OH. suzieg_90@hotmail.com D2 Nathan and Suzanne (Peters C 97) Ryerson: Max Gabriel, May 25, 2010. Max joins Thomas (6), Meg (4) and Tessa (3) in West Milton OH. nateandsuz@yahoo.com

Rob (BS 97) and Megan Shook: Paul Wayland, March 6, 2011. Paul joins sister Harper (3) at home in Asheville NC. rshook@warren-wilson.edu. Alumni grandparents are Ray "Butch" (BS 72) and Sandy (Dillon C 73) Shook. 04



Josh (BA 04, MATS 08, MAIR 08) and Janelle (McCall BA 04)

Armstrong: Titus Eugene, December 13, 2011. Titus joins Katelyn (2) at home in Warsaw IN. iwanttobeamoon@gmail.com 05

Brendan (BS 03) and Melissa (Allen BA 99) Barrette: Cora Abigail Jin Meiyan, August 29, 2009. Cora was adopted on "Gotcha Day," March 21, 2011, from Guangxi, China. She joins Olivia (2) in Warsaw IN. nlaire@yahoo.com

Steve (BA 05) and Sandra **Berlin**: Johnathon Daniel, June 9, 2011. The Berlin family resides in South Bend IN. steve.berlinski@gmail.com **07**

Matthew (BS 05) and Monica (Spangle BS 05) Boren: Abner Luke, May 24, 2011. The Boren family lives in Leesburg IN. moniboren@gmail.com 08

Jean (BA 05) and Tasha (Leichty BA 02) De Souza: Lucca Gabriel, November 17, 2011. Lucca joins Eva (6) and Ian (4) at home in Amagasaki, Japan. 09 The De Souza family moved to Japan in June 2010 to assist fellow Grace alumnus Masa Yokota (BS 03) and wife Chie with their vision to start a sports ministry. Seahorse Soccer International Club is a Christian soccer school reaching out to children ages 4-12. Jean assists Masa as they develop the students' soccer skills and emphasize Christian values in











sports. Tasha teaches English and takes care of the children at home. www.seahorsejapan.com

Ryan (BS 07) and Megan (McEvoy

BA 06, MA 11) **Engelberth**: Deegan Matthew, March 10, 2011. Megan earned her master's in education in May 2011 and teaches seventh grade English part-time in Warsaw IN. Ryan teaches fourth grade in Columbia City IN. The Engelberths are at home in Leesburg IN. engelberth.ryan@gmail.com and engelberth.megan@gmail.com **10**

Andrew and Jennifer (Seitz BS 04) Gregar: Julia Grace, August 4, 2011. The Gregar family resides in South Bend IN. creativeseitz@gmail.com

DeShaun (BS 07) and Angela (Crider BS

07) Merrick: Isaiah Zayden, June 1, 2011. DeShaun is an officer of investment operations outsourcing with Northern Trust Company. Angela teaches at Master's Academy, a Christian school for inner-city children in Chicago IL. The Merrick family lives in Chicago. dnamerrick@yahoo.com 11

CLASS NOTES



Robert Clouse (AA 52, BD 57) continues to serve as the senior research scholar in liberal arts at

Indiana State University. His most recent publication is "The Church from Age to Age; a History from Galilee to Global Christianity" (St. Louis: Concordia Publishing House, 2011).

60s

Pastor Don Shoemaker (BA 66, MDiv 69) will miss

many things after his retirement at the end of

2011, especially "having the only designated parking spot" at Grace Community Church in Seal Beach CA. After 43 years in ministry, with 27 of those years at GCC, Shoemaker is passing the torch of leadership. He states that he "will miss the weekly preaching and worship leading, the warm greetings before and after services, and leading with a great team of staff and lay leaders." Licensed in 1968, he served as an assistant pastor in Elkhart IN before moving to Long Beach CA in 1970, where he became pastor of Los Altos Brethren Church until 1976. He later joined the theology

faculty at Biola University, and in 1984 he became pastor of GCC, where he and wife Mary were already parishioners. Don and Mary have been married for 45 years, have two adult children and six grandchildren, who, along with a few hobbies, will get more of Don's time after retirement. "It's time (to retire). I just turned 67 on Dec. 8. I want to spend more time as senior chaplain of the Seal Beach Police Department, do more writing, have more family and personal time and serve in my church without having the primary leadership burdens and mountain trails beckon. We look forward to more freedom to travel and will enjoy rediscovering weekends." After some time off, Don will serve the church in any way needed, including as pastor emeritus.

Linda (Morrell BA 66) and husband Jerry Walker celebrated their 40th wedding anniversary on June 5, 2011. They reside in Yakima Valley WA where Linda teaches drama part-time at Heritage University. Todd Walker (BS 96) celebrated his marriage to Rachelle Query on July 9, 2011. Todd is a mental health professional and Rachelle works as an elementary school counselor in Gilbert AZ. Cort (BA 97, MDiv 00) and wife Katrina (Wiley BS 99) Walker live in Garner NC with children Janelle, Ethan and Isaac. Cort is an attorney with the Sasser Law Firm in Cary NC. Pictured is the Walker family celebrating Todd and Rachelle's wedding. 12

Dr. Dennis L. Putinski (Cert Bib St 79) is enjoying

being semi-retired. He obtained a masters and a doctorate of ministry from Faith Bible

College, Independence MO in 2007. Currently he is a part-time instructor at FBC, an elder and director of spiritual growth at Mercy Church and serves as a local officer of Gideons International. Dennis and wife Loretta reside in Mission KS. gid-den@juno.com 13

Arden (BA 71) and Helen Steele began their career mission service with SIM (Serving in Mission) in 1977. They are currently serving as Bible teachers in Cochabamba, Bolivia. www.carachipampa.org, www.sim.org

and ardenandhelen.blogspot.com

Ted (MDiv 70) and Dana Witmer serve with Crossworld in Bunia, Uganda. Their focus is intentionally preparing theology teachers at Shalom University in such a way that they are able to promote real transformative learning on the part of















their future students. The Witmers were home during the month of December to spend Christmas with family, renew their passports and allow Dana to attend a conference on tropical disease. ted.witmer@crossworld.org 14



Pete (BA 84) and Carolyn Bitner are career missionaries with SIM (Serving in Mission). In July

2011, Pete was in a motorcycle accident in Togo West Africa. The family returned to the United States in order for Pete to have surgery and physical therapy. Until Pete's therapy is complete, they will be on home assignment. The Bitners share that they minister in Togo because of the faithful prayers of others and see Togolese lives being changed for God's glory. They now see God's protection and healing in Pete's life and thank their faithful prayer warriors. The Bitners currently reside in Harpursville NY with Andrew (14) and Josh (12). pete.bitner@sim.org

On December 5, 2011, Dr. Catherine D. (Dossman BS 82) Crocker was awarded a PhD in Education from Northcentral University. The title of her dissertation is "Influence of Teacher's Learning Style on Implementation of Developmentally Appropriate Practices." Her PhD specialization was curriculum and instructional leadership. Dr. Crocker was inducted as a member of Kappa Delta Pi Honor Society and Golden Key International Honor Society. She received her master's in education from National-Louis University in June 2001. Dr. Crocker is self-employed as an editor and dissertation coach. She lives with husband Roger in Old Hickory TN. Daughter Misheal Crocker (BS 09) is a Grace alumnus. crocker59@hotmail.com

David Rush (BS 82) received his Project Management Professional (PMP) certification. He works in Project Controls for Vanguard Contractors. Wife **Chris** (**Hummel** BS 80) is the bookkeeper for Turner Landscapes, a design and installation company. The Rush family resides in Paducah KY. rush4ak@comcast.net.

In August 2011, Mary Ann Steffy (MA 83) was honored for 25 years of service in Ireland with Greater Europe Missions. Mary Ann graduated with a master's in biblical counseling from Grace Schools. She arrived in Ireland in 1987, where at that time there were no Christian counselors on the island and the evangelical church was a small minority. But the need was great for Christianbased help for people responding to the Gospel. To date, through her training seminars and classes, there are 65 trained counselors and hundreds of Irish Christians equipped to pastorally care for people in their churches. Mary Ann attributes this growth to the prayers and gifts of people "back home." She has accomplished the work in Ireland while struggling with health issues, including dealing with cancer for 11 1/2 years. Her doctor calls her a walking miracle! Mary Ann states that the giving of the church and her receiving of the gifts is a form of fellowship and quotes Philippians 4:15-19, "the fellowship of giving and receiving ... your generosity is like a lovely fragrance that pleases the very heart of God." maryannsteffy@iol.ie

Scott Thompson (BA 84, MA 86) is the sales manager at Brock Grain Systems, Milford IN. Scott is responsible for all sales and marketing activities in the United States and Canada and oversees the business unit's district sales staff and strategic accounts.



Adam Dell (BS 06, MA 08) is in the PsyD program at Indiana State University. In April 2011, the faculty





Send us your updates online! Visit www.grace. edu/alumni/alumni-updates and fill out the form. Make sure to upload a picture (at least 300 dpi). To email us your update, send it to alumni@ grace.edu or mail it to us at: Alumni Services Office, Grace College and Seminary, 200 Seminary Dr., Winona Lake, IN 46590.

www.grace.edu/alumni/alumni-updates





We're all getting back together.

And it won't be the same without you. Come back to campus during Homecoming on Nov. 2-4 to reconnect with your classmates. Volunteer to help coordinate your class' reunion event. Be sure to contact Nancy Dickerson for more details. dickerns@grace.edu

GOLDEN GRAD REUNION | 1962

If you graduated in 1962, get ready for your golden graduation reunion. Come back to campus, from May 17–19, 2012, to celebrate. We'll roll out the red carpet, tour the campus, share a great dinner together and be a part of commencement.

facebook.

Join the Grace Alumni Community Facebook page to stay connected with friends and up-to-date on the latest happenings.

http://www.facebook.com/pages/Grace-Alumni-Community

TELL US YOUR STORY!

In an upcoming issue of 2|8|9, we will be telling stories about Grace alumni who are growing their field, industry or ministry. If you or a Grace grad you know have a story to tell, we want to hear it! Email us at alumni@grace.edu. at IU awarded Adam the Outstanding Graduate Assistant for 2010-2011 for his teaching of undergraduate students. Adam and wife Janine (MA 07) live in Terre Haute IN.

Jenny M. Potts (BS 09) is a resident instructor in the girls' home of the Fold Family Ministries in Lyndonville VT. Jenny graduated with a master's of science in rehabilitation and disability studies from University College in Dublin, Ireland. jennympotts@gmail.com

Lisa (Chapin BA 02) Rich began a new career path in September 2011. For several years she taught Spanish to eighth-grade students in the Columbus OH school system. Lisa is now a dance instructor for the West Chester Academy of Music and Dance. She resides with husband Tom in West Chester OH.



Emily Rush (BS 10) is enrolled in the physician's assistant graduate program at the University

of Kentucky and will graduate in the spring of 2013. rushel@gmail.com

IN MEMORIAM

Ronald Allen Guiles (BA 70, MDiv 73) passed away on September 17, 2011, at the age of 75. While a student at Grace he pastored Skinner Chapel in Twelve Mile IN and was the financial aid director for Grace. Ron continued his relationship with Grace Schools and served on the Board of Trustees from 1978 through 1994. He served as a pastor for the Fellowship of Grace Brethren Churches in Bethlehem PA, Fort Worth TX and Maitland FL. In October 2000, Ron retired from the ministry and began working for Grace Brethren International Missions. A member of Community Grace Brethren Church. Warsaw IN, he served on the board of elders, was the pastor of seniors, taught Bible classes and led small groups. He

is lovingly remembered by Irene (C 69), wife of fifty-five years; daughter Susan (BA 79) and husband Ron (BA 78, MDiv 82) Smals, pastor of the Woodville Grace Brethren Church of Mansfield OH; son David Guiles (BA 82, MDiv 87), executive director of Encompass World Partners, and his wife Susan (Ziegler BA 87, S 05); grandchildren Daniel (BS 06), Jonathan (BA 06), Brandon, Mark and Melissa; and sister Joan and husband Bill Ambacher. A private family service was held at Oakwood Cemetery in Warsaw IN with a memorial service at Community Grace Brethren Church in Warsaw, Reverend Steve Bailey (MDiv 87) officiating. Memorial donations in Ron's name can be directed to Encompass World Partners Brethren International Missions, PO Box 588, Winona Lake IN 46590.

Reverend Gerald B. Polman (MDiv 46) of Grace Village Retirement Community (Winona Lake IN) passed away on February 8, 2012, at Grace Village Health Care at the age of 89. Gerald was married in 1944 to Phyllis Jeanette (Kinsey) Polman, who passed away in 2008. Gerald was a Grace Brethren pastor and retired in 1986, moving to Kosciusko County IN from Lansing MI. Gerald was a member of Winona Lake Grace Brethren Church, an active stamp collector at Grace Village Retirement Community and belonged to the National Philatelic Society. He will be lovingly remembered by his son Roy Lee (MDiv 73) (wife Judy Mars (C 72)) Polman; two daughters Ann (BS 73) (husband Dave) Grant and Kay (BS 80) (husband leff (BS 81)) Bowling: two sisters Joyce (C 51) (husband Robert (BD 53)) Griffith and Elaine Brenneman (C 46); and eight grandchildren and thirteen great-grandchildren. Memorial donations in Gerald's name may be directed to Grace Village Retirement Community, P.O. Box 337, Winona Lake IN 46590

Correction:

In the fall issue of 2\8\9, an incorrect date was given for the passing of the Reverend Lamont "Bucky" Mayes III. Reverend ayes passed away February 11, 1999, not in 2011.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

March 27, 2012: Alumni Gathering at The Weber School in Fort Wayne, Ind.
June 23, 2012: Alumni Trip to the Indianapolis Zoo

Visit www.grace.edu/events often to keep up with the latest gatherings and upcoming activities.

REACHING OUT

FROM THE DESK OF THE ALUMNI DIRECTOR

As I reflect on these past five months as the new alumni director, Homecoming 2011 was definitely a highlight for me. Seeing old friends at our 30-year class reunion was great fun and we enjoyed our time together. I have also spent time getting to know the staff, faculty and students, and I find myself grateful for the opportunity to interact with so many amazing people on a daily basis.

As the alumni director, my desire is to reach out to you and reconnect! In the near future, we will be conducting an interest survey to poll your current thoughts about your relationship with Grace. We will also be completing an Alumni Directory over the next 12 months in order to have it available as we look forward to celebrating Grace College and Seminary's upcoming 75th anniversary!

We have many great things planned for 2012! Be watching the Grace website (www.grace.edu/alumni) for upcoming events in your area.



Jammy Derlinger

Tammy Denlinger (BS 81, MA 88) | Alumni Director

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ADDRESSING CONGRESS

FOR EDUCATION & THE WORKFORCE SUBCOMMITTEE

BY VALERIE RITTA (BA 09)

On Wednesday, Nov. 30, Grace College and Theological Seminary President Dr. Ronald Manahan (MDiv 70, ThM 77, ThD 82) testified before the Congressional Subcommittee on Higher Education and Workforce Training at a hearing entitled, "Keeping College within Reach: Discussing Ways Institutions Can Streamline Costs and Reduce Tuition" at the Rayburn House Office Building in Washington, D.C.

In his oral testimony, Manahan explained the approaches Grace College has taken to address the increasing cost of higher education. Manahan communicated Grace College's philosophy that "higher education must be vigilant in controlling cost, ensuring access and increasing employability." Manahan was excited about the invitation's implications for Grace College. "It's a great honor for Grace College to be recognized for something we've put so much time and effort into — using innovative approaches to address the escalating costs of higher education," Manahan said.

Indiana Congressman Marlin Stutzman praised Grace College for the recognition. "I'm glad when Hoosiers take bold perspectives to D.C. Dr. Manahan and Grace College are doing great work for our community and offering a model for the rest of the country," Stutzman said.

View the webcast at www.grace.edu/manahanDC.



Dr. Ron Manahan addresses the congressional subcommittee.



Subcommittee Chairwoman Virginia Foxx addresses the panel of experts.



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