



I was a very hopeful college freshman. Coming from a small Christian high school, I was used to being involved in everything from sports to music. So as I transitioned to a small Christian college, I figured it would be the same.

Young and hopeful Drew arrived on campus and tried out for the basketball team. To my great disappointment, I didn't make it. "Okay, I'll give music a try," I thought. Again, I was not offered a spot on the worship team. I then ran in the freshman class election, and now you're catching on to the pattern — I didn't win. Nothing panned out the way I had hoped.

So, left with "plan D," I decided to volunteer at a local church as a junior high youth leader. Through that experience of coming alongside junior highers in their walk with Christ, I found my own relationship with God to be strengthened. Serving in that capacity gave me the time and space to truly make my faith my own.

I learned a valuable lesson that year: worldly hopes fall short. Sure, we can hope for things in life. I think that's a part of being human. But the fact of the matter is: at times, our worldly hopes will leave us disappointed. Our ultimate hope must come from Christ. When He becomes my hope, it shifts my focus from asking, "What do I want?" to "God, what is your plan for me?"

The words of 1 Peter 1:13 come to mind, "Therefore, with minds that are alert and fully sober, set your hope on the grace to be brought to you when Jesus Christ is revealed at his coming."



But those who hope in
the LORD will renew their
strength. They will soar
on wings like eagles; they
will run and not grow
weary, they will walk
and not be faint.

**ISAIAH 40:31** 

Do you have a hope story that's too good not to share? We'd love to hear from you www.grace.edu/gracestory

Come what may in this life — rejection, acceptance, disappointments, great joys — we can hold on to the unwavering, unchanging and unending hope of spending eternity with our Creator.

As we study the theme of hope on campus in the book of Isaiah, I'm thankful to report that it is a hopeful time at Grace College & Seminary. We kicked off the year as faculty and staff by sharing our own personal "hope stories," and in a sense, this magazine is an extension of that.

At every flip of the page, you'll find threads of hope in the stories of alumni, students, faculty and staff. As you read, allow your own "hope stories" to come to mind. Maybe like mine, it's a story of how God sanctified you through misplaced hope. Or perhaps it was a time when all hope seemed lost, and God proved himself mighty to save, restore or provide. Whatever the story, I pray that when this magazine leaves your hands, you're ever grateful to know the God of all hope.



Drew Flamm, Ph.D.
President

#### INSTITUTIONAL MISSION

We are a Christ-centered community of higher education applying biblical values in strengthening character, sharpening competence, and preparing for service.

# GRACE COLLEGE & SEMINARY ADMINISTRATION

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Dr. Drew Flamm

Vice President of Advancement

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#### THE COVER

First-year students create the shape of a G as part of the annual right-of-passage tradition, "The Hike."

Comments may be sent to:
gracestory@grace.edu. Opinions
expressed by individuals in this
publication do not necessarily reflect the
views of Grace College & Seminary.
Grace College & Seminary reserves the
right to edit alum note submissions.









# Inauguration

Friday, November 4, community members, family and friends joined Grace faculty, staff and students for President Dr. Drew Flamm's inauguration as the institution's seventh president.

# The Hope of **Education**

While education is a privilege we often take for granted in the U.S., Cambodia-native Selina Saing enrolled at Grace this year as an English education major to share the hope of education with children in her home country who are less fortunate.



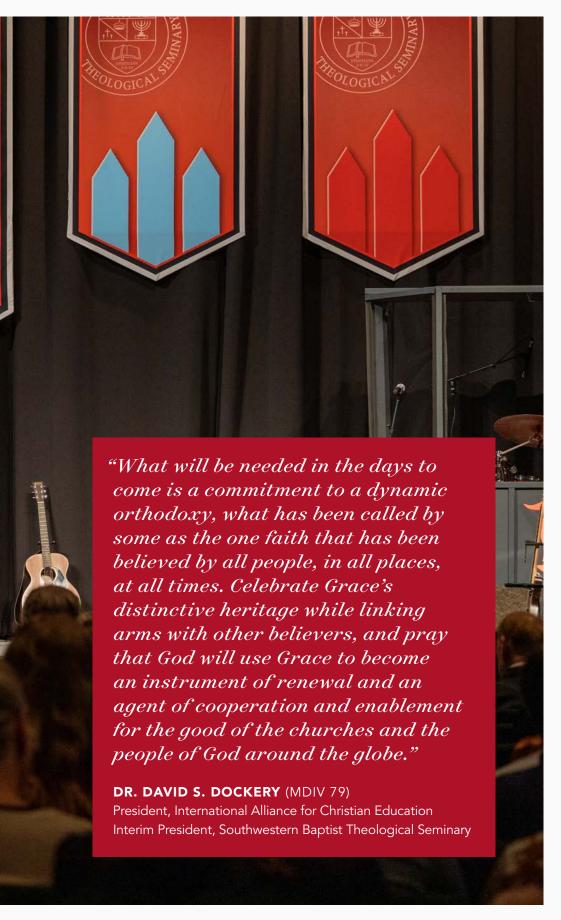
# An Academic Visionary

Dr. Kevin Roberts (BS 93, MA 96) was transformed by his academic experience at Grace nearly three decades ago. Now, he's overseeing academics at Grace as provost. He shares his vision for his new role and about how our engineering, health science, medical imaging and computer science degrees are meeting needs in the world today.



Keynote speaker Dr. David S. Dockery (MDiv 79) gave President Flamm a three-part charge regarding the personal, the church and the institution.

The day of the inauguration kicked off with a private prayer gathering focusing on the future of Grace.







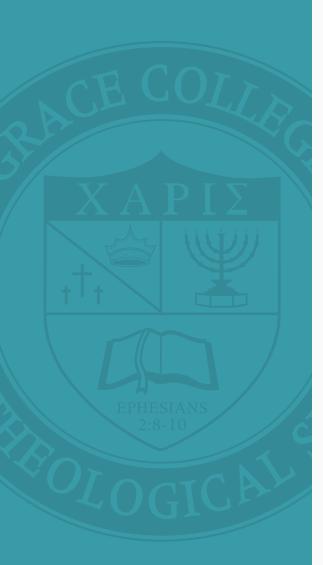




- Dignitaries, faculty members and President Flamm walk from McClain Hall to the Manahan Orthopaedic Capital Center for the inauguration processional.
- First Lady, Stephanie Flamm, greets family and friends as part of the inauguration ceremony.
- President Flamm, Dr. Dockery and Ray "Butch" Shook (BS 72) listen intently as Dr. Flamm's father makes an address at the inauguration banquet.

# Year in Review

**BEHIND THE NUMBERS** 



We praise God that Grace College & Seminary showed further financial improvement in 2021-2022. We had a record new student enrollment in the fall of 2021, which led to an increase of 6% in our net tuition and fees. The higher enrollment also led to an increase in auxiliary revenue such as room and board.

As in the previous two fiscal years, COVID-19 continued to have an impact upon our financial condition as did rising inflation. The decline in the investment markets in 2022 reduced our investment earnings, and our auxiliary services revenue and expenses increased due to various COVID-related government grant programs, including the Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund (HEERF). Inflationary cost increases had an impact on our increase in expenses. Overall, however, we still reported an operating surplus for the fiscal year and an increase over the surplus in 2020-2021.

We are thankful for your partnership in our mission. The constancy of your prayers and generosity are so appreciated. By God's grace, we are encouraged by the fall 2022 enrollment and its positive impact on our financial success. We find comfort and peace in knowing that God is in control and directing us as we progress forward. We are hopeful and remain encouraged on the path that God has for us to follow.

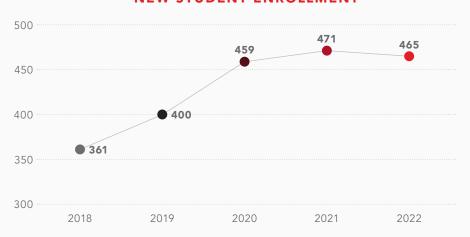
Forward in Grace,



DA D

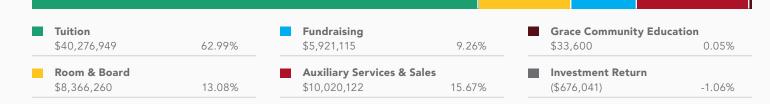
Doug Baumgardner (BS 03) VP of Financial Affairs & Chief Financial Officer

# TRADITIONAL UNDERGRADUATE NEW STUDENT ENROLLMENT



# 2021-22 Financial Activities

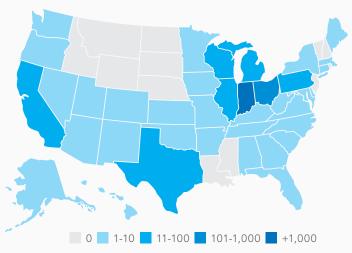
\$63,942,005 TOTAL REVENUE



\$57,286,759

Student Scholarships		Student Services		Auxiliary Expenses	
\$18,441,804	32.19%	\$10,420,709	18.19%	\$7,485,650	13.07%
Instruction & Academic Support		■ Institutional Support		Grace Community Education	
Instruction & Acade	mic Support	Institutional Support		Grace Community E	ducation

#### **DOMESTIC DISTRIBUTION OF** TRADITIONAL STUDENTS



#### **ASSETS NET TUITION AND FEES** (\$ in millions) (\$ in millions) 22



Flags represent international students in our student body.

















# Grace Schools Board of Trustees

The Grace Board of Trustees exists to define the mission and to influence, support and nurture the development and accomplishment of the institution's vision by the administration, faculty and staff. In July, the corporation voted in three new board members.

#### BOARD MEMBERS

Mr. Matt Abernethy (BS 03)

Mr. Jonathan Allan (BA 12)

Mr. Robert Bishop (BS 69)

Mrs. Jessica Bricker (BS 03)

Dr. Kip Cone (BA 90, MDiv 96, DMin 18)

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Rev. John McIntosh (BA 71, MDiv 87)

Rev. Keith Minier

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Mr. Seth Nash (BA 04)

Mr. Loren Neuenschwander (BS 87)

Mr. Daniel Renner

Mr. Daniel Sandoval

Mr. Andrew Serafini

Mr. Ray "Butch" Shook (BS 72)

Mr. Scott Silveus

Mrs. Letitia Williams (MA 10)

Rev. Michael Yoder (BA 93, MDiv 96)

Ms. Janine Zeltwanger (BS 85)

Dr. Drew Flamm

#### NEW BOARD MEMBERS

Jessica Bricker (BS 03) is a financial advisor (CPA and CFP) at Winona Wealth Management in Warsaw, Indiana. She holds Series 7 and Series 66 registrations as well as Life & Health Insurance licenses. Bricker serves on the K21 Board of Directors and leads the business commission at Winona Lake Grace Brethren Church, where she is a member. She is married to Ryan Bricker (C 02) and they have three children.



Keith Minier has served as the lead pastor at Grace Fellowship in Pickerington, Ohio, since 2004. Over the past 18 years, church membership has grown from 70 to 5,000 plus. Prior to that, he had a career as a chemist. Minier attended Cedarville University and Trinity Evangelical Divinity School. He is married to Kelly and they have four children.



Loren Neuenschwander (BS 87) rejoins the board this year after serving two terms. A retired 30-year veteran of Delta Air Lines. He currently serves as a part-time consultant for the Alliances team at Delta. Neuenschwander received his MBA from Auburn University and has served on the school's Graduate School Advisory Board. He's also sat on the SEND International Board. He resides in Atlanta and attends the Buckhead Church.

# Celebrating 15 Years of Service





Mr. Lamarr Lark Sr. (BS 87) and Dr. John F. Smith (DMin 03) have completed their time on the Grace Board of Trustees. Both have dedicated 15 years to serving Grace. We are forever grateful for their influence on our school, but most importantly, for their support for our students. Thank you for serving with enthusiasm, humility and passion.



We invite you to submit nominees for the 2023 Alumni Awards at www.grace.edu/alumni/awards

#### Dr. Phil Norris College Alumni of the Year



#### **Hope Story**

In the fall of 2013, I was facing five major challenges simultaneously that were overwhelming. As a result, I experienced what some would call a "dark night of the soul" for three months. But there was always a sense that God was present, like a young child in a totally dark room who knows the parents are in the next room but still feels alone.

It was a time when God showed me what it meant to truly walk by faith and not by sight. Dr. John Coe of Talbot Seminary likened this to a child being weaned off the bottle for comfort. Did I truly find my comfort in God alone, or would I continue to seek the comfort of the bottle? And somewhat dramatically, the darkness lifted one morning after the darkest night the evening before. God showed me the vital need I had for dependent prayer and that faith did not depend on my ability to believe but on God qiving me the faith I needed.

Now the most decorated musician to hail from Grace College, Dr. Phil Norris (BME 76) never intended to study music. Despite the fact he picked up the cornet at the young age of six, Norris didn't think he was good enough to pursue music as a career. But that changed in 1971, when Norris was attending Milton Hershey School, a boarding school for orphan boys, and Grace alum Joan (Meyer C 68) Keane introduced him to Jesus.

Norris gave up a full-ride scholarship at a state school to study music education at Grace, where he got involved with Dimensions in Brass and was mentored by the late Jerry Franks. Franks helped launch Norris into his career of arranging, composing and publishing music (which continues to this day) and asked Norris to assist him at Grace and Lakeland Christian Academy after graduation in 1976. After three years of working alongside Franks, Norris

began his stint of developing music education programs around the country — first at Corban University in Oregon and then at Sterling College in Kansas.

In 1993, he landed at the University of Northwestern, St. Paul where he has taught music ever since. Over the course of his career, Norris completed graduate degrees in trumpet performance at Northwestern University and the University of Minnesota. Today, Norris' music — from simple songs to full-scale symphonic-choral works — are performed by professionals across America and even around the world, and he's performed in countries such as China, Singapore and Thailand. Norris now spends much of his time directing music at a church he helped start in the twin cities in Minnesota. Although he's phasing out of teaching, he's never without a musical endeavor on the horizon.

Celia Miller College Young Alumni of the Year

#### **Best Advice Received:**

If you don't deal with your stuff, your stuff is going to deal with you.

#### **Grace Mount Rushmore:**

Dr. Joe Graham, Dr. Roger Peugh, Dr. Tom Edgington, Jacqueline Schram

#### **Guiding Life Principle:**

Follow the Lord in everything you do and surrender all parts of your life to God on a consistent basis.

### Grace professor superhero sidekick:

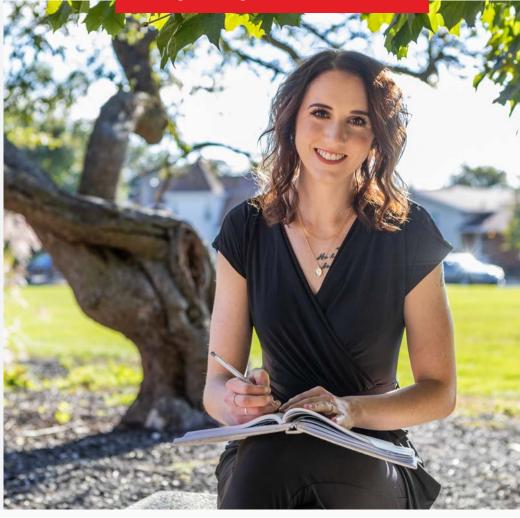
Dr. Graham because he's pretty competitive and would get the job done.

# Scripture that has guided your journey:

Proverbs 16:9; Isaiah 41:10

#### Favorite book:

"The Nightingale" by Kristen Hannah



Clevenger Insurance representative by day. Blogger by night. It's probably not the double life you will find in the next Marvel movie, but this is the life Celia A. (Donewald-Manns BA 16) Miller lives. With a degree in counseling and a career in insurance, Miller's path to blogging was unconventional.

In 2017, Miller's mom was diagnosed unexpectedly with ovarian cancer. As a result of the trying time, Miller's mom founded a nonprofit organization called Warrior Bags, which assembles and delivers care packages to men, women and children battling cancer. Miller was recruited to write for the nonprofit's blog, and the experience was so positive, she decided to purchase a domain for a personal blog in 2019.

Now, Miller has an established readership and is a member of hope\*writers, an online writing community that seeks to balance the art of writing with the business of publishing. She writes under the simple slogan: "helping you slow down, seek still moments, and behold God's presence with you in the every day." In her blog posts, she explores what it looks like to walk in communion with God and look for His presence where you least expect it.

Miller published her first study devotional in 2020 entitled, "You are Beloved: a 21-Day Study on How to Root Your Identity in the Love of God." But she doesn't plan to stop there. This fall, Miller will release "Be Still," a digital Advent devotional that guides the reader in seeking still moments during the hubbub of the holiday season. Need a dose of stillness in your life?

Check out Celia's blog at www.celiaamiller.com, or order her study, "You are Beloved," on Amazon.

# Terry Eichorst College Distinguished Service Award



#### **Little-Known Fact:**

I ride anywhere from 20-50 miles a day on my bicycle. I have been in the mountains of Spain 11 times to ride six to ten days in high elevations. My favorite ride was the Camino de Santiago. The Camino route starts in France, goes through the Pyrenees, across northern Spain and to the coast of Spain above Portugal. It's a total of 490 miles, and we did it in 10 days.

# Sum up your experience at Grace in one sentence:

At a time in a young person's life when you are finding your way, setting your goals and preparing for a career, I cannot imagine a better experience to shape, mold and prepare you for a career and life founded in Christ.

#### Grace Mount Rushmore:

Jerry Franks, Lloyd Woolman, Dr. Dick Dilling, Dr. Rik Lovelady

Terry Eichorst (BME 70) is one of the many musicians at Grace College who was greatly impacted by the legendary music professor Jerry Franks. When

Eichorst arrived at Grace in 1966, it was Franks' first year, so Eichorst was in the inaugural Dimensions in Brass group. Eichorst's career began in the music field but took a turn when he discovered his knack for sales.

In his 20 years in the jewelry industry, Eichorst was transferred to manage six stores in seven years and then became a district manager, overseeing 180 employees in five states. In 1993, Eichorst was awarded the "Henry Shaw Award," Kay Jewelers' highest award given to the top manager of 4,000. When he transitioned to insurance, Eichorst was rewarded with frequent trips to Hawaii, Tahiti and many other destinations.

While his resume is impressive, it's Eichorst's heart of service that sets him apart. Behind the scenes, Eichorst has been leading the charge in honoring Jerry Franks' legacy at Grace. Over the past several years, he's logged countless hours assembling committees, organizing projects and raising funds for the Grace Worship Arts Department to renovate the rehearsal rooms and a sound studio.

Eichorst also helped assemble what he calls "a once-in-a-lifetime performance" that took place this year at Homecoming. Musicians from around the nation who had participated in Dimensions in Brass came back to Winona Lake to perform a concert in Franks' memory. For Eichorst, his service is all about "sharing the passion of these musicians and the love that we have for a man that gave so much to us."

#### Jim Grady College Honorary Alumni of the Year

#### **Hope Story**

In 1994, when my first wife Eileen got sick, we knew she was nearing her heavenly home, and I got to the place where I couldn't even pray anymore. I remember telling my sister Donna (Grady BS 65) Miller, and she said, "Jim, that is why you have the Holy Spirit." I will never forget that day and the hope I felt.

During that same time, Eileen had a sister, Karen, who didn't know the Lord. We were concerned for her; so we witnessed to her and did everything we could. The hope that she might be saved was getting us through that time.

The night before my wife passed away, we were up at the hospital, and she came into the room and said, "Eileen I want you to know, I'm going to see you in heaven." By observing the way we walked through that hardship, Karen claimed her own personal hope in Christ.



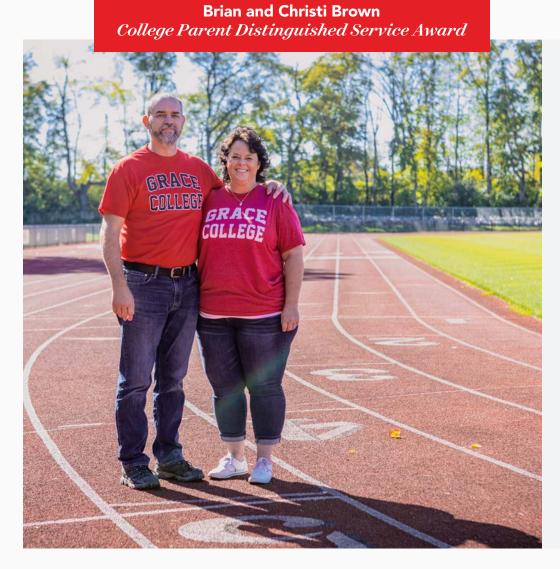
# The 640-acre Grady family farm was founded in 1875 by Jim Grady's great-grandfather and has been handed down through the generations. Grady

devoted a total of 66 faithful years of service at the farm — from his early days doing chores to bottling for the dairy operation, taking over the business, adding 125 sows and a farrow to finish hog operation and now maintaining the property for rental.

While the farm was where Grady learned the importance of hard work, diligence and grit, his top two values remain prayer and generosity — of which Grace is a grateful recipient. As an elder of 15 years at Grace Fellowship Church in Waterloo, Iowa, Grady's family was connected to the institution through the Charis Fellowship, and over time, the school has become a family legacy. Grady's father, Ralph, served on the Grace Board of Trustees for

two terms; his sister, Donna (Grady BS 65) Miller attended Grace along with her husband Rev. Tom Miller (BA 65); and both of Grady's children, Stephanie (Grady BS 96) Moseley and Dr. Matthew (BS 01) Grady are proud alumni.

In 1995, Grady and his late wife, Eileen, were recognized as Grace's parents of the year. Even though Grady has never earned a Grace degree of his own, he serves on the Grace Board and supports the institution in any way he can. This year, that includes cheering on his granddaughter, Addison, who is a freshman on the cross country team. Grady still lives on the farm in lowa with his wife, Jeanette, and he is unapologetic about where he thinks the rest of his grandkids should attend college. To which, we say, "Amen!"



## Advice to Parents of College Students:

Keep them in the loop about what's going on at home, and work to make the transition from parent dictator to parent mentor/parent friend while they are in high school. Don't start once they're out on their own.

#### **Best Advice Received:**

Don't let books get in the way of your education.

## Most-proud Accomplishment:

Seeing our kids go to college, lean into God's Word and live their best lives.

# Scripture that has guided your journey:

The Book of James

#### **Favorite book:**

The Nancy Drew series

#### **Guiding Life Principle:**

Put God first, family second, your vocation third, and the fun stuff last.

Brian and Christi Brown have dropped off a child for their first weekend of college 25 times — and 23 of those drop-offs were at Grace College. The Browns are parents to six children: Nathan (BS 16), Jacob (BS 18), Caleb (BS 21), Issac (BS 22), Ethan and Sarah, and they have inherited three more Gracies as daughters-in-law: Mya (Brown C 18), Aleena (Sallot BS 18) and Mica (Glanzer BS 21). Three of the six kids studied engineering at Grace and followed in the footsteps of their father who has been in the field for 30 years, and all five of their sons participated in track and field as Grace Lancers.

So it's not an understatement to say that the Browns' T-shirt drawers are filled with Lancer apparel. But beyond the normal mom and dad duties of drop-offs and cheering in the stands, Brian and Christi have taken their involvement in their children's college experience to a whole new level. The couple has served on the parent council since it was started in 2013. Throughout the past nine years, they have participated in starting Grace's Family Weekend, adding a parent table on Lancer Days and faithfully praying for staff, faculty and new students by name over the course of the school year.

Faithfully helping out whenever they can, the Browns are familiar faces at Welcome Weekends, Family Weekends, Homecomings, Commencements and even Lancer Days. "As parents, we are grateful for the intentional integration of Christianity with higher learning at Grace," said Brian. "And we love that the faculty know our kids by name," added Christi. But for this family of Lancers, it's the family atmosphere at Grace that makes all the difference.

Rev. Robert Soto Seminary Alumni of the Year

#### **Hope Story**

On March 30, 1979, my son, Robert "Robby" James Soto passed away soon after his first birthday. We only had 381 days with him. One of our counselors told us, "If you can survive the death of a baby, you can survive anything." Hope came only by the grace of God that everything was going to be alright. Through that heartache, we learned that even through death there is hope in Christ — the only hope for tomorrow.

#### **Best Advice Received:**

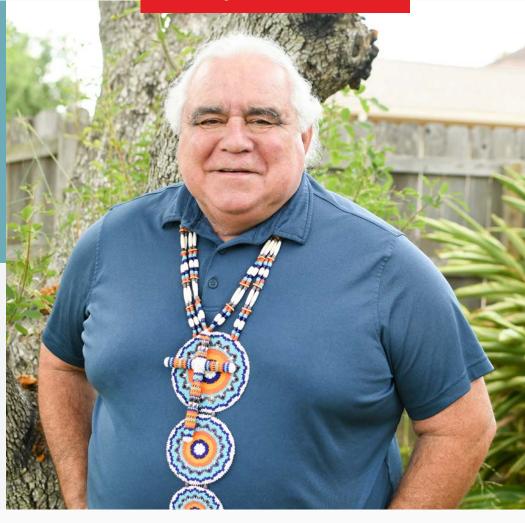
Remember two things: God will always be God. Man will always be man.

#### **Little-Known Fact:**

I was a professional alligator handler and snake handler for four years while in Bible college.

#### **Grace Mount Rushmore:**

Dr. John J. Davis, Dr. Ron Clutter, Dr. David Plaster and Dr. Roy Lowry



For as long as Rev. Robert Soto (MDiv 88, MA 88), can remember, he was searching for a God to believe

in. A descendant of the Lipan Apache Tribe, he held many misconceptions about Christianity. But through a series of sovereign shifts, Soto met two young ladies (one would later become his wife) who invited him to Bible camp. At twenty-one years old, Soto attended the camp and came to know the God of the Bible and was transformed from a depressed drug addict into a totally new person in Christ.

Hungry to learn and grow in his faith, Soto felt called to attend Bible college and then seminary. A friend referred him to Grace, where he graduated with an MDiv and an MA in Christian School Administration in just three years. Looking for full-time vocational ministry, Soto knew that he wanted to use his culture as a vehicle to express who he was as a Christian.

This led him to minister through feather dancing, a Native American dance that opened doors for him to evangelize in 21 nations and 46 states. Through it, hundreds have professed faith in Christ. Additionally, in 1988, the Charis Fellowship was looking to expand its reach in Texas and asked Soto to be part of it. Soto started praying about what a ministry to Native Americans might look like.

To effectively share the Gospel in their context, he began writing Native-inspired worship songs and preaching narrative-driven sermons. While the Native American New Life Center has faced its share of spiritual warfare, Soto has remained steadfast to the call God gave him to reach his community for Christ.

#### Josh Wilson Seminary Young Alumni of the Year



#### **Best Advice Received:**

A lot of people can help you get where you're going. But as a pastor, you should be asking, "Should we be going there?"

#### **Little-Known Fact:**

I am obsessed with Star Wars.

#### **Favorite book:**

"Desiring God" by John Piper

# Sum up your experience at Grace in one sentence:

A time where God grew me closer to himself in ministry and through a number of impactful relationships. In one word — phenomenal.

## Scripture that has guided your journey:

Romans 8, Isaiah 41:10, Lamentations 3, Isaiah 55:10-11

#### **Grace Mount Rushmore:**

Dr. Matt Harmon, Dr. Tiberius Rata, Dr. Rock LaGioia, Dr. Christy Hill

Josh Wilson (BS 18, MDiv 18) was the quintessential "Winona Lake kid," and his Charis Fellowship roots run deep. His parents were heavily involved at Winona Lake Grace Brethren Church, Rod (BA 90) as an elder and Becky (Taylor BA 91) as children's ministry director. So when it came time to select a college to train him for full-time ministry, Grace was the obvious choice.

Wilson enrolled in the seminary's new blended program, which allowed him to work toward his bachelor's degree and his M.Div. in Pastoral Studies simultaneously. Throughout his studies, Wilson demonstrated a genuine love for the local church, leading Adult Bible Fellowship, teaching a middle school boys small group and interning at WLGBC. Wilson also provided pulpit supply in area churches — a highlight being the time he co-preached a sermon with Dr. Tiberius Rata.

A gifted expositor and natural public speaker, Wilson was awarded the Kenneth E. Bickel Award for expository preaching at graduation, where he became the inaugural graduate of the blended program.

After graduating, Wilson and his mentor Dr. Kip Cone (BA 90, MDiv 96, DMin 18) began praying about what the Lord had next for Wilson. Meanwhile, in Ashland, Ohio, Rev. Daniel Allan (BA 80, Cert 81, MMin 16), the head pastor of Ashland Grace Church at the time, was praying for someone to serve as the next generation pastor. In God's providence, the two connected, and Wilson moved to Ashland in 2019. Now, Wilson is serving as the senior pastor of the church, and he's loving every moment of it. He finds no greater joy than watching people "grow in their faith, have a deeper love for God and delight in Him."

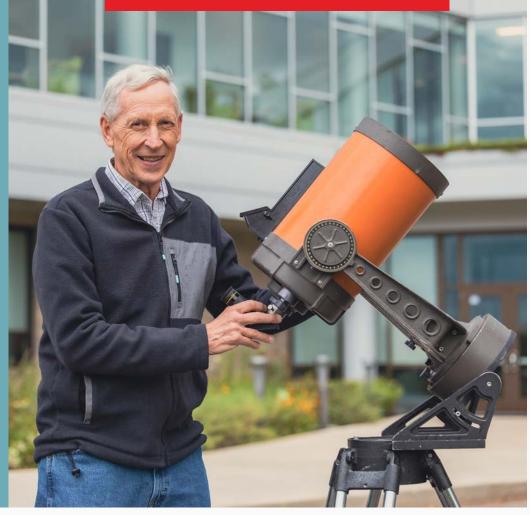
Dr. Don DeYoung
Seminary Distinguished Service Award

#### **Hope Story**

When I finished grad school, there was a big fork in the road — do I pursue the financial lure of industry or do I teach Christian education? When I told one of my physics professors from Iowa State that I was leaning toward Christian education, he said, "Don, you're throwing away your education."

It was a hard point of decision, and my hope was that the Lord would lead me in the right direction. That direction ended up being toward Grace College, and that has opened up a whole world of opportunities with relationships, travel, and writing engagements.

I have enjoyed getting to share the journey with my wife, Sally (ASN 86), and my daughters and sons-in-law: Jenny (DeYoung BA 90) and Gene (BA 89) O'Hara, Jorie (DeYoung BS 91) and Scot (BS 93) Bail and Jessica (DeYoung



Dr. Don DeYoung (MDiv 83), was the only child in his family to complete college. Little did he know, he would become a nationally recognized author and leading voice in creation science advocacy. DeYoung's academic journey took him to Michigan Technological University where he received his BS in applied science and MS in solid state physics. He went on to earn a Ph.D. in nuclear physics from lowa State University, and that's where the Lord sent Dr. John Whitcomb to challenge a conference crowd with the belief of a young earth creation.

Hanging on every word that day was DeYoung. He was being ignited on a pursuit that continues to this day. This is one reason why DeYoung came to Grace as a professor in 1972. What started as his due diligence to take a few core seminary classes turned into a decade of sporadic seminary training, through which he scraped together

an MDiv. "Frankly, physics gets a bit tedious after a while," says DeYoung. "But the theology part of it — the intelligent design has kept me going."

For 46 years, DeYoung served full time in the Department of Science and Mathematics at Grace, and he continues to teach a few courses today. He also served as president of the Creation Research Society for 22 years, authored 22 books on Bible-science topics and has spoken at churches, schools and conferences across the country.

"To the outsider, creation science seems unscholarly and anti-science," says DeYoung. "But it's where everything comes from. I've been in this business long enough to watch countless theories come and go, but when you go back to the Scripture, the truth never changes. It gives me assurance that my God is dependable and sure."





# he Hope of Education

WRITTEN BY MADISON COWMAN



Selina Saing was born in Phnom Penh, Cambodia's capital city, which is still on the mend from Khmer Rouge, a communist regime that held power from 1975-1979.

Targeting the educated middle class, the regime wiped out a quarter of Cambodia's population and devastated the country. Now enrolled as a freshman studying English education at Grace, Saing plans to return to her country after graduation to help revive the education system and bring a proper English education to children who remain in the shadow of the devastation.

Saing's father was six years old during Cambodia's communist rule. He tragically lost several family members in the war, but successfully escaped to a province where his surviving family built a new life. At this time, the Buddhist family began to gather around regularly to listen to a Christian radio station, through which they heard and received the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Today, her father is a full-time pastor and leader of Shalom Mission Cambodia, a network with churches spread all across Cambodia — a place where just 30 years ago, Christians were meeting in secret.

Because of her father's radical conversion story, Saing and her three younger siblings have been able to attend a Christian school and learn English — an opportunity many in the country cannot afford.

"The country is still facing a lot of poverty," says Saing. "Since Cambodia is in the healing phase of the war, the education system is down. There are good schools, but they are exclusively for first-class people." As Saing began to think about her future, and the impact she could make with a college education, she became more and more interested in the idea of going to college abroad. She first learned of Grace College through John Hayden (MDiv 85), a Grace Seminary alumnus who had visited her father early on as a church planter. Hayden and her father kept in touch through the years, and Hayden even hosted Saing's father in Michigan during one of his seminary visits to the States. He planted the seed that Saing should attend Grace.

"When I began researching Grace my sophomore year, I knew I wouldn't want to go anywhere else," said Saing.

Choosing an English education major was easy for Saing. Only around 22% of Cambodians know English, and according to Saing, increasing English education is key to fighting poverty.

"If you know English in Cambodia, you are considered smart, and you can find good job opportunities with good pay," said Saing.

"I want to bring what I learn at Grace back to Cambodia and provide good education at a lower price so that all children can do what they want to do."



Shalom International School is a Christian school located in a rural area in Cambodia affiliated with Shalom Mission Cambodia, a network of churches and schools led by Saing's father, Chhinho Saing.



Selina's parents: Chhinho Saing and Samphors Mao, and younger siblings: Bunyabez, Sonita and Bunyamin represent Grace College in their Lancer gear!

Saing specifically plans to work in the rural part of the country where the need for education is the greatest.

"I've been on missions with my dad to these provinces, on which I learned that so many children really want to go to school, but they don't have enough money," said Saing. "Since I've seen it with my own eyes, I have this passion for helping them. Our country has grown a lot after the war, but I would like to make it better."

Eventually, Saing hopes to become a teacher of the teachers and to train educators how to administer proper English education. In a country where 65% of the population is under 30 years old, many see her generation as a new hope for Cambodia, and Saing is doing everything in her power to be just that.

The Grace Fund makes it possible for students like Selina to come to college.

Partner with us as we equip students to share the hope they've found with their communities.

WWW.GRACE.EDU/GIVE



# Dr. Kevin Roberts (BS 93, MA 96) is a household name at Grace.

You might know him as a student, a professor, or even the dean of the School of Behavioral Science.

Now, he oversees academics as the school's provost. With a wealth of organizational knowledge from working at Grace for 20 years, a finger on the pulse of today's job market and a vast network in the greater community, Roberts has a razor-sharp vision for the future of academics at Grace.

Roberts came to Grace just months after becoming a Christian at 18. During his college years, he was mentored by godly men, taught to value the Word of God and encouraged to apply his faith to every facet of his life, including his field of study. While at Grace, he met his wife, Heather (Dilling BS 96), and this year their son, Isaac, is a freshman at Grace and his daughter, Rachel, is a senior in high school. Grace College has been transformative for Roberts, and his goal is to ensure that it continues to be academically transformative for students today.

"My vision for academics at Grace, first and foremost, is that we believe truth exists and is found in Scripture and the life of Christ," says Roberts. "God does not force us to pursue Him, and consequently, we must seek the truth as God transforms us through an ever-deepening relationship with Christ."

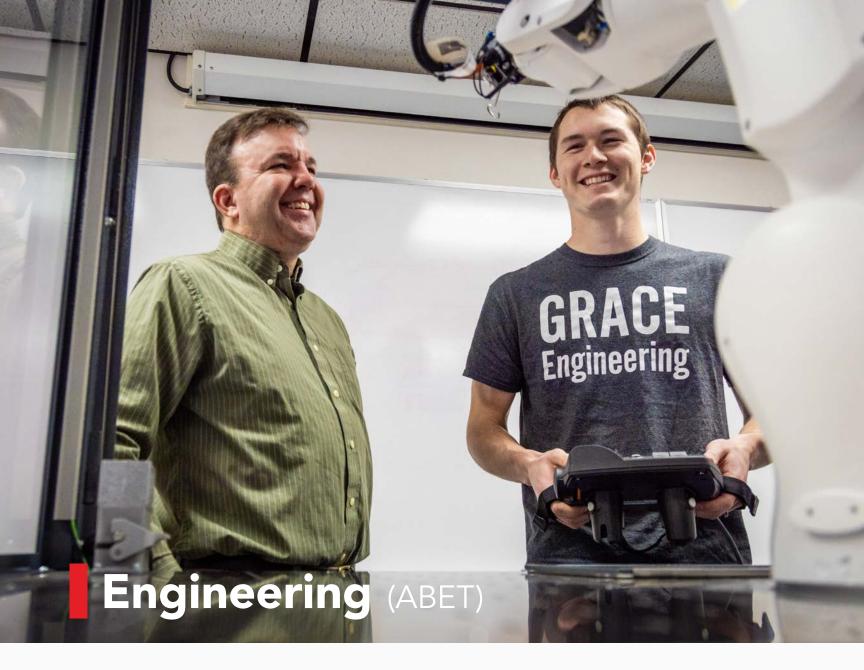
According to Roberts, this foundation spurs programmatic rigor in all areas of study. It produces graduates rooted in truth, driven by a love for others and passionate about engaging the world around them. As STEM-related jobs continue to rise in demand locally and globally, Roberts sees the need to increasingly focus on these degrees so that Grace graduates are prepared to fill the gaps in the marketplace immediately. According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, the market is ripe for social services and business, and specifically, the need for healthcare providers is a growing market concern. For this reason, Roberts wants to highlight engineering, health sciences, medical imaging and computer science. "We have many excellent educational

programs as a Christian liberal arts institution," said Roberts. "But we will emphasize these four specific areas over this next academic year."

Catch a glimpse of Robert's vision by reading up on what's happening in these four programs at Grace.

#### **DID YOU KNOW?**

- Roberts holds a B.S. and an M.A. in Counseling from Grace College and a Psy.D. in Clinical Psychology from Adler School of Professional Psychology.
- He is a Licensed Clinical Mental Health Counselor and a Licensed Clinical Addiction Counselor.
- In 2021, he sat on 17 different committees at Grace and in the community.
- Roberts is a published author and is co-authoring a Proverbs commentary to be released next year.



When Dr. Fred Wentorf, chair of the Department of Engineering, arrived at Grace in 2018, he had his sights on attaining accreditation from the Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology (ABET), the same bar used to assess engineering programs such as Purdue and MIT. Over the past four years, Wentorf has linked arms with talent in the community to establish an industryrelevant program that is taught by practitioners and offers hands-on learning. In August 2022, Wentorf's years of hard work paid off; Grace

engineering is now an ABETaccredited program.

#### **INDUSTRY-RELEVANT FACULTY**

Wentorf came to Grace with 11 years of experience working at Zimmer Biomet, most recently as a principal engineer, where he helped develop cutting-edge technologies and was a part of one of the company's largest product launches. Prior to that, he studied biomedical engineering at the University of Minnesota where he obtained his Ph.D., and conducted research in the orthopaedic surgery department.

Also a full-time faculty member, Dr. David Winyard is a seasoned engineer with more than 40 years of experience. He spent most of his career with the U.S. Navy Research and Development where he managed fast-track technology demonstration projects that supported military operations in Afghanistan and assisted disaster relief after hurricanes along the U.S. Gulf Coast.

Because of such experiences, Wentorf and Winyard are masterful at taking students beyond theory

and into industrial application. Not to mention, they have a network of colleagues who teach in the program while also working full-time in the industry.

David Ray, the operational excellence director at Zimmer Biomet with 35 years of engineering experience and an adjunct professor at Grace, has used his extensive experience with Six Sigma to train students and give them an edge-up in their job search. Likewise, Nolan Jones, a development engineering manager at Zimmer Biomet with 13 years of industry experience, teaches the Senior Design Project course.

Students are mentored by industry professionals such as Ray and Jones,



"With the program being smaller, every student can have personal attention from the professors. Our professors all have a lot of experience. They know what's required in the industry, and they have a lot of connections. There's no question this is a good education."

**NATALIE GERBER** (BS 22) Development Engineer, WishBone Medical, Inc. who are also hiring managers for some of the very positions students pursue after graduation.

#### **HANDS-ON EXPERIENCE**

Grace's students are able to put their mechanical skills to practice on equipment used on the manufacturing floor. The engineering lab is home to industrial-grade robotics and a CNC machine — a machine used to produce a majority of the world's goods.

Beyond the learning that takes place within the classroom, students are afforded world-class internships and hands-on learning experiences in the Orthopaedic Capital of the World.

President, CEO and Co-Founder of Ignite Orthopedics, Brian Hodorek, sits on the program's advisory council and has worked with a number of the program's students as interns and affirms the value they bring to the workplace. "The understanding of the design control process, quality systems, and CAD design, to name a few, are critical skills Grace engineering interns have exhibited during their time with Ignite," said Hodorek.

As a result of these hands-on opportunities, the engineering program boasts a 100% postgraduate placement rate in the engineering industry. Many of the program's graduates step into local positions and have jobs lined up before graduation.

According to Alan Tio, the CEO of the Kosciusko Economic Development Corporation, Warsaw has an ongoing need for talent in the field of engineering. "To have programs



"If I had not gone to Grace, I may not have my current job. The Grace Engineering Department is staffed with experienced professors who have the goal of sharing all they have learned with the next generation of engineers."

**CODY HOLMES** (BS 21)

Development Engineer, Zimmer Biomet

here in the community that create and sustain a talent pipeline is crucial to ensure companies continue to develop new products here in Kosciusko County."

ABET accreditation is a critical step to program growth, but ultimately, the program has always been about creating avenues to serve.

"Ever since I decided to be an engineer in middle school, I knew I wanted to help people and make the world a better place," said Wentorf. "And many of our students feel the same way. At the end of the day, this program is about equipping world changers who are engineered to serve."



Grace has a strong record of training health science students and getting them into medical schools. In fact, over the past 30 years, approximately 87% of Grace's pre-health students got into medical school. In some concentrations, that number is as high as 95%.

According to Pre-Health Professions Coordinator, Dr. Rick Roberts (the other Dr. Roberts on campus), there is a lot of opportunity in the health fields right now. "Many physicians in their 50s and 60s are looking to retire soon," said Roberts. "The cost and difficulty of medical school have resulted in fewer students pursuing these fields, and it is predicted that there will be physician shortages in the future."

As a result, Roberts says there will be an increased need for mid-level providers to ensure that the aging population receives the care they need. Grace is doing everything it can to ensure the next generation of healthcare workers is prepared to be successful in graduate school and ready to serve patients who are created in the image of God.

#### **DIVERSE OFFERINGS**

Grace offers ten different health science tracks for students to pursue. For those who aren't sure what concentration is right for them, Roberts teaches a Health Science Seminar class required for every second-year health science major. In this class, he brings in professionals from 13 different medical specialties to expose students to the breadth of career options available to them.

Roberts is passionate about helping students find the right niche for their skills and interests. "We want to help students do what God designed them to do," said Roberts. "Not everyone is made for the pre-health track."

Still, many Grace students do choose the pre-med track to pursue primary care and family medicine. According to Roberts, these are some of the lower-paid positions in the field, but they often make the biggest impact in people's lives. "Our students aren't in it for the money," said Roberts. "They focus on ministering to people. Some will use that overseas, and some will use that in the communities God leads them to."

#### **RIGOROUS COURSEWORK**

Roberts is quick to tell prospective students that the health science major is no walk in the park. It's designed to push them to new limits, requiring them to assimilate and retain large amounts of information for exams and to study harder than they ever have before.

"It's my job to make sure our students are equipped with every tool they

#### **CONCENTRATIONS:**

Pre-chiropractic

Pre-dental

Pre-medicine

Pre-occupational therapy

Pre-optometry

Pre-pharmacy

Pre-physical therapy

Pre-physician assistant

Pre-podiatry

Pre-veterinary

need to succeed and ensure they can make it in graduate school," says Roberts. This includes working closely with students as they apply to schools and providing letters of recommendation as they need.

If you ask Roberts what makes him most proud, he's quick to point to a file on his computer screen that tracks his program's graduates. "It's the list of students who have gone on, done well in medical school and are now making a difference in their communities," he says. "Health science isn't direct evangelism, but it opens doors to speak into people's lives at some of their most vulnerable moments."



"The mentorship I received from Dr. Roberts and the science faculty helped me gain acceptance into medical school, and my health science degree from Grace gave me a knowledge base that allowed me to be successful throughout medical school and match into a competitive surgical specialty."

#### ALEXANDRA KOONTZ,

DO (BA 16) PGY-1 Resident Physician in Otolaryngology at Oklahoma State University Center for Health Sciences

# Medical Imaging & Computer Science

Over the past two years, Grace has broadened its academic offerings through a series of collaborations with Purdue University, John Patrick University of Health and Applied Sciences (JPU) and the Lower Cost Models for Independent Colleges Consortium (LCMC). These partnerships allow students to take Grace's Core curriculum while taking specialized courses online. Medical imaging and computer science are two degrees of this sort that are garnering a surge of interest from prospective students. What do they share in common? Job demand.

# MEETING THE MARKET'S DEMANDS

According to Dr. Brent Murphy, JPU's president with years of experience in the radiographic sciences, there is an 8-20% shortage of medical technologists around the country. Only a handful of Christian colleges and universities in the country are offering medical imaging degrees, and now, Grace College is one of them.

Similarly, the demand for software developers and data informaticians will only grow in the foreseeable future. The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics cites the computer science field is projected to grow 22% in the next eight years.

According to Dr. Joe Frentzel, Dr. Eugene Inman Endowed Chair of Science and Mathematics at Grace, there is a great need for professionals with character, competence and hearts of service in this rapidly evolving field.

"Code jocks, IT professionals and informaticians with Christian virtues will play a vital role in steering controversial conversations regarding artificial intelligence in a direction that upholds humanity as a creation in God's likeness. We are confident that this is the type of computer science professional the program will develop at Grace."

#### **ACADEMIC HIGHLIGHTS**

- The School of Education was granted accreditation through the Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation (CAEP) this year.
- The School of Business welcomed 125 new students fall of 2022.
- The 2022 graduates of Bethel University's School of Nursing at Grace College boast a 100% NCLEX pass rate for the RN Boards exam.
- Grace Seminary added 152 new students to its programs this year, increasing its numbers by 34.5%.
- The online Master of Arts in Ministry Studies program grew by 92%.



# Men's Tennis Claims Crossroads League & Tournament Titles

#### Grace's men's tennis team can't stop winning championships.

After winning NCCAA national titles in each of the past two seasons, the Lancers picked up another trophy with the 2022 Crossroads League regular season championship as well as the Crossroads League Tournament title. The regular season championship marks Grace's first league title since 2012 and 2013 when the team won back-to-back championships, and the tournament title is the first in program history.









**1.** The Grace men's tennis team celebrates a sweet victory as the program's first-ever Crossroads League Tournament champions. **2.** Head coach Andy Lewis (BS 88) watches a play from the sidelines. **3.** Facundo Paredes focuses on a tough hit. **4.** Ivan Antinori reaches for a backhanded return.



# Athletics Welcome New Director of Athletic Operations

Adam Basinger (BS 11) is a familiar face at Grace, having graduated as a Lancer in 2011 and assisting Grace in recent years with various facility projects. In his new role, Basinger assists the Lancers' administration in a variety of ways, primarily overseeing the care and enhancement of Grace's outdoor facilities at the Miller Athletic Complex.

Basinger comes to Grace after serving as the field operations manager for the Indianapolis Indians, the Triple-A affiliate of the Pittsburgh Pirates. He served for seven years at the ballpark, which has received numerous national awards as one of the best minor league ballparks in the U.S.

"I am truly honored to return to my alma mater and play a small part in the culture and community that makes Grace so special," Basinger said. "This is a unique position that allows for many avenues to impact the student-athletes, support the coaches, enhance the campus facilities and engage in the community."



# Coil Joins Grace's Track and Field Staff

**Brennan Coil is Grace's new throws coach,** boosting its nationally ranked track and field program. Starring at Indiana Wesleyan in his undergraduate days, Coil boasts an impressive collegiate throwing career. He earned multiple national championships and conference titles. In addition, he still holds the school record for indoor and outdoor shot put at IWU, and he was recognized as the IWU Male Athlete of the Year in 2019.

"Brennan is a perfect fit for our program. He not only brings national championship experience but has been mentored by some of the best throwing coaches in the country," said Grace track and field head coach Michael Moffitt. "He was able to work with our throwers part time last outdoor season, and we saw immediate improvement and school records. I can't wait to see what our athletes can accomplish with him here on a full-time basis."

# Made for This

# MEET GRACE'S NEW VICE PRESIDENT OF ADVANCEMENT

**Theologian. Preacher. Professor. Musician.** Dr. Nathan Harris wears all of these hats with grace. His blend of passions naturally led him to pursue local church ministry, but when he assumed his first role as a fundraiser for Christian higher education, he realized precisely what he was made to do.

Harris grew up in Youngstown, Ohio, and attended Malone University. After graduation, he served as a music and young adult pastor at Old North Church in Canfield, Ohio, where he met and married his wife, Kelsey, and the pair joyfully served for many years.

In 2016, Harris and his wife moved to Kansas City, Missouri, to attend Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary. Harris conferred not one, not two, but three seminary degrees there: an M.Div., a Th.M. in Pedagogy and a Ph.D. in Biblical Studies. Simultaneously, he worked for the institution as director of marketing and then as director of institutional relations initiatives. It only took a few months in the role to realize his passion for fundraising and shift the course of his career.

Harris transitioned to become the senior director of annual giving and stewardship and assistant professor of biblical studies at Cedarville University, where he served before being named Grace's vice president of advancement in August. He now leads all development, annual giving and stewardship initiatives at Grace, and he looks forward to instructing a few seminary courses on the side.

# Harris is also in the process of publishing a book with B&H Publishing entitled "Gospel Generosity."

The book aims to help Christians understand that generosity is rooted in the gospel. "Giving is not merely a virtue for the Christian life, but a cheerful disposition



that springs forth from the good news of salvation in Christ," says Harris. "It is a sign of the radical reforming of the believer's head and heart to joyfully serve the Lord through the stewardship of their time, abilities and resources."

Harris' heart for giving is contagious. Once you meet him and hear his enthusiasm about the intersection of faith and generosity, you too will agree — he was made for this.

#### **GET TO KNOW DR. HARRIS**

**Family:** Kelsey, sons: Noah, 3.5 years and Jude, 1.5 years

**Roots for:** Ohio State and all other Ohio teams. O-H!

Collects: Fine pens and Bibles

Favorite Hobby: Reading

Favorite Book: "Knowing God" by J.I. Packer

**Nerds Out On:** Greek grammar — his doctoral thesis was on conjunctions in the book of Hebrews!

the book of Fieblews.

**Favorite Theologian:** Charles Spurgeon

# GCOLDEN GRADREUNION

May 5-6, 2023 | Class of 1973

Your college commencement was a significant milestone. It probably seems like a lifetime ago. How would you like to have a chance to do it again? We would like to invite you back to campus for an event 50 years in the making! Be our Golden Grad guests of honor for the 2023 Commencement Ceremony.

During this weekend, you will get to reconnect with your fellow classmates, catch up on the last 50 years and tell stories of the "good ole days" at Grace. You will also get to see how much Grace and Winona Lake have changed since 1973. The culmination of the weekend is leading the class of 2023 in this year's commencement. You won't want to miss it!





#### **INVITATION COMING SOON!**

#### **CLASS OF 1970**

**Front:** Barbara (Parcell BS 70) Manges, Karen (Richards BS 70) Hoffert, Marilyn (Emch BA 70) Miller, Deborah (Edwards BS 70) Burtoft, Jim Burtoft (BA 70, S 71), Charlene (Bess BA 70) Brumbaugh, Judy (Jarnagin BS 70) Bechtel, Jerri (Willson BS 70) Mahnensmith, Linda Kline (BA 70), Maxine (Peugh BM 70) Currie, Ruth Ann (Ritchey BS 70) Rittgers, Dotty (Fisher BS 70) Smith

**Back** Rev. Phil Teran (BA 70, MDiv 73), Colleen (Baum BA 71) Teran, Jim Vosberg (BA 70), Terry Eichorst (BME 70), Jim Kessler (BS 70), Dr. Steve Grill (BA 70), David Griffiths (BA 70), Nancy (Soule BA 70) Damer, Sharon (Bryant BS 70) Obregon, Dr. Jim Bowling (BS 70), Linda (Edmiston BA 72, BA 04) Dilling, Glenn Firebaugh (BA 70, S 72), Judy (Thompson BA 70) Firebaugh, Jim Currie (BME 70), Keith Rittgers (BME 70), Ed Poush (BA 70) (deceased 10/30/21), Sharon (Skellenger BSN 70) Poush

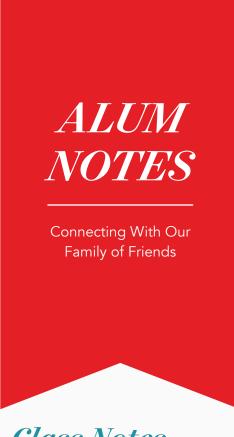




#### **CLASS OF 1971**

**Front:** Jane (Cooper BA 71) Teevan, Paula (Sunthimer BA 71) Gividen, Don Bechtel (BME 71), J. Sam Doyle (C 71), Virginia "Ginny" (Crees BS 71) Plaster, Penny (Puls BA 71) Miller

**Back:** Mary Parr (BME 71), Terrie (Beron BS 71) Gates, Joyce (Williams BS 71) Taylor, Pam (Reed BA 71) Boller



#### Class Notes

#### 1972

Geoffrey Huys (BA 72) relocated to Seattle, Washington in 2021 following a long career in public relations and communications, working for healthcare systems in Indiana, Illinois and Wisconsin. In retirement Geoffrey serves as a volunteer at Swedish Healthcare, the National Nordic Museum and the Sunset Hill Community Association. He spends free time with his daughter and son-in-law and traveling as time permits. geoffreyjhuys@gmail.com

#### 1974

1 In Spring 2022, **Dr. Thomas Stallter** (BA 74, S 76) published a new book, "The Gap Between God and Christianity: The Turbulence of Western Culture," about how our culture is influencing the expression of our faith in the United States. stallttm@grace.edu

#### 1976

After 40 years of serving on the pastoral team at Christ's Covenant Church (Winona Lake IN), **Dr. Larry McCall** (BA 76, MDiv 79) transitioned in October 2021 from the staff to joyfully serving as elder. He and wife, **Gladine** (**Rupp** C77) travel frequently speaking at seminars and conferences, especially teaching others how the gospel shapes marriage and grandparenting. His overseeing ministry is Walking Like Jesus Ministries (wljministries.org). larry@wljministries.org

#### 1981

Susan (Quillen BS 81) Fontaine retired from teaching in May 2022, after 30+ years in Christian and public education. She moved to Texas to be near family and friends. sfontaine21701@gmail.com

#### 2012

**3** Jason (BS 12) and Angela King: Ezra, March 21, 2022. The family resides in Pendleton IN. kingmjason@gmail.com

#### 2014

**Jennifer** (**Pyle** BS 14) **Kerns** began serving as account executive for Evansville Regional Economic Partnership in June 2022. Jen and her family live in Evansville IN.

4 Greg (BS 14, MBA 16) and Gabrielle (Bryant BS 16) Miller: Noelle Faith, May 11, 2022. The Millers reside in Illinois where Greg is the head men's basketball coach at Trinity International University and Gabby has her own personal trainer business called Impact Fitness.

#### 2015

Bradley (BA 15) and Katelyn (Todd BS 16, MS 16) Clark: Married October 30, 2021. Katelyn has worked at Purdue University since July 2016 and serves as student affairs administrator. The couple lives in Richmond IN.

6 Kevin and Sarah (Hinkel BA 15) Cooner: Married May 21, 2022. The couple resides in Burke VA where Sarah is an economist for International Brotherhood of Teamsters.

7 Leandro and Sarah (Leichty BA 15)

Dos Santos: Isaias Emmanuel, November
16, 2020. Isaias joins brother Stephen (3) and their parents at their home in Bourbon IN. dossantosdocuments@gmail.com

**8** Rucel Martinez (BA 15) joined the Lilly Center for Lakes & Streams as assistant director of marketing in May 2022. He calls Winona Lake home.

#### 2016

9 Dr. Alexandra (Sanford BA 16) Koontz graduated from Rocky Vista University (Parker CO) in May 2022. She and Cody (BA 16) moved to Tulsa OK in June 2022 where she began her residency for otolaryngology/ear, nose and throat surgery at Oklahoma State University Medical Center. sanfordalexandra@gmail.com

#### 2017

**10 Ben** (BS 17) and **Brigit** (**Nemitz** BA 19) **Tucker**: Ridge, June 12, 2022. Ridge joins brother Ezra (2) and their parents at home in Pierceton IN.

#### 2019

Rachel Hammond (BS 19) began serving as donor research coordinator at Moody Bible Institute (Chicago IL) in January 2022. Rachel resides in Chesterton IN.

11 Joe (BS 19, MA 21) and Kate (Spears BA 20) Jackson: Eleanorah (Norah) Brynn, February 27, 2022. Joe began serving as campus life director at Lakeland Christian Academy (Winona Lake IN) in July 2022. The family resides in Warsaw IN. kathryncaroljackson@gmail.com

#### 2020

**12 Bradley** (BS 20) and **Summer** (**McEvoy** BS 20) **Grennier**: Married March 26, 2021. The couple resides in Granger IN.

#### WHAT'S NEW?

Submit an Alum Note.

Tell us the latest news in your life at **www.grace.edu/alumnotes** and choose to publish it as an Alum Note in an upcoming issue of Grace Story.

#### **FACEBOOK**

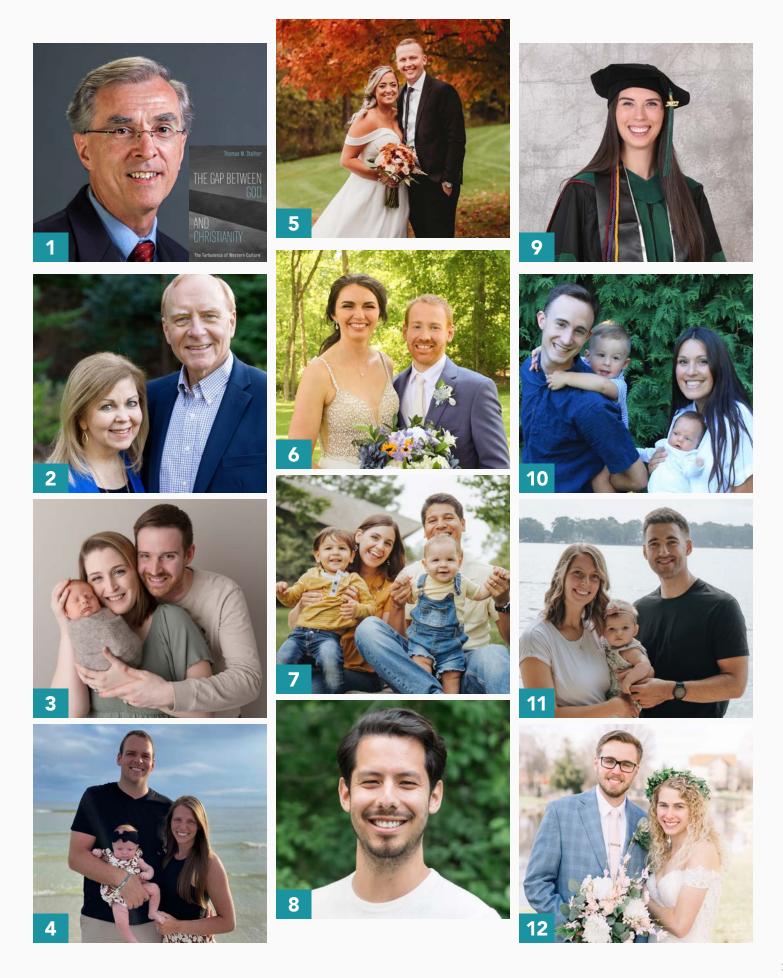
Join us on Facebook to stay connected with former classmates and friends, share your news, find out what's happening at Grace and get the latest on upcoming alumni events.

www.facebook.com/ GraceAlumniCommunity

# TELL US YOUR STORY

If you're a Grace graduate, completed a certification or attended classes, we want to hear from you. Tell us about your career history, accomplishments, how Grace influenced you, what you are doing with your college or seminary education today and/or how God is using you for His purposes. If you have a former classmate or alum you know who has a story you think Grace Story should feature, go ahead and share his/her story!

Visit www.grace.edu/gracestory.



# Six Alumni Take Annual Trips for Nearly 60 Years

BY KNUTE LARSON (BA 62, BDIV 66)



I was a sophomore in charge of welcoming freshmen in September 1959, when my friend Chuck Henry (BA 60, S 62), a senior from Iowa, came back early to "help in the welcome" and perhaps even spot a girl. He suggested we welcome two new girls from Mansfield, Ohio. (He was clear about which one he would help!)

Jeanine (Swetlic BS 63) Larson and Jean (Enlow BS 63) Henry were "friends from the womb," and with them came Jean's cousin Jerry Lelle (BA 63). These Mansfield three would in successive years become married to Chuck, Jane (Clouse BS 62) Lelle and me, who were already friends, and the six of us would forge lifelong friendships.

Between the three summers of weddings in 1960, 1961 and 1962, the six of us formed inseparable bonds while at Grace in chapels, classes, Lancer basketball, baseball, newspaper, yearbook, music and drama.

# After we had all graduated, we took our first trip together in 1964 to the World's Fair in New York,

with three days in Atlantic City. (It cost less than \$100 per couple!) That was the beginning of annual excursions that have taken place for the past 58 years. Eventually, the trips became bike trips where we rode in upper Michigan, southern Indiana and Illinois. The longest trip required us to pull a trailer for long rides in Maine and Nova Scotia.

Now we call them annual "non-bike bike trips" because there is no peddling required! But there are still plenty of fun memories made and grandchildren pictures shared. We just got back from our 2022 trip to Michigan. We are all very grateful!

**TOP:** Jerry (BA 63) and Jane (Clouse BS 62) Lelle, Jeanine (Swetlic BS 63) and Knute Larson (BA 62, BDiv 66) and Chuck (BA 60, S 62) and Jean (Enlow BS 63) Henry on one of their most epic bike trips in Nova Scotia, 1999.

MIDDLE: The crew recently convened in Florida.

**BOTTOM:** In 1991, the group of alumni enjoyed a nice meal celebrating their 50th birthdays.

# Honoring Rhoda Palmer for 30 Years

BY TONYA FAWCETT, DIRECTOR OF LIBRARY SERVICES



Rhoda was the pinnacle leader at the Morgan Library-Learning Center. Although she had the same number of hours in a day as the rest of us, she managed to squeeze

in more tasks than most. She catalogued, taught, digitized, fixed computer glitches and located obscure photos in the Grace archives. For every project and initiative, Rhoda offered insight and wisdom.

Over the years, she mentored many students. An eager learner, Rhoda excelled at embracing new technologies in the library.

She made Grace scholarship available to the world, moving theses and dissertations from the

shelves to a digital institutional repository. As she grew in her own knowledge, she brought others along to better serve our students.

Rhoda's leadership extended beyond the Grace campus to the Pleasantview Bible Church Library, the Private Academic Libraries of Indiana and the Association of Christian Librarians. Most recently, Rhoda received the Emily Russel award at the 2022 Association of Christian Librarians Annual Conference for her outstanding contributions to library service and scholarship.

Thank you, Rhoda, for 30 years of service to Grace and our Lord!



Current and former library staff reunite at the 2019 Homecoming Library Reunion.

Front Row: Jody Hopper, Jodi Nakasone, Karla (Glover BA 90) Heldenbrand, Rhoda Palmer, Anita Gray, Tonya Fawcett

Back Row: Connie Burkholder, Bill Darr (BA 67), Miriam Liethen, Christine French (C 11), Eric Bradley (BA 07), Steve Robbins

#### In Memoriam

#### 1951

Doris LaRue (Davis C 51) Eckblad
DATE OF PASSING: Feb. 5, 2022
RECENT HOMETOWN: Waxhaw, NC
FULL OBITUARY: gaskinservices.com/
obituaries/doris-eckblad

#### 1973

1 Steven Gregory Lauer (BME 73)
DATE OF PASSING: Aug. 7, 2022
RECENT HOMETOWN: Antler, ND
SURVIVING FAMILY: Wife, Christine "Chris";
children: Jennifer (Lars) Coleman, Angela
(Charles) Strand, Matthew (Gwendoline) Lauer;
nine grandchildren; mother and her husband,
Mary Lou Lauer (Stan) Thompson; brother,
Bruce (Barbara) Lauer

**FULL OBITUARY:** brosefuneralhome.com/obituary/steven-lauer

#### 1978

2 Noreen D. (Irvin BA 78) Hicks
DATE OF PASSING: July 22, 2022
RECENT HOMETOWN: South Bend, IN
SURVIVING FAMILY: Husband, Douglas Hicks, and children, Benjamin Irvin-Howard and

**FULL OBITUARY:** palmerfuneralhomes.com/obituary/Noreen-Hicks

#### 1982

Megan (lan) Rogers

Roberta Irene Frush (BS 82)

DATE OF PASSING: Sept. 4, 2022

RECENT HOMETOWN: Warsaw, IN

SURVIVING FAMILY: Brother, Samuel (Katrina)

Frush; four nieces and nephews

FULL OBITUARY: redpathfruthfuneralhome.

com/obituary/Roberta-Frush

#### 1986

4 Karen (Friend C 86) DeVries
DATE OF PASSING: June 11, 2022
RECENT HOMETOWN: Valparaiso, IN
SURVIVING FAMILY: Husband, Robert;
children: Nicholas (Andrea) DeVries and
Katelyn DeVries; two grandsons; her parents,
Marshall and Roanne Friend; siblings: Valerie
(Dave) Carey, Bryan Friend (C 87), Julie
(Friend BS 91) (Dave BS 91) Bartel, and Tina
(Brian) Bushi

**FULL OBITUARY:** legacy.com/us/ obituaries/nwitimes/name/karen-devriesobituary?id=35239783

#### 2001

Leslie (Rhodes C 01) Coffman
DATE OF PASSING: June 11, 2022
RECENT HOMETOWN: Goshen, IN
SURVIVING FAMILY: Daughters, Anna and
Lillian; two grandmothers; parents-in-law;
brother-in-law; her parents; brother; and
grandfather

obituary/leslie-coffman (Leslie's husband, Craig, passed away on June 25, 2022 from complications caused by the same traffic accident.)

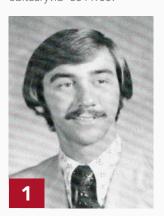
FULL OBITUARY: yoderculpfuneralhome.com/

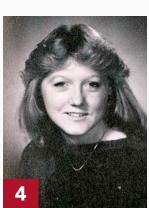
#### 2004

5 Rebecca "Becky" Ritta (BA 04)
DATE OF PASSING: Sept. 7, 2022
RECENT HOMETOWN: Central City, NE
SURVIVING FAMILY: Parents, Robert and
Susan Ritta; siblings: Andrew (Susan)
Ritta, Valerie (Ritta BA 09) (Greg BS 06)
Baumgardner, and Stephanie (Tony) Knudson.
FULL OBITUARY: legacy.com/us/obituaries/
theindependent/name/rebecca-rittaobituary?id=36449569



6 Jacob J. Fitzgerald (BS 12)
DATE OF PASSING: July 5, 2022
RECENT HOMETOWN: Tipp City, OH
SURVIVING FAMILY: Wife, Chelsey (Gingerich
ASN 12); children Shayla, Emery and
Boston; brother, Micah (Rachel) Fitzgerald;
grandmother; brothers-in-law: Cody (BS 15)
(Jess) Gingerich and Cade Gingerich; three
sisters-in-law; father-in-law and mother-in-law,
Galen (BS 87) and Melody (Jackson BS 87)
Gingerich; and many aunts and uncles.
FULL OBITUARY: tributearchive.com/
obituaries/25304314/jacob-j-fitzgerald



















TOP: Jean Coverstone pictured in 1987.

**BOTTOM:** Coverstone stands next to Professor Art Davis (\$ 79), Coverstone's successor as chair of the Grace Art Department.

# Honoring the Vision and Legacy of Jean Coverstone

BY: KIM REIFF, CHAIR OF THE DEPARTMENT OF VISUAL, PERFORMING AND MEDIA ARTS

In 1970, Jean Coverstone was invited to build an art program at Grace from the ground up. Over the next two decades, she carved out a successful art program while simultaneously publishing scholarly research at a time when, nationwide, women were rarely given such positions. With determination, Coverstone established the new department in an old house on the northwest corner of campus. She wrote curriculum, designed course content and refurbished the building to set up classroom and studio spaces for drawing, painting, crafts and ceramics.

Coverstone believed that integrating Jesus into her curriculum was the greatest contribution to her students' education. This led her to take a sabbatical to research and write an art history textbook with a Christian emphasis entitled, "Landmarks in Art: art appreciation from an evangelical Christian's viewpoint." In conjunction with her book, she began leading art history trips to Europe, where she encouraged students to reflect on the kind of creativity that resulted from making art "with God in mind."

After 23 years as chair of the department, Coverstone retired. Every Grace art student has been impacted by her vision to study art from a Christian perspective ever since, and her legacy will continue to influence our art program for many years to come.

Jean Coverstone passed away on September 9, 2022.

# Please pray for the families of these alumni who also recently passed away:

Margaret Louise (Moore S 49) Marshall, John Wiley Evans, Jr. (BDiv 56), Charles "Chuck" Merrin (BA 61, S 62), Grace Lucille Kalter (BS 62), Theodore "Ted" Vesa (BA 69), Carlene (Finster BS 84) Harmon, William "Mike" Kelly (MDiv 87), Chad Lee Bibler (BS 92), Matthew Ryan Knight (C 09)



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- 1. Dr. Drew Flamm gives an address in chapel including campus updates and his personal testimony.
- **2.** Sophomores go head-to-head with the seniors at the annual Beanie Bowl.
- **3.** First-year students dress their best for the Homecoming Banquet.
- Retired Grace professor Dr. Rik Lovelady, who often performed with Jerry Franks back in the day, played the banjo and the guitar at the Jerry Franks Memorial Concert.
- Keith Rittgers (BME 70) and his tuba made an appearance at the Jerry Franks Memorial Concert.
- **6.** The RedZone cheers loud and proud for the Lancers at the women's soccer game.

- **7.** Beta residents roar as Beta is mentioned in an opposing hall's skit.
- **8.** Students dress up as characters from the Netflix series "Stranger Things" for Homecoming Skate Night.
- 9. Lancer Hall of Fame inductees were recognized at half-time of the women's soccer game (left to right): Jocelyn Evans-DeLange (BA 13), Leon Brenneman (BS 89) and Gary Grove (BA 67).



**Grace College & Seminary** 1 Lancer Way Winona Lake, IN 46590

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# **Continuing a Family Tradition**

Pictured are just a handful of Grace alumni who dropped off their sons and daughters as part of the incoming freshman class. Thank you for entrusting your students to us. We count it a privilege to teach, mentor and coach them during such a formative time in their lives.

- 1 Noah Wright with parents Tim (BS 99, MA 07) and Brandi (Raber BA 00) Wright.
- 2 Anna and Dawn (Gibble BS 90) Brehany; Dad (not in photo) is Rod Brehany (BS 89)
- **3** Connor Lawson with parents Kim and Ken (BS 85) Lawson.
- **4** Bethany, Valerie (Kesterke AS 97), Lauren, and Dennis (BS 89, MDiv 93) Crumbley
- **5** Simon, Calvin, Susie (Dearborn BS 01) and Adam (BA 01, MDiv 03) Copenhaver
- **6** Landen Bremer with parents Chris (BA 89) and Cheryl (Bartel BSM 92) Bremer.





Do you have a family member in high school who would be interested in Grace College? Sign them up to receive information from Grace. www.grace.edu/worthfollowing