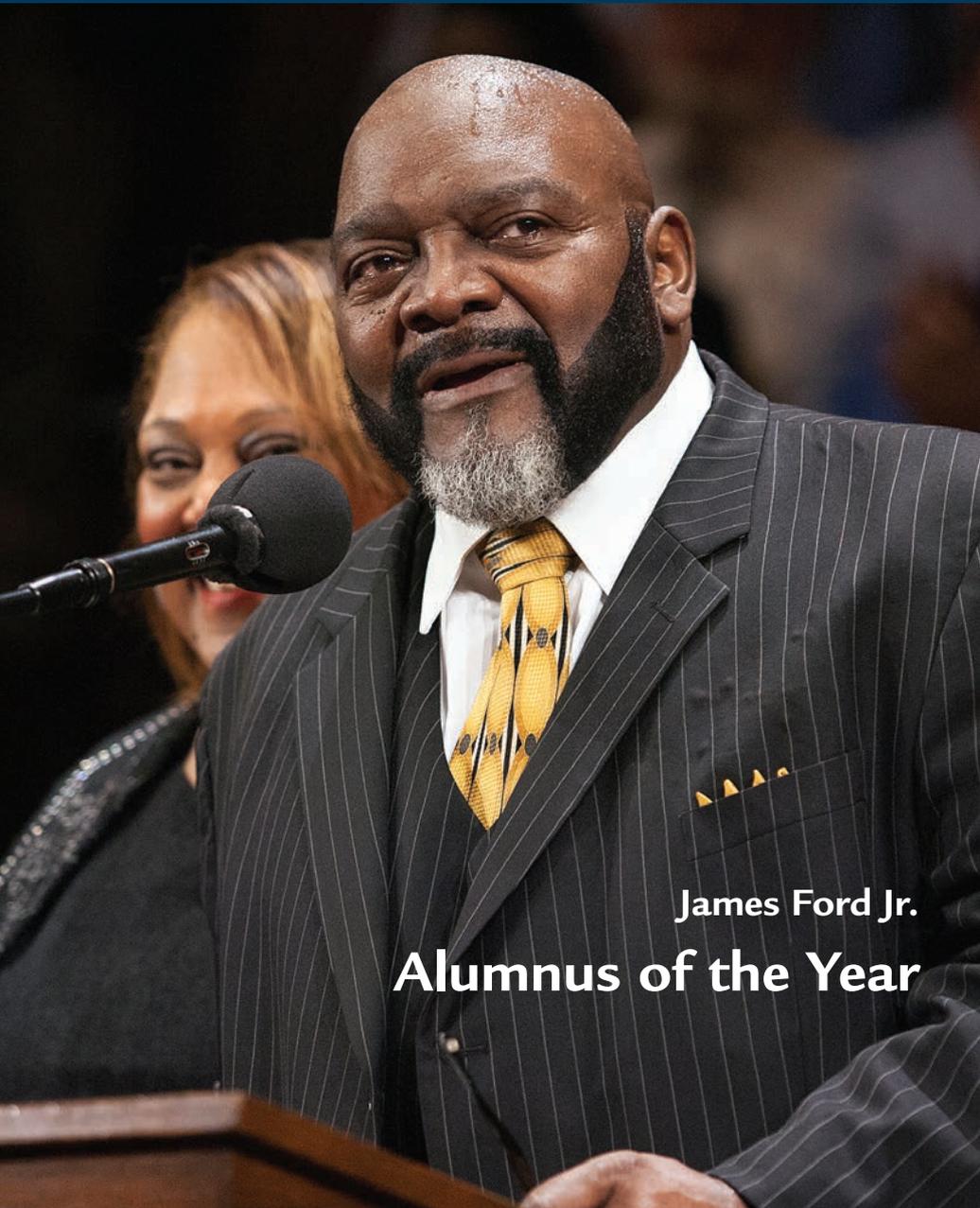


MOODY  
Alumni News

Spring 2017



James Ford Jr.  
**Alumnus of the Year**

# From the Executive Director



*Nancy signs the guest book at D. L. Moody's desk in Northfield, Mass.*

Dear friends,

I hope you were able to join us for Founder's Week in February, when we gathered for alumni reunions and heard outstanding preaching. Getting to see so many alumni was a special treat.

Another treat was getting to visit D. L. Moody's Northfield and Mount Hermon School campuses in Massachusetts with the Alumni Board of Directors recently. Invited by great-grandson David Powell, we toured Moody's birthplace, museum, auditorium (where great revivals took place), the house where he spent his final years, and his grave. This part of the Northfield property was recently donated to the Moody Center, a nonprofit devoted to preserving Moody's legacy. The rest of the campus was given to Thomas Aquinas College in February. This news is exciting to me as an alumna, and I hope to offer an alumni tour there someday.

Look inside to read about alumni who are serving in diverse places including Chile, Colombia, Uganda—and Hollywood! I hope these stories inspire you to reach out with the truth of God's Word to people wherever you are.

Serving Christ together,

Nancy (Andersen '80) Hastings  
Executive Director, Moody Alumni Association

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## Moody Begins Construction on Chapman Center



*Dr. Gary and Mrs. Karolyn Chapman, Moody President Paul Nyquist (right), and Moody Board of Trustees chair Randy Fairfax (left) break ground on the Chapman Center.*

On November 18, 2016, Moody broke ground on the Chapman Center, a four-story building on Wells Street that will provide a new, collaborative space for Moody Radio and Moody Publishers. The 50,000-square-foot structure will include space for the Gary D. Chapman Exhibit and the Gary D. Chapman Chair of Marriage and Family, currently Dr. John Trent.

At an assembly before the groundbreaking, Moody president Dr. Paul Nyquist addressed the student body, employees, and friends in Torrey-Gray Auditorium: “The need for this new facility has been painfully evident for many years,” he said, describing the need for better facilities to propel Moody’s media ministries toward greater global ministry.

Last year content from Moody Radio was downloaded in 190 countries,

while content from Moody Publishing was downloaded in 130 countries in 77 languages.

“Imagine when we can put all of Moody media—Moody Radio and Moody Publishing—under one roof and have them innovate and collaborate for greater kingdom impact,” said Nyquist, who added that many students will be mentored and trained for ministry in the Chapman Center. “That’s the vision behind this new building.”

The Chapman Center, the first new building on Moody’s Chicago campus in almost 20 years, is named after **Dr. Gary Chapman ’58**, the author of 46 Moody Publishers books, including the *New York Times* bestseller *The Five Love Languages*. He hosts a nationally syndicated Moody Radio program, *A Love Language Minute*, and a Saturday morning program, *Building*

### *Relationships with Dr. Gary Chapman.*

Chapman also speaks to thousands of couples nationwide through his weekend marriage conferences.

He and his wife are giving a generous gift to help establish the Chapman Center. “It’s been my privilege to be associated with Moody Publishers since the 1970s and Moody Radio for almost 10 years,” Chapman told the assembly, “so I think it’s fitting that we’d be doing something to pay back those two great ministries.”

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**“Imagine when we can put all of Moody media under one roof and have them innovate and collaborate for greater kingdom impact.”**

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Chapman was in Jenkins Hall that morning when he read Colossians 4:17: “Take heed to the ministry which you have received in the Lord, that you may fulfill it.” Looking out the window at Moody’s campus, Chapman prayed, “Lord, you know that’s what I’ve been praying for many, many years—that I might fulfill the ministry you’ve given me.”

Chapman reminded the audience,

“There is nothing more important than being faithful. I want to challenge you to be faithful, faithful unto death with the ministry God has given us.”

Following the assembly, the groundbreaking ceremony was held on the site where the Chapman Center will be built. Moody Board of Trustees chair Randy Fairfax prayed, “Lord, help us to use [the Chapman Center] to continue to share your Word throughout your world.” He continued to pray for those in Moody Radio, Moody Publishers, and the students who will work and learn in the new building. “Help them to be creative, to use their minds, talents, intellect, and skills to glorify You. I pray that we would be good stewards of everything You give us and that it would reflect back to You and people might know You.”

The Chapman Center will begin construction soon and is scheduled to open its doors in spring 2018. Moody continues to raise funds for the \$24 million project.

More photos of the groundbreaking and construction are available on Moody Bible Institute’s Facebook page. Watch an inspiring video at [moodyglobal.org/chapmancenter](http://moodyglobal.org/chapmancenter).

## **Electronic Transcripts**

Alumni can now order their official Moody transcripts online. The Office of Academic Records has implemented a new online transcript ordering process through Parchment Send for official transcripts to be sent both electronically and through the mail. To access the ordering site and set up an account, please visit the Alumni website at [moody.edu/alumni/alumni-association/services/](http://moody.edu/alumni/alumni-association/services/). For more information, please contact the Office of Academic Records at [academicrecords@moody.edu](mailto:academicrecords@moody.edu) or by phone at (312) 329-4469.

## Training Chicago-Area Ministry Leaders



*Professor Eric Redmond*

A successful pilot class led to the creation of Moody's new Spiritual Leadership Academy, offering Chicago-area ministry leaders Bible training in an affordable, continuing education format.

In the fall of 2016, Moody assistant professor Eric C. Redmond taught "Bible Study Methods," a 16-hour course offered one Saturday per month on the Chicago campus. More than 130 leaders attended, including pastors, Sunday school teachers, small group leaders, women's ministry directors, church counselors, and worship leaders. The course taught students to interpret the Sermon on the Mount as a case study for interpreting didactic literature.

Carla Bonner, a Sunday school teacher in Chicago who attended the class, says the course caused her to look at the Bible differently. "That's my biggest take-away, to study differently, to make sure I'm focusing on the intent and not necessarily pulling out just the application."

In January, Redmond began teaching "Tell the Whole Story: Interpreting Biblical Narrative," with the goal of offering tips and resources for

preaching and teaching biblical narratives.

Otis Wright, who has served as an adult Sunday school teacher for almost 30 years, says Redmond's method and approach has transformed the way he now teaches. "He really opens up the classroom for discussion and carefully guides a person to the truth, so I've used that method now. That's powerful."

Redmond, who has a master's from Dallas Theological Seminary and is pursuing his PhD from Capital Seminary, enjoys the opportunity to teach biblical skills to others. Redmond uses Facebook as a learning management system for the course, where he posts videos, PowerPoint presentations, and notes for the group.

### 'We Need Christian Education'

The first course came about after Moody's president, Dr. Paul Nyquist, and **Roy Patterson '84**, special assistant to the president for community relations, met with 16 Chicago-area pastors. Patterson says a common theme was heard: "We need Christian education, so if you could help train our leaders, that would be wonderful."

The pastors requested more teaching, especially for those lacking formal theological or biblical training. As a result, Moody Bible Institute Distance Learning began offering courses for continuing education units.

"The turnout far exceeded all of our expectations," Redmond says. "People are hungry for knowledge of the Scriptures." For example, Pastor James Meeks of Salem Baptist Church in Chicago who is also a Moody

Trustee sent 70 teachers and ministry leaders from his church.

Moody is planning additional courses, including “Interpreting Biblical Poetry” and “Communicating Biblical Truth.” “Since we’re in Chicago, we want to ensure that we are impacting our city and building relationships,” Patterson stresses. “But the goal doesn’t end

with Chicago, our state, or the Midwest; we want to reach our country and the nations with the truth of God’s Word so many more men and women can be equipped to make an impact for Christ.”

For more information, call (800) 758-6352, or email [barbara.spurrier@moody.edu](mailto:barbara.spurrier@moody.edu).

## Moody Hires Assistant Dean of Multicultural Students



*Edward Jones (right) chats with students Ravin McKelvy and Orlando Blanco.*

Edward Jones IV, the new assistant dean of multicultural students on the Chicago campus, provides mentoring to minority students and works with minority student-focused groups. Jones is helping Moody create and foster conversation and change on campus surrounding issues related to diversity.

“To be at Moody, a place equipping those who will shape the church moving forward, is an amazing and awesome opportunity,” says Jones.

He is also contributing his voice and perspective as a member of Moody’s Diversity Committee, which has been chaired by Moody’s president, Dr. Paul Nyquist, since its inception nearly four years ago. This committee made the recommendation to create the position Jones now holds.

“I’m very proud of the committee’s hard work in helping set forth a vision for diversity at Moody,” Nyquist says. “While Moody has made great

## Moody Highlights

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progress, particularly in the area of bringing in more diverse staff, faculty, students and trustees, we have been listening carefully to our minority students and have learned that there is a need for more progress to be made in the area of creating a place where they are more comfortable. With Ed's passion, love for the Lord, and extensive experience in higher education, social service work, and pastoral ministry, he will be indispensable in this effort."

### More than Qualified

Born in Tulsa, Oklahoma, Jones grew up in the historic Greenwood neighborhood. Well known as one of the most flourishing African-American communities in the early 1900s, it was the tragic scene of the 1921 Tulsa Race Riot, one of the worst urban racial conflicts in U.S. history.

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**"To be at Moody, a place equipping those who will shape the church moving forward, is an amazing and awesome opportunity."**

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After his family moved to Chicago's South Side, Jones developed a passion for issues related to diversity and justice, which carried over into his college years at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. There he helped lead a peer-based Bible study for minority students and earned a BA in political science with a double minor in sociology and African-American studies. Jones was licensed to preach in 1994, right before his 21st birthday, then was ordained in 1999.

After marrying his wife, LaTanya,

he served in social service agency work in Chicago, pastored in Tulsa, and worked at a corporation in northern California. In 2009, they moved back to Chicago where he earned an MDiv at North Park Seminary. He served with the university's dean of diversity and intercultural programs, helped launch a diversity conference, and organized an African-American lecture series. He also pastored a church in a southwest suburb.

In September 2014 Jones joined the leadership of the Illinois Baptist State Association. He traveled around the country locating, training, and resourcing partners for multicultural church plants.

### A Minority Student Advocate

At Moody since August 2016, Jones says he is focused on three things: bringing students' ideas and concerns to leadership; helping establish a vibrant, diverse culture on campus; and helping minority students identify financial resources for educational costs, as well as resources that will help them succeed in their studies and preparation for ministry.

"When we are born again, the Lord doesn't change our culture, heritage, or traditions, so culture shock can take place on both sides when students of color come to campus," he says. "I want to help Moody understand the perspectives of our students so they are more comfortable and their talents and gifts are being fully maximized and developed so they can successfully go into the context where the Lord leads them to serve."

Jones and his wife, LaTanya, live in a southwest suburb of Chicago with their three daughters and two sons.

## Moody Radio Trains Christian Media in Bulgaria



Moody Radio held its sixth Global Partners Training event in November 2016, this time in Sofia, Bulgaria. The conference included five training tracks: on-air work, radio production, digital media, video production, and leadership. Each track offered four classes, such as “How to Write a Social Media Campaign,” “Advanced Interview Skills,” and “Keeping the Bible Central.” Dr. Samuel Naaman, professor of world missions and evangelism at Moody, taught spiritual formation each morning. Evening sessions devoted time to prayer for the nations and covered such topics as “Practical Solutions for Christian Media in Europe.”

“It was obvious throughout the conference that our team was well supported in prayer,” says **Jon Gauger '80**, who leads special projects for Moody Radio. “God kept us healthy, engaged, and energized. Working with our superbly organized host team in Sofia, as well as the more than 100 people who came for the training from nearly a dozen countries, was a reminder that God has His handpicked

servants all over the globe, and we have much to learn from them!”

Several alumni served or led sessions at the conference, including **Stephen Asare BA '08**, manager of donor appreciation and channel strategy at Moody Global Ministries, **Chris Segard '95**, Moody Radio’s manager of production services, **Nate McMillan BA '07**, **MAMin '12**, adjunct faculty member in Moody’s Communications department and Moody Radio producer, **Elizabeth Doogan BA '14**, web content specialist for Moody Radio Network, and **Hadassah (Lachmann BA '16) Carlson**, donor marketing specialist.



*Students proudly display their certificates at the conclusion of Global Partners Training.*



‘Everything without Christ equals nothing’  
Alumnus of the Year James Ford Jr.

*“He has a holy boldness to proclaim Christ,” said Roy Patterson ’81, special assistant to the president for Community Relations at Moody Global Ministries.*

*“He is able to vividly take the Bible in one hand and real life in the other and bring the two together,” said Dr. Erwin Lutzer, emeritus pastor of The Moody Church.*

Cheers and applause rang out at The Moody Church on Alumni Day, Feb. 7, as **Pastor James Ford Jr. ’84** was recognized as the 2017 Alumnus of the Year. Nancy Hastings, executive director of the Alumni Association, presented the award.

“Pastor Ford’s life and preaching has had a profound effect on many,” she said. “Not only does his church benefit from his knowledge, but also the Church at large through his deep, rich voice heard over the radio and through his publishing ministry.”

Ford has served as senior pastor of Christ Bible Church of Chicago since 1982, a position he began after enrolling at Moody as a 30-year-old married man with three children. He has a master’s degree from Trinity Evangelical Divinity School and serves

as the president of Impact Ministries, a church outreach dedicated to strengthening families in the South Shore community of Chicago. He has authored several books on marriage and relationships, including Moody Publishers’ *When a Man Loves a Woman*, *When a Woman Loves a Man*, and *Seven Reasons Why God Created Marriage*. His Bible teaching program, *Treasured Truth*, airs daily on Moody Radio and 160 affiliate stations.

“We live our lives with this motto: Everything without Christ equals nothing,” said Ford, who accepted the award with his wife, Leslie. “A lot of things are out of place because Christ is not in first place. And when Christ is not valued above all, Christ is not valued at all. We just thank you for such a great honor, a great privilege.”



God bless the school. Since 1901, Founder’s Week has offered outstanding Bible teaching from the nation’s Christian leaders. Watch this year’s speakers at [foundersweek.com](http://foundersweek.com).



**‘Do you live in 1:21 or in 2:21?’** Alumni Day speaker **David Anderson ’89**, founder and senior pastor of Bridgeway Community Church in Columbia, Maryland, asked, “Do you live in Philippians 1:21—‘To live is Christ and to die is gain’—or in 2:21—living for your own interests, not those of Jesus Christ?” Anderson was the first black student body president of Moody and remembers proposing to his wife, **Amber (Thonnes ’90)**, in Torrey Gray.



**Long-term impact.** Alumni Day speaker **Eric Rivera ’03**, enjoyed the Alumni Banquet with his wife, **Erikah (Combs ’03)**, and the man who mentored him as a youth and provided PCM opportunities, Inner City Impact founder **Bill Dillon ’65**, along with Dillon’s wife, **Sandra (left)**.



**With enthusiasm.** **Ike Nichols**, a senior composition major and Men’s Choir member, led the singing of “Blessed Assurance” on Alumni Day’s evening session.



**Heaven-worthy singing.** On Tuesday night, Men's Choir directors **Vann Trapp '57** (1964–74), **Dr. Terry Strandt** (1989–92), and **Dr. H. E. Singley '71** (1996–present) conducted “Laudamus,” “Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing,” and “Power of the Cross,” respectively.

## Faculty Citation Award: Dr. Gregg Quiggle

Professor of theology Dr. Gregg Quiggle received the 2017 Faculty Citation Award. Celebrating 30 years with Moody this year, Dr. Quiggle studies American religious history and is a noted D. L. Moody scholar. As dean of Moody's Study Abroad program, he organizes student groups to study church history, theology, and the Bible in Israel, Germany, Greece, and other places around the world.

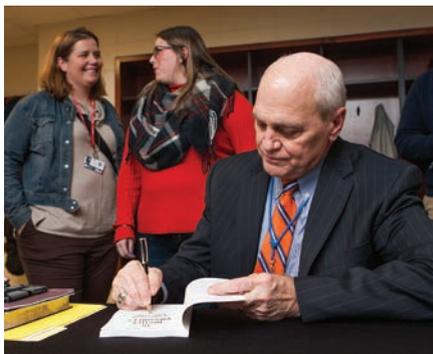
“Gregg has had a consistent record of excellence as an instructor and colleague,” said **Dr. James Spencer MDiv '04**, vice president of Moody Bible Institute. “His most recent work on Moody's Study Abroad program is an excellent example of his passion to educate students well and to prepare them for a lifetime of ministry.”



*Dr. Gregg Quiggle, joined by his wife, Mary (Neff '88) Quiggle accepts the 2017 Faculty Citation Award.*



**Alumni gathering.** Hundreds of alumni reunited with friends at the Alumni Banquet on Feb. 7 of Founder’s Week 2017.

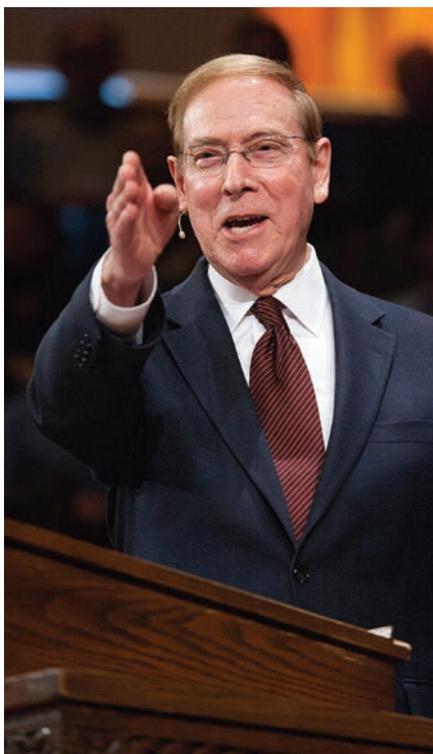


**Autographing copies.** Moody President Paul Nyquist signed copies of his new book *Is Justice Possible?* after the alumni dinner.



**‘It was an amazing time.’** So said Ken Kemp ’69, (left) who with his brother, Roger ’78, (right) reunited with the Moody Men’s Glee Club/Men’s Collegiate Choir for its 60th anniversary. Both had been president of the choir while students. “Our conductor Mr. Vann Trapp made a powerful, powerful impact on my life, and I’m grateful,” said Ken, a pastor and western regional director for Operation Mobilization. Roger, who works in media with nonprofit ministries, adds, “I enjoy all kinds of music but I’m forever indebted to Moody for giving me a taste of sacred music.”

**“The healthiest relationship with God is when we learn to speak all five love languages to God,”** said Dr. Gary Chapman ’58, author of *The 5 Love Languages*. He spoke Tuesday night.



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**Alumni giving for 2016.** More than 3,700 alumni gave \$1.7 million to Moody Bible Institute in restricted and unrestricted giving. A total of 23 alumni gave \$3,402,739 in deferred giving, the second highest amount ever for deferred giving. Total alumni giving for 2016: \$5,131.355.63. Praise the Lord!

# FINDING HUMILITY IN HOLLYWOOD

How a Mennonite pastor's kid left Moody for movie star fame

Wearing a Barney Dinosaur costume at a birthday party, **David A. R. White** sank to a low point in his acting career. He had been fired from a hit TV show by his boss, Burt Reynolds, and other acting opportunities had started to shrivel up. Why had God let him taste Hollywood success, only to let it slip away?

Growing up as the youngest son of Gene White, a conservative Mennonite pastor in Kansas, David didn't watch much television and had seen only one movie in the theater in 18 years. Yet he'd dreamed of going into the entertainment industry since his youth.

That dream didn't sit well with his father, who wanted each of his children to attend Moody Bible Institute for at least one year. "It's really the only school our family holds dear to our hearts," David explains. After all, his parents had met at Moody: His mom, **Marceil Williams '56**, was a student when his dad worked for Moody before becoming a pastor. David's older brother **Tim White '82**, sister-in-law **Naoko Kimura '89**, older sister

**Michelle White '87**, and brother-in-law **Abel Peña '88**, graduated from Moody and went into ministry. "My entire family found their significant others there," David says. "They thought I would do the same thing."

His father hoped David would follow in his footsteps to become an evangelist. And David did go to Moody, studying the Bible and playing trumpet in the Symphonic Band. "I loved Moody, loved my classes, it was a great experience, but I couldn't shake the dream of going into the entertainment industry, he says."

With trepidation, he called his father one day and said that at the end of his first year at Moody, he wanted to move to Hollywood to be an actor.



David A. R. White (center) during the filming of a scene from *Revelation Road*.

After a pause, his father replied, “As long as you serve the Lord in whatever you do, we support you.”

David was 19 when he moved to California. Six months later, he landed a job working as an extra on *Evening Shade*, a sitcom filled with Emmy winners and Hollywood icons like Burt Reynolds. He continued to find success, scoring more acting jobs and guest-star appearances on TV shows like *Melrose Place*. He also joined a church in Los Angeles and got his first starring role in a Christian film called *Second Glance*. His dream was becoming a reality.

### Living a Nightmare

But Hollywood success seemed short-lived. At the end of season three,

Burt Reynolds chose him to parody his character in an episode. David committed the cardinal sin: he amused the audience but ended up offending the star. Burt Reynolds cut him from the show but never explained why. Soon other acting jobs dried up. “My career turned sour, I couldn’t get a job, and my life felt like it came to a screeching halt,” he says.

His desire had been to make money as a famous celebrity, while still retaining his Christian beliefs and standards. How could God allow him to succeed and then fail?

Disappointed and frustrated, he slowly stopped going to church, let his Bible gather dust, and started experimenting with things he would not have done a few years earlier, such



David A. R. White discusses the film *God's Not Dead 2* in a CBN interview.

as dating non-Christians and drinking to excess. He wanted to marry a Broadway dancer but his struggling work life didn't impress her parents. In Hollywood, where he says "being a Christian isn't popular," he found himself wondering, *Do I believe what I believe just because I grew up in it?*

He was broke and broken-hearted. Maybe it was time to give up his movie career. Ironically, God would use a movie to draw David back to Himself.

### Giving God Glory

In his late twenties, David got a desk job at a casting company that led to a successful faith-based movie, even while he was still living an un-Christian life. Then he was cast in the movie, *Mercy Streets*, playing twins who were separated at birth. One became a con artist and the other a preacher.

"At the end, each of the twins had to decide—and I had to decide as well. Life imitating art," David recalls. "Was I going to be a con man or was I going to be a preacher? Was I truly going to be a believer? Because if I was, then I needed to lay down the stuff that wasn't of the Lord and go back to my first roots and really love Jesus Christ."

While the movie didn't perform the way he wanted it to, it led David to stop focusing on himself and re-devote

his life to the Lord. Instead of chasing a self-serving dream of success in Hollywood, he decided to let the Lord redirect his dream to impact others and bring glory to God.

"When things are really hard and God challenges us through different struggles in our life, those are the times where He ultimately puts us through the fire, refining us for what He wants us to be," David says.

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**"The more successful I become, the more humbling it is, the more I really, really need the Lord's leading in so many different ways."**

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In 1998 he formed a Bible study group with other broken Hollywood actors in an effort to be light in the darkness. "It's amazing to see what God will do with a little when you give Him what you have," he says. In 2002 he met his wife at a Los Angeles church. After producing a successful Christian movie in 2004, David partnered with two other people to form Pure Flix, an independent production and distribution company whose mission is to influence the global culture for Christ through media. By the end of 2012, Pure Flix

had produced more than 15 faith-based films and distributed another 50 worldwide.

In 2014 they produced *God's Not Dead*, but no studios would take it on for distribution. While Pure Flix had successfully released movies to DVD and television, their dream was to release *God's Not Dead* in theaters.

"This was a dream that was bigger than us, a massive risk," David says. The risk paid off. With a \$2 million budget, the movie grossed more than \$60 million at domestic box offices.

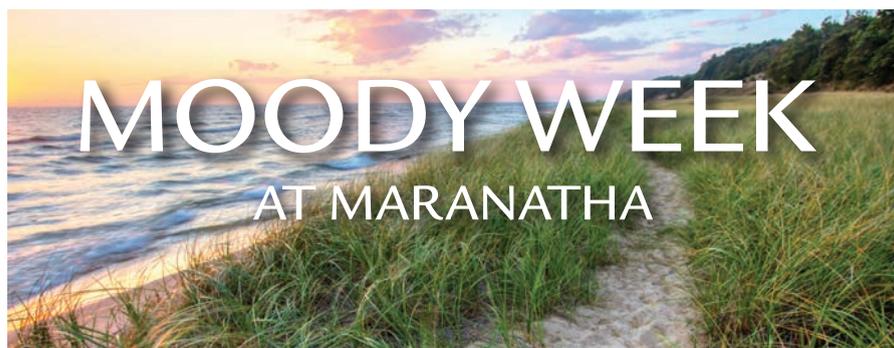
Altogether, David has starred in more than 25 films, produced more than 40 films, and recently launched Pureflix.com to offer a Christian alternative to Hollywood fare. Last fall he wrote *Between Heaven and Hollywood: Chasing Your God-Given*



*Dreams* (Zondervan), which shares anecdotes from his acting pursuits and how God pursued him.

Living in Hollywood with his wife, Andrea, and three children,

David says success has not gone to his head. "The more successful I become, the more humbling it is, the more I really, really need the Lord's leading in so many different ways," he says. "I start every day on my knees in prayer. It's a humbling way to kick off the day and a reminder that I live to serve God. This act of humility gives me courage and strength."



**SATURDAY, JULY 1–SATURDAY, JULY 8**

Join us for Moody's alumni reception on Sunday, July 2, 4:00 p.m., at the Maranatha Bible and Missionary Conference in Muskegon, Michigan. Attend the dinner (\$13.60) at 5:30 p.m., then join us for the evening session with Dr. Paul Nyquist at 7:00 p.m. RSVP for the reception at (312) 329-4412 or email [mbialum@moody.edu](mailto:mbialum@moody.edu).

Plan to stay all week. Hear messages from Dr. Paul Nyquist, Dr. Crawford Loritts, Dr. Michael Vanlaningham, and Dr. Michael Rydelnik. Register now for a great week at [vacationwithpurpose.com](http://vacationwithpurpose.com).

# From Fear to Friends



Missionary Serina Klotz opens her home and heart in Colombia

When **Serina Klotz '14** moved to Colombia as a single missionary with Camino Global, her worst fear wasn't encountering FARC guerrilla rebels or learning to speak Spanish fluently. It was the thought of being alone. "I'm a super social person," says Serina, the oldest of six siblings. So when she moved into a place by herself a year after her arrival, she panicked.

"I'm going to drive myself nuts. I need community, noise," recalls Serina, who serves as a youth leader at Vida Nueva Iglesia (New Life Church) outside Colombia's capital city of Bogota.

Living by herself has turned out to be a blessing. "I've really come to enjoy it because I get the rest I need. Speaking another language all the time is a whole new level of exhaustion," she says.

With her gift of hospitality, Serina is never alone for long. "God's used my fear of loneliness as a really awesome motivation for ministry because I do like having people over." Young people come over for coffee and end up staying for hours. "Colombians love coffee. Coffee is not a twenty-minute thing; it's a four-hour thing."

New believers ask her faith and theology questions, such as, "Can I go out with my friends anymore? Can I have non-Christian friends? How do I witness to them without losing them as friends?" Serina enjoys each opportunity for relational discipleship.

"These are serious, important concepts you can't really answer in a church service or Sunday school class," she says. "You need a private time like that."

Serina encourages her friends to look to the Lord and to the Word, often pointing them to appropriate verses. "I do have a lot more Bible training than anyone else does here, and that is all due to Moody. I

function as the library. I don't necessarily have the life experience to answer all those questions, but I do have the study and the training."

She adds, "They might not be able to sit in a systematic theology class or read the books I was exposed to, but I can do a smaller, simpler version for them to begin to grow."

### Outreach in Colombia

For the last year Serina has been a leader at her church's family outreach program, Xtreme Life. She works with children and teens, teaches English classes, and organizes cultural events, including the Christmas play and Christmas choir. "I'm also in charge of a kids' retreat, and I help with VBS," says Serina.



*Two girls receive their first Bible at Proyecto Dar.*

For the second year in a row she promoted Proyecto Dar, a fundraiser that supplied 165 Bibles to impoverished children and 130 devotionals to parents last fall. In the laid-back Colombian culture, Serina was surprised to see children line up 30 minutes early at the local school that hosted the event. She and her assistants showed the children how to find the Christmas story in their Bibles and read about Jesus. Along with snacks and face painting, "it was



*Serina leads worship with kids during VBS.*

an absolutely beautiful day full of God's joy and love found in Christ," she says.

Another favorite event is "Domingo Lingo de Gringo," which she hosts monthly for her 25 English students. When Chicago was the topic, she served Chicago-style hot dogs and Garrett Mix popcorn, while sharing her Moody experiences and photos. They discussed dorm life, seasonal activities, and even how Chicago's gang violence differs from Colombia's issue with drug cartels. "It was fun to share about my college days and pray for my friends that are serving in that city," she says.

### **Missions and Moody**

Serina was saved at age seven when a friend brought her to an evangelistic kids' event in her New Jersey hometown. Her mom became a Christian around the same time and her dad was saved when she was 12. "I prayed for my dad every Sunday for five years," she says.

Serina's relatives ridiculed her family for becoming Christians and stopped sharing holidays with them. "I understand what it's like to have people in your family not talk to you because you're Christians," Serina

says to young believers in her Colombian church. They listen, as many of them are the only Christians in their family, she explains. "They're like, 'Well, if she can be a missionary, then I can be a missionary.'"

Serina is the first missionary in her family. At age 14 she helped people affected by Hurricane Katrina. At 16 she led a seven-year-old girl to the Lord during a trip to Mexico, reminding Serina of her own conversion. While still in high school, she interned in Kenya, exploring options like medical care. "But no matter what I did, I ended up with the kids," she says, realizing her calling.

She also met **Dan ASP '80** and **Sue Wicher ASP '80**, Moody graduates with Camino Global. "You need to go to Moody and then come work for Camino," they told her.

God led Serina to do both. She majored in Bible and intercultural ministry at Moody with an emphasis in children's ministry. She started learning Spanish and joined the leadership team of Puente, Moody's Spanish club. "Those friends were hugely influential, helping me understand Latino culture," she says. Also helpful were professors

like Mrs. Elizabeth Smith, who taught her skills for children’s ministry, and **Dr. Rosalie de Rosset ’80**, who helped Serina think through her theology as a woman in a Latino context.

Practical Christian Ministry opportunities helped her grow in her faith, especially her two years of outreach to prostitutes rehabilitating at the Chicago Dream Center. “Not only did I have to learn how to trust God in, at times, dangerous situations but I was challenged on how to share God’s love with people that have suffered so much,” she says.

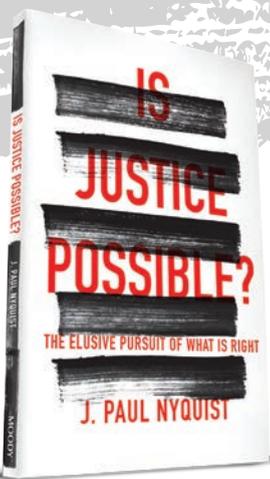
### Sharing the Struggle

Serina hasn’t been back to New Jersey since she moved to Colombia in August 2015. “Part of ministering

to people is spending time with them through everything—Christmas, Easter, birthdays, vacation time,” she says.

In a culture where people tend to follow the leader, her goal in discipleship is to teach them to use the Bible and think for themselves, much like her theology classes at Moody taught her. “I appreciated the struggle I went through to know what I think about key doctrines—I want them to experience that same struggle themselves,” she says.

Regarding salvation, for example, she tells them, “You’re not saved because you have a good pastor; you’re saved because of your personal faith. I want you to believe it because you know it’s true, because that’s what the Bible says, and then show it to me.”



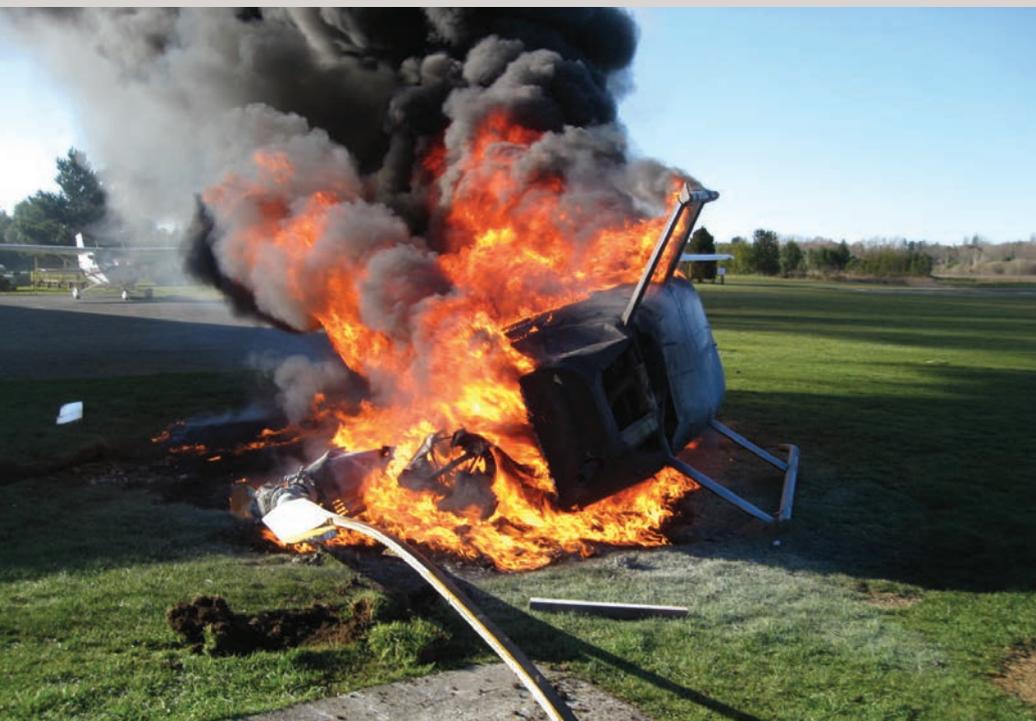
# IS JUSTICE POSSIBLE?

If our world is so sophisticated, why is there so much injustice? What can believers do? Can we ever expect justice? Dr. Paul Nyquist addresses these questions in a new book that explores a key attribute of God. Rather than rely on our own ideas of justice, we must look to the One who made us and embodies justice perfectly.

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# NOT ALONE

What a near-death experience taught Christian Konow about trust



On September 1, 2010, Moody alumnus **Christian Konow '84** strapped himself into his Robinson R44 Raven II helicopter and started the engine for a routine maintenance check. As the blades began to spin, a strong gust struck the helicopter and the nearby hangar wall, causing a vortex that made the helicopter buck. The helicopter overturned, bursting into flames.

Fuel began pouring into the cockpit. Fire quickly engulfed Christian, igniting his hair and sucking oxygen out of his lungs. He buried his face in his clothes, thinking, *There's no way I'm getting out of here.*

Then another split-second thought troubled him: *Now I'm going to die; have I believed right? This thing of studying the Bible and following Christ, is all that I've believed right?*

Trapped, Christian's thoughts turned to the God in whom he'd put his trust. *I'm about to die. Show me the steps of how to get out of here—if you want me to. And help me stay calm.*

Christian sensed three clear instructions, which, despite doubts, he followed one at a time: He lowered his right hand and undid his seatbelt, kicked hard with his right leg, and did a sit-up, throwing himself forward. Suddenly he was propelled out of the helicopter. "I was burning and smoking but tremendously calm," he says. He moved to safety, pushed a Cessna out of harm's way, then looked back to see the helicopter explode.

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**"I'm about to die. Show me the steps of how to get out of here—if you want me to."**

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A mechanic helped Christian get under a shower, putting the fire out. When the ambulance arrived and he was put on the stretcher, his body convulsed in pain and went into shock. At a local hospital, Christian was put on a ventilator; three days later he was airlifted to a burn unit in Santiago, Chile, where he spent 20 days in an induced coma.

### Looking for Answers

Christian was born of German descent in southern Chile. He studied

philosophy in public high school and read existentialists like Descartes. His readings pushed him to consider an absolute, which led to a quandary: "Where did it all come from? If God is God, why can't we talk to him, like on the phone? Why so much hide and seek?" he recalls.

Christian didn't know much about the Bible but he had heard a story of Mary, Joseph, and a donkey, which seemed childish. "I always assumed that people who believe religious things were dimwitted and superstitious and their beliefs didn't go with science and reason and math," he says.

But his questions persisted until he finally picked up a Bible and prayed: "If this book has some connection to you, God—if you do exist out there—I honestly would like to know." He opened the Bible to 1 Corinthians 15:17 and read, "If Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile; you are still in your sins." Yet according to verse 20, "Christ has indeed been raised from the dead." He pondered the words and prayed, *So you're telling me that if I know Christ, I can know God?*

After becoming a believer, Christian understood Jesus Christ as a person, not an abstract idea. "I started interacting with Jesus and learning about Jesus and His character," he says.

For several years he didn't know any other Christians. Evangelicals in Chile were primarily poor and uneducated, he says. Later, during a student exchange program in Iron Mountain, Mich., he became involved in a church and was baptized. There, **Pastor Lloyd Tornell '37** pointed him toward Moody. After returning home, and despite resistance from his parents who wanted him to study for a lucrative career, Christian left Chile again—this time for Moody.

“I didn’t know the Scriptures, so I wanted to know what this book was all about,” Christian explains. He started in Moody Aviation and later transferred to the missions program.

He struggled with a rebellious streak at Moody (“I was the kind of person who did not abide by all the rules,” he says), but he finished his three-year diploma and says Moody provided him with a good biblical foundation. It is also where he met **Kathleen Genheimer ’84**, a music major whose parents and grandparents had been missionaries in South Africa.

After Christian and Kathleen married, they moved to South Carolina, where he completed an MA in missions at Columbia International University in 1987. “I matured a little more by that point,” he says. After they moved to Chile, he and two others started and began pastoring a church called Amigos de la Biblia (Friends of the Bible). To support his wife and four sons, he managed a family agricultural business. In 2008 Christian and an old friend started Navitas, a renewable energy company. They bought a helicopter to do survey work around the mountains. “We succeeded. We’re still doing it,” he says.

Meanwhile he planted a church in Osorno, Chile, called El Galpon (the Barn), which recently entered into association with New Life Community Church, founded by **Mark Jobe ’84** in Chicago. “My passion is church planting,” Christian says. And his passion for God reached a whole new level after the helicopter accident.

### **Time Alone, Time with God**

Christian remembers the induced coma. “You’re lying there like a corpse, and it’s lonely and dark. You cannot talk to your wife or doctor, and there’s nobody there,” he recalls. “So I said,

*God, where are you in all of this? Why did I get out of the helicopter?”*

Finally, a reply came in the form of a question: *Have you ever lacked anything in your life? Have you been hungry, naked?*

That was simple. *No, my basic needs have always been covered.*

Second question: *That being the case, would you not be willing to trust Me even under these circumstances?*

Trickier to answer. *Tell me what you mean by trusting.*

The reply: Absolute silence.



*Kathleen and Christian Konow*

Christian realized he couldn’t fake an answer. He understood the struggle between wanting to be the focal point of his own life and depending completely on Christ. But he didn’t want to stay in that loneliness. He had to be honest. *So okay, God, here goes my final answer: The Lord is my Shepherd. I have never wanted. . . . Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I fear no evil for You are with me.*

Christian continued, *God, if you want me to die, I refuse to die without You. But if we do this journey, we do it together. Let’s do it.*

Suddenly Christian didn’t feel alone. “I was in such good company. I don’t know how to explain how un-alone I was.”

When he woke up from the coma, he couldn’t speak yet. With his thumb sticking out from a bandaged hand,

he scrawled his thoughts on paper. His wife became emotional. Thousands of people had been praying for his recovery, and “I have been praying Psalm 23 for you,” she said.

### The Afterburn

Christian remained hospitalized for several surgeries and had to learn to walk again, but on October 13, 2010, he was transferred to rehab.

Since his recovery, he has shared his story in churches. “We’ve seen a lot of people come to Christ,” he says. “But it’s not about me. Even this accident is not about me. . . . It’s about God showing up and getting involved.”

“God takes you to the end of yourself and you’re helpless, and that’s what you’re supposed to be—helpless,” he tells his audience. “I don’t know if

you believe in God or not, but I can tell you one thing: you don’t want to die alone. You don’t want to hear your voice and have no echo on the other side.”

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**“We’ve seen a lot of people come to Christ. But it’s not about me. Even this accident is not about me. . . . It’s about God showing up and getting involved.”**

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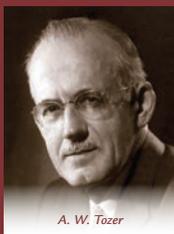
Christian urges others to trust Jesus Christ completely. “He is Yahweh, the Maker, Elohim, the Creator, the Alpha and the Omega, the source of life, the One who designed it all. Don’t usurp that.”



Tony Evans



Joni Eareckson Tada



A. W. Tozer



Nancy DeMoss Wolgemuth



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# Women Serving in Intercultural and Urban Ministries

## Raquel Toledo Promotes Church Training for Healthy Relationships

Raised by her Christian mother, **Raquel (Freytes) Toledo MA '16** dreamed of one day marrying a man with a heart for missions and ministry. While dating men involved in ministry, however, she experienced a pattern of verbal abuse. She was repeatedly belittled by statements like: “You’re not good enough” and “Only someone dumb would marry you.”

While earning a master’s in counseling at DePaul University, Raquel wondered how many other young women experience abuse—whether emotional, sexual, or physical—and realized she wanted to help them. She pursued a second master’s degree: an MA [Intercultural and Urban Studies] at Moody Theological Seminary. When she found out she could pick her own research topic, she was sold. “As a Latina, I wanted to research the extent of intimate partner violence in Spanish-speaking evangelical churches, as well as the best ways to help pastors and leaders respond redemptively to domestic violence,” she says.

During her coursework, she interviewed leaders and pastors of Latino churches in Illinois to research the problem. She also launched a foundation, A Gift of Value, to provide a Christian perspective and training on women’s issues such as self-image,

healthy boundaries, and intimate partner violence.

### A God-Honoring Marriage

In 2014 she married David, an engineer on a youth ministry committee at her church. Her husband has played an important role in helping with her qualitative research and conferences, which have been held locally and in Panama, Guatemala, Nicaragua, and Cuba. In fall 2016 Raquel also taught a course at Hispanic Bible School in Chicago on Domestic Violence and Crisis Intervention.

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“Seminary for me was like taking God out of a box I never thought I had Him in.”

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“Although I’ve been part of a church and faith community all my life, I honestly believe I would not have been able to put my faith in action had it not been for Moody Theological Seminary and the professors,” she says. “To hear of their personal journeys with God and to see how they have trusted the Lord has really transformed my life and the way I think. Seminary for me was like taking God out of a box I never thought I had Him in.”



*Raquel Toledo speaks at a conference for church leaders in Camaguey, Cuba.*

She also enjoyed her peers in the seminary program. “We were all walking by faith, not knowing what the future had for each of us but trusting

that seminary was going to be a season where God was really going to reveal Himself to us,” she says.

## Nancy Sell Ministers in the City of Detroit

When **Nancy Sell MA '16** turned 14, her mother was declared unfit, so an older sibling became Nancy’s legal guardian. A year later Nancy was saved through the witness of a friend. Nancy earned a business degree in college, then married, gave birth to twins, and spent 15 years in a successful corporate career. But no matter what success Nancy found, she still carried a lot of bitterness about her upbringing.

Her life changed when she was invited to join her church on a mission trip to Honduras, working with orphans. “I saw what an orphan really was and I stopped feeling sorry for myself,” she says. “I came back with a drive to serve people in poverty.”

Nancy began volunteering in inner-city ministry and invited two African American teenage girls into her family. While working as a ministry director in an after-school program for teen girls, Nancy observed workers who desired

to help but ended up hurting others. “I saw a lot of co-dependencies, a lot of people with savior complexes, thinking their way was better and trying to save the day,” she explains.

Wanting to find out how to equip others well, Nancy began graduate school at Moody Theological Seminary in Michigan.

### Total Immersion

In her first class at Moody, Nancy learned a key to cross-cultural ministry: total immersion. “You really can’t serve going in and out of the culture; you have to live there,” she says. So she and Kevin, her husband of 30 years, uprooted themselves from a Detroit suburb and moved to the city.

“We’ve definitely been called to the city of Detroit,” Nancy says. She leads a women’s Bible study and is the operations manager at Citadel of Faith Covenant Church, where Kevin has a



*Nancy Sell teaches Spiritual Formation and Discipleship at a pastor-training school in Kenya.*

business leadership role. The couple takes mission trips to Africa as well. “It’s been a joint call, and we do ministry together,” she says.

Nancy chose to pursue the Master of Arts [Intercultural and Urban Studies] degree to prepare for ministry in diverse cultural settings. The program is offered on the Chicago campus, but she was able to complete the requirements for her major through online courses, modular courses, and directed studies. Courses like Life and Missiology of Cross-Bearing challenged her spiritually. “Dr. Pflederer really teaches you to be more dependent on the Lord, to bathe everything in prayer, to memorize Scripture, and to have accountability partners,” she says.

### **Learning from Local Sages**

Nancy received a scholarship from Moody’s Urban Scholars Program in exchange for a commitment to serve Detroit’s underserved urban population. “One of the best things I learned is to sit at the feet of the local sages—to pay attention, learn from them, and serve them,” she says.

She interned with one of those sages at Central Detroit Christian: its director **Lisa (Anderson ’79) Johanon**.

“She’s wonderful,” says Nancy, who remembers volunteering one day when a woman named Mary came in for help. Lisa said to everyone in the office, “Stop what you’re doing right now. Mary needs prayer!” Nancy was inspired by Lisa’s spiritual focus. “This is what’s important,” she realized.

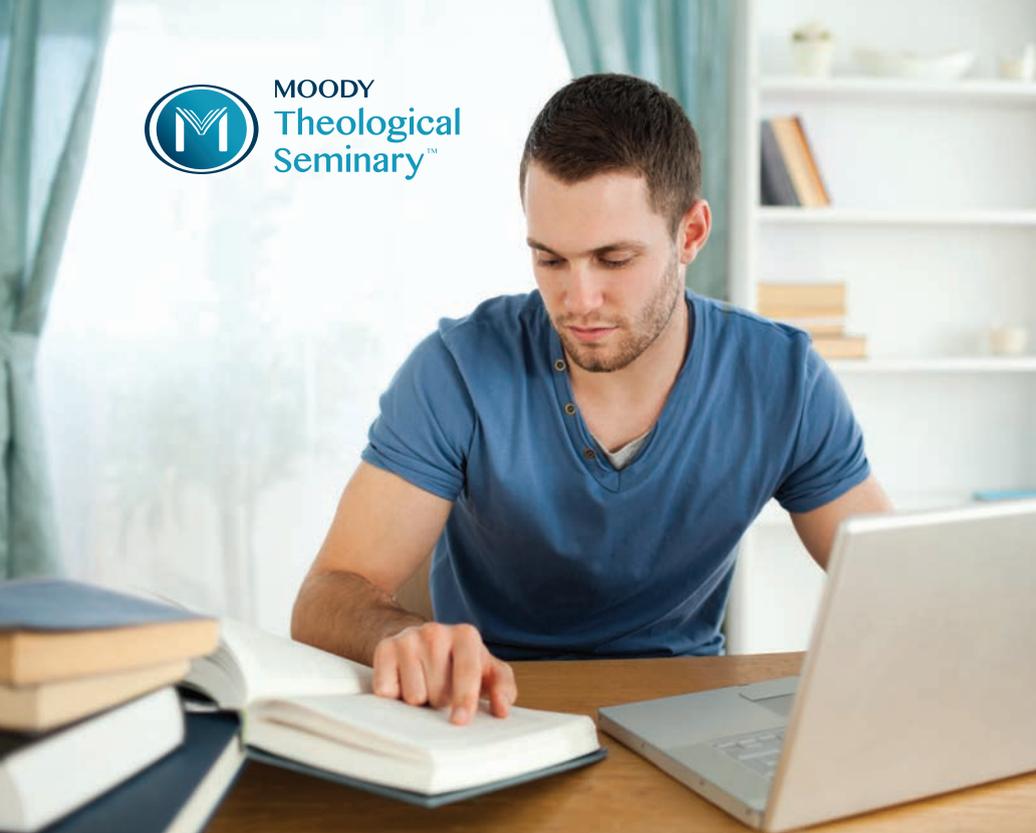
She made another Moody connection with **Joseph Wainaina ’14**, who founded a pastor-training school in Kenya. “My husband and I unpacked railroad cars of Bibles and built the shelves in the library,” says Nancy, who taught Spiritual Formation and Discipleship at the school during a visit last summer. She and Kevin are planning another trip there soon.

Through her MA studies, Nancy learned that discipleship is “doing life with people, living your life in front of them, modeling, teaching, but within relationship,” she says. “Moody has equipped me to do that with a more humble spirit and with more of an openness to the way other people think.

“Moody helped me to cultivate wisdom,” she adds. “Life is a lot more complicated than they can really teach you in a textbook. If they teach you wisdom, you can apply that anywhere.”



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# Trained to impact nations



## Moody graduate returns to Uganda to equip pastors

by Haley Versluys

“This is an urgent need. This is a crisis. This is the body of Christ, and we must stand with each other,” says **Richmond Wandera MDiv '11**, CEO and founder of Pastors Discipleship Network. “Although there are over twenty-four million Christians in sub-Saharan Africa, eighty percent of pastors do not have any theological training.”

Without ministry skills and resources, pastors are in danger of distorting the gospel, abusing the ministry, causing conflict, and lacking accountability, he says. “There is something worse than not going to church. It is going to church and hearing heresy and false gospel.”

Through Pastors Discipleship Network, Richmond is making a difference by training and equipping more than 4,000 pastors in Uganda, South Sudan, the People’s Republic of Congo, and Rwanda.

### A Difficult Start

When Richmond was a child, his father was murdered, leaving Richmond to care for his six younger siblings in the Naguru slum of Kampala, Uganda. “My father died physically, and in some ways we lost our mother as well. We realized she couldn’t provide food for us . . . and so as kids we had to survive,” he recalls. Richmond spent a lot of time on the streets, stealing and scrounging for food. “What began as a visit to the street became a lifestyle.”

When he was eight years old, everything changed for him. He enrolled in a Compassion International child development center at New Life Baptist Church, where he became a Christian and received education, consistent food, and medical care.

At 17, Richmond began serving at the very church that offered him hope through Compassion International, first as a youth pastor and later as an associate and senior pastor. With only an accounting degree, he realized he needed more training. “I was serving in a very dark, hopeless community, and the theological issues and questions that were thrown at me I could not deal with.” One day, as he was conducting a prayer vigil, a woman demanded that Richmond

tell her what her three-year old child had done to God to deserve to die. Although his church looked at him with anticipation for an answer, Richmond froze. “I was so ill-prepared in that situation. When I walked away from that place, I called my senior pastor and told him I almost wanted to throw in the towel,” he says.

### Ministry Launched at Moody

Richmond was desperate to find training. Steve Wilson of Compassion International told Richmond about Moody and helped him receive a Wess Stafford–Moody Scholarship, named after Compassion’s founder **Wess Stafford ’70** and paid for by Moody Radio listeners. With enough financial resources to travel to Chicago, Richmond enrolled in Moody Theological Seminary’s Master of Divinity program.

“Moody became a family to me,” he says. “You are not on your own when you’re at Moody.” He recalls a professor gifting him with a winter coat when he found himself ill-equipped to withstand his first Chicago winter.

While praying for Africa and Asia with his fellow students at Moody, the idea for Pastors Discipleship Network developed. “It was then that I knew in my heart that I wanted to take my training and make it available for my fellow pastors in Africa,” he says. “When you train a pastor, you train a church. When you train a church, you train a community. When you train a community, you impact a nation.”

While he was still a seminary student, Richmond returned to Uganda where pastors from 500 churches gathered to hear him speak about what God was teaching him through Moody. Richmond cultivated a passion for training Christian leaders in his home country, but he needed



*Richmond Wandera speaks at a Rooted in the Word conference in Rukungiri, Uganda.*

support. He was joined by classmates **Andreea (Plamada) Herholz MA '12**, **Emily Hartman MA '10**, **Emily Wakabi '11**, **Michael Wangler MA '11**, and **Nathan Sullivan '14**, along with Moody faculty members Julius Wong Loi Sing, John Fuder, **Andy Pflederer '87**, and Russ Davis.

“I am so thankful that I had faculty and students join me to train pastors in Uganda,” he says. “It was an incredible time.”

Although Richmond had a platform to speak to hundreds of Ugandan pastors, teaching resources were desperately needed. The majority of pastors receiving his training did not own a complete copy of the Bible. Richmond asked his fellow Moody students for assistance, and together they donated 115 study Bibles to Pastors Discipleship Network for training the pastors.

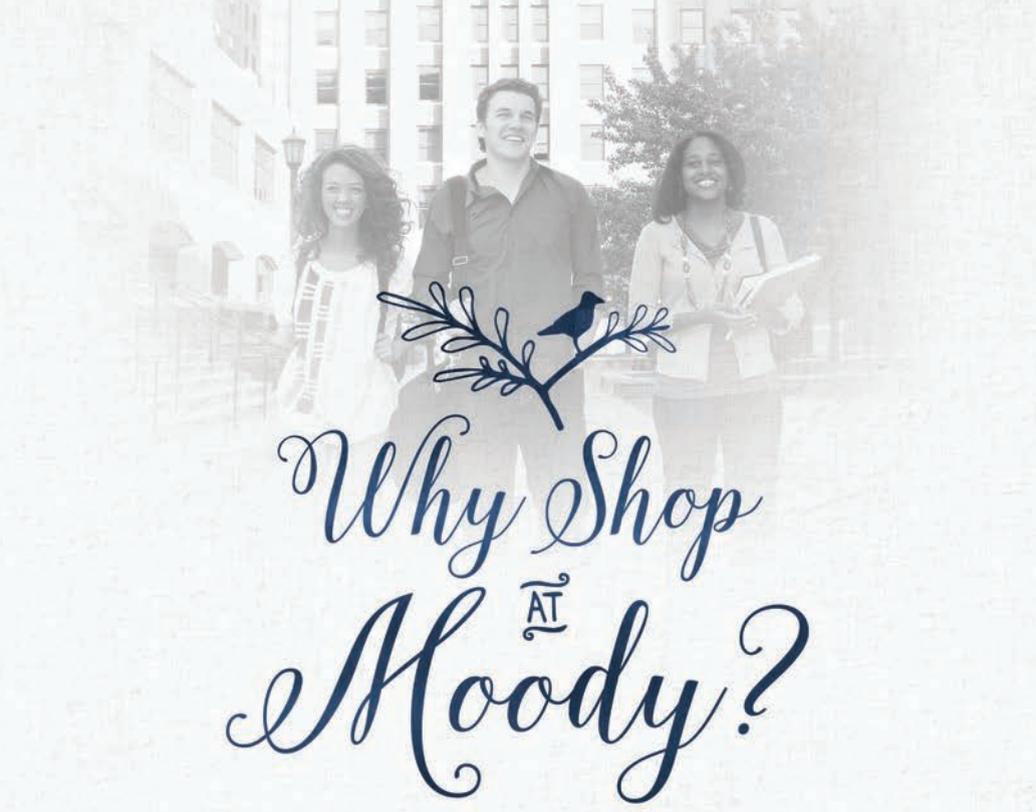
Today Richmond uses a six-step training program to teach pastors to be theologians, preachers, counselors,

servant leaders, disciples, and entrepreneurs. In addition to yearly conferences, Pastors Discipleship Network has an active ministry to pastor’s wives and an alumni library with theological resources. Richmond also speaks internationally for Compassion International.

Looking back, Richmond never imagined he would receive the education to train pastors today. “God, who saved me, called me. And He opened doors that I would never have opened to get this high-quality, world-class training,” he says.

“I came to Moody without root but by the time I left, I was rooted in the Word. Moody provided quality academic training that positioned me well to encounter complex cultural and doctrinal issues in our ever-evolving culture.”

*Haley Versluys graduated in December 2016 from Moody Bible Institute, where she worked in the Alumni office as an editorial assistant.*



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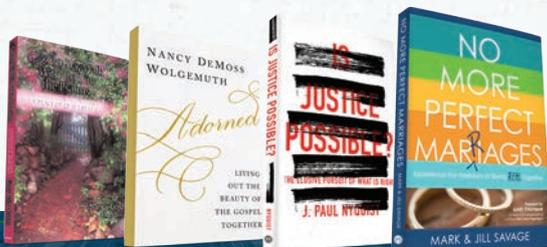
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## 2010s



**Daniel Katz '16** recently moved to Long Beach, Calif., to plant The Anthem Church, which is scheduled to launch in the fall of 2017. Daniel is working with two church planting networks, the Association of Related Churches and Plant LB, to see lives changed and disciples made through church planting ministry.

Previously, Daniel served for five years as an associate pastor at Oak Brook Community Church in Oak Brook, Ill.

Daniel and Autumn, his wife of 10 years, have four children: Samuel (9), Aiden (7), Canon (5), and Aria (2).

📧 [daniel@theanthemchurch.com](mailto:daniel@theanthemchurch.com)

🌐 [theanthemchurch.com](http://theanthemchurch.com)



**Edmond '14 MA '16** and **Luisette MA '14 Kraal**, along with their daughter, Jo-Hannah, are raising

support to begin a ministry in Cuba with the mission agency GLINTS. Ed currently serves at Park Community Church in Chicago, helping in the Hispanic community. Luisette enjoys her writing and has been able to publish devotionals for teens in both English and Spanish. Together, the Kraals are involved in many ministries in the Logan Square area.

**Michael '14 and Norma '14 Haddad** recently began ministering at the Derby Community Church in Derby, Vt. They have two children, Isabelle (2), and



Theodore (born December 2016). Michael is currently pursuing his MDiv at Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary. The

Haddads moved back to New England following their graduation from Moody in 2014.

**Jamie Kent '12** recently accepted a new position at the Woodway Family Center in Waco, Texas. The Family Center is a community recreation facility where Jamie has the opportunity to lead children in prayer and minister to them through athletics. Additionally, Jamie serves her local church by teaching Sunday school and singing in the choir.



**Derek Gute '10** is the pastor of student ministries at LifePointe Christian Church in Elk Grove, Calif. His wife, **Erin (Crocker '10)**,

serves alongside him and is mom to

their three children: Piper (4), Vera (2), and Reuben (born May 2016). They say, “We are so grateful for our time at Moody and the foundation it provided as we seek to serve God as a family.”

## 2000s

### **John '06 and Karen (Hardy '06)**

**Olson** have lived on the north Oregon coast for eight years, where John serves as senior pastor of Calvary Bible Church in Manzanita, Ore. In 2016, John received his MA in Worship Studies from the Robert E. Webber Institute for Worship Studies. John and Karen have four children: Owen (6), Clark (5), Nora (3), and Ava (2).

**Brian Marx '05** pilots a Cessna Grand Caravan in the mountains of Papua, Indonesia, with Missionary Aviation Fellowship. Brian and his wife Heather are serving with MAF workers to help Moni villagers build a mission training and community center. Prior to this, Brian flew a turbine aircraft in Mali, West Africa.



**Jason McConnell '01** received the Lilly Endowment grant from the 2016 National Clergy Renewal Program. This sabbatical grant gives him the opportunity to rest, study, and pray in his hometown of Franklin, Vt. He will also visit Reformation sites in Europe,

family in Pennsylvania and Tennessee, and many religious sites across New England.

Jason has served as the pastor of Franklin United Church and East Franklin Union Church since 2004. After his graduation from Moody, he went on to earn an MA and an MDiv from Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary, then a DMin from Beeson Divinity School in Birmingham, Ala.

Jason teaches seminary classes and represents the Rural Home Missionary Association as a conference speaker. He serves on the Sheldon Elementary School Board, the Conservative Congregational Christian Conferences Board, and the Franklin Northwest Supervisory Union Board of Directors. He previously worked as an EMT with the Franklin Rescue Squad and as a volunteer at the Franklin Grand Isle Restorative Justice Center.

He and his wife, **Jennifer (Bayard '01) McConnell**, have four children: Sarah, Marcus, Duncan, and Matthias.

**Joel and Tracy Thurston '00** reside in Peoria, Ariz. Joel was recently named a partner at Keist, Thurston and O'Brian, P.C., where he serves as a litigation attorney. He is also a founding elder at Journey Church and a professor of religion at Glendale Community College. Tracy is an RN at the Mayo Clinic Hospital.

The Thurstons have three children: Joel II (12), Elijah (11), and Hope (10). In February 2017 they served on their first family missions trip to Mexico.

## 1990s

**Benjamin Boyd '99** was elected in March to serve on the board of

## Life & Ministry Notes

directors for Samaritan Ministries International, a healthcare cost-sharing ministry based in Peoria, Ill.



**Victor '99 MA '02** and **Sarah '02 (Weiss) Kabutha** started Transformation Ministries Africa in 2006, using discipleship and biblical instruction to help people become emotionally, physically, mentally, and spiritually mature. To stay culturally relevant, the Kabuthas write and produce their own teaching materials. Sarah's parents, **Lee '63** and **Sandy Weiss**, also work for Transformation Ministries Africa.

Victor, a Kenyan national, met Sarah while her family served as missionaries in Kenya. After getting married while attending Moody, the Kabuthas moved back to Kenya to work for Youth for Christ. Sarah says, "God has blessed us, and we thank Him for the wonderful experience Moody provided."

Victor and Sarah have two children: David (9) and Victoria (12).

 [tmafrica.com](http://tmafrica.com)



**Stephen Popp '98** recently published his first book *A Revelation to the Church* (Xulon Press). Stephen and his wife, **Lori (Bast '96)**, live in

Grand Rapids, Mich., with their four children: Joshua, Jonathan, Jennifer, and Jessica. Stephen earned an MDiv from Grand Rapids Theological Seminary in 2001 and currently serves as the director of budgeting and financial analysis at Cornerstone University.

 [revelationtothechurch.com](http://revelationtothechurch.com)



**Alex McLellan '96** recently authored *A Jigsaw Guide to the Meaning of Life* (InterVarsity Press, 2016). This coffee table book

communicates the gospel through the story of one girl's journey to find life's purpose. Alex previously wrote *A Jigsaw Guide to Making Sense of the World* (InterVarsity Press, 2012).

Alex serves as the executive director of Reason Why International, an organization that uses evangelistic messages, apologetics, and Bible teaching to present the Christian worldview to believers and non-believers. He hosts a Moody Radio broadcast, *Reason Why with Alex McLellan*, and serves as an associate with Ravi Zacharias International Ministries and Josh McDowell Ministry.

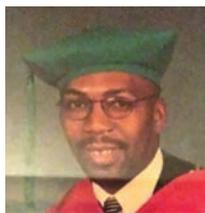
Alex and his wife, **Sheryl (Kooistra '96-'96)**, have three children.

In 2016 **Douglas Petrovich '92** released *The World's Oldest Alphabet*, a book that translates 16 ancient Hebrew inscriptions that date back to 1842 BC. Douglas currently teaches a course about ancient Egypt as an adjunct professor at Wilfrid Laurier University. Prior to this, Douglas and

his wife, **Sherri (Simmons '90)**, lived in Siberia and started the Novosibirsk Biblical-Theological Seminary by the invitation of the Slavic Gospel Association and the Union of Evangelical Baptists-Christians of Russia.



After his graduation from Moody, Douglas earned his MA and MDiv from The Master's Seminary and his MA and PhD in Syro-Palestinian Archaeology from the University of Toronto.



**James Moore '92** celebrated his 25th anniversary as pastor of New Welcome Baptist Church in Philadelphia. Along with

founding and directing an outreach ministry in his community, James works as a school police officer. After his graduation from Moody, he received his BA and MA from Belford University and his Doctor of Divinity at Martha's Vineyard Theological Seminary. James says, "My journey started with Moody Bible Institute, and I am very grateful for all that I learned. I am proud to be an alumnus of this great school."

## 1980s

**Lorna (Brauch '87) Gilbert**, along with her husband Andy, created Megumi Project, a Christian social enterprise that empowers Japanese women who lost their homes in the 2011 Tohoku Tsunami. Megumi Project shares the gospel with the city of Onagawa, Japan, while giving local women an opportunity to support their community by creating products from vintage kimonos. Lorna says, "Megumi Project allows us to do life-on-life ministry while providing jobs for young mothers, many who still live in temporary housing."

 [megumiproject.net](http://megumiproject.net)



**Michael Wheeler '83** was recently named the coordinator of the Accreditation Commission within the Asociación Evangélica de Educación Teológica en América Latina. He helps Latin American seminaries with their accreditation. Michael is also the academic dean and head of the master's program at the UCE Bible Seminary in Cochabamba, Bolivia, where he has been serving since 1989. Following graduation from Moody, Michael continued his education at Dallas Theological Seminary and later Trinity Evangelical Divinity School.

## Life & Ministry Notes



In 2016, **James (Jim) Simpson '82** earned his MA in Christian Ministry from Southern California Seminary in El Cajon, Calif.

Jim is now pursuing his MDiv and a future pastorate position. Last November, Jim traveled to Lima, Peru, with the Christian Motorcyclists Association and Missionary Ventures team to deliver motorcycles and bicycles to pastors and evangelists to aid in their outreach.

After Jim graduated from Moody, he served for 24 years in the United States Navy. As a P-3 Orion flight engineer, he flew more than 5,000 hours in peacekeeping missions. After his retirement, he worked for 16 years in business.

He has been married to his wife, **Karen (Jucknath '82-'82)**, for 34 years. Together they served as missionaries to the military during Jim's service in the navy.

### 1970s

**Debbie (Powell '77) Loftin** works as a family assistant and lunch program coordinator at New Life Union Mission in Dyersburg, Tenn., where her husband, **Mark '80, BA '81**, is the youth director of an after-school program. They previously worked as house parents and served as youth home directors at New Life Union Mission. Mark and Debbie have two daughters and four grandchildren.

**Nard Pugyao '75, Daryl Bussert '73**, and **Dan Miller '73**, recently retired after long ministries with JAARS.

**Kayleen (Finck) Bobbitt '73** earned her PhD in Worship Studies from the Robert E. Webber Institute for Worship Studies in 2016. She has taught for 30 years at Bible colleges in Michigan and currently serves as a professor in the worship arts department at Grace Bible College. Kayleen received her MMus in Piano Performance from Central Michigan University. Following her time at Moody, Kayleen and her husband, **Bill '75**, both graduated from Trinity International University. Bill and Kayleen have three children and six grandchildren.



**Randy Jenkins '71-'72** recently became interim pastor at Grace Chapel in West Liberty, Ohio. Randy serves with Interim Pastor

Ministries, a ministry that partners with congregations in transition by improving church health during pastoral vacancies. He previously served as pastor at Frankenmuth Bible Church in Frankenmuth, Mich., and at four churches across North Carolina, Illinois, and Michigan.

When he is not traveling as an interim pastor, Randy lives with his wife, LaFon, in Caro, Mich. They have two children and seven grandchildren. His son, **Levi Jenkins '09**, is an elementary school teacher in Albuquerque, N.M., and a Hebrew instructor at Chafer Theological Seminary.

**John Fischer '70** published his first book, *Reflections Out of Time: 365 Day Devotional* (Gideon House Books), in



2016. John, pastor emeritus at United Christian Church of Grays Harbor in Aberdeen, Wash., now writes a devotional blog. He and his wife,

Sue, have four children and six grandchildren.

 [reflectionsoutoftime.wordpress.com](http://reflectionsoutoftime.wordpress.com)



On June 30, 2016, **Valerie (Burton '70) Bell** was appointed CEO of Awana Clubs International. As an author, speaker, and

lifetime advocate for children, Valerie has served on various boards and was the chair of MOPS. Valerie served on the leadership team at The Chapel of the Air radio broadcast. She is the author of several books on family and children, including *Nobody's Children* (Word Publishing, 1989), *Getting Out of Your Kids' Faces and Into Their Hearts* (Zondervan, 1995), and *Faith-Shaped Kids* (Moody Publishers, 2001).

Valerie, and her Moody sweetheart, **Stephen Bell '70**, have two children and six grandchildren.

## 1960s

**John Frye '69** helps leaders and pastors get their book ideas published through his ministry, My Storyline Coaching. He says, "I want to encourage pastors or any other Christians who are pursuing God's call on their lives."

Along with earning his certified



professional empowerment coach certificate, John received his DMin in Spiritual Formation from Fuller Theological Seminary.

Additionally, he has served as a pastor for more than 40 years and authored two books, *Jesus the Pastor* (Zondervan, 2002) and *Out of Print* (Credo House Publishing, 2007). John and his wife of 47 years, **Julie (Mays '69)**, have four daughters and 10 grandchildren.

After his graduation from Moody, **James Barton '67** set up a federal inspection station for aircraft carriers at Danielson Airport in Killingly, Conn. Along with doing aircraft maintenance and annual inspections, James was a charter pilot and a flight instructor. He later worked at United Nuclear Corporation doing chemical machining before becoming the caretaker of a Methodist campground. James and his wife, Pearl, have three sons.

In 2016 **Frank Brozenec '67** celebrated 50 years of ministry. He continues to preach, do pastoral work, serve in a nursing home, and work as a hospital chaplain.



*Frank and Faith Brozenec, holding their two youngest grandchildren*

## Life & Ministry Notes

### Gerald (Jerry) Nelson '67, '70

served as the senior pastor at Southern Gables Church from 1978 to 2009. He developed programs and instructed extension courses at the Indian Theological Seminary. Gerald previously served in adult ministries at First Covenant Church in Rockford, Ill., worked with Gospel Light Publications, and was a youth pastor at Oxboro Evangelical Free Church in Bloomington, Minn.

Gerald received his BA from the University of Minnesota, his marriage and family counseling degree at Northern Illinois University, his MA at Denver Seminary, his DMin at Trinity Evangelical Divinity School, and an honorary doctorate from Trinity College and Seminary in India. He was ordained by the Evangelical Free Church of America.

Gerald and his wife, **Barbara '65-'67**, have four children.



**Gary Wrisberg '67** served for 42 years as a pastor in Chicago, Minneapolis, and Columbia, Mo. In his retirement, Gary continues to

serve in various ministry roles. Gary's wife, **Holly (Anderson '67)**, was diagnosed with cancer in 2009 and passed away in 2011. Gary says they often shared with each other that "meeting, falling in love, and getting close to God and our fellow Moody students were some of the greatest

highlights of our entire lives."

Gary has two sons and seven grandchildren.



**Doraine Ross '60-'62** continues to work with SIM in Ontario, Canada, after serving in Zambia for 34 years. She first traveled to

North Rhodesia (which later became Zambia) in 1963.

### Births



To **Andrew '16** and **Veronika Watkins**, a son, Silas Michael Watkins, born August 26, 2016. Andrew is working on his MDiv in

Christian Ministry at Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary in Wake Forest, N.C.



To **James '15** and **Dorothea (Folkers) '16 Clapper**, a son, James Lukas Clapper, born October 29, 2016. James works as

the office manager of the creative department at Harvest Bible Chapel in Elgin, Ill.

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## Weddings



John and **Elisabeth (Martin '11) Gardiner** were married on October 22, 2016. Bridesmaids included alumnae **Bethany Bryant**

**'11** and **Alicia Whitmore '12**. John volunteers as a leader in a youth program while Elisabeth teaches throughout South East England and writes for national Christian magazines.



**Anneliese (Santhouse '16) Rider** and Curtis Rider were married in July 2016. Anneliese works as the associate editor—education

for Moody's Integrated Marketing and Communications department. She recently completed her first novel, *The Cup*. Curtis studies in Moody's BA/MA program.



Garrett and **Rachel (Schrag '01) Ehring** were married in January 2016. They live in Southern California, where

Rachel serves as staff pianist at Concordia University Irvine.



Chip and **Anne (Johnson ASP '79) Bailess** were married on February 1, 2014. They are involved in music ministry at their church.

## Gatherings



### TEAM France Gathering

Several Moody alumni attended the 2016 TEAM France conference at Le Château de Joudes. Participants included **Thomas Bassett '88**, **Phyllis (Schorr '88) Bassett**, **Daniel Kuehl '73, '75**, **Margaret (Waterman '75) Kuehl**; **Steve Niles '73**, **Donna (Gustafson '73) Niles**, **Jon Hegner '01**, and **Agnès Hegner**, shown with their children, Jude and Daphné.

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## What's New with You?

*Send the details of your recent transitions, ministry updates and accomplishments, family announcements—and, if possible, a good quality photo—by email to [alumnews@moody.edu](mailto:alumnews@moody.edu) or by mail to Moody Alumni Association, 820 N. LaSalle Blvd., Chicago, IL 60610-3284. Questions? Call the Alumni Association Office at (312) 329-4412.*

## Present with the Lord

### 2010s



**Louis Hendricks '13**, age 51, October 30, 2016, Columbia, Mo.

Louis Hendricks was a master sergeant in the United States Air Force for 20 years. After retiring from the military, Louis worked as a contractor and a state administrative officer for the Natural Resources Conservation Service of the Department of Agriculture.

In 2013 Louis earned his BS in Biblical Studies from Moody Bible Institute. Along with spending time with his family, hunting, and studying the Bible, he volunteered as a sound engineer at Forum Christian Church. Louis was known for his good humor, kindness, and generosity.

Louis is survived by his parents, Fred and Mary Hendricks; his wife of 23 years, Alicia; their children, Ashlyn, Louis, Justin, and Benjamin; his five siblings; his mother-in-law; his sister-in-law; and 13 nieces and nephews.

### 1970s

**Judith (Gochnauer '70-'71) Herr**, age 64, September 1, 2016, Gorin, Mo.

After attending Moody, Judith began studying chiropractics at the Palmer College of Chiropractic in Davenport, Iowa. In 1975 Judith, along with her husband Edwin, moved to Gorin, Mo., where she raised 12 children and supported her husband in his chiropractic practice. She was a member of New Boston Mennonite Church in Donnellson, Iowa.

Judith is survived by her husband of 44 years, Edwin; her two brothers, James and Wayne Gochnauer; 12 children, Daniel (Delphine), David (Jean), Jonathan, Jesse (Melanie), Rachel, Ruth, Paul, Philip (Carmella), Stephen (Carolyn), Silas, Deborah, and Joseph; and ten grandchildren.

### 1960s

**Clifford L. Marquardt '68**, age 79, December 21, 2016, South Point, Ohio.

Clifford was the chancellor and president at Tri-State Bible College, where he also served as a teacher and librarian. Additionally, Clifford served as the staff chaplain at the Huntington VA Medical Center. After he graduated from Moody, Clifford received his MA in Theology from Dallas Theological Seminary followed by his PhD in Ministry from Luther Rice Seminary. He later received his MS in Library Sciences from Clarion University.

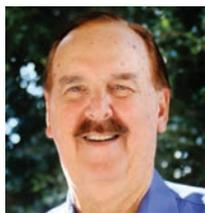
Clifford was preceded in death by his son Eric and six siblings. He is survived by his wife, Paula; siblings Germain Krause, Vernon (Joan) Marquardt, and Duwayne (Shirley) Marquardt; children Fonda Eastham and Douglas Marquardt; four grandchildren; and several nieces and nephews.

**Elizabeth (Reynolds '64-'65) Layhew-Kyle**, age 71, October 27, 2016, Walworth County, Wis.

Elizabeth worked as a secretary for 28 years before becoming a certified nursing assistant. After Moody, Elizabeth went on to attend Baptist Bible College in Scranton, Pa., and

Gateway Technical College in Elkhorn, Wis. Elizabeth was married to **David Layhew '64-'65** for 30 years and to Brian Kyle for 17 years. She is remembered for her love for the Lord, her children, and her grandchildren.

Elizabeth was preceded in death by her brother and her first husband, David. She is survived by her children, Denise (James) Vietti and David (Liane) Layhew; her 14 grandchildren; and three siblings.



**Daniel Wiegman '64**, age 80, October 31, 2016, Arlington, Texas.

Daniel was a missionary to Latin America.

Daniel was preceded in death by his brother, Paul. He is survived by his wife, Maria; his sister, Judy (Warren) Jensen; his children, current Moody student Danielle, **Thomas '81** and **Martha (Ford '81) Wiegman**, **David (Colleen) Wiegman '85**, Stephen (Laurie) Wiegman, and Daniel (Kelly) Wiegman, who began attending Moody this spring; his stepson, Azael Torres; his first spouse, **Celia (Moore '62-'63)**; his grandchildren, Jonathan, Kate, **Marci Wiegman '16**, TJ, and Atticus; and several nieces and nephews.



**Lorraine (Meland '62-'65) Straw**, age 73, December 3, 2016, Oregon, Ill.

Lorraine was the founding president of the Friends of the Viking Ship. She

was an officeholder with the Norwegian National League, the Illinois Norsk Rosemalers Association, and the Grieg Ladies Singing Society. Lorraine enjoyed spending time with her family, pursuing art, and serving those in the Norwegian community. After her graduation from Moody, she attended The Art Institute and the Kellogg School of Management.

Lorraine is survived by her husband of 51 years, **Perry Jr. '64**; her sister Carol Hoidahl; her children, **Naomi (Peter) Dhuse '94** and Perry III (Pamela) Straw; and her grandchildren Zachary, Zoe, and Zayla.



**Janice Burrs '61**, age 80, August 12, 2016.

Janice was a missionary with Trans World Radio for 37 years. She served as a secretary in France and Hong Kong, and as an office manager in Great Britain. She also wrote most of the stories for TWR's 60th anniversary history, *Great Things He Has Done*. Janice is remembered for her loving and sacrificial service to the Lord.

**W. Jay Dolvin '61**, age 90, November 22, 2016, Massillon, Ohio.

Jay served as associate pastor at Massillon Baptist Temple from 1968 until his retirement. He also taught at Massillon Baptist College for more than 40 years and served as a missionary in Boy River, Minn. He is survived by his wife **Grace Dolvin '61**.

## Present with the Lord



**Virginia "Ginny" Beyer '60**, age 77, March 10, 2016, Sherbrooke, Quebec.

After her graduation from Moody, Ginny moved to Quebec, Canada, where she spent the next 50 years in full-time ministry. Along with planting a church, mentoring men and women, and writing Bible studies, Ginny founded Éditions Parfam, a French publishing house. She taught Christian education at the Evangelical Baptist Seminary of Quebec and at Eglise Baptiste de Shawinigan-Sud. She was also a conference speaker. She went on to receive her MA in education from the Université du Québec à Trois-Rivières.

### 1950s



**Jerry D. Moritz '57**, age 84, December 7, 2016, Colorado Springs, Colo.

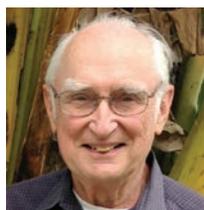
Jerry was named Moody's Alumnus of the Year in 1988 for his service as a pastor, church planter, and United States Navy chaplain. The founding pastor of Allegany Baptist Church in Allegany, NY, Jerry later served as a United States Navy chaplain for more than 28 years. After retiring from the navy, Jerry served as the interim pastor at several churches in Colorado, Kansas, and Wyoming.

For 20 years Jerry spent his summers serving the Maasai people in Kenya. Working closely with Bishop Elias

Ntoipo, he established seven churches, a Bible school, a literacy program for women, and an orphanage. He provided more than 600 Maasai Bibles to the Maasai people, who named Jerry an honorary elder in recognition of his faithful service.

In addition to Moody, Jerry studied at Wheaton College, Dallas Theological Seminary, and Michigan State University.

Jerry is survived by **Beverly (Hunt '59)**, his wife of 57 years; his children: **Mark '81** (Diana), **Kevin '84**, **Kyle '88** (Valerie), and **Rebecca '98** (Stephen) **Bonham**; 12 grandchildren; two great grandchildren; as well as several nieces and nephews.



**Roland Tabell '57**, age 81, March 2, 2016.

Roland served as the minister of music and worship at

Pasadena Covenant Church for more than 38 years. He had over 30 choral arrangements and compositions published. He also was invited to tour Europe and Israel with the University of Southern California Chamber Singers in the early 1960s. Previously, he was drafted into the United States Army, where he was an active member at Fort Ord and Fort Lewis.

After Roland's retirement in 1999, he and his wife, Betty, moved to Duarte, Calif. He enjoyed volunteering as a pianist, traveling, playing tennis, and spending time with family.

Roland attended Seattle Pacific College, Central Bible College, Moody Bible Institute, and Wheaton College. He pursued his MA in Church and

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Choral Music at the University of Southern California. Roland is remembered for his compassion, musical talent, and commitment to share the joy of God through his ministry as a choral director and worship leader.

He is survived by his wife, Betty; his brother, Richard; his children, Pamela (Roger) Wagner and Linda (Raimer) Rojas; his eight grandchildren; and his nieces and nephews.

**Joan (Kurtz '53-'54, ES '56-'58) Reeser**, age 85, August 12, 2016, Indianapolis.

Joan, along with her husband, **Donald Reeser '54**, served at the German Bible Institute in Seeheim, Germany, with Greater Europe Mission from 1960 to 1969. They later moved to Greenville, Ill., where Joan worked at a doctor's office and later as the vice president of patient care at Utlaut Memorial Hospital. For 21 years, Joan and Donald served together at Bethany Baptist Church in Highland, Ill. Donald passed away in 2004, and Joan moved to Indianapolis to be near her son in 2012.

Before attending Moody, Joan graduated from Blodgett Memorial Hospital School of Nursing.

Joan was preceded in death by her husband of 49 years, Donald, and her daughter **Mari Ellen Reeser '77-'78**. She is survived by her children, Donald (Lana) Reeser and Renate (William) Moyers; her brother; and five grandchildren.

**Milton (Joe) Wootton '52**, age 90, March 13, 2016, Shelby Township, Mich.

Joe taught speech therapy for 25 years and sang as a professional vocalist. After serving in the US Army Air Force from 1944 to the end of WWII, Joe pursued degrees in Bible and music from Emmaus Bible School and Moody Bible Institute. He sang in the Moody Chorale as well as a quartet with **Roger Rose '52**, **Roger Nichols '51**, and **Robert Belson '55**. In addition, he participated as a student announcer on Moody Radio's WMBI with **Bill Pearce '48-'49** and Dick Anthony. Joe also met **Hilda Boorsma '50**, whom he married in 1968.

Following his studies at Moody, Joe assisted a local pastor in planting a church where he sang and taught. He later received a BA and an MA in education from Wayne State University and Eastern Michigan University, respectively. Joe continued to use his gift for music by singing in the Max Davey Chorale, the Jerome Hines opera "I Am the Way," and the Detroit Concert Choir.

Joe was preceded in death by his nine siblings. He is survived by his wife, Hilda, and his daughter, Melody.

**Arthur "Gene" McCluskey '51**, age 87, August 22, 2016, Elkhart, Ind.

Gene was a music editor with Lorenz Corporation and a member of First Grace Brethren Church in Dayton, Ohio.

Gene was preceded in death by his wife of 55 years, **Frances (Tromp '50)**. He is survived by his three children, Joan (Steve) Murphy, Donald (Jill) McCluskey, and Mary Fulton; six grandchildren; and eight great-grandchildren.

## Present with the Lord



**Cordell Baker '51**, age 85, April 21, 2016, Walla Walla, Wash.

Cordell served as a pastor in churches across

Indiana, Washington, and Utah for 44 years. Along with preaching expository sermons, he oversaw church construction projects, led congregational worship, worked with youth, and served as dean of various summer camps. A talented musician, Cordell developed and led several choirs and musical ensemble groups. He loved reading, writing, fishing, and spending time with his family and friends.

Along with Moody, Cordell attended Bob Jones University in Greenville, S.C.; Northwest Baptist Theological College in Langley, B.C., Canada; Western Washington State College in Bellingham, Wash.; and Excelsior College in Albany, N.Y. In 1992, he was granted an honorary Doctor of Divinity from the Historical Baptist Bible College in Ontario, where he also taught several courses.

Cordell was preceded in death by nine siblings. He is survived by his wife of 64 years, **Virginia (Biddison '50-'51)**, two siblings; two daughters, Becky (Dan) Counts and Marsha (Rick) Iddings; six grandchildren; and nine great-grandchildren.

**Bob Murr '48-'51**, age 87, February 20, 2016, Hazard, Ky.

After his ordination as a minister in 1951, Bob served in various positions at Camp Nathanael in Emmalena, Ky.



Along with serving as a water safety officer for the American Red Cross, he was the host of Camp Nathanael's weekly radio

program and *Moments of Truth*, a Sunday morning radio outreach. Additionally, Bob was a commissioned Kentucky colonel and a Kentucky Admiral Award recipient. He is remembered for his wit and sense of humor.

Bob was preceded in death by his first wife, Lillian Murr; one sister, and one brother. He is survived by his wife, Carol; his two sons, Timothy (Marla) Murr and Mark David (Linda) Murr; his daughter, **Melody (Murr '86) DuBois** and husband **Gary '91**; one sister; and nine grandchildren.



**Ira Ransom '50**, age 87, August 19, 2016, Kaysville, Utah.

After his graduation from Moody, Ira was

ordained by the Berean Fundamental Church council in Imperial, Neb. He pastored at Esbon Fundamental Church in Esbon, Kan., Bethesda Bible Church in Gunnison, Colo., and Brigham City Bible Church in Brigham City, Utah. After moving to Logan, Utah, in 1965, Ira, along with his wife, Eleanor, founded Cache Valley Bible Church.

Ira is survived by his wife, his four children, one brother, 14 grandchildren, and 20 great-grandchildren.

## 1940s



**William G. Richards '48**, age 96, October 14, 2016, Sauk City, Wis.

William pastored several churches in Michigan and Wisconsin, including Calvary Baptist Church in Sauk City, Wis., where he served from 1963 until his retirement in 2005. Before attending Moody, William served in the United States Navy during World War II. He is remembered by his family for sharing God's truth wherever he went.

William was preceded in death by his wife, **Patricia (Wilken '48)**. He is survived by his children, William Richards and Barbara (T.R.) Myers; his brother, John; two grandchildren, and his nieces and nephews.

**John Ockers '47**, age 93, December 20, 2016, Sebring, Fla.

John served as a missionary in Niger, West Africa, with Serving in Mission USA for 36 years. He was awarded a medal of honor by the Nigerian government for his pioneering work in agricultural development and training.

John was preceded in death by his

five siblings and his first wife, **Evelyn (Rosendale '48) Ockers**. He is survived by his second wife, Anne, his sister-in-law, Sarahmae, his five children, David (Dixie) Ockers, Esther (Jack) Lilley, Ruth (Charles) Schwinger, James Ockers, and Elizabeth (Warren) Esdale, as well as 12 grandchildren and 11 great-grandchildren.



**Dolores (Stalker '47) West**, age 90, September 8, 2016, Colorado Springs, Colo.

In the 1950s, Dolores, along with her husband, **Robert '49**, served as missionaries in Munich and Bad Heilbrunn, Germany, with Baptist Mid-Missions. She later worked as church secretary at Faith Baptist Church in Brainerd, Minn. After moving to Colorado, she volunteered at Focus on the Family and was a member of Rustic Hills Baptist Church in Colorado Springs.

Dolores was preceded in death by her husband, Robert. She is survived by her three children, **Elizabeth (West '70-'72) Littlejohn** and husband **Jerry '72**, Philip (Ellen) West, and Lydia (Rich) Luedeke; her three siblings; eight grandchildren; and 11 great-grandchildren.

## Submissions

*To submit an alumni death notice, please send the obituary and, if possible, an attached photo (highest resolution possible) to [alumnews@moody.edu](mailto:alumnews@moody.edu). Include the deceased person's full name, maiden name, if appropriate, class year/years attended, age, date of death, location of death (city and state), relatives or related alumni, ministry focus in life, and other pertinent information. We may edit your submission for accuracy and length if needed. Questions? Call the Alumni Association Office at (312) 329-4412.*



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