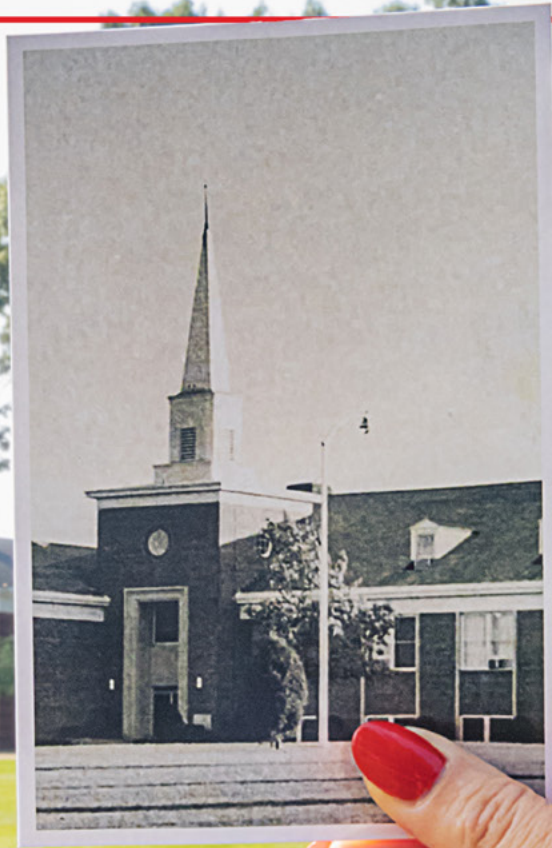


GRACE

— S T O R Y —

VOLUME 43 | ISSUE 2 | FALL 2023



*Celebrating 75 years
of Grace College*

SPECIAL EDITION

2023 - WESTMINSTER HALL





Every fall, our 25+ trustee members travel to Winona Lake from near and far for our annual board meetings. We spend several days together in a Westminster Hall conference room once known as the Rainbow Room. As we get wrapped up in matters pertaining to the future of Grace, every so often, a board member will stop and remind us of the history that has transpired in that very room — history that has transformed millions of lives for the sake of Christ.

In August 1920, Homer Rodeheaver set up a temporary studio in that room for Rainbow Records, the first-ever Christian record label leading to the proliferation of gospel music of all forms. On July 13, 1949, that room was the location of the “The Lost Prayer Meeting,” a five-hour prayer meeting that adjourned at 3 a.m. preceding Billy Graham’s first crusade in Los Angeles. And today, that room is where we prayerfully make plans for Grace College & Seminary that will support our students as they are trained to proclaim Christ around the world.

Our history shapes us. I’ve been thinking about this a lot as we celebrate Grace College’s 75th anniversary this year. There are countless faces, spaces and traditions at Grace College that have flavored who we are and who we are becoming. From traditions like Day of Worship and Communitas to spaces like Westminster Hall and the McClain Prayer Room — these things are what make Grace College, Grace College.

In this special edition of the Grace Story magazine, we’ve invited faculty, staff and alumni to reflect on our rich history. We’ve also included sections for you to discover the latest happenings at Grace and to connect with our 2023 alumni award winners.

The Lord has been so gracious to this institution from the very beginning. As we recognize a historic milestone in our timeline, I’ve only found more evidence of His kindness — from our record-breaking enrollment to the generous donor who gifted Bibles to every single student in his or her heart language. We count it all grace.

Grace upon grace upon grace.



Drew Flamm

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.

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REFLECT

Read tributes to the faces, spaces and traditions that have shaped the past 75 years of Grace. We hope these vignettes take you back to some of your own core memories from your college days.

IN THIS SECTION

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Find out how God is blessing Grace College this year — from record undergraduate enrollment to growing numbers for the seminary and online — there is a lot we can praise the Lord for!

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CONNECT

We honor the service and accomplishments of our eight alumni award winners this year. Read their biographies and be encouraged by their commitment to Christ in all things.

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HOMECOMING RECAP BACK COVER

REFLECT

Remember the faces, spaces and traditions that shaped your college experience.

In 1960 my brother Mike Grill (BA 67) and I first visited Winona Lake as teenagers, entranced by the lake and its overlooking hillside. Little did we know, we followed a line of hundreds of thousands of people who were drawn to this special place.

Native Americans were sustained by its bounty. Immigrant entrepreneurs, the Beyer Brothers, turned it into a Victorian Disneyland known as Spring Fountain Park. A young Christian dynamo, Solomon Dickey, upgraded the park into The Winona Lake Christian Assembly, a nationally known summer retreat center providing world-class education, entertainment and recreation. Dickey's "Beautiful Winona" eventually grew into "The World's Largest Bible Conference."

Wealthy industrialists H.J. Heinz and John Studebaker caught Dickey's vision and gave generously to this Indiana enclave. Helen Keller and Booker T. Washington spoke here, John Philip Sousa and Will Rogers performed here and Billy Sunday and Billy Graham preached here. All the while, thousands of visitors gathered in Winona every summer to absorb the presence of God.

Grace College & Seminary made Winona Lake its headquarters because they could sense its unique spirituality, and for Mike and me, Winona Lake became our home and our calling, for which we are eternally grateful.

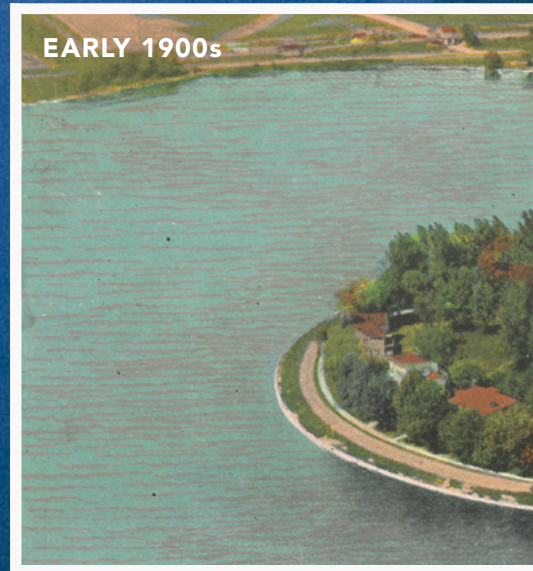


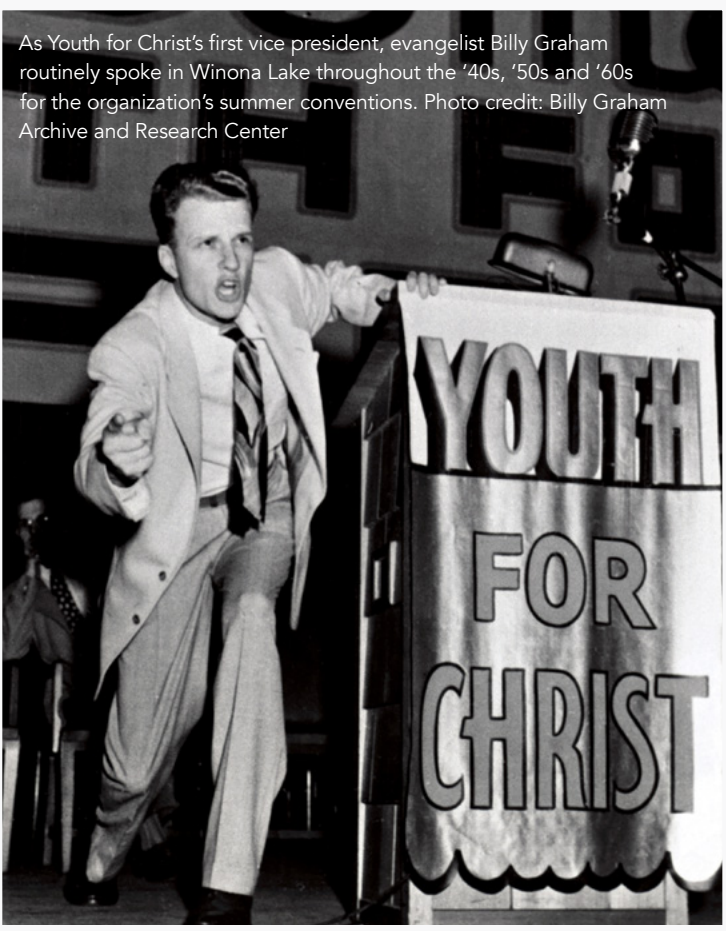
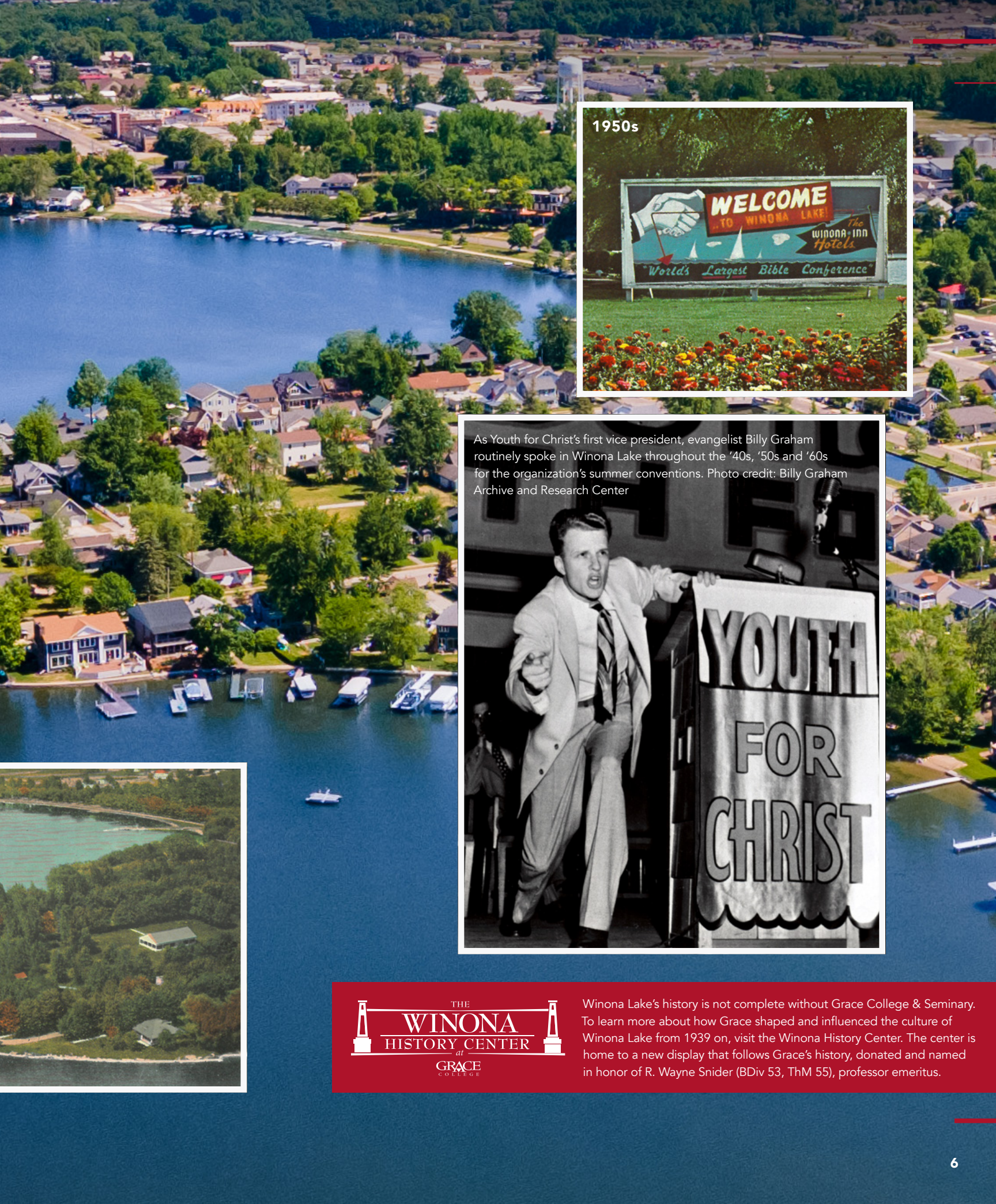
DR. STEVE GRILL (BA 70)
Director, Master of Nonprofit
Management Program

2023 - WINONA LAKE



EARLY 1900s





As Youth for Christ's first vice president, evangelist Billy Graham routinely spoke in Winona Lake throughout the '40s, '50s and '60s for the organization's summer conventions. Photo credit: Billy Graham Archive and Research Center



THE
WINONA
HISTORY CENTER
at
GRACE
COLLEGE

Winona Lake's history is not complete without Grace College & Seminary. To learn more about how Grace shaped and influenced the culture of Winona Lake from 1939 on, visit the Winona History Center. The center is home to a new display that follows Grace's history, donated and named in honor of R. Wayne Snider (BDiv 53, ThM 55), professor emeritus.



Chapel

THE HEARTBEAT OF CAMPUS



There are moments in every student’s collegiate time that fundamentally shape their future.

Sharpening their focus, solidifying future goals, challenging current habits — this happens everywhere on our campus, but especially in chapel. Chapel is the most consistent space where students learn, reflect and are refined as they study God’s word and worship together three times each week. It is humbling to watch as chapel conversations ripple across campus into the dining commons, residence halls and classrooms. From its origins, chapel has impressed upon students the need to bring their faith with them into every job, relationship and aspect of their lives. As one of our highest priorities at Grace, the rhythm of attending chapel is at the center of our weekly schedule. In each and every service, we remember and celebrate our commitment to following Jesus.



BRENT MENCARELLI (MDiv 13)
Dean of Chapel and Community Life



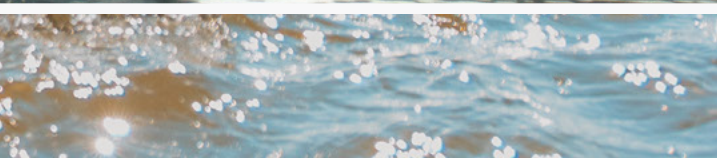
23



2007



The Hike is a rite of passage for first-year students joining the Grace community. Teams work together to build cardboard boats and race them on beautiful Winona Lake.



In the fall of 2006, my class participated in the first-ever Hike, and it was...“special.” We received vibrant lime green T-shirts with “Grace College” across the front and “The Hike” inside a boot print on the back. After a group photo was taken from a third-story Mount Memorial window, we were organized into three lines, women in the two outside lines and men in the middle. We were then marched around Winona Lake to have conversations with whomever we were next to. Every time the whistle blew, girls rotated up to the next guy. Although it was never called speed dating, that is what it became known as.

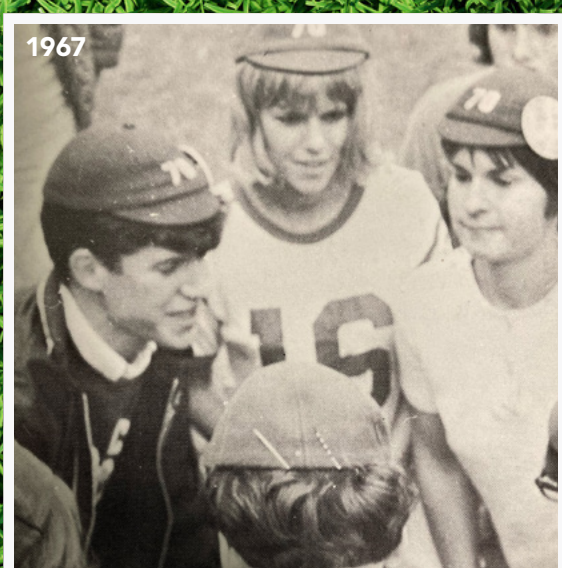
We ended up in the Gordon Health and Wellness Center where we were given a mission to build a cardboard boat to be raced on Winona Lake the next morning. We had all night to build the boat, as we were locked in the building with the freshman foundations faculty. (It was something special to see professors playing Dutch Blitz at 1 a.m.) The next morning, we raced our boats. While most sank within five minutes, by 9 a.m., a winner was crowned.

Today, I have the joy of organizing The Hike, and I often think back to 2006 and how “special” it was. Did we love every minute of it? No. However, it gave our class a greater understanding of campus, and it provided us with a shared experience — something we could laugh about together. We didn’t know it at the time, but we were forging the path of one of Grace College’s most unique traditions. The Hike has taken on several forms over the past 17 years — from the 2006 speed dating all-nighter to the app-driven scavenger hunt we enjoy today — but the aims have remained the same. More than 6,000 Grace College students have participated in this historic tradition, and this fall we welcomed 465 more.



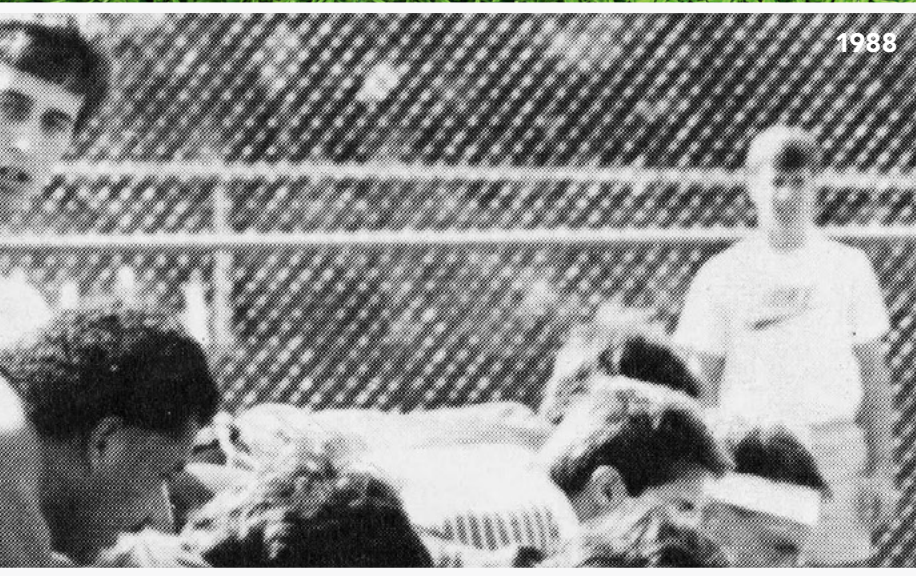
JOHN SLOAT (BS 10, MDiv 12)
Director of Development

BEANIE BOWL



The Beanie Bowl tradition lives on today (with a few caveats). The tournament takes place each year during the week of Homecoming, and each class has a team for women and men. The freshmen are no longer required to wear beanies, so the stakes aren't quite as high as they used to be. However, playing under the lights on Beta Field, claiming bragging rights and being named the champions by announcer Mike Yocum (BS 78) is still a spectacle that draws hundreds of students each year.





1988



1987



1987

The Beanie Bowl was originally part of the annual fall retreat, instituted to build unity among the freshman class.

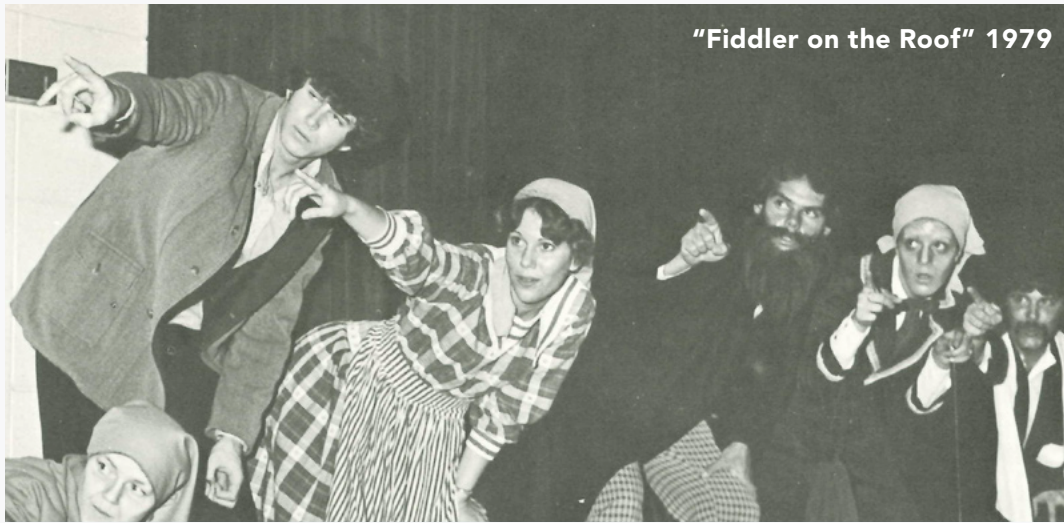
It started when the freshmen arrived and were given beanies from the sophomore class. Freshmen were to wear them for the entirety of the retreat. The next morning, sophomores would wake the freshmen at 5 a.m. and march them to Dean Kriegbaum's house to serenade him with a song. These antics went on for days. Towards the end of the retreat came the Beanie Bowl. (At this point, the freshmen were pretty tired of the sophomores.) If the freshmen could beat the sophomore class in what could be a pretty rowdy game of flag football, they could take their beanies off. But if they lost, they had to keep them on. I never played in the game, but I did serve as a coach to the girls' team. Those retreats were always a bonding experience.



JIM CURRIE (BME 70)
Former Beanie Bowl Coach

Theatre at Grace

LITTLE THEATRE,
LARGE PRODUCTIONS





"Fiddler on the Roof" 2023



Theater at Grace is a passion project for most students. They don't plan to make it a career; they do it to hang out with other theater people, make art, and simply have fun! Grace has a long history of stage productions going back to the program's founder, Don Garlock (BA 61, S 63). Dr. Steve Grill (BA 70) took the helm of the program in the early '70s when the Little Theatre had no carpeting, orange plastic seats and only about 20 lights. But Grill's charisma and use of creative venues got lots of people involved in large productions. Trust me, I know because he was my director at the time!

The program was later taken on by Dr. Allyn Decker (BS 85, MA 86), who, with the help of Kathy Allison (BS 86), was instrumental in making significant upgrades to the Little Theatre. Decker also started Grace's traveling drama ministry team, "Remnant," which continues today, traveling the Midwest, and as far as California and France to minister in churches and schools.

In 1999, I took over the program. It was an easy transition for me because I had been teaching part time and working with the theater for about 10 years already. In addition to directing Grace's shows, I regularly work as a professional actor and bring those experiences to my students and productions. Over the past 24 years, it's been a privilege to watch theater continue to impact students at Grace. In 2011 we formed the "Back in Five" improv comedy team, which is now a sensation among students, packing out the Little Theater for its midnight performances. Our portfolio of productions has also grown, hosting plays, musicals, one-acts and a number of student-directed productions each year.

There's nothing quite like a production in the Little Theatre. Whether you are a spectator in one of the seats or an actor on stage, theater at Grace College is an important part of the fabric of the campus. It allows students to perform, be creative and make lasting friendships with like-minded people.



MIKE YOCUM (BS 78)
Director, Theatre Program

Grace Theatre Program Timeline

1970-1971

DIRECTOR:

Don Garlock (BA 61, S 63)

NOTABLE PRODUCTIONS:

"Othello"

1971-1986

DIRECTOR:

Steve Grill (BA 70)

NOTABLE PRODUCTIONS:

"The Mikado"

"The Pirates of Penzance"

"Arsenic and Old Lace"

1986-1997

DIRECTOR:

Allyn Decker (BS 85, MA 86)

NOTABLE PRODUCTIONS:

"Oklahoma!"

"Fiddler on the Roof"

"Annie"

1999-Present

DIRECTOR:

Mike Yocum (BS 78)

NOTABLE PRODUCTIONS:

"The Music Man"

"Honk"

"Seussical"

"The Spitfire Grill"

Ringling Alpha Bell



Mitch (MDiv 86) and **Susan** (Holiday ASN 82, BS 83) **Cariaga** celebrate their 40-year anniversary by visiting the Alpha Bell.

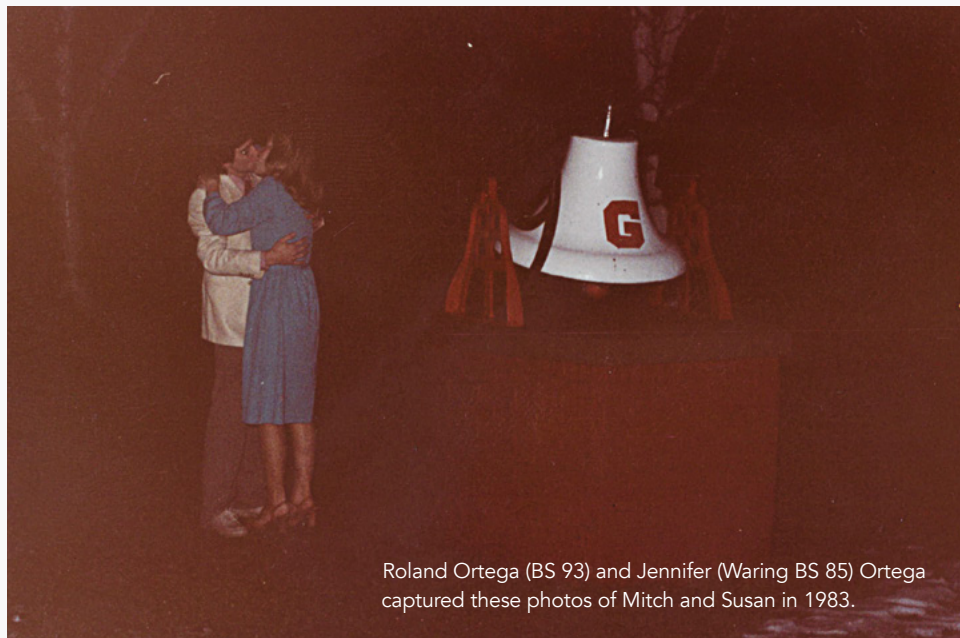




**Susan (Holiday ASN 82, BS 83)
Cariaga and I met during the first
day of her freshman year at Grace.**

Even though she was in a relationship, we formed a friendship. I left Grace at the end of that year, but we remained in contact, and when I returned as a seminary student in the fall of 1982, we began to date. We were engaged on January 22, 1983, and that evening, we rang the Alpha bell. Susan then returned to Kappa where the girls held an engagement celebration. Not long after, my friend Martin Guerena (BA 83, MDiv 87) and I crashed the party to sing Susan a love song as all the girls gathered on the porch to listen. It wasn't until later that spring that my friends living in the Beyer Home threw me and Marshall Noriega (BS 80, MA 83) into Winona Lake for our ceremonial "laking."

MITCH CARIAGA (MDIV 86)
Alpha Bell Ringer



Roland Ortega (BS 93) and Jennifer (Waring BS 85) Ortega captured these photos of Mitch and Susan in 1983.



McClain Prayer Room

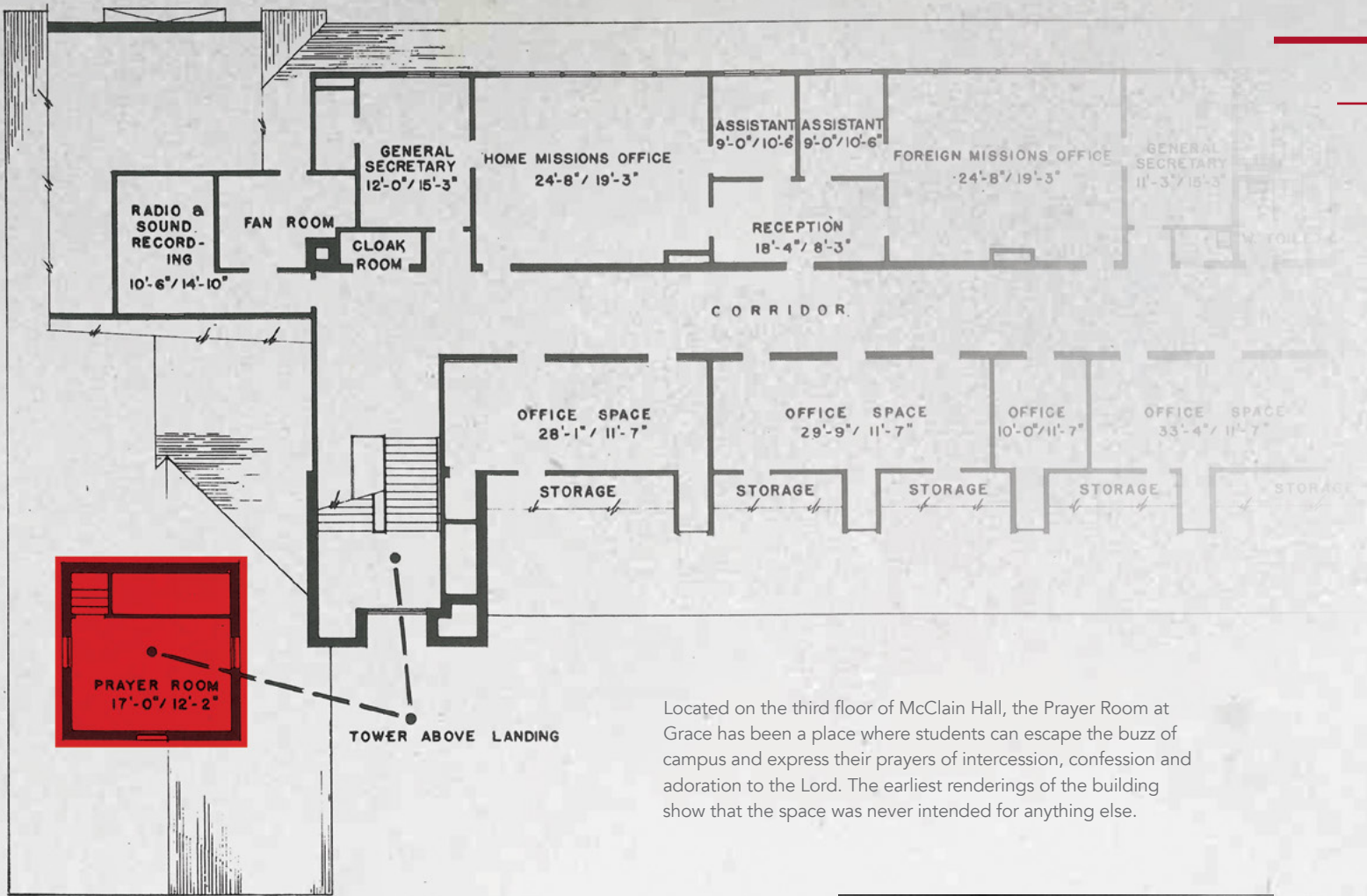
DEDICATED TO PRAYER FROM
THE VERY BEGINNING

When I think of the Prayer Room, I think of Kittie Grill. The Lord prompted her to pray for Grace in the early 1990s — a very challenging time for the institution. She gathered Marjorie Foote, Laura Peugh and Pearl Elliott, and asked me to provide them with prayer requests. They prayed for every faculty member, every employee, every single student by name, every department. I gave them details on relationships, fundraising needs, everything. And they were absolutely trustworthy. They prayed every week for seven years.

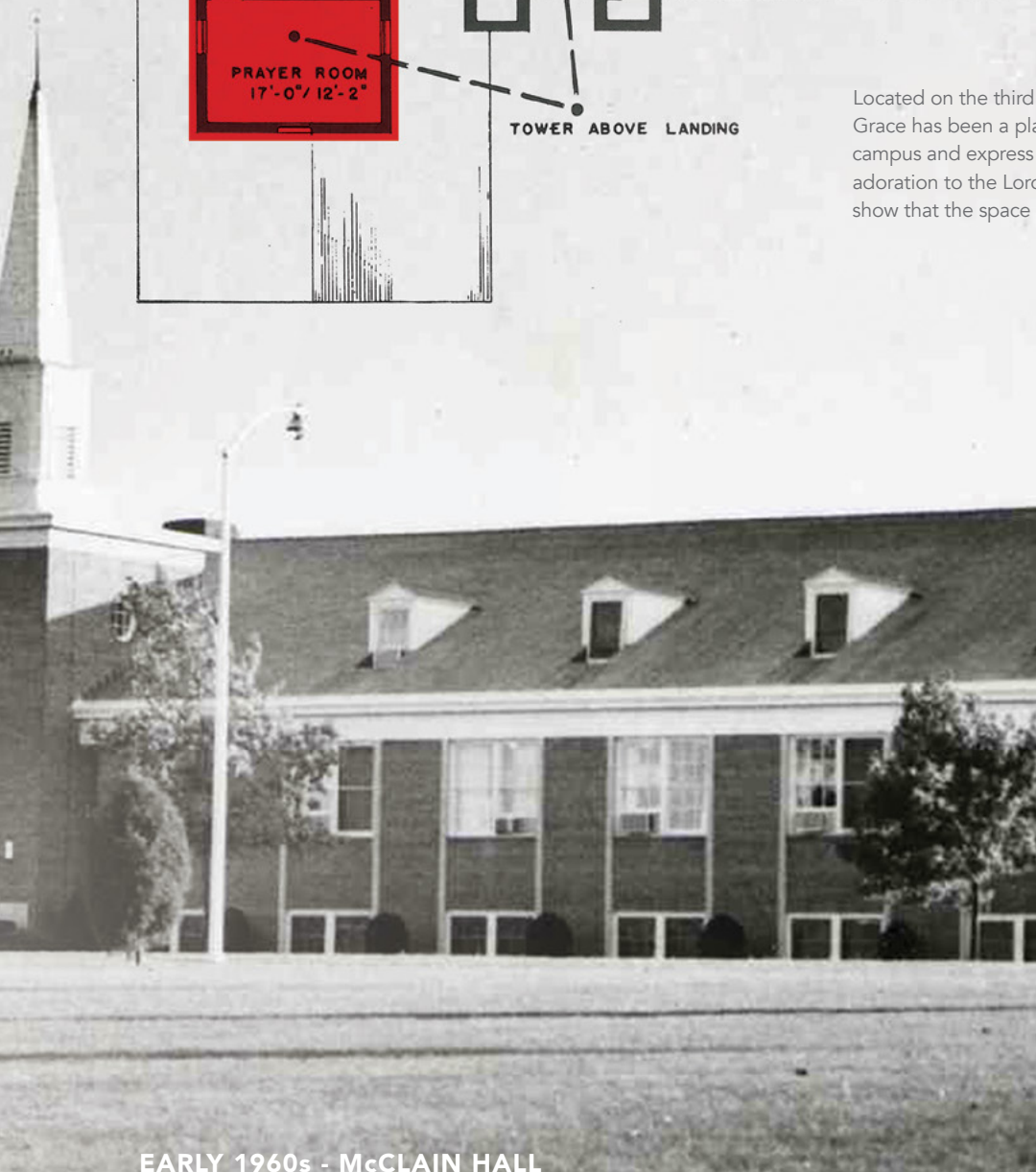
Every blessing the campus experienced in those years can be directly traced back to the prayers of those four women. They were involved in the day-to-day work of campus in more ways than almost anyone else. I have nothing but absolute adoration for the tenacity, commitment and focus they demonstrated in prayer. It was radical.



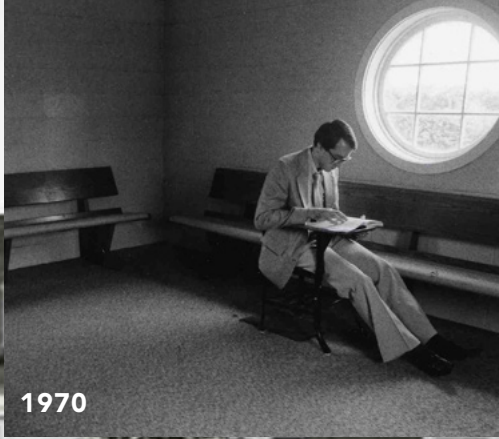
DR. RON MANAHAN (MDiv 70, ThM 77, ThD 82)
Former President



Located on the third floor of McClain Hall, the Prayer Room at Grace has been a place where students can escape the buzz of campus and express their prayers of intercession, confession and adoration to the Lord. The earliest renderings of the building show that the space was never intended for anything else.



EARLY 1960s - McCLAIN HALL



1970



2017

Day of Worship & Communitas



Day of Worship can be traced back to the the very early years of Grace College. Originally called "Day of Prayer," the day was dedicated to pausing the fast-paced college life and focusing on intercessory prayer. In 2000, the name was changed, and the focus became worship more broadly.

2011





In 2008, Dr. Kim Reiff, Dr. Nate Bosch and I attended a CCCU event for new faculty. We each had an optimistic spirit and a desire to roll up our sleeves and contribute to the academic life at Grace. In 2010, I bounced some ideas off them about programming that would elevate the visibility of scholarly activity among our faculty and students.

Since then, Communitas has celebrated the scholarly endeavors of students across the disciplines and the number of presenters has doubled. In addition to the traditional posters and papers, the event has included art exhibits, student performances, film viewings and the annual Inkspot release party. Student scholarship that brings glory to God is alive and well at Grace College.

The subsequent conversations and a proposed Office of Faith, Learning, & Scholarship (now directed by Dr. Lauren Rich) found support from then president Dr. Bill Katip (BA 74). Among other initiatives, Communitas, an event intended to celebrate student scholarship, generated excitement. To emphasize the way scholarship can bring glory to God, the first Communitas in 2011, which had just over 20 students, was held in conjunction with Day of Worship.



DR. JARED BURKHOLDER
Director, History and Political Science Program



GO

encounter

SOUTH KOREA



GRENADA



ENGLAND



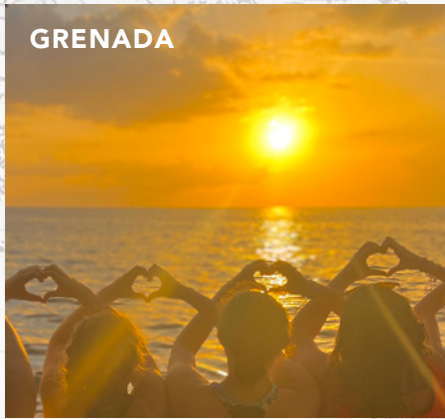
SOUTH AFRICA



UGANDA



GRENADA



BRAZIL



FRANCE



FIJI



AUSTRALIA





MOROCCO



AUSTRIA



COSTA RICA



EGYPT



ITALY



HUNGARY

Go Encounter trips are a Grace College distinctive, and we couldn't be prouder of this tradition. Our students have traveled to the four corners of the Earth: Los Angeles, Kenya, Austria, Thailand, Chile and beyond. On our trips, Grace students immerse themselves in a different culture and develop global fluency that serves them in their careers and communities for years to come. Students know there will be packed days, field-based learning, once-in-a-lifetime experiences and plot twists (You can't plan for everything!). They may not expect the transformative moments that stay with them: finally mastering a foreign transportation system, hearing a local's passion for a cherished tradition or worshipping alongside believers on another continent. Our students come back with a deeper understanding of God's wide world but also of their own cultural inheritance.

The Go Encounter program quite literally changed my life. I always enjoyed traveling, but after experiencing two Go Encounter trips as a student, I knew I wanted travel to be a major part of my life. Traveling is an amazing way to learn more about God's world and about yourself, and the Go Encounter program allowed me to do that, all while making memories with my friends and professors. Because of the Go Encounter program, I made the decision to open my own travel agency, and now I get to spread my love of travel to my clients — and help current Grace students plan their Go Encounter trips!



DR. LINDSEY RICHTER
Director, Institute of Global Studies



TIFFANEE FOUTS (BS 15, MBA 17)
Land & Cruise Specialist at Cruise Planners

SUPERMARKET

SWEEP



2023 - WARSAW KROGER

Being the Student Activities Board (SAB) Coordinator was a dream for me right out of college. Whenever I shared about my job, people responded with, "That must be so fun," or "Oh, you're the fun girl on campus!" I never minded this because, well, fun is good. Play is a form of rest, and it is essential. However, there was a day when I wondered, "How can I mix fun with service?" I knew that modeling the service of Jesus could be uncomfortable and inconvenient, but it could also be really fun. I wanted students to grasp the joy of serving, and as a result, Supermarket Sweep was born.

My late mother and I frequently watched the show "Supermarket Sweep," where teams would race around the store throwing items into their cart. The SAB team took this concept and organized an event that met the needs of our community. For the past twelve years now, Grace students, faculty and staff have raced through the aisles of Kroger, competing to see how many items they could purchase in one hour to donate to local food banks. To date, more than \$200,000 of non-perishable items have been donated. It's been incredible to watch the students rally to respond to a need, just like Jesus did — and to have fun doing it!



KEARSTIN CRISWELL
Former Director of Student Involvement





GRACE

REDZO

UNLEASHING THE PASSION OF LAN



LANCER

LANCER NATION

When it comes to college sports, there is something undeniably magical about the energy that fills the air when fans unite in support of their team. The pulsating beat of Lancer spirit, the thunderous roar of cheers and the vibrant sea of red create what is aptly known as the “RedZone” at Grace home athletic events. Let’s take a journey through the electrifying world of the RedZone, the secret homecourt advantage for our Lancers.

Grace has a rich history with its student cheer section. In the days of the old Lancer Gym, the students were known as the “Grace Crazies” as they packed the historic venue. It was not uncommon for fans to line up hours early to secure prime seating for a rivalry game, and due to the narrow margins of the gym, students could practically breathe down the necks of opposing players.

This spirit of the Grace Crazies lives on today. Our tightly-packed fans donned in Grace red, black and white provide unparalleled enthusiasm, energy and support for our teams. The RedZone often serves as an extension of the team, becoming the heartbeat of a dramatic comeback or overtime battle.

Grace’s men’s basketball team recently experienced that support during one of the most well-attended games in school history: the 2023 Crossroads League Tournament championship game against Huntington. A 16-point deficit at halftime against a top-ranked team is not easily erased, but the sea of red across the arena fueled Grace to a memorable comeback.

With just over a minute remaining, Frankie Davidson’s (BS 23) breakaway dunk put an emphatic exclamation mark on Grace’s efforts, and the roof of the Manahan Orthopaedic Capital Center felt like it might pop off as the delirious fans erupted in celebration. The moment was symbolic of the passion that Lancer Nation has given to its teams through the decades.

The RedZone is an integral part of Grace’s athletic experience. Just as the torch of passion has been passed down from class to class, we pray that the spirit of the Crazies and the RedZone burns brightly for years to come.



CHAD BRISCOE
Director of Athletics

Commencement

A CELEBRATION OF ACCOMPLISHMENT

Commencement is an exciting time! We celebrate the accomplishments of our students who have worked incredibly hard and persevered through challenges to earn their degrees. We also honor the relationships of family and friends who have supported these students. But more than anything, we give God praise for the way He continues to work among us at Grace. Without acknowledging Him, Commencement would just be another pomp and circumstance ceremony rather than an opportunity to glorify the God of the universe.

My own graduation from Grace was much longer ago than I'd care to admit, but I still remember the weight of being the first in my family to receive a four-year degree. I will never forget the people who came to help me celebrate, namely my parents, and the voices raised in song, filling the old Lancer Gymnasium with the words of the timeless hymn "Grace Greater than Our Sin."

From the sawdust trail of the Billy Sunday Tabernacle to the gym floor of the MOCC, our graduates walk with the pride of knowing they have grown in maturity and knowledge, but most importantly, they have grown in their walk with Christ. I'm encouraged that while Grace's Commencement has changed through the years, the school's commitment to honoring God during this momentous occasion has remained steadfast.



DR. KEVIN ROBERTS (BS 93, MA 96)
Provost



ement

PLISHMENT



1950



1978



1983



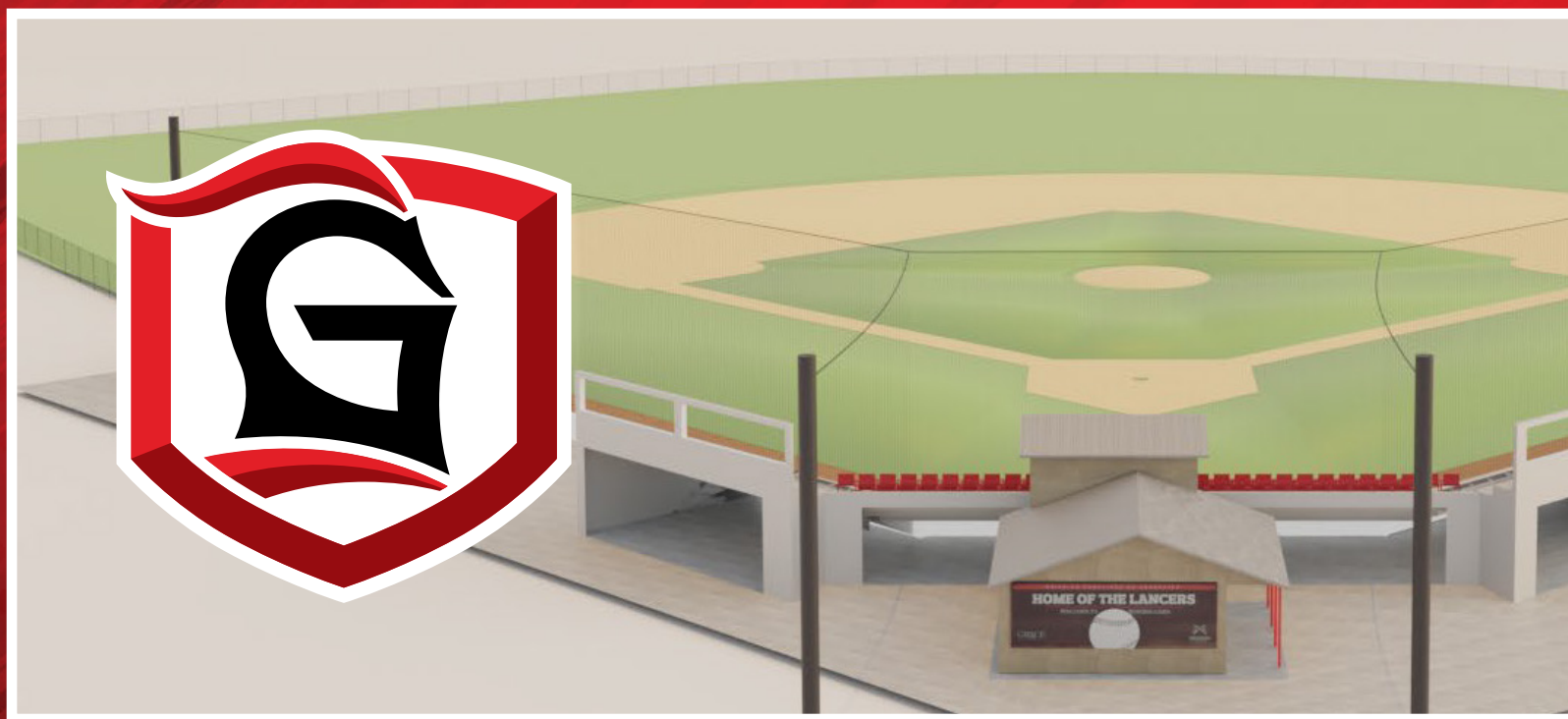
2004



2023

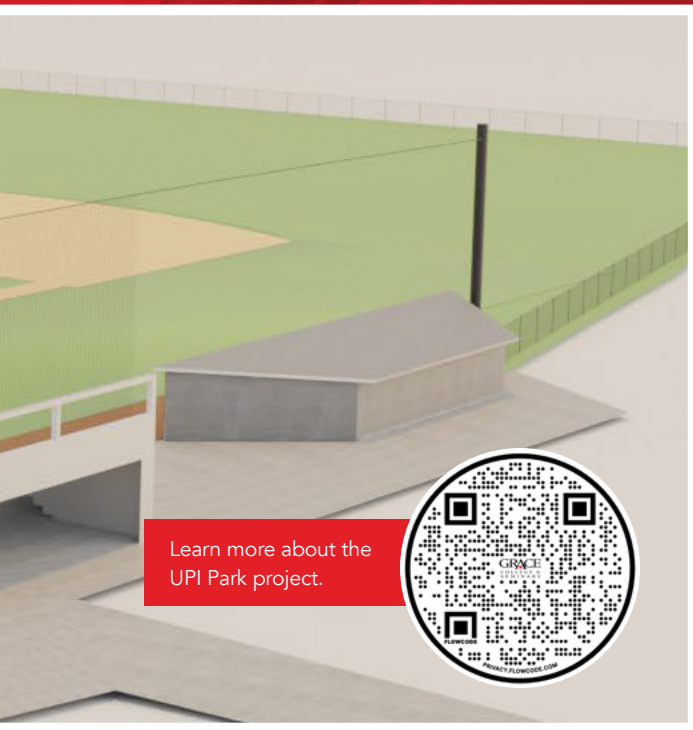
TOM ROY - UPI

"MORE THAN DIRT, DUGOUTS AND I



PARK

BLEACHERS"



Learn more about the UPI Park project.



When I was 17 years old, I signed to play baseball with the San Francisco Giants. While I didn't end up playing in the big leagues, the Lord had plans to use my love of baseball to take me places I never dreamed I would go.

After I made the decision to follow the Lord at the age of 19, I enrolled at Grace College in 1970 and became Grace's pitching coach under Chet Kammerer (BA 64). (Even though I was a student, I was older than most of the players!) As a brand new Christian, I learned so much from the baseball program — seeing the marriage of faith and coaching changed the trajectory of my life.

After serving as the pitching coach from 1970-73, I had two more stints coaching the Lancers: from 1980-1983 as head coach and in 2019 as a co-head coach with Ryan Roth. But I've spent 38 years of my career ministering to professional baseball players through UPI (Unlimited Potential Incorporated), an organization I founded to disciple professional players to take the Gospel into major league baseball locker rooms and to more than 60 countries.

With more than 50 years of leveraging baseball for the Gospel, I have seen the potential for the baseball field to become a sending location — a place for men to grow in their faith and leave with an understanding of what it means to be a disciple. This is my prayer for the new Tom Roy - UPI Park. I hope it's more than dirt, dugouts and bleachers. I hope it is a holy place where men encounter Christ, just like it was for me more than 50 years ago.



TOM ROY (BS 74)
Former Men's Baseball Coach



Year in Review

ANNUAL REPORT

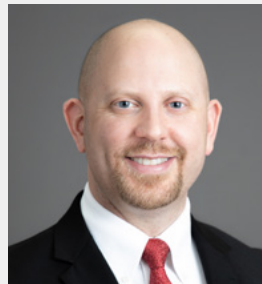


We are delighted to share the blessings God has bestowed upon Grace College & Seminary this past fiscal year. Guided by our commitment to excellence in education and our vision to know Christ and to make Him known, we remained focused on expanding opportunities for spiritual and intellectual growth and providing a top-tier education deeply rooted in Christian values.

Prudent financial stewardship was a cornerstone of our strategy. Total revenue improved from the prior fiscal year, buoyed by increased student enrollments, generous donations and auxiliary services, which enabled further investment into our strategic priorities. We managed our expenses diligently, resulting in increased operational efficiency without compromising our commitment to quality. This disciplined approach enabled us to achieve a surplus for the fiscal year and ensure we continue to focus on reducing debt. We recognize none of this is possible without the guidance of our Lord and the faithful supporters of Grace — whether it be students, their families, alumni, faculty or staff. We are thankful for the ways each one makes a special impact on our mission.

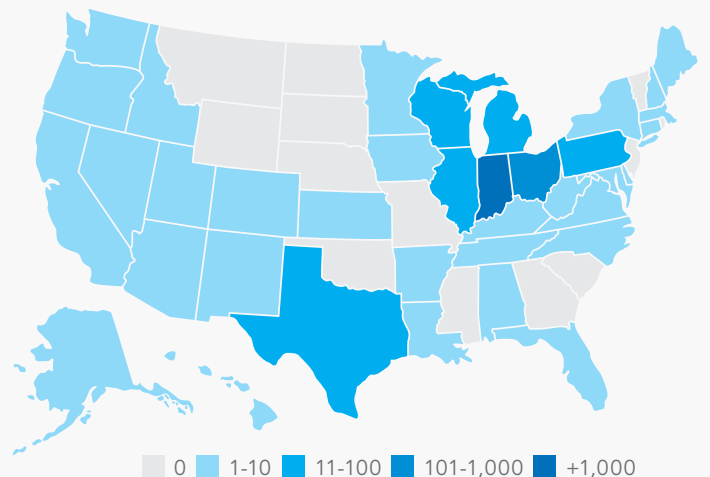
As we reflect on this past year, we are humbled by the continued blessings that have enabled us to thrive. With hearts full of gratitude, we look forward to the year ahead, trusting in God's guidance as we continue our mission to shape the minds and hearts of future leaders.

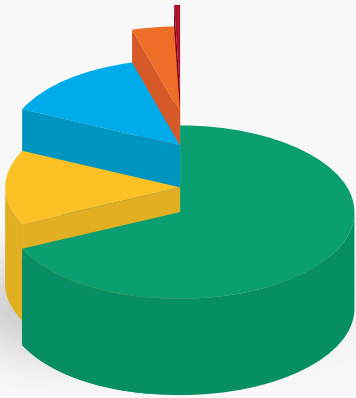
Forward in Grace,



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

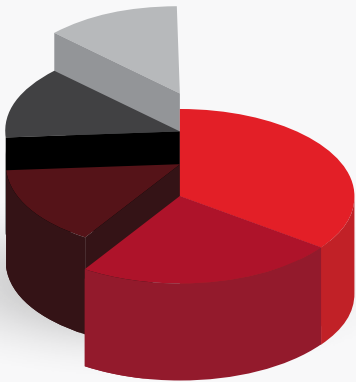
DOMESTIC DISTRIBUTION OF TRADITIONAL STUDENTS





\$65,202,515 TOTAL REVENUE

Tuition \$44,400,229	68.1%	Auxiliary Services & Sales \$2,478,514	3.8%
Food & Housing \$9,029,698	13.85%	Investment Return \$345,148	0.53%
Fundraising \$8,948,926	13.72%		

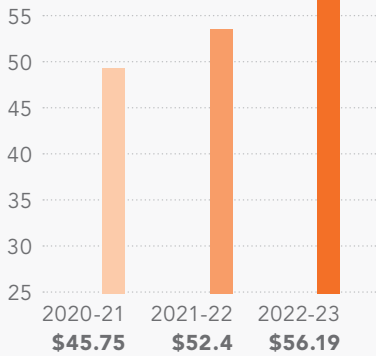


\$60,598,508 TOTAL EXPENSES

Student Scholarships \$21,155,790	34.91%	Institutional Support \$8,018,099	13.23%
Instruction & Academic Support \$14,911,487	24.61%	Auxiliary Expenses \$7,704,309	12.71%
Student Services \$8,808,823	14.54%		

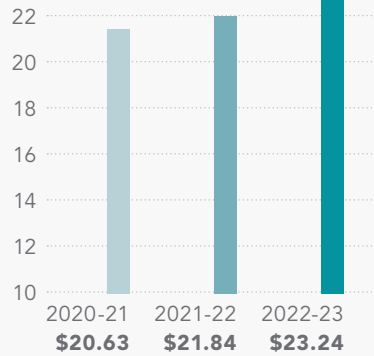
ASSETS

(\$ in millions)



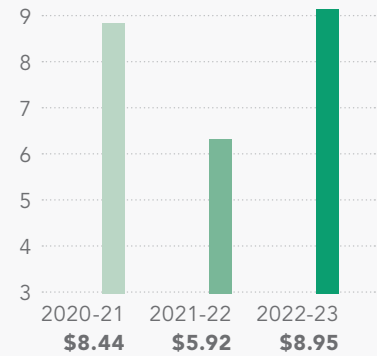
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(\$ in millions)

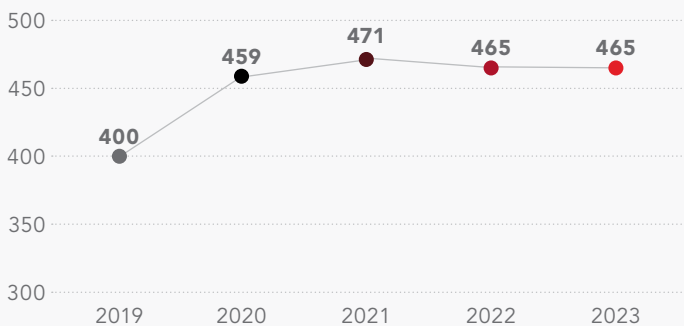


GIVING

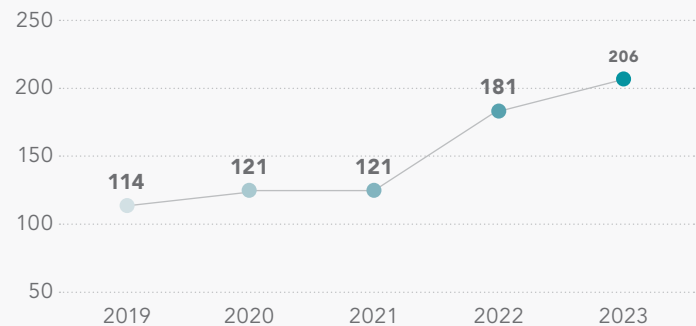
(\$ in millions)



TRADITIONAL UNDERGRADUATE NEW STUDENT ENROLLMENT



SEMINARY ENROLLMENT



Grace Welcomes Unprecedented Number of Students to Campus

First-year students gather at Winona Lake for an unconventional first-year photo prior to the annual cardboard boat races.



As Grace College celebrates its 75-year history, it welcomed an unprecedented 1,364 new and returning students to its Winona Lake campus for the 2023-24 school year. In addition to a campus full of traditional undergraduate students, Grace's total enrollment of 2,271 is helped by strong numbers from Grace Theological Seminary, Grace Online and College Launch, its associate degree program for

students in high school. "God has been so gracious to this institution from the very beginning," said Dr. Drew Flamm, president of Grace College & Seminary. "I find it fitting that as we recognize a historic milestone in our timeline, our numbers have reached a historic high — only more evidence of His grace."

This fall, Grace tied its second-largest incoming undergraduate class with

465 new students. The diverse group comes to Winona Lake from 19 states and 15 different countries.

Grace Theological Seminary has seen tremendous growth in its enrollment this year. The seminary welcomed 82 new students who are engaged in theological education through an array of delivery methods: on campus, online, on-site and on demand.

Support Grace students. Give to the Grace Fund.

"This is the highest number of incoming students the seminary has seen in a long, long time," said Dr. Freddy Cardoza, vice president of Grace Theological Seminary. "What is perhaps even more exciting is that we offer dozens of on-ramps for students to begin our various programs throughout the year, so we will see our numbers continue to grow."

A large percentage of those students are those pursuing online master's degrees through the seminary, which saw a 54% increase this year. This comes on the heels of a new seminary offering: a completely online MDiv program that launched this fall.

Grace Online welcomed 150 new students this year. The MA in Clinical Mental Health Counseling grew by 31%, and College Launch, Grace's associate degree in high school program, grew by 59%.

"As our students increase and our programs grow, we are dedicated to improving the student experience," said Flamm. "This summer, we renovated Beta Hall, and in the spring, we broke ground on our new Tom Roy — UPI Baseball Park. We are so thankful for the last 75 years of Grace College, and we are hopeful as we look to the next 75 years ahead."

Your gift to the Grace Fund directly impacts our students in all things, including scholarships, classroom learning, chapel, athletics and campus community. Ultimately, your Grace Fund gift invests in the lives of our students. Students like Janet McIlroy.

Janet is an environmental science major from California entering her third year at Grace. "I come from a low-income family; without the generosity of alumni and donors like you, I wouldn't be able to afford Grace. My time at Grace has been a big blessing and helped me grow in my faith tremendously. When I graduate, I hope to go on to work in fields like habitat restoration. I don't know where I'll be in the future, but I have faith that God will make my path straight and continue to work in my life."

The Grace Fund supports our mission of providing students a Christ-centered community of higher education that applies biblical values in strengthening character, sharpening competence and preparing for service.

Supporting students like Janet fulfills our mission, but your financial investment in Grace College & Seminary does something even greater. **A donation to the Grace Fund provides the place, the mentorship and the community for students like Janet to know Christ and to make Him known — and that can make an eternal impact on someone's life.**

How you can support Grace students in all things:

- **Pray:** Pray for our students, faculty, staff and leadership — that we would be committed to Christ in all things. Apart from Him, we know our work is in vain.
- **Share:** Tell others about the students impacted at Grace. Encourage others to stand with us through their prayers and donations.
- **Give:** Make a financial investment in the lives of our students. Donations to the Grace Fund provide directly for students' needs and opportunities, including scholarships, educational excellence, athletics, club activities and more.

Make your gift online today at grace.edu/give.

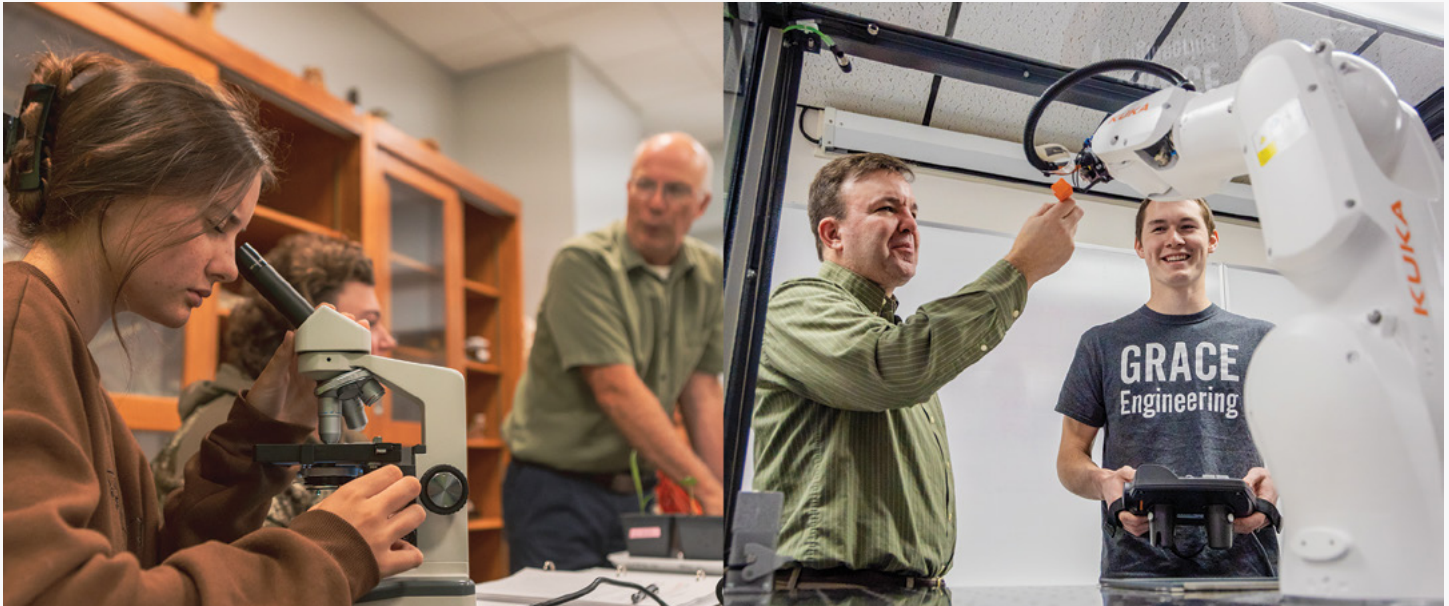
Grace be with you,



Nathan Harris

Nathan Harris, Ph.D.
Vice President of Advancement





Grace Introduces School of Science and Engineering

Grace College added a seventh academic school to its portfolio this June — the School of Science and Engineering (formerly part of the School of Arts and Sciences).

The Department of Science and Mathematics, the Department of Engineering and the nursing program now have their own academic school.

“The institution is committed to science, technology, engineering and math (STEM), and we want to structure our programs to reflect this priority,” said Dr. Kevin Roberts, provost at Grace College & Seminary. “By introducing the School of Science and Engineering and giving our STEM programs their own home, we can increase resources and advancements in these fields and expand the agility of these programs as they respond to the needs of our community and the needs within the broader market.”

The School of Science and Engineering now houses two

academic centers focused on Kosciusko County: the recently established Center for Movement and Well-Being, which will provide programming, education and research assisting residents in their exercise, wellness and overall well-being; and the Lilly Center for Lakes and Streams, a research and education center committed to making local freshwater lakes and streams clean, healthy, safe and beautiful.

Dr. Nate Bosch, professor of environmental science and Creighton Brothers endowed director of the Lilly Center for Lakes and Streams, now also serves as dean of the School of Science and Engineering.

“With 20 years of aquatic waterways research and experience in fundraising and advocacy to establish the Lilly Center as the premier center for aquatic research, Dr. Bosch

brings essential experiences and connections into the role that will elevate our science programs and help grow the networks surrounding them,” said Roberts.

Dr. Rick Roberts, associate professor of biology, will serve as the associate dean of the school. He and Dr. Joe Frentzel, Dr. Eugene Inman endowed chair of the Department of Science and Mathematics, will coordinate many of the day-to-day operations and play a crucial role in launching the new school.

“Over the next ten years, the U.S. Labor Bureau of Statistics is projecting job market growth in these professions ranging between 5-45%,” said Dr. Kevin Roberts. “I am excited to see how the Lord leads Grace as we seek to know Him and to make Him known through these fields of study.”

Engineering Receives \$443,240 from Don Wood Foundation

The Grace College Department of Engineering received a \$443,240 grant from the Don Wood Foundation this summer. The year-long grant will be used to increase the visibility of the program, build its connections to the community and purchase new equipment to help educate students about digital manufacturing.

“Manufacturing is a huge part of engineering and a significant employer in the area,” said Dr. Fred Wentorf, chair of the Department of Engineering at Grace. “But the way parts are being manufactured is rapidly changing, and a large growth area is digital manufacturing. Thanks to the Don Wood Foundation’s generous investment in our program, the engineering program at Grace will now be able to elevate our students’ education through hands-on experience with industry-relevant

equipment and curriculum for digital manufacturing.”

This is the second grant Grace College has received from the Don Wood Foundation in two years. Based in Fort Wayne, Indiana, the Don Wood Foundation exists to grow and strengthen the manufacturing sector in the region by bolstering educational opportunities between students, community and industry.

“The Grace College Engineering program is an important asset to Kosciusko County,” said Laura Macknick, president and CEO of the Don Wood Foundation. “With the growing need for engineering talent in the region, Grace College will be a key partner, particularly given the importance of medical devices and related technologies to the area’s future growth.”

A large portion of the grant will be used to upgrade robotic equipment in the department to include more robots and advanced controls, including vision and PLC. It will also be used to purchase optical measurement equipment capable of industrial metrology and advanced mechanics measurements, allowing students to visualize engineering principles and get hands-on experience with cutting-edge technology frequently used in the manufacturing industry.

“We hope that as a result of these funds, students in local schools grow to be more curious about engineering through camps and engineering events, local companies gain service-oriented engineers from Grace College and the Warsaw/Winona Lake community flourishes for the next generation,” said Wentorf.



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 four new board members.

Celebrating 15 Years of Service



Rev. Michael Yoder (BA 93, MDiv 96) has completed 15 years of service on the Grace Board of Trustees. We are forever grateful for the impact he has made on this institution and its students. Thank you for serving with enthusiasm, humility and passion.

Trustees

Mr. Matt Abernethy (BS 03)
Mr. Jonathan Allan (BA 12)
Mr. Robert Bishop (BS 69)
Mrs. Jessica (Zaugg BA 03) Bricker
Mr. Cory Colman (BS 83)
Dr. Kip Cone (BA 90, MDiv 96, DMin 18)
Dr. Adam Copenhaver (BS 01, MDiv 03)
Mr. Greg Dosmann (BS 86)
Mr. James Grady
Mrs. Jennifer Hollar
Mr. Randy Lake (BS 88)

Rev. Lamarr Lark Sr. (BS 87)
Mrs. Phyllis (Horney BS 69) Marwah
Rev. John McIntosh (BA 71, MDiv 87)
Rev. Keith Minier
Mrs. Monica Morrison
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
Dr. Karen White
Mrs. Letitia Williams (MAMin 10)
Ms. Janine Zeltwanger (BS 85)
Dr. Drew Flamm

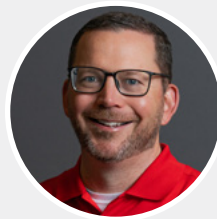
TRUSTEE EMERITI

Mr. William Burke (MAMin 07)
Rev. Jim Custer (BA 60, BDiv 63,
ThM 77, DDiv - Honorary 91)

New Board Members



Mr. Cory Colman (BS 83) is the President of Providence Holdings and a former executive at Paragon Medical. He resides in Warsaw, Indiana, which allows him to be involved heavily at Grace as a member of the Strategic Task Force, a member of the Campaign Steering Committee and an adjunct professor in the School of Business.



Dr. Adam Copenhaver (BS 01, MDiv 03) holds a Ph.D. in Theology from the University of Aberdeen and serves as a pastor at Grace Church of Mabton in Mabton, Washington. Copenhaver also sits on the Charis Symposium Executive Team. He is married to Susie (Dearborn BS 01) Copenhaver, and his son, Simon, is in the engineering program at Grace.



Dr. Karen White holds a Ph.D. in Pharmacology and serves as the chair of the Institutional Review Board (IRB) at Nationwide Children's Hospital. She joins with previous board experience at Worthington Christian School. White is an active member of Grace Polaris church in Westerville, Ohio, and her son, Tyler, is a sophomore at Grace College.



Rev. Lamarr Lark Sr. (BS 87) rejoins the board this year after serving on the Grace Board from 2005-2022. After 24 years at Abbott, a leading global healthcare company, Lark retired as divisional vice president of human resources. In 2014, Lark planted Connection Church in Libertyville, Illinois, and as a means to invest in his church, Lark also owns and operates a Chick-fil-A.

CONNECT

See how your classmates are making Christ known around the world.

College Young Alumni of the Year, Amy Collett (BS 15), draws water with women of Mtsiliza, Malawi, Africa.



Alumni Awards

We invite you to submit nominees for the 2024 Alumni Awards at www.grace.edu/alumni/awards.



COLLEGE ALUMNI OF THE YEAR

Mike & Myra Taylor

Mike (BS 79, MA 11) and Myra Taylor are firm believers that faith is one step at a time and God’s timing is always perfect. As parents, medical missionaries and nonprofit founders, the Taylors could fill a book with stories of God’s intervention at precisely the right time.

While working in the hospital to pay his way through college, Mike found a love for medicine. That love led him to the Medical University of South Carolina to become a physician’s assistant. But more importantly, it led him to Myra, who was studying nursing at the time. The Taylors weren’t in medicine long before they felt God call them to use their skills to help the less fortunate. In 1989, they moved their young family to the Central African Republic (CAR) where Mike worked in the hospitals and Myra organized a malnutrition ministry for kids.

“My dad told me from a young age, ‘If you’re going to college, you’re going to Grace.’ And I’m so glad he did. Grace completely transformed me and brought me back to my love for the Lord and for the Church. I have never looked back since.”

- Mike Taylor

The family returned to Winona Lake in 2000 when Mike was asked to provide leadership at Grace Brethren International Missions’ home office. Meanwhile, Myra

worked at Grace to help with putting four girls through college. Wanting to remain connected to the field, in 2012 the Taylors founded Three Strands, an organization committed to compassion, competence and Christ-centered healthcare in the CAR and Haiti, which they remain heavily involved with today. Whether it’s procuring medical equipment, raising funds or taking groups to the field — they continue to follow God wholeheartedly, one step at a time.

To learn more about Three Strands, visit www.three-strands.org.

Best Advice Received:

Eddie (BA 59, MDiv 62, ThM 83, DDiv - Honorary 00) and Linda (Paden BSN 61) Mensinger, who were missionaries for 40 years told us, “Invest in the lives of two or three African leaders and they will change their country.”



Amy Collett

You might remember her as Amy Collett (BS 15), but these days, she often responds to “Em-ee-lay” — a name tokened by the children of Mtsiliza, Malawi, Africa. An educational ministries major with a minor in intercultural studies, Collett always had an interest in going overseas. So when a Conference on Mission booth led her to an opportunity to work at Dzaleka Refugee Camp, she jumped on it.

Without previous knowledge of Malawi, Collett packed up her things and moved to “The Warm Heart of Africa” at the age of 22. She taught English in the camp for two years with an organization called There is Hope before her visa expired and she was forced to come home. Feeling unsettled in the U.S., Collett knew her time in Malawi was not finished.

One year later, she returned to Malawi to partner with her friends at Grace of God Children’s Home — a school that educates and cares for orphaned children who would otherwise fall through the cracks of the system. Collett

serves as the school’s education coordinator, which means she oversees the teachers, the curriculum, and the fundraising for the school. But most importantly, Collett demonstrates the love of Jesus to the 50+ children in attendance every day.

“Most people come to Malawi for the first time and only see the poverty. After living here for several years, I don’t see it that way. I see some of the most powerful, strong and resilient people I have ever met. Where they see poverty, I see power.”

- Amy Collett

Fluent in the native language of Chichewa, Collett has embraced the culture and become a valued member of her Malawian community. As her SUV clunks down the village streets each day, the children shouting, “Em-ee-lay! Em-ee-lay!” are evidence of the impact she has made.

To learn more about Grace of God Children’s Home, visit www.heartformalawi.org.

Most Impactful Thing About Grace: Being surrounded by strong leadership and being poured into by others as an RA taught me a lot about leading people and leading myself. It made me more confident in who I am.

COLLEGE DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD



Jessica Bricker

With three kids and a full-time job, Jessica (Zaugg BA 03) Bricker is selective about how she allocates her time, talent and treasure. But with discernment, she has been able to say “yes” to many opportunities that align with her priorities and allow her to use her skills for the glory of God.

Bricker was a volleyball player at Grace and graduated with not one, not two, but three majors. Her third major, accounting, was added after her first accounting class with Dr. Roger Stichter as a junior. And it’s a good thing. Now a Certified Public Accountant and Certified Financial Planner, Bricker has used her accounting skills in spades. She started in public accounting, spent 15 years in the orthopaedic industry and now serves as a financial advisor at Winona Wealth Management. Beyond her nine-to-five, Bricker serves her church through Winona Lake Grace’s Business Commission, and she gives to the

Warsaw community through her involvement with the K21 Foundation, AGAITAS and Rise Athletic Development, which was founded by her husband, Ryan (C 02).

“Working in marketplace ministry is often underappreciated as a mission field, but there have been significant events in my career that have allowed me a unique opportunity to speak into people’s lives.”

- Jessica Bricker

This past year, Jessica served as a co-chair of the Grace College Accounting Stewardship Committee, where she helped successfully develop and execute the plan to raise \$1.5 million for the Dr. Roger Stichter Endowed Chair of Accounting. She also holds a seat on the Grace Board of Trustees. Busy, no doubt. But Bricker is a testament to what faithful stewardship is all about.

Best Advice You’ve Ever Received:

Surround yourself with people who make you better. You are the average of the five people you spend the most time with.

Favorite Books:

“Atomic Habits” by James Clear
“Essentialism” by Greg McKeown



COLLEGE HONORARY ALUMNI OF THE YEAR

Mark & Cindy Deister

If you were to ask Mark Deister when he found his passion to give generously to the Lord's work, he would tell you it began at four years old.

The son of Fort Wayne church planters, Deister was a participant in Christian ministry from the very beginning. He graduated from the University of Michigan with a bachelor's in mechanical engineering and the University of Chicago with his M.B.A. He also pursued his master's in theology from Wheaton College. Deister went on to sell military and industrial computers and served in the Army and Army Reserves before he returned to the family business, Deister Machine Company, Inc., in 1963.

Deister is now the president and treasurer of Deister Machine, overseeing 400+ employees. His sixty years in the company have been marked by many successes — from growing the business to patenting his own inventions — but Deister will tell you the glory of

those things pales in comparison to the joy of serving his Lord and supporting Gospel-centered ministries. Deister and his wife, Cindy, have been active contributors to a

long list of organizations, including In Christ's Hands, a 501(c)(3) they founded, which supports 27 missions around the globe. Also on that list is Grace College's Department of Engineering and the Lilly Center for Lakes and Streams. With homes on two of Kosciusko County's lakes, the Deisters are joyful partners in the center's work to keep our lakes clean, healthy, safe, and beautiful.

Daily Mantra:

"Every day is a day to serve the Lord."

Fun Fact:

We have been married for 41 years, and we have five children, eight grandchildren and one great-grandchild. Six generations of Deisters have enjoyed spending time at the family property on Lake Wawasee.

"At eighty-five years old, many of my friends have gone home to be with the Lord. But I live each day knowing that the Lord has a mission for me, Mark Deister, to speak the Gospel today and win others to glory."

- Mark Deister

COLLEGE PARENT SERVICE AWARD

DISTINGUISHED



Emi Kreklau

Emi Kreklau is thankful for God’s callings in her life, which include being a cancer research scientist and mother.

As an undergraduate studying integrated science at Northwestern University, she had the opportunity to intern for a pediatric oncologist — and that research project set the trajectory of her career. She went on to study pharmacology and toxicology, obtaining an M.S. from the University of North Dakota and a Ph.D. from the University of Louisville. After a stint at the IU School of Medicine, Kreklau wanted her research to connect more directly with cancer patients — and that calling led her to join Lilly Research Laboratories. Over the past 18 years at Lilly, Kreklau’s research has advanced into clinical trials and improved the lives of breast cancer patients, including mothers like herself, whom she has had the opportunity to meet.

“I’m committed to helping young people find their calling and purpose, and hopefully, stay in Indiana and build Indiana’s future. Lilly has an incredible track record of doing that, and I see the same commitment and promise in the work Grace is doing.”

- Emi Kreklau

In addition to connecting with patients through her scientific research, Kreklau has been blessed to form many connections at Grace. With two Grace students of her

own, Keiko, a senior studying pre-med, and Curtis Kreklau III, a first-year transfer studying finance and entrepreneurship, Kreklau has been a member of the parent council since 2020. She shared safety practices with the Grace administration during COVID-19 and has connected Grace students to internship opportunities at Lilly. Kreklau also serves on the Grace Campaign Steering Committee, where she provides a unique perspective on the future at Grace.

Whether conducting research or attending a parent council meeting — Kreklau uses her talents, gifts and compassionate heart to make a difference in the lives of others.

Advice to Parents of College Students:

Encourage your kids to take ownership of their college decision. Encourage them to make connections and to tap into and explore all of the resources available to them.



SEMINARY ALUMNI OF THE YEAR

David
Benzel

David Benzel (MDiv 91) grew up with the philosophy that unless God closes the door, we should try to serve in places where the need is greatest.

For some, philosophy remains purely intellectual; for Benzel, it took him to the former Soviet Union in the aftermath of communism.

Benzel's first mission trip to Mali introduced him to a Grace Seminary alumnus whose disposition toward the Word of God led Benzel to pursue a theological education at Grace. Benzel says there wasn't a seminary class he didn't enjoy — from systematic theology with Dr. Charles Smith to Dr. Larry Crabb's courses on internal change. Benzel graduated with majors in Old Testament, New Testament and theology, which served him well in his 30 years of teaching that followed.

“We fulfilled roles as missionaries and teachers, but that’s not who we are. Whether people responded to us or not, that’s God’s doing. The greatest thing that could happen to a person has happened to us — we’ve been saved. And that is who we are.”

- David Benzel

Benzel met his wife Sharon (Llewellyn BA 79) at Pleasant View Bible Church, which eventually became their sending church as missionaries to Far-East Russia and Ukraine

through SEND International. After 15 years of teaching at a Bible school in Russia, the couple was forced to relocate due to a law restricting foreigners. For the next 14 years, Benzel taught at Kyiv Theological Seminary, a school of 300 students who were hungry to learn and committed to sharing the Gospel with the world. Just a few months before retirement in Jan. 2022, the war with Russia escalated, and the Benzels returned home.

While the door closed in Ukraine, Benzel continues to faithfully teach Sunday school at Pleasant View and “Exploring the Bible” at Grace College.

Little-Known Fact:

I read through the Bible every 40 days, which comes out to about nine times per year.

SEMINARY YOUNG ALUMNI YEAR

OF THE



Ethan Bunce

Interact with Ethan Bunce (BS 16, MA 19) one time, and you'll see he takes the charge to "lead with zeal" (Romans 12:8) to heart. A pastoral elder at Bellefontaine

Grace, Bunce is the kind of pastor who invites his small group to read through an entire gospel together in one night, the kind who sits at Waffle House until 2 a.m. with a church member who needs encouragement, the kind that inspires members to leverage their gifts to raise hundreds of thousands of dollars to advance the Gospel.

Bunce's heart for the Church is so undeniable, it's almost comical he first pursued marine biology and nursing before enrolling in the seminary's blended program and eventually becoming the student body chaplain at Grace. With two years of seminary left, Bunce received a call from Marysville

Grace about coming on as a church-planting resident and getting his education paid for. Little did he know, the residency would lead to a full-time position with the church, that, in 2017, was a group of 100 people meeting once a month. Today, it's a flock of 650+ with many thriving ministries.

Bunce's role includes overseeing residents, who one by one have come on full time at Bellefontaine, just like he did. He speaks zealously about serving alongside his wife, Jael (Murillo BA 17), who leads the women's ministry, and watching Christ build His Church. "When you just love people and declare, 'We have found Him! We have found the true, living God!', it's unbelievable the cool things you get to do."

"I wholeheartedly believe that if you take feeble, weak and humbled people before God, train them in the Word and send them out, two things will happen. 1. The passion for the mission will never fail. 2. The world will flip upside down."

- Ethan Bunce

Mount Rushmore of Grace:

Dr. Homer Kent, Jr. (MDiv 50, ThM 52, ThD 56),
Dr. Alva J. McClain, Dr. Tiberius Rata and Dr.
Bill Katip (BA 74)

Little-Known Fact:

I really like making braided challah breads.



SEMINARY SERVICE AWARD

DISTINGUISHED

Dan
Allan

Dan Allan (BA 80, CERT 81, MA 16) would describe his childhood as a “fairy-tale kind of existence.” He grew up in a Christian home and every time the church doors were open, Allan was there. But becoming a pastor was not his original intention.

After studying music education and music ministry at Grace College and marrying Holly (Straits BS 80), Allan interned at his wife’s home church, Ashland Grace. While there, he realized if he was going to pursue full-time ministry, he needed to know his Bible better. So he signed up for a biblical studies certificate at Grace Seminary, and what happened that year impacted his life and ministry forever. Through his studies, he learned that the authority, inerrancy and sufficiency of Scripture are absolutely essential to ministry. And that conviction has only grown in his heart since then. He still gets choked

up as he shares that what began as an obligation to study the Bible led him to the truest and most life-changing thing he has known.

“I’ve come to realize my story was the most dramatic story; the self-righteous, good people in the Bible were the ones who were the hardest. But God’s grace broke through my self-righteousness and showed me my need for Him.”

- Dan Allan

Allan has now served 40+ years in pastoral ministry at Grace Church Norton (three years) and Ashland Grace (39 years). During his tenure as senior pastor, he preached through every single book of the Bible — and he’s not slowing down any time soon. Now pastor of ministry development at Ashland and interim executive director of the Charis Fellowship, Allan says, “In this season of my life, I just want to know and enjoy Jesus more, and I’ll speak to anyone who wants to talk about it. Knowing Christ and making Him known has my riveted attention.”

Most Proud Accomplishment:

Loving my wife, my children and the people in my church.

Little-Known Fact:

I grew up playing ice hockey in Detroit.

If you are receiving Grace Story in error or if you are receiving duplicate copies, please contact Mary Polston, Grace's data manager, at 574-372-5100, ext. 6123, or polstomm@grace.edu. Thank you!

HOMECOMING

OCTOBER 6 - 7, 2023



We had a marvelous time welcoming so many of you back to campus for Homecoming. Our weekend was filled to the brim with our 75th Birthday Celebration, the Lancer 5K, numerous class reunions, the R. Wayne Snider Memorial Hallway dedication, a tailgate and so much more. We had an absolute blast. **We look forward to you joining us next year on October 4-5, 2024.**



1. Current students and alumni celebrate at the homecoming game tailgate.
2. Chad Briscoe (left) introduces the newest members of the Lancer Hall of Fame: Eric Gaff (BS 09), Marcus Moore (BS 08), Gary Blevins (BS 83) and Dana Johnston (BS 14).
3. Dr. Freddy Cardoza and Dr. Rock LaGioia address seminary alumni at the seminary reunion.
4. "Big Joe" holds the declaration of Indy-pedence during Hall T-shirt Chapel.
5. President Drew Flamm speaks at the R. Wayne Snider Memorial Hallway dedication.
6. Colton (BS 13) and Cassie (Gareiss BS 13) Streeter pose with their kids during the 75th Birthday Bash at the Winona Lake Sunset Pavilion.