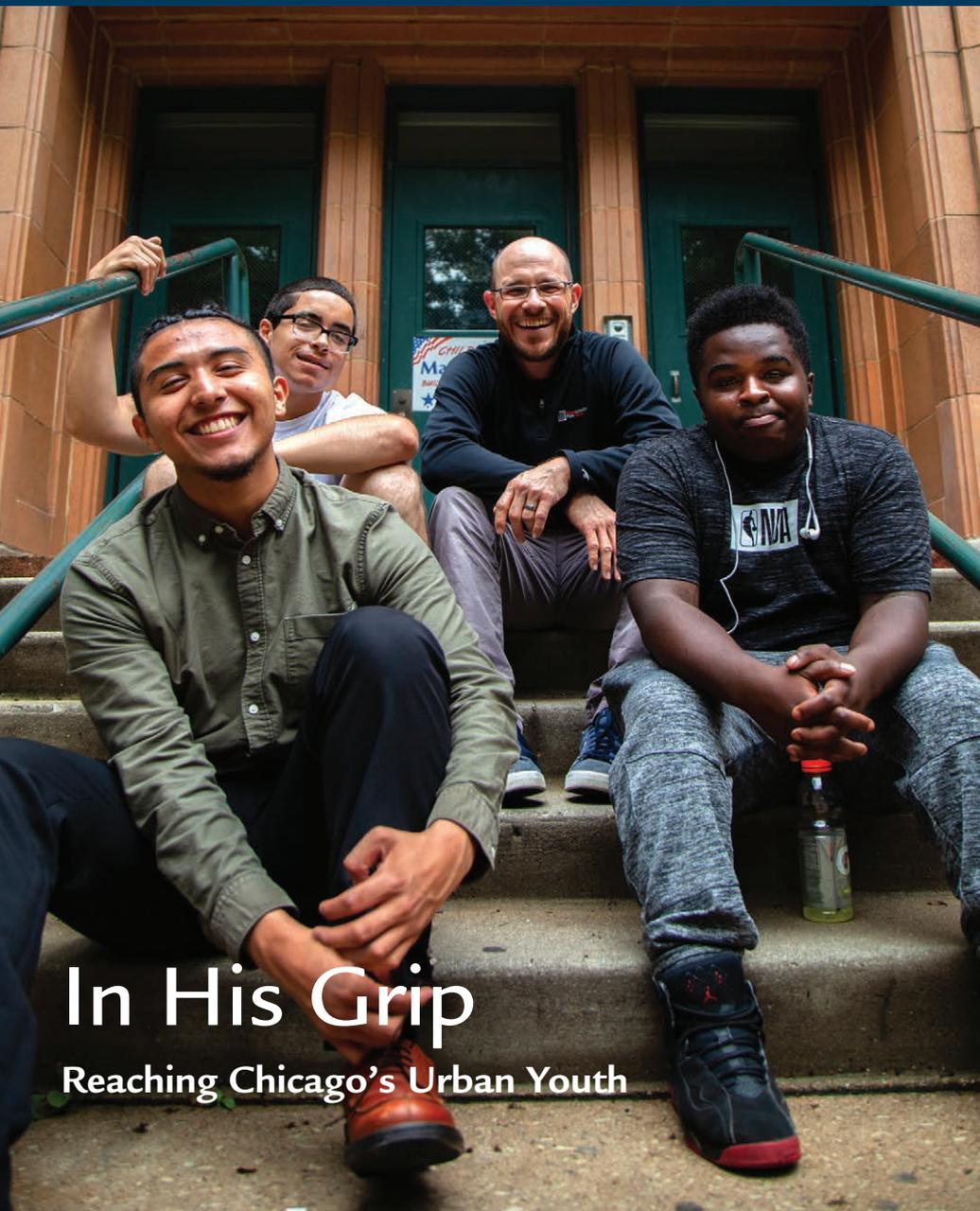


MOODY
Alumni News

Fall 2018



In His Grip

Reaching Chicago's Urban Youth

From the Executive Director



*I'm so grateful
for the many
alumni I meet
who are on
mission for God.*

Dear friends,

Many of you know that Moody has experienced some difficulties over the last nine months—making the prayerful but painful decision to close one campus (see story on page 16) and starting the search for a new president (see page 4). Yet I'm glad to report that we remain on mission.

With fall semester upon us and a fallen world around us, it's exciting to see so many students at Moody preparing for and practicing Christian ministry. I'm also grateful for the many alumni I meet who are on mission for God—whether they're reaching urban youth in Chicago or serving as missionary pilots in foreign lands.

Have you been reading the monthly alumni emails we send out? I hope so. I think you will find them helpful. You can also get the latest at moody.edu/update. We want to keep you informed about Moody news and events, so please provide us with your current email address and contact information—and any prayer requests or updates—at mbialum@moody.edu or (312) 329-4412. Thank you!

Serving Christ together,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Nancy K Hastings". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

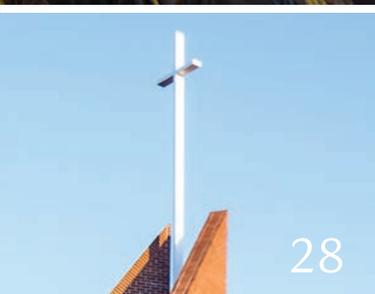
Nancy (Andersen '80) Hastings
Executive Director, Moody Alumni Association

On the cover: (middle) Shawn Proctor '07, program director of GRIP The School, with high school students in Chicago.

Moody Alumni News, Fall 2018 (Vol. 68, No. 2): Executive Director: Nancy (Andersen '80) Hastings; Managing Editor: Linda Piepenbrink; Art Director: Lynn Gabalec; Alumni Notes Editor: Alexandria Hunter; Alumni Board of Directors: Cherie (Bruchan '75) Balog, Tobias Brown '05, Chris Drombetta '14, Steve Dutton '86, Peter Grant '83, Col. Joe Hilbert '93, David Lee '08, Tracy (McPhail '14) Reed; Julie (Carlen '80) Ross, Jim Shedd '72, Yvonne (Hurd '80) Wolf.

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Moody's Presidential Search

The search for Moody Bible Institute's next president is officially underway with the May 21 announcement that The Dingman Company has been chosen to lead the recruiting.

"Today is a significant moment in our 132-year history," said Randy Fairfax, chair of the Presidential Search Committee as well as Moody's Board of Trustees. "The profile we have prayerfully put together with the help of The Dingman Company is based upon feedback received from staff, students, faculty, and leadership through multiple interviews, town hall meetings, and correspondence. It also reflects our desire to locate someone committed to our foundation on the Word of God and mission to take the gospel across the globe, cultures, and generations." He added, "For a large, multifaceted ministry such as Moody, the president needs a unique skill set for effectively managing and closely collaborating with fellow leadership, staff, and the Board to ensure Moody's success moving forward."

Dr. David Gyertson, consultant for The Dingman Company, added, "Think of the complexity of what Moody is. We're not just hiring an academic president. We're looking for somebody who has a passion for Christ-centered biblical education and understands the power of Christian media, particularly in radio and in print. So all of those pieces have to come together in a unique fashion."

The presidential search committee includes **Dr. Pamela (Kistler '79) MacRae MA '12**, faculty; Dr. William Thrasher, faculty; **David Lee MDiv '08**, Alumni Board; Randy Fairfax, Trustee Board chair; Richard Warren, Trustee Board vice chair; Thomas Fortson, trustee; James Meeks, trustee; Dr. Juli Slattery, trustee; and Mark Wagner, trustee.

For those who are interested in applying for the position of president, or for those who wish to suggest a potential candidate, please contact Bruce Dingman at (818) 378-7755 or bruce@dingman.com. Find out more at moody.edu/presidentialsearch.

Help Us Pray for a New President

As we depend on the Lord and trust in His timing during the selection process, please join us in prayer:

1. That the search for a new president will be fueled by prayer and directed by God
2. That the search committee will remain diligent and prayerful during the process
3. That God will reveal a person of great character and heart for ministry
4. That the search committee will discern the Lord's will in selecting candidates
5. For Moody employees, staff, and students during the transition



Pastors and ministry leaders worship the Lord during a Pastors' Conference session.

Pastors' Conference a Time of Connection and Renewal

More than 600 pastors and ministry leaders from as far away as Canada, Puerto Rico, and Nigeria gathered at Moody Bible Institute May 21–24 for Pastors' Conference. The week featured preaching from respected Christian speakers such as Ed Stetzer, Charlie Dates, Joe Stowell, H. B. Charles, and Alistair Begg. Alumni pastors also had a breakfast meeting with **Nancy (Andersen '80) Hastings** and other Moody leaders.

Gregory Payton MA '09, a church planter and elder at New Beginnings Church in Chicago, thoroughly enjoyed the conference. "It's good to connect with other pastors, to get away from the daily routine, and just to be daily renewed in your commitments to ministry," said Payton. He also took the afternoon Heart for the City Tour with Dr. Fuder, his advisor while he was earning his MA in Urban Studies from Moody Theological Seminary. "I highly recommend the tour," he said.

Ray Pritchard, president of Keep Believing Ministries, preached Tuesday night on how to survive your critics. "It spoke exactly to an issue that I needed to hear and melted my heart, which is what I've been hoping for and praying for," said **Gary Cech, MDiv '99**, a pastor in Flint, Michigan.

Workshops covered a litany of helpful topics such as "How to Resurrect a Dead Prayer Life," "Relationships with Difficult People," "How to Help a Teenager Develop Spiritually," and "Navigating the Law in a Changing Culture." Bonus workshops were offered, such as "10 Ways God Provides When the Paycheck Isn't Enough."

Each attendee was given daily freebies, including a pre-release copy of *Transforming Presence: How the Holy Spirit Changes Everything—From the Inside Out* (Moody Publishers) by Daniel Henderson, who directed daily morning prayer sessions with attendees.

Moody Highlights

Moody Celebrates Graduation on Three Campuses

Moody Bible Institute completed its 132nd year with four commencement exercises: two in Chicago, one in Spokane, Washington, and one in Plymouth, Michigan. A total of 826 students (636 undergraduate and 190 seminary students) graduated in 2017–2018, joining more than 47,500 alumni.

Interim president **Greg Thornton '81** thanked the parents for sending their students to Moody. “We are so grateful that you are with us today to celebrate the accomplishment of your student. Your prayers, your encouragement, your financial support, and your love have made it possible for them to meet this most significant milestone in their lives.”



Chelsie Herr '18, with an Applied Linguistics degree from the Chicago campus, plans to attend graduate school, then work in Bible translation in southeast Asia.

Dr. Lutzer Gives Address

Dr. Erwin Lutzer, pastor emeritus at The Moody Church, gave the address at the Chicago ceremonies, starting off with a bit of humor: “There was a sign at Dallas Seminary that said, ‘Salvation is by grace—but graduation

is by works.’ So thank you so much for the work that brings you to this day.”

He then delivered a message from Proverbs 1:7: “The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom, but fools despise wisdom and instruction.” Lutzer pointed out that our secular culture doesn’t fear God regarding matters of sin and sexuality. And evangelical Christians tend to overemphasize grace, interpreting God’s unconditional love as unconditional acceptance of sin. “You would come to the conclusion that God was never angry about anything,” he said. “Someone should tell this generation that the fear of the Lord is referred to 43 times in the New Testament.”

“It is your responsibility and mine to remove all those sins that stand in the way of us representing God, so that His light can shine in a culture that believes that our light is darkness,” he told the graduates. “That’s our calling, and that’s what I call you to.”

Recognition for Retiring Faculty

Moody gave special recognition and emeritus status to two retiring faculty members: David Fetzer, professor of Communications after 36 years of service, and **Dr. H. E. Singley III '71**, professor of music and director of the Men’s Collegiate Choir, after 22 years of service. Eight other retiring faculty include Michael Boyle, associate professor of Pastoral Studies; Dr. Betty-Ann Lynerd, professor of Music and director of Women’s Chamber Choir; Dr. Maria Mocuta, professor of Intercultural Studies; **Dr. Elizabeth (Faul '72) Naegele**, professor of Music, who played organ for the



Junjiang Du MA '18, pastor of Chicago Northwest Suburban Chinese Christian Church, graduated from Moody Theological Seminary with 50 friends and members in attendance.

ceremonies; Jean Penfound, professor of Sports Ministry and Lifetime Fitness; Dr. Daniel Green, professor of Preaching and Pastoral Ministry; Dr. Michael Vanlaningham, professor of Bible; and Dr. Un-Young Whang, professor of Music.

The Alumni Association and You
Each Moody graduate receives a Bible with the Moody Alumni Association logo and contact information. **Nancy (Andersen '80) Hastings** explained that Alumni have access to:

- a free copy of *Moody Alumni News* three times a year;
- a monthly e-newsletter with Institute updates;
- an alumni website with event posts, historical information, a Career Finder service, regional alumni communities, and an alumni church map;
- the Alumni Board, a diverse group of alumni who assist in planning events and choosing scholarship recipients and award winners;
- weekly prayer in the Alumni office.

Send requests and missionary prayer letters to mbialum@moody.edu or call (312) 329-4412.

Hastings asks alumni to be ambassadors for Moody education, to pray earnestly for Moody's leadership, trustees, and faculty, and to consider financially supporting Moody. "Who better than alumni know and understand what it is to receive a Moody education? We want to be able to pay that forward so we can continue training men and women."



Rachel Rossman '18, Moody graduate in Spokane, celebrates with Cason Spann and Andrew Block (both transitioning to Chicago).

Moody Highlights

Alumni Enjoy Swiss Reformation Tour



Alumni in Switzerland in front of a statue of Ulrich Zwingli, father of the Swiss Reformation.

A group of twenty-four Moody alumni, friends, and current students traveled to Switzerland and Germany for a Swiss Reformation Tour March 9–18, 2018, a sequel to last year’s Alumni Reformation tour to Germany.

“We picked up where we left off,” said **Nancy (Andersen ’80) Hastings**. “We learned about other important reformers—Zwingli, Hus, Calvin, and the Anabaptist movement—while enjoying historic churches, majestic views of the Alps, and old and new friends.”

They met up with two from our Moody family who live in Switzerland—**Gordon Schultz ’70**, a minister of music, and Anja Bänninger, a current Moody Bible Institute Distance Learning student who joined us on last year’s Reformation tour.

Two Moody professors—Dr. Gregg Quiggle and Dr. Mike McDuffee—gave expert teaching throughout the trip. The alumni group stepped into medieval Christianity in Landau, a lovely German town with cobblestone streets, and the Cathedral of Ulm, sporting the tallest steeple in Western Europe. The church turned from Catholic to Lutheran in the 1530s.

They visited Konstanz (Constance), the German city where the Great Schism ended in 1418 when one pope was chosen out of three men who claimed the title. It’s also where the reformer John Hus was martyred for his faith. While there, the group visited the town hall, Luther’s church, and St. Stephen Catholic Church.

In Einsiedeln, Switzerland, Moody alumni toured the Benedictine Abbey,



Nancy Hastings met with missionary alumnus Gordon Schultz in Zurich.

which houses the 15th-century Black Madonna sculpture and 46 frescos. Another highlight was Rheinfall, Switzerland, boasting the largest waterfall in Europe.

The professors provided more insight on the reformers as the group toured Zurich's historic sites and churches. A section in the Swiss National Museum is dedicated to

Zwingli and the reform movement in Switzerland. Of course, a stop at the Lindt Chocolate outlet store made the trip especially sweet!

The group enjoyed breathtaking scenery from their chalet lodge and as they traveled by two trains and two trams up the mountainside. In Geneva, they visited John Calvin's church and the Reformation Museum.

Life After Moody: Alumni Share Insights

"What we see as a curveball is God's straight line," said **Haley Hayne '14**, one of 21 alumni who spoke at the second annual Life After Moody dinner hosted by the Alumni Association in April. "It's our vision problem, not His mistake," Hayne continued. "You think you're young and inexperienced—but you have been entrusted with much. Serve confidently with humility." More than 40 students connected with the alumni over dinner and throughout the night in Culby's first-floor Great Room.

"Students are often so concerned about having their plans all laid out in a neat little package," said **Nancy (Andersen '80) Hastings**. "By listening to the stories of alumni, they can hear how, quite often, God changes or rearranges our plans to accomplish a much greater work. Life After Moody gives alumni a chance to give back to the current student body in a tangible way."

Each alumnus at Life After Moody shared life or ministry advice with the assembled students. "Take all the Bible classes you can," said **Caleb Goossen '08**, a youth pastor. "Seriously study the Word of God. You must be a

lifelong student of Scripture—that's the foundation for ministry."

Erica Dawson '01, who works in children and family ministry and runs a blog on raising kids, said, "Don't be surprised when you have hard times. In this world you will have trouble, but take heart, because Jesus has overcome the world."

Jacob Zerkle '09, an associate attorney, said, "Don't get caught up in the false distinction between a secular and sacred job. You're in ministry wherever you are."

Life After Moody gives current students a glimpse into the reality of a future after graduation and equips them with encouragement and advice. "I got to see people who were once in my shoes living out what they had only dreamed about," said Zachary Adams, a junior at Moody. "As students, we're just talking about our dreams—we're not talking to those who have experienced life beyond graduation and had God bring them through challenges."

To be involved in next year's Life After Moody event, contact the Alumni Association at mbialum@moody.edu, or call (312) 329-4412.

Words of Wisdom from a Civil Rights Pioneer

One Blood: Parting Words to the Church on Race offers an urgent message for the church to embrace biblical reconciliation. “Racism is based on a lie,” writes Dr. John M. Perkins. “God created one race, one blood. That’s the human race.”

“Even scientists have proven that we are one,” he adds, citing the Human Genome Project, where scientists discovered that all humans are 99.9 percent identical in genetic makeup.

The gospel offers hope and direction. “Just as from one man, Adam, all human physical life began, it is from the blood of one man, Jesus, that all who believe in Him are born again and united into the family of God,” Perkins explains.

With personal stories and scriptural support, Perkins delivers a clarion call to both black and white Christians, describing the need for lament, confession, forgiveness, prayer, and love. A study guide is included, with hopes that people from different ethnicities will discuss the book together.

Perkins, born into a poor sharecropping family in Mississippi, lost his brother to racial violence and was himself severely beaten by racist cops. He was filled with anger, revenge, and fear until God opened his eyes to the call of reconciliation. He “gave up the right to be right,” he says, and became a pioneer of the civil rights movement, writing and speaking about issues of reconciliation and leadership. He founded the Christian Community Development Association, has served in advisory roles under five US presidents, and has received 14 honorary doctorates.



Karen Waddles with Dr. John M. Perkins

“It has been just an opportunity of a lifetime to get to know him, to understand his story—what a powerful story,” says Karen Waddles, assistant to the publisher at Moody Publishers, who interviewed Perkins and wrote his words in the book.

“This is a man who has 14 honorary doctorates,” she says. “The Lord has taken him literally all over the world. He has counseled presidents and he is probably the most humble person I have ever met. It just struck me that those are the kind of people that God delights in using.”

Waddles, who is finishing an MA in Spiritual Formation and Discipleship at Moody Theological Seminary, agrees with Perkins’s message and says the long-standing racial division in the Church sends the wrong message to the world. “If we want to really literally open the doors of Heaven and allow revival to come, allow change to come to our country and culture, then it needs to begin in the Church.”

Perkins, age 87, identifies problems on both sides of the aisle, but says the greatest motivator for seeking reconciliation in the body of Christ is the love of Jesus.

“While we have no control over what others have done to us, we have

complete control and responsibility for how we respond,” Perkins states. “In our journey back to God’s vision for the church, we must lament our broken past, confess our sins, forgive one another by the power of the Holy Spirit, practice repentance, and pray.”

Mary McLeod Bethune Scholarship to Help Minority Students

A new donor-supported scholarship will distribute \$8,000 to incoming minority students during fiscal year 2018–19. Named after **Mary McLeod Bethune**, a civil rights leader, educator, and Moody alumna from 1895, the scholarship was established with \$40,000 in royalties secured from the 100th Anniversary *2016 Alumni Directory*.



Mary McLeod Bethune

Born in 1875 as the 15th of 17 children to former slaves, Bethune was limited in her ability to gain an education. Thankfully, a donor, Miss Chrissman, paid for her schooling, including a one-year Bible program at Moody. When a mission board rejected Bethune for missionary service to Africa because of her ethnicity, Bethune forged ahead, moving to Florida to begin a school for African American girls that became Bethune-Cookman University in Daytona Beach. In 1939 she became director of the Division of Negro Affairs for the National Youth Administration, making her the first African American woman to head a federal agency. She served as an advisor to President Franklin Roosevelt and other presidents.

Statue of Bethune to Grace US Capitol

Bethune, who died in 1955, made national news this year when it was announced that a statue of her would be erected in the National Statuary Hall of the US Capitol.

Bethune will be the first African American honored by a state in the national hall.

To donate to Moody’s Mary McLeod Bethune Scholarship, visit moodybible.org/donate/scholarships.

Alumnus Performs 40 Roles in Colson Play



Tom McElroy (right), as a prison warden in *Redeemed: The Fall and Rise of Chuck Colson*

When Moody alumnus **Tom McElroy '76** agreed to play all but one of the characters in a two-man play, he didn't know he would be responsible for 40 different roles. But the biblically significant number seems appropriate for a play focused on the life and spiritual transformation of Chuck Colson, former President Richard Nixon's special counsel.

Colson served a seven-month prison sentence for his role in the Watergate scandal. During the months leading up to his trial, he was led to Christ by a close friend. After his release from prison, Colson went on to found Prison Fellowship Ministries.

Redeemed: The Fall and Rise of Chuck Colson premiered in Chicago in 2017 and returned for a one-month run in April–May 2018.

McElroy portrayed 40 characters (with many quick costume changes), including President Nixon, Governor Harold Hughes, and even Chuck Colson's mother, donning an apron

for the part. He enjoyed best the scene where Tom Phillips, a friend of Colson's, shares his newfound faith in Christ during the Watergate scandal, ultimately leading to Colson's conversion.

McElroy also enjoyed playing the role of an inmate named Homer, a composite character of the many inmates who spent time in Bible study with Colson during his incarceration. *Redeemed* required the most lines McElroy has ever memorized.

Colson's daughter, Emily, attended the two-hour play two years in a row and was moved by the portrayal of her father, played by Rod Armentrout. McElroy says he was thrilled and amused when Emily told him, "You know, you really embodied Harold Hughes. . . . My grandmother, not so much."

McElroy graduated from Moody in 1976 and spent the next decade as a youth pastor. But at age 38, he put together a résumé and head shot

to pursue his lifelong dream of acting. “From the time I was a pup, I was doing skits for my family and plays in church and school, and I did some community theater,” he says.

It took him nine years to find a fellow believer in the business. But since then, he has met quite a few Christian actors.

Today he’s acted in many plays and films, including the Christian

film *What If?*, and the hit TV show *Prison Break*. Playing the prison chaplain, his favorite line was, “It’s never too late, John. If you repent of your sins and trust in Jesus, He will save you for all eternity.”

His favorite show of all? The one he’s doing at the moment! “I don’t want this to end. I love doing this,” he says.

Doug Hastings Promoted to Moody Radio Vice President



Doug Hastings '79, a veteran of Moody Radio for more than 37 years, has been promoted to the position of vice president at

Moody Radio.

A native Chicagoan, Hastings majored in Communications at Moody Bible Institute and completed his BA in radio and TV from Columbia College in Chicago. While finishing his degree, he served at a station in Hammond, Indiana, then came to Moody Radio in Chicago in 1981.

“Doug loves the Lord, is a person of prayer, and brings a ministry mindset and strategic business thinking to Moody Radio,” said **Greg Thornton '81**, senior vice president of media at Moody, who also serves as interim president. “Across the industry and with our radio partners and staff he is deeply respected and known as an effective communicator and a hardworking, focused leader. As a Moody alum who has also been with Moody Radio for more than 37 years, he respects and appreciates our 90-year legacy and will no doubt lead us successfully this next season.”

As general manager, Hastings has been instrumental in recently preparing Moody Radio for the upcoming transition to its new home in the Chapman Center on Moody’s Chicago campus, which will open this fall. Moody Radio and its partner media ministry, Moody Publishers, will be located in a single workspace for the first time in Moody’s history, allowing unprecedented collaboration. Moody students will also have unique opportunities to learn from and serve alongside Moody’s media professionals in this building.

“I am deeply humbled and honored to serve in this role,” said Hastings. “God has collected a great team of professionals who serve at Moody Radio. I am thrilled to minister alongside them as we boldly present the gospel and help our listeners take their next step in their journey with Jesus Christ.”

Hastings’ wife, **Nancy (Andersen '80)**, serves as executive director of the Moody Alumni Association. They have two adult children and two grandchildren. Doug sings and plays guitar with the worship team at his church.

Moody Professor and Alumni Produce Easter Play

If you want to make a risky investment, why not show an Easter play about Jesus's life, death, and resurrection—in a theater? Moody Communications professor Matthew Moore took that risk. He and two Moody alumni, **Jonathan Goldthwaite MDiv '16** (director) and **Josie Koznarek '17** (visual artist), produced *Through the Veil: An Easter Experience*, which showed last March at the Greenhouse Theater Center in Chicago.

"I felt called to rent a theater, a nonreligious space, where people would come who wouldn't feel comfortable going to a church," Moore says. "I think it's good for people to hear the Word of God spoken with passion, and good for nonbelievers to have biblical literacy and hear the story of Jesus."

It turned out to be a smart decision. Several of the shows sold out, and reviews were positive. During the production, which included original music and live illustrations, Moore played all of the characters and used only Scripture to tell the story of Jesus.

Moore, founder of Lamp & Light Productions, has been bringing Scripture to life in churches and other venues for the past 15 years. Usually he travels as a one-man show, giving 40-minute Scripture performances. A university professor for 18 years, he moved to Chicago in 2016 to teach communications at Moody Bible Institute. Inspired by Chicago's Art Institute and the Lyric Opera, he wondered, *What if I brought the Scriptures together with great music and great art?*

After compiling a script, he chose



Josie, Jonathan, and Matthew on the set of Through the Veil.

Jonathan Goldthwaite, a 28-year-old graduate with a Master of Divinity from Moody Theological Seminary, to direct the show. "We had a really rich collaborative process," says Moore, who has a Master of Fine Arts in classical acting.

Goldthwaite, who works as a social media specialist for the International Fellowship of Christians and Jews, says his Moody training and exegesis skills were beneficial in directing *Through the Veil*. "It helped me get at the real meaning of specific passages and develop the main ideas explored in the show."

Moore's goal is to help people see, hear, and experience the Bible. "So instead of doing a monologue that's based on Scripture, I love to just quote Scripture," he says. "This is biblical literacy at its best."

Goldthwaite agrees. "There's power in simply proclaiming these words that touches people's hearts, and I think people do want to engage in things of faith, God, and the bigger questions of life."

Alumni Day Moves to Friday During Founder's Week 2019

Add Founder's Week 2019 to your calendar (February 4–8), and note an important change: **Alumni Day is February 8—on a Friday!**

Changing Alumni Day to a Friday means Big Four reunion dinners will be held on Thursday for the classes of 1969 (50th), '79 (40th), '94 (25th), and 2009 (10th). The Alumni Banquet and an alumni social for all class years ending in a 4 or 9 will take

place on Friday, February 8.

Plan to attend the entire week to hear powerful messages based on the theme, "The Inspired Word," taken from 2 Timothy 3:16–17.

Join your class page on Facebook by visiting Moody Bible Institute Class of (insert your class year). And watch for a special mailing in September for more details about alumni activities.



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Continuing Impact

Moody in Spokane leaves an enduring legacy

In May Moody Bible Institute in Spokane held the final graduation ceremony for its biblical studies campus, as Moody repositions various aspects of its ministries. The school has produced many graduates—from Fulbright scholars to digital marketing associates—who have been enormously valued by local churches. The biblical studies campus in Spokane offered degrees in Bible, Pastoral Studies, Intercultural Studies, and Youth Ministry.

Meanwhile, Moody Aviation will remain open in Spokane, with a robust program that continues to equip

students and supply graduates to mission agencies around the world.

All of Spokane's biblical studies students were offered transfers to the Chicago campus or into Moody Bible Institute Distance Learning. More than 100 students have transitioned, along with two professors who now work at the Chicago campus, including **Chris Rappazini '07** in Applied Theology and Jonathan Armstrong in Biblical Exposition.

The Beginning

Moody Bible Institute's first undergraduate branch campus



by Linda Piepenbrink

opened in Spokane in 2006. Dr. Tom Cornman was dean of the undergraduate school and instrumental in getting approval from Washington State's higher education board. But the school goes back even further to 1993, when it was Moody Northwest under the direction of Moody's External Studies (distance learning) division.

Dr. Jack Lewis, campus dean of Moody Bible Institute Spokane, was at the school from the beginning—even before 1993. He attended Inland Empire School of the Bible—the precursor to Moody in Spokane—



Dr. Jack Lewis

the first semester it opened as a day school in fall 1973. Ten years later, with further training from Dallas Theological Seminary, Lewis returned to serve on the board and teach as an adjunct professor while pastoring a Spokane church. In 1989, the school reorganized and changed its name to Spokane Bible College.

In 1993, Lewis and the board invited Moody Bible Institute in Chicago to

take over the school. For one thing, Spokane Bible College wanted academic accreditation. “Students had started to vote with their tuition dollars to go only to schools that had full regional or ABHE accreditation,” Lewis says.

Additionally, “The stability of Moody doctrinally attracted us, because it’s where we were as a school,” he says. “So we kept thinking, *Wouldn’t it be nice to be part of Moody?*”

By then Moody had established extension sites in Florida, Ohio, as well as evening school in Chicago, so, from Moody’s perspective, Spokane would become another Moody extension site with one difference: students could enroll in residential day classes. Moody liked the idea and agreed to continue the conversation.



Spelling Moody (l to r): Martha (Nehring) Ruseler '18, Deanna Gibson '17, Kristen Martin, Anna (Cantor) Myers '18, and Sarah Risser '17.

In 1993, the IRS informed Spokane Bible College that the school owed \$20,000. Moody was reluctant to take on a school carrying substantial debt and the conversations stalled. Then, in an unexpected reversal, the IRS agreed to forgive the \$10,000 penalty. A few weeks later, Spokane Bible College found out they were named in the will of a local Catholic priest who said, “One of your students led me into a relationship with Christ that

I’d never known.” He had left half of his estate, worth approximately \$10,000, to the school.

“We called Moody and said the debt was paid off,” Lewis says. Soon afterward Moody Northwest was born. Lewis was named the first full-time faculty member. Dr. John McMath, a longtime Bible professor, replaced him nine years later as Lewis moved to administration and hired additional faculty.

Moody had a long-term lease with Fourth Memorial Church, which has a 1000-seat auditorium, faculty and administrative offices, classrooms, and student space. But by 2003 the school was struggling to maintain enrollment. “We had dwindled down to 15 to 20 students,” says Lewis. While the future looked uncertain, they would soon experience unexpected growth due to transitions within Moody’s aviation program.

Moody Aviation Goes West

In 2003, Moody Aviation, located in Elizabethton, Tennessee, faced significant financial challenges.

After much research, deliberation, and prayer, the decision was made to relocate Moody Aviation to Felts Field, an airport located about 15 minutes from the Spokane campus. The decision to relocate would not only save the aviation program but ultimately revitalize the Spokane school.

“It was a symbiotic relationship,” McMath says. “The move to Spokane made it possible for Moody Aviation to continue with less expense. The move also provided an infusion of about 40 additional freshman students every year, which made at the time a big difference in Moody Northwest.”

Cecil Bedford '78 moved to Spokane first, coordinating the Air Frame & Powerplant mechanics training with Spokane Community



Spokane students on a hike: (front row, r to l) Corbin Ruseler, Martha (Nehring '18) Ruseler, and Haley O'Neil; (back row, r to l) Jessica Brouwer '18, Brett Fish, and three friends.

College, while **Jim Conrad '98** remained in Tennessee until the aviation students graduated. In 2005, Conrad and his family moved west.

The move incorporated new ideas about Moody Aviation's staffing, where they partnered with missions agencies who loaned their aviation instructors (raising their own support). Now more than 70 percent of the teaching faculty serve from Africa Inland Mission, Wycliffe/JAARS, Mission Aviation Fellowship, New Tribes Mission Canada, Ethnos 360 (formerly NTM Aviation in America), Proclaim Aviation, South America Mission (SAM Air), UIM, and as individual volunteers. Many of the on-loan missionaries are Moody Aviation graduates.

Moody in Spokane

After the move, Moody Northwest was brought under the undergraduate division in 2006 and became Moody Bible Institute in Spokane. That change not only provided a surge in students but the need for more faculty and staff.

Moody eventually offered eight full-time undergraduate degree programs. Every faculty member on Spokane's biblical studies campus had an earned doctorate or was a PhD candidate. "That's 100 percent of the

faculty with terminal degrees, which is unusual at any school," says Lewis. The school had about 650 students at its peak.

"Those were the years, about seven years' worth of time when we had more students than we knew what to do with," McMath says. "But demographics changed, and as the student supply began drying up, we stopped getting the overflow from Chicago."

Then late last year the difficult decision was made to close the Spokane campus. "We have a 45-year history of Bible education in Spokane. That's hard to give up for the community," says Lewis.

McMath, who will continue teaching Biblical Studies at Moody Aviation, says the same about the faculty and staff. "We've got some remarkable talent here, so I'm looking forward to seeing what God is going to do with everybody."

"God is at work in things and He's doing all things well. He doesn't make mistakes. So we're good. We're good," McMath adds. "It's going to be difficult but it's going to be good."

Transitioning to Chicago

Gabe Bewley is one of many students who transitioned from Spokane to the

Chicago campus. In fact, he arrived for classes in January 2018. “Literally a day or two before they announced the closing, I had prayed about coming to Chicago. So right away I applied,” he says.

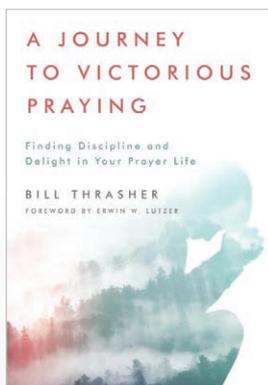
Bewley admits it’s hard to compare the two campuses. “Here there’s dorms, a student dining room, public safety. I’m urban now. But I love it because it’s Chicago, and I just love the opportunity to experience a lot of what the city has to offer. And the diversity of not just the student body but the faculty here has been amazing.”

His Practical Christian Ministry assignment with Inner City Impact has been an eye-opener. “Just being able to work with kids who don’t necessarily

come from a church background—we get a lot of questions, like ‘How do we know the Bible is true?’” he says. “Thankfully I’m taking Life in Bible Times, and we know that there are actual accounts of Jesus being alive, archaeological evidence of Old Testament places, and people like Josephus actually writing about it. It’s cool to actually use what I’m learning.”

Bewley, who has a job on campus in Marketing Communications, is grateful to gain experience interacting with other departments like Moody Radio and Moody Publishers. “I’m really happy I decided to come here,” he says. “I think a lot of my classmates who come out here are going to love it too. At the very least it’s a learning experience.”

Learn to Practice Prayer in 30 Days



Whether you struggle to pray consistently or you’ve been praying for years, you can get simple, practical help in *A Journey to Victorious Praying*. Your enthusiasm for prayer will be renewed as Bill Thrasher takes you through 30 days of prayer insights.

We want to encourage your prayer life—give a gift at moodyalumni.org or with the attached card to reserve your copy.

Moody Aviation Keeps Soaring

Moody Aviation just completed its 71st year, with 27 instructors and 115 aviation students, 12 of whom graduated in May as pilot mechanics and one as a maintenance specialist.

Moody Aviation will continue to supply two years of Bible education in the context of the BS in Missionary Aviation Technology degree. All coursework will be held on campus at Felts Field, where Moody Aviation has three hangars and two classrooms for Bible, General Education, and technical courses. Thanks to generous donors, they will have three advanced flight simulators by February 2019.

“We’re working very diligently

four and five, they decide whether they want to become a maintenance specialist or a pilot mechanic. They also become a private pilot, then an instrument and commercial pilot.

The aviation major is the most expensive major Moody offers: about \$120,000 for the five-year program. But with scholarships, FLAPS (Forgivable Loan Assistance Program for Students), and unique partnership programs that coach students on fundraising tools, the average debt of a Moody Aviation student ends up being between \$20,000 and \$30,000. “That’s significantly less than other schools that offer less flight time,” Conrad points out.



Moody Aviation graduates are ready to fly.

with our team to continue offering the high-quality training that Moody Aviation has been known for,” says **Jim Conrad '98**, Moody Aviation program manager.

Moody Aviation students start with a year of biblical studies and general education courses. They add maintenance training and become air frame and power plant mechanics over years two and three. In years

Still a Need for Mission Aviators

Mission aviators are needed as much as ever before. Remote places and small bases are still scattered around the world, but with more technology, many countries have different regulations for flying in their air space. The need continues to provide for the safety of missionary families who would encounter far more danger traveling by road. And because missions agencies with Moody-trained mission aviators have earned the respect of the countries they serve in, many countries now ask the missions agencies to help equip their national pilots and mechanics with technical skills in aviation.

“Mission aviation organizations could place 30 to 40 Moody graduates per year,” Conrad says. “Please pray for the Lord to send us students to be equipped as workers for the King’s harvest.”

: WELLS :
: SENIOR : HIGH : SCHOOL :

In His Grip

Reaching Chicago's urban youth

by Linda Piepenbrink



At 6:30 p.m. on a Monday night, **Karale Williams '10** gives a last-minute pep talk to more than 90 coaches in Moody's Solheim Center. "WHY ARE YOU HERE?" he shouts like a drill sergeant, his arm pumping the air. The coaches (many of them Moody alumni and students) holler back: "JE-SUS!"

Then about 100 urban high school youth pour into the lobby, each one welcomed by name with loud cheers, hugs, and high fives. SLAM, a weekly night of games, team sports, and Bible teaching for urban youth, is sponsored by GRIP Outreach for Youth (gripyouth.com). The nonprofit ministry has 10 Moody alumni on staff, as well as many Moody alumni and students who volunteer as coaches (mentors) and administrative helpers.

SLAM is a weekly launching pad for what happens outside the walls of Solheim. Each coach commits to spend four to six hours every week with their assigned student, engaging in what GRIP calls "life-on-life" relationships as a foundation for Christian discipleship. GRIP stands for gospel, relationship, immersion (in the local church), and prayer/preparation.

"They need to see when we get in arguments, how we resolve conflict, how we forgive, how we love and serve others, and what church is like. They need to see that modeled," says GRIP's executive director, Scott Grzesiak.

SLAM was the 1999 brainchild of Larry Butterfield with help from **Don Stubbs '95**, both former Moody employees, to serve high school students living in the Cabrini-Green housing projects near Moody. Scott, then a newly saved businessperson, helped launch SLAM as one of the first mentors. As gentrification took place, the families spread out, and now teens come from all over Chicago, particularly the West and South Side.

Moody has been glad to donate the use of Solheim for SLAM since it started. This also matches the wishes of Karsten and Louise Solheim, who funded a large part of Moody's athletic outreach center in 1991 with the intention to use it for community evangelism and discipleship. As a result, many Moody students involved in SLAM develop a heart for Chicago and its urban youth.

"GRIP's changed our lives, literally," says **Josh Burns '10**, who did his Moody internship with GRIP, then volunteered as a mentor for five years before joining GRIP's staff as marketing communications manager in 2015. Mentoring a high school student named Steven sometimes meant attending parent-teacher meetings in place of Steven's parent and late nights helping with homework.

"Josh was a big help," Steven says. "He put in my mind that I got to graduate; it's not an option. He didn't let me fall. He helped me."

Josh was proud to see Steven walk across the stage to receive his high school diploma. And Steven was proud to be invited to usher at Josh's wedding. "I didn't just go to it; I was part of it," he says.

Josh grins. "We're giving him access to parts of our lives that mean a lot to us," he says. "To have Steven as a part of it, I wouldn't have it any other way."

Life-on-Life for the Long Haul

Nya, 17, is thankful for her SLAM coach, **Brooke Roskam '11**, who's on staff with GRIP The School, an initiative that recruits volunteers from local churches to serve in Chicago's under-resourced public schools. "She gives me good advice," says Nya, who lives on Chicago's South Side. "My mama likes her and calls her my godmama, but I claim her as a sister."

The two first met six years ago at

By The Hand Club For Kids, a Christian after-school program for inner-city children, where Brooke worked while a student at Moody. Nya has spent time at Brooke's house in East Garfield Park, has done homework with her at coffee shops, and has gone to Christian camps and slumber parties. "She was the one who actually took me to church and told me about God," Nya says. "I love Brooke. She got a good heart." College is also on the horizon for Nya, who plans to study cosmetology so she can own her own hair salon.



Marcelis talks with coach Karale during SLAM.

Karale, who has an elementary education degree from Moody and is married with a young son, walks life-on-life with high school senior Marcelis Townsel. During SLAM's discipleship time, Marcelis said of Karale: "He's just a great person to be around, a great father figure for us kids. I got a kid also, and Karale taught me about being a man, being a father, and being a gentleman.

"A lot of coaches got crazy stories, and just seeing how they deal with life and how God helps them develop and stay strong, it makes me want to do the same thing, because I got to be strong too," Marcelis says.

GRIP coaches will tell you that mentoring isn't an overnight process. Life-on-life relationships require time (years), patience, and prayer. To support the men and women who coach, GRIP provides male and female head coaches and mentorship coordinators.

Karale is the male mentorship coordinator, meeting with 45 to 50 male mentors once a month. "It's like pastoral soul care," says Karale, who did church planting in Africa and pastoring in Texas before joining GRIP. He helps new mentors get over the common hurdle of their student not wanting to hang out with them. "Because a lot of our students have been damaged by people, it's not easy for them to open up and trust," he says. "So a lot of it is perseverance."

In a quick-fix culture, GRIP promotes mentoring for the long haul. "Some students come from highly toxic situations—deaths in families by gunshot or overdose or kids failing several grades—and coaches can get overwhelmed by those things," Karale says.

Help for Fatherless Kids

Many of the problems that plague urban cities like Chicago can be traced to fatherlessness. Most urban youth grow up without their birth father (72 percent of African Americans and 53 percent of Latinos). Fatherless children are four times more likely to live in poverty and two times more likely to end up in jail, according to the US Department of Health and Human Services. In addition, 71 percent of high school dropouts and 90 percent of teens in gangs come from fatherless homes.

Karale himself grew up in a single-parent household in Houston's inner city, but his aunt would drive a half hour out of her way to pick him up for



Alumni lead Streetlights youth track at GRIP's Legacy conference in Chicago

church. “That really spoke volumes to me that she would do that and take time to talk with me,” recalls Karale, who trusted Christ at age 16. When his youth pastor suggested Moody Bible Institute, Karale agreed because he needed to get away from partying friends and wanted to learn to defend his faith. “I knew I could move far away, get a good Bible education, and graduate debt free,” he says.

At Moody, Karale’s life transformed not from a particular class, he says, but from a professor. “Peter Worrall in the education department helped my worldview become biblical,” he says. “I didn’t grow up in a Christian home. I went to public school all my life, so my perspective on life was very narcissistic, very agnostic—humanistic in a sense—because God has been removed from education.”

Karale says this biblical framework helps him work with mentors and teens to think about their life choices and set goals. If a teen doesn’t want to go to college, for example, Karale says it’s important to determine the family dynamic and help the teen think critically. “Why do I think this way and

is this good thinking? Is this beneficial thinking, and is this biblical thinking?”

Streetlights Bible—‘It’s a big thing’

One biblical resource is Streetlights (streetlightsbible.com), developed in Chicago by Moody graduates. **Esteban Shedd ’05** first conceived the idea for an audio Bible designed specifically for urban teens for his senior project at Moody. “My focus was how to use the media arts to communicate the gospel but really minister to the needs in various contexts,” he says. A Bible study he led at his church with teenagers who couldn’t read inspired Esteban. He used Moody’s studios to experiment with recording various Bible passages, setting them to hip-hop beats.

Meanwhile, Esteban and two Moody classmates, **Aaron Lopez ’06** and **Loren La Luz ’06**, were involved in a successful hip-hop group. Loren says that just as they were gaining major-label interest, “it was very clear that God had other plans, and what birthed out of that was Streetlights.” GRIP hired the trio to create an urban multimedia Bible that also has a mobile app. “It’s God’s Word,

and it's truth," says Loren. "That, more than anything, is the power behind this project."

Proof of that power? During SLAM, Marcelis says, "I never picked up a Bible until I came here. Now I got a [Streetlights] Bible on my phone. You can put headphones in and have the Bible read to you. It's a big thing."



Diavionne with her SLAM mentor, Anna

Anna (Lanier '17) Heyward first started coaching students in SLAM as her Practical Christian Ministry assignment at Moody. That led to two and a half years in Moody's Urban Cohort program, living in East Garfield Park. Last summer Anna interned with GRIP's Legacy Conference, an urban disciple-making event that attracted speakers, Christian hip-hop recording artists, and about 2,000 attendees to Moody's Chicago campus.

After graduating last December with her Communications degree, Anna got her dream job working with Legacy Conference, which recently expanded to Los Angeles and Houston, Texas. "We feel like the gospel was spread and people were equipped to make disciples, so that's the vision behind everything," she says.

Anna and her husband, **Tim Heyward '18**, live down the street from Al Raby High School, where they both "walk life" with a few students for GRIP The School. "But that's just volunteer work, because we love it," she says with a laugh.

Serving at School and Home

Shawn Procter '07, inspired by D. L. Moody's heart for orphans, began working as program director for GRIP The School a few years after graduating from Moody. "Moody was God's tool of connecting my heart to the city of Chicago. When I walked into the D. L. Moody museum during my first month on campus, tears came to my eyes as I saw the heart he had for the 'least of these' in Chicago . . . the at-risk youth on the streets. Today I have the privilege to serve our city's youth, just like Moody's founder." Shawn recruits volunteers to tutor students and lead after-school programs. "Our goal is simply to pray for and serve schools while walking life with the students," he says.

At times, Shawn and his wife, Pamela, have even invited volunteers to live in their home. Sara Nimori, a Communications major who has worked with GRIP The School, lived with the Procters and their seven-year-old daughter for two months. "They showed me through their actions what it is to do ministry incarnationally just in how they live their lives."

Sara, who is serving as 2018–19 student body president, remembers when Shawn and Pamela invited **Melody (La Luz '02) Fabien**, GRIP's female mentorship coordinator, and her husband, Claudaniel (CD), to visit. The interaction between those two families was consistent with how they were at GRIP and at church. "I've seen through the people who work at GRIP that it's just the heartbeat of how

they live—when they’re off duty, on the weekends, when they’re with their kids, when they’re under financial hardship. You listen to Shawn, and it’s never this high-level, inaccessible Christianese. It’s always, ‘Do you still love Jesus? As you’re studying theology, do you still love Jesus?’ That’s what he’s asked me and other Moody students who work with him. That’s a very important question that I try to keep in mind.”

Brooke, who now serves as program coordinator at Al Raby High School, says she’s never had a teacher refuse their help. “Especially when the volunteers are coming in and saying, ‘The only motive for me being here is to serve and to meet students,’ the teacher is like, ‘Great!’” That servant attitude gives volunteers wide-open access to several public schools. “The church has said the school is off-limits, when in reality

it’s not off-limits if you come in as a servant,” Brooke says. “Come in as Christ who came to serve, not to be served. Then there’s no longer a barrier there.”

In a GRIP video, Dr. Femi Skanes, principal of Al Raby High School, confirms Brooke’s words: “I’ve served at three Chicago public high schools, and of all of the schools I’ve been in and all of the partnerships I’ve seen, GRIP is the most phenomenal. When they say life-on-life, they truly mean that they are dedicated to improving lives.”

When trying to reach urban youth, Karale says it is most important to consider the ministry of Jesus, who always ministered to the “least of these.” “The ability to love people the way Jesus loves people and meet them and their needs and bring dead men to life is a beautiful picture. I think that’s what God has called us to do.”



Alum Karale Williams instructs students and coaches before SLAM games.

LIFT HIGH THE CROSS

43 Feet of Hope

Moody grads resurrect a church that was full of “idols and creepy stuff”

by Anneliese Rider



Why wouldn't a group of recent Moody grads want to rescue a dying church? When a Unitarian church invited Harvest Bible Chapel Spring Lake in Michigan to share a building and help cover rent, the Harvest pastors and elders, including several Moody alumni, toured the church and promptly denied the offer.

The pastors—**Chris Moeller '09 MA '11**, **Calvin Wisen '08**, and David Wisen (Calvin's father)—were already preparing to launch services in a space they'd been renovating for a year. But they had bigger reasons for saying no.

The Unitarian church, known as C3 Exchange, taught that non-Christians could go to Heaven without trusting in Jesus. The group also invited witches into the church to perform spells, and inside the building were worship spaces dedicated to other religions. So the Harvest leaders immediately understood that their evangelical church couldn't hold Bible studies in a room full of idols—and the rental was off.

C3 Exchange hadn't always been so far off the rails. It began as First Reformed Church in 1870, and was

renamed Christ Community Church in 1971. Twenty-five years later it broke ties with the Reformed Church of America when the pastor preached that Jesus wasn't the only way to Heaven. After affiliating with the Unitarians, the church took the new name. But C3 Exchange, representing three Cs—creative, compassion, community—was missing the most important one: Christ. And that wasn't the only thing missing.

The building's bell tower had originally featured a 40-foot steel cross, a local landmark. But C3 Exchange viewed the cross as repressive, a barrier to their goal of an inclusive spiritual community. In 2010 they tore down the unwanted symbol, drafting plans to replace it with a globe, a heart, and the word "Exchange" on the side of the building.

Meanwhile, another Spring Lake group had different plans. In 2009 David Wisen had recruited his son Calvin for a church planting team, as well as Calvin's former Moody roommate and close friend, Chris. After prayer and deliberation, Calvin



Moody Grads at Harvest (l to r): Calvin Wisen, Taylor Bacon, Christopher Moeller, Carolyn (Wetendorf) Moeller, Kerry Plantz, Ryan Plantz, Nate Buchanan, Immanuel Aziz, Carlos Grisales



The core group of Harvest Spring Lake in Michigan

and Mary and Chris and his wife, **Carolyn (Wetendorf '08) Moeller**, moved to Spring Lake, believing in the vision of a Bible-believing church. "Our area is hungry for churches that teach the truth of God's Word without apology," says Calvin. "That's what we're trying to do."

By November 2010 a core team of 50 people met weekly in David Wisen's living room. They made plans to renovate a Spring Lake building used by a Christian relief ministry, and soon heard that C3 Exchange was taking down their cross. *Why not ask for it*, the Harvest leaders thought.

"It wasn't a surprise to anyone when the cross came down," says Chris. "What did surprise us was the publicity in the community when Harvest took the cross."

Then came more complications. After C3 removed the cross, the Harvest group ran into zoning issues and height restrictions. The cross ended up in the backyard of a local sign company.

Harvest Spring Lake moved into their renovated space—minus their landmark cross—and began services in 2011. Meanwhile, C3 Exchange struggled to pay bills for the church building and by summer was meeting in the town's community center. The

church without a cross stood empty, on sale for \$1.9 million.

The bank approached Harvest and asked if they wanted to buy the building, but Harvest said no, having just settled into their other building. "We were exhausted from the planning and work it had all taken," remembers Calvin. "Our church was about 300 people, and the C3 Exchange sanctuary seated 700. We thought we'd feel like a ghost town."

A contractor listed plans to convert the building into a mixed-use space, but backed out soon after. The bank offered the church to Harvest a second time, and again Harvest said no.

Third Time's a Charm

The Catholic Archdiocese of Grand Rapids announced intentions to convert the building into a school—until they discovered the extent of renovations necessary to bring the property up to code. When the bank offered the church to Harvest a third time at a reduced price, the elder board and other members of the church toured the building again. "It still looked old, but some of the idols and creepy stuff had been removed," remembers Calvin. "That dark feeling, that uneasiness and unsettling feeling was gone," says Chris.

After the staff and elders toured the building and prayed over the decision as a church, Harvest felt the Lord leading them to purchase the space. “It was a challenging season,” recalls David. “We kept finding more problems, and we basically had to gut the building.” After renovating the new space for almost two years, Harvest planned their first service in the new building. They planned to hold the first service in the new building on Easter Sunday 2014. But one thing was missing—the cross.

Three years after the cross came down, members of the church and town came together on Good Friday as it was welded back onto the bell tower. Installation took four hours and two cranes, but the cross was up by Easter Sunday. “There’s nothing magical about the cross itself, it’s just 43 feet of metal,” says Chris. “I’m more excited about the symbol it is to the community. It’s a symbol of hope on the main street of Spring Lake. It shows that we stand united with the other churches that preach the gospel and lift high the name of Jesus above all else.”

More than 1,200 people attended Harvest’s two services on their first day in the new building. Filling 700 seats was easy for God.

Lots More Alumni

The ministry of Harvest Spring Lake continued to grow. In 2015 Calvin invited his friend and former Moody roommate **Ryan Plantz ’07**, and his wife, **Kerry ’08**, to join the Harvest Spring Lake team. Ryan and Kerry had worked with Calvin at another church, but moved to North Carolina to help plant a church there. After prayer and consideration, they moved to Spring Lake and Ryan became the associate pastor.

Over the years, several more Moody alumni have landed at Harvest Spring Lake. **Taylor Bacon ’15** serves as the youth pastor, and **Immanuel Aziz ’17**, as well as current Moody students Nate Buchanan and Carlos Grisales, also minister at Harvest Spring Lake.

“Working with so many Moody alumni provides such a sense of family,” shares Ryan. “We have similar thought patterns, a high view of Scripture, and a common doctrinal backbone.”

Calvin agrees. “The nice thing about working with Moody alumni is that you know they’ll have a high view of God’s Word,” he says. “They’ll know it, they’ll understand that it’s true, and they’ll be like-minded. Working with them makes work more fun, and it helps everything move smoothly.”



A full house on the first Easter Sunday service at Harvest Spring Lake



‘Great Is Thy Faithfulness’

The true story behind Moody’s unofficial theme song

by Kevin Mungons

When **Alfred B. Smith ’36** announced “Great Is Thy Faithfulness” as the closing hymn for Moody’s 1956 Founder’s Week, no one was surprised. Then, as now, the hymn was enormously popular on campus, one of those songs that everyone memorized, right down to the four-part harmony. But Smith had planned something special for Founders Week, inviting the song’s composer back to campus for a curtain call of sorts, which explained why a frail, white-haired gentleman stood in the front row, unashamedly weeping while his best-known hymn was sung one more time. William M. Runyan returned home to Kansas and died a few months later—but his song lives on.

Why? With the thousands of worship songs that have come and gone in the past 100 years, why do people still remember “Great Is Thy Faithfulness”? And why does it continually resurface during times of adversity and sadness?

Such was the case in 1956, when Smith’s plan to feature the song happened to coincide with a national tragedy. Three weeks earlier, five American missionaries had been killed in Ecuador. The heartbreak hit close to home; all five men were Wheaton graduates and well known to the Moody student body. In the days

following the news, more than a few chapel services ended with a spontaneous institutional lament—“Great Is Thy Faithfulness.”

Then on the opening day of Founder’s Week, *Life* magazine ran a 10-page article about the murders, accompanied by a blazing headline: “Go Ye and Preach the Gospel: Five Do and Die.” During the ensuing week, the conference speakers found it hard to stay on topic. William Runyan’s song seemed to offer the best answer.

*Thou changest not, Thy compassions,
they fail not;
As Thou hast been Thou forever wilt be.*

As it turns out, the song itself was born in sadness, and came to popularity during a succession of difficult moments. Back in 1923, Runyan found himself at a personal low point. After studying at Chicago’s Northwestern University and spending 10 years as a circuit-riding Methodist minister, he became a traveling evangelist. But 20 years of preaching and singing in the pre-microphone era had an unintended consequence—his voice was shot. Then he became progressively deaf, and doctors told him there was no cure.

So Runyan turned to his other passion, his uncanny talent for editing,

a job he could do with limited hearing. He took a job with a denominational magazine, then started work on a hymnal project, putting out notices that he was interested in purchasing new song lyrics. Meanwhile, in Vineland, New Jersey, Thomas Chisholm caught wind of Runyan's project and submitted some poems.

They had never met—and later, neither could remember any special details about the song's creation. Runyan sifted through a dozen of Chisholm's poems, picked out his favorite, and wrote a tune. The text certainly spoke to the difficult times of Runyan's own life—and later he learned that Chisholm had a similar story. Also a Methodist minister, Chisholm left his first and only church after a year, plagued with ill health.

Runyan's editing and songwriting quickly attracted the attention of Moody Bible Institute, who hired him in 1925 to work as editor of their publicity materials. One of his jobs was to write the long-running "Moody Alumni" column in *Moody Monthly* magazine. And his second skill—hymnal editing—resulted in *The Voice of Thanksgiving No. 4*, which became Moody's official chapel hymnal in 1928. Runyan included six of his own songs, including his personal favorite, the Faithfulness Song (both authors called it this in their private correspondence).

Which came first—the song, or the tragic moments that ensured its enduring legacy? It's hard to say, but it's probably no coincidence that the song rose to prominence during the Great Depression. The stock market crash created great hardships in the student body, and also threw Chicago's hymnal industry into a tailspin. Often strapped for cash, Runyan approached well-known publishers and offered to sell his favorite song. One publisher bought

three other Runyan songs for \$10 each, but didn't think the Faithfulness Song was worth the price.

The song story might have ended right there, but Will Houghton held a different opinion. In November 1934, when the Depression lingered at its lowest point, Houghton became Moody's new president. He loved



William Runyan

Runyan's hymnal and loved the Faithfulness Song, believing it to be the right message for hard times.

*All I have needed, Thy hand hath provided.
"Great is Thy Faithfulness," Lord unto me.*

More bad news poured in, just a month after Houghton took office. Word came that two alumni, **John '32** and **Betty Stam '31**, had been killed by Communist soldiers in China. During the next few weeks, Houghton responded with chapel sermons and impromptu prayer services. And the song "Great Is Thy Faithfulness" took on a life of its own. If Houghton forgot to call for it at the end of a service, students started singing it anyway, as an impromptu benediction.

All this happened during Al Smith's freshman year. He sat through the chapels and the prayers and the repeated stanzas—and happily discovered that the song's composer was actually on campus, working in

a quiet office as an editor. They struck up a friendship, which Smith rekindled 20 years later during the Founder's Week curtain call.

Meanwhile, Will Houghton promoted the song wherever he could. When he hired gospel soloist George Beverly Shea in 1938, he asked Shea to learn the song and feature it on WMBI, where it quickly became a listener favorite. Later, as Shea began traveling with Billy Graham, the evangelistic team used the song all over the world.

Summer and winter, springtime and harvest—no matter when it was sung, people remembered. It seemed like everyone had a story, that moment when the song managed to explain life's challenges in a personal way.

Houghton fell sick and suffered through a long hospitalization. When he returned to chapel after several months away, his first order of business—no surprise—was to request the Faithfulness Song. Then doctors diagnosed Al Smith's wife with multiple sclerosis, offering no cure and plunging Smith into a bout of discouragement.

*Strength for today, and bright hope
for tomorrow.*

*Blessings all mine, with ten thousand
beside!*

What kindles our emotional connections to the song? A good place to start is Chisholm's text, which draws heavily from Lamentations 3:19–24. The prophet grieves over the Babylonian destruction of Jerusalem, but concludes the bad news with a famous hymn of praise. Chisholm quoted this passage and then also added another allusion to James 1:17, literally rendered as "there is no shadow of turning with Thee."

Runyan, ever the editor, obsessed over the punctuation of Chisholm's text. Early printed versions included

careful quotation marks around every repetition of "Great Is Thy Faithfulness," reminding the congregation that they were singing the very words of Scripture.

The songwriting duo would collaborate on several more songs as they continued to write back and forth, but none would ever eclipse the Faithfulness Song. For as many times as their names appeared together in print, few people knew the truth—in more than 30 years of friendship, they had only met one time, for a few hours. But late in life they made quite a team—a writer who could not see, a composer who could not hear, two close friends who never saw each other.

A longstanding Moody tradition returned in January 2018, after the campus was rocked by successive announcements about difficult decisions and leadership transitions. Students reacted in thoughtful ways during the campus meetings. From the back of the room, not on the service order, came bursts of spontaneous song, led by anyone who cared to insert a hymnal commentary on the events of the day. Once again it became socially acceptable to interrupt events with unplanned group singing, a therapeutic catharsis for hard times.

Then a few students found out about Dr. Paul Nyquist's last day as Moody's president, with word spreading across campus via text messages. By the time Dr. Nyquist took the last elevator trip from his ninth-floor office in Crowell Hall, Moody's famous arch was jammed with waiting students, who had formed a human corridor out the door and up the street. No one could put into words all that they were feeling. But they could sing:

"Great is Thy Faithfulness!"

Morning by morning new mercies I see!

Moody Bible Institute | Founder's Week | February 4–8, 2019

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2 TIMOTHY 3:16–17



Colin Smith



Samuel Rodriguez



Nancy DeMoss
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Charlie Dates

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Alumni Day: Friday, February 8

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Life & Ministry Notes

2010s



Lawrence Haddad '16

attended Moody with the vision of growing his small Bible study into a fully functioning church. After years

of planning and praying, Lawrence held the first service for Noor, a new church ministry to Arab Christians in Chicago, on Easter Sunday 2018. Lawrence partners with Ron Citlau, pastor of Calvary Church in Orland Park, Illinois. Held at Calvary Church, the services are preached in English but geared toward Arab Christians.

2000s



Jeff De Vries '00

coproduces the TV program *Faith Chicago*, which airs on the Total Living Network and was recently named Television

Program of the Year for 2018 by the National Religious Broadcasters. Jeff has worked for TLN since 2004 and has been a part of multiple award-winning programs. Previously he served with the Christian Reformed Church on a show called *Primary Focus*. Jeff and his wife, Aurora, celebrate 20 years of marriage in September 2018. They have two boys, Matthew (7) and Charlie (5).

1980s

Steve Shermett '89 recently produced and released *Amazed by You*, a Christian



film. He regularly produces, casts, and acts in both faith-based and secular films. He has hosted and produced multiple seasons of *The*

Shepherd's Heart and *Rocks, Shovels, and Manuscripts*, both faith-based television programs. Additionally, he taught the introduction to a practical exegetical approach to the book of Revelation in a seminary in India. Steve was also involved with leading one of the largest Holocaust remembrance marches in the nation, which included senators, a congressional representative, Holocaust survivors, and local rabbis. Prior to that, he planted a church in Nogales, Mexico, and a messianic synagogue in Tucson, Arizona, where he served for 27 years. He also planted Book of Life Community Church in Tucson, Arizona, where he is currently the pastor.



Andrew Beaty '85, '91 recently completed his doctorate in education from Illinois State University. His dissertation is

titled "Improving Access to Ministerial Training through the Use of Electronic Devices: A Qualitative Study of Educators in Developing Nations." Andrew currently serves as program head for Moody Bible Institute Distance Learning's new Disability Ministry concentration within the Ministry Leadership Bachelor of Science degree. He and his wife, **Karen (Shubert '89)**, are active in ministry to families who have members with

special needs. They also serve in junior high ministry at their local church.

1970s

Joel Williams '78 recently accepted an invitation to join the faculty at the Biblical Seminary of the Philippines in metro Manila. He will be teaching New Testament Studies for the MA and MDiv programs. He will also assist with the ThM and PhD programs in Biblical Studies, which the seminary hosts for the Asia Graduate School of Theology. Prior to this opportunity, Joel served as a professor of New Testament Studies at Cedarville University in Cedarville, Ohio. Following his graduation from Moody, Joel received his master's degree from Dallas Theological Seminary and his doctorate from Marquette University.

Ross Bacon '76 recently retired from the pastorate at La Grange Bible Church after 42 years of service. Ross served as the senior pastor for the past 30 years. Previously, he was the associate pastor for two years, assistant pastor for five years, and youth pastor for five years. Ross and his wife, **Karen (Kats '76)**, began serving at La Grange Bible Church after Ross earned his doctorate from Trinity Evangelical Divinity School. The Bacons have been married for 45 years and are blessed with two children and four grandchildren.

Gordon Schultz '70 is currently serving in the music ministry at the International Protestant Church in Zurich, Switzerland. He teaches music on a private basis and spends time composing and arranging music for



concert engagements. Prior to this, Gordon spent 25 years working with the evangelist Anton Schulte in Germany and Scripture Union in Switzerland. As part of that ministry, he taught music in public schools and piano at the local music school. Gordon and his wife, Christine, have three children and seven grandchildren.

1960s



Victor Hess '63 recently received recognition for 50 years of service as a pilot with JAARS (formerly Jungle Aviation and Radio Service). Vic and his wife, Val, have served with JAARS and Wycliffe in Colombia, Panama, Cameroon, and Waxhaw, North Carolina. Since retiring from flying, Vic has traveled extensively doing transportation assessments and biofuel research for JAARS in Africa and the Pacific. Vic and Val have three children and four grandchildren.

1950s



Phil McGlaughlin '55 and his wife, Kay, celebrated their 55th wedding anniversary in February. Since their days at Moody, the

McGlaughlins have been involved in a variety of ministries. Phil has pastored eight churches, traveled around the country as a full-time evangelist, and served as a county director with Youth for Christ. Additionally, he made several trips to northern India, where he spoke in villages, orphanages, and street meetings. He and Kay were also able to minister to lepers in a leper colony while in India. On his most recent trip, he was presented with a Doctor of Divinity degree from Emmanuel Bible College and Seminary in Kota, India. After a number of years pastoring in Florida, Phil and his family moved to British Columbia, Canada, where he took over a struggling church. When the church was self-sufficient, the McGlaughlins moved north to the wilderness of the Yukon territory, where they served the Atlin community. The family later returned to Florida, where Phil currently pastors in Keystone Heights.

Jim Sheldrake '59 has been serving as the interim pastor at the Deckerville Bible Church in Deckerville, Michigan, since September 2017. Prior to this, he pastored the church full-time from 1976 to 1990. Jim is an avid cyclist, and in the past three years, he has pedaled his bicycle more than 12,500 miles.

Marriages



Chris Chen '17 married **Emily (Hodgell) '17** on August 19, 2017, at Good News Bible Church in Chicago, Illinois. Alumni were well

represented in the wedding, including Emily's parents, **John '84** (who had the privilege of officiating the wedding) and **Linda (Vieregge '84) Hodgell**. Bridesmaids included alumnae **Jessie Lenning '17**, **Tori Martindell '14**, **Casey Zoppa '18**, **Eli Hartwig '17**, and **Kari Martindell '18**. Further, **Ashton Glod '18**, **Brad Janizewski '17**, **Andrew Horning '17**, and **Caleb Brown '18** were groomsmen. **Fei She '17** and **Kent Hinrichsen '18** served as ushers. **Robert Rivera '99** attended with his children: Reyna, who was the flower girl, and Ruben and Raphael, who served as ring-bearers. **Hugo Perez '91** assisted as the wedding planner. Additionally, **Ethan Darla '18** served as a musician and **Adam Downs '17** was the makeup artist. Numerous other alumni and Moody staff attended the wedding.

Following the wedding, the Chens traveled to Nicaragua, then returned to Chicago to finish their last semester at Moody. In January 2018, they moved to Hong Kong, China, where Chris serves as assistant pastor at Gospel Community Church. Emily is pursuing a position as an English teacher.

Births

To **Ben '08** and **Hannah (Bartel '08) Sutton**, a daughter, Rosie Hope, born October 27, 2017.



The Suttons are serving at Samaritan Ministries in Peoria, Illinois. Ben has a master's degree from Trinity Evangelical

Divinity School and a doctorate from Ridley College, Australia.



To **Ivan and Jenny (Brown '07)**

Davis, a daughter, Lydia Ruth, born October 19, 2017.

Lydia joins sisters Heidi (5) and Anna (2).

The Davises are thankful to the Lord for this new addition to their family.

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 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.

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1990s



Bruce Pinke, MA '98, age 67, October 27, 2017, Minneapolis, Minnesota.

Bruce and his wife, Carolyn, served with WEC International for 22 years in Liberia and Côte d'Ivoire, Africa. After retiring from the mission field, Bruce served in Outlook Brethren Church in Outlook, Washington, and South Elmdale Congregational Church in Holdingford, Minnesota. He also planted a church in Avon, Minnesota, and received his ordination from the Conservative Congregational Christian Conference. In 2003, Bruce received his Master of Theology from Luther Seminary. He and Carolyn went on to serve as deputy directors and interim regional directors in Africa with WEC International. In recent years, Bruce taught part-time at the WEC Cross-Cultural Training Center in Tasmania, Australia. He then taught World Religions at Bethany Global University in Bloomington, Minnesota, where he also served as a police chaplain. Bruce greatly valued his time at Moody, speaking highly of it throughout his life.

Bruce is survived by Carolyn, his wife of 46 years; three children, Jennifer (Mark), Jeremy, and Julianne (Joel); his siblings; and six grandchildren.

1970s

Susan (Pugsley) Struska '74, age 70, December 1, 2017, Fond du Lac, Wisconsin.



Sue, along with being the mother of 11 children, was always a gracious hostess. She was actively involved in her local church choir,

nursery, Awana, and youth group. She was also involved in the local Christian school as a volleyball coach, gym teacher, field-trip coordinator, driver, and chaperone. For 25 years, Sue and her husband, **Bill Struska '75**, also assisted Moody families and off-campus students by finding or providing low-cost housing. After moving to Watertown, Wisconsin, nearly 15 years ago, they continued this ministry by sharing their large Victorian house with off-campus students at Maranatha Baptist University.

Sue was preceded in death by her brother, Robert. She is survived by Bill, her husband of nearly 51 years; 11 children; three sisters, **Dorothy (Pugsley '61) Bogle**, Nancy Jobe, and Irene Pugsley; 27 grandchildren; and one great-grandchild.

1960s

Ann Ellis '60, age 87, January 22, 2018, Toronto, Canada.

Ann, the youngest of six daughters, was born in Wales on May 15, 1931. Orphaned by age 17, Ann began training as a nurse and a midwife, completing the Tropical Medicine Course in Liverpool, England. After this, she moved to Thunder Bay, Ontario, where she served at the Canadian Sunday School Mission camp as a counselor and camp nurse.

Ann felt called to the mission field, so she traveled to Chicago to study at Moody. While in Chicago, she volunteered at Pacific Garden Mission. Following graduation, Ann applied to Africa Inland Mission Canada and departed for Kenya in 1961. There, she served the Maasai people along the Great Rift Valley for 36 years. Twenty years after she returned to Canada for retirement, the Maasai people still talk about her ministry to them.

1950s



Norm Olson '55, age 85, January 1, 2018, Placentia, California.

Norm was born in Providence, Rhode Island, in 1932. He was fascinated by airplanes as a child and planned to become an aeronautical engineer. However, a traumatic family event caused him to reconsider God's plan for his life, so in fall 1952, he enrolled in Moody Aviation, graduating in 1955. While at Moody, Norm met **Cathy Jones '55**, and the two were married in the spring of 1956. The Olsons went on to serve with Mission Aviation Fellowship for 42 years. During that time, Norm served in various capacities, including working as a pilot, mechanic, administrator, and director of development. For the last seven years of this ministry, he trained Brazilian missionaries in leadership.

Norm is survived by Cathy, his wife of nearly 62 years; two sons and three daughters; 13 grandchildren; and 11 great-grandchildren.



Erna Mae (Wills '55) Weidner, age 84, March 5, 2018, Colorado Springs, Colorado.

Following her graduation from Moody, Erna Mae furthered her education at Wheaton College, and later earned her master's degree from Western Michigan University. She taught elementary school for 14 years in Fruitport, Michigan, before relocating to Colorado, where she taught at Colorado Springs Christian School for 20 years. Upon her retirement in 1999, she continued using her teaching skills by transposing Valerie Acuff curriculum into a children's program for a nonprofit organization called A Child's Heart. She then adapted the curriculum for an after-school program serving disadvantaged children. Erna Mae enjoyed hiking, singing in the church choir, and participating in children's programs. She attended Village 7 Presbyterian Church in Colorado Springs.

Erna Mae is survived by Roger, her husband of nearly 57 years; a daughter, Mary (Calvin) Feik; a sister, Verla Beth Thomas; several in-laws; and many nieces and nephews.

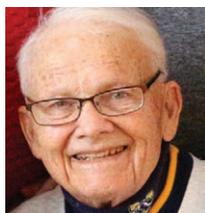
Mary Emily (Bakalar '54) Gerber, age 88, April 13, 2018, Ottawa, Illinois.

Mary was born in Czechoslovakia on October 28, 1929. When she was three, her family moved to the United States and settled in Connecticut. In 1947, she graduated from Warren

Present with the Lord

Harding High School in Bridgeport, Connecticut, and became a Christian at the age of 18. She moved to Chicago to study Christian education at Moody and completed the program in 1954. After graduation, she served as a counselor at a Word of Life camp. She then worked at Northern Trust Company in Chicago until she met and married **Lauren W. Gerber '44**. Soon, Mary and her husband were appointed by the Conservative Baptist Home Missions Society as church planters. They planted churches in Iowa and Nebraska until 1967, when they accepted a pastorate at the First Baptist Church in Bradford, Illinois. There they served for nearly 25 years.

Mary was preceded in death by her husband, Lauren; her brother, Andrew; and her son-in-law, Tony Pease. She is survived by six children, Rose (John) Lacey, Deborah Pease, Cheryl Gerber, Marilyn (Rob) Jensen, Daniel Gerber, and Carol (Tom) Smith; two brothers, John Bakalar and Dr. Paul (Nancy) Bakalar; four grandchildren; and several great-grandchildren.



Roger James Rose '52, age 87, March 30, 2018, Owosso, Michigan.

Roger was born on August 10, 1930, and grew up on a sheep farm in Metamora, Michigan. He became a Christian at age 17 after hearing a sermon by the man who would later become his father-in-law. Roger knew very early on in his walk of faith that God was calling him into ministry. He began studying music at Moody,

where he was involved in the Moody Chorale and a quartet.

He and his wife, **Donna (Montague '53)**, enrolled at the University of Michigan, where he pursued a degree in teaching and she studied music. Roger was burdened to preach the Word and desired to be able to serve people in communities without a gospel witness. He later earned a Master of Research from Baptist Seminary in Grand Rapids, Michigan. Over the course of their 60-year ministry, Roger and Donna served churches in Michigan (Ann Arbor, Owosso, and Grand Blanc), and in Trenton, New Jersey. While serving in Ann Arbor, Roger and Donna developed what they called musical sermons, which intertwined music and message. Additionally, Roger served as a camp director in Fairview, Michigan, and as a teacher at Grand Rapids School of Bible and Music. He and Donna also served with Churches in Crisis for 12 years.

Roger is survived by Donna, his soul mate of 65 years; three children, James (**Cynthia McCormack '74**), Carolyn (Michael) Rynex, and Philip (Heidi) Rose; 17 grandchildren; 10 great-grandchildren; a sister-in-law, **Mary Jane Montague '63**; and several nieces and nephews.

John L. A. Kalili '51, age 91, January 28, 2018, Honolulu, Hawaii.

John was born to John and Helen Kalili on April 12, 1926, in Haleiwa, Hawaii. He was a JROTC Cadet Lieutenant at the Kamehameha School for Boys, graduating in 1944. John became a Christian during World War II while his family was hosting James Sullivan,

a US Army soldier who shared his testimony with the family. John was drafted in May 1945 and served until he was honorably discharged in December 1946.

Following his military service, John worked at Wheeler Army Air Field before relocating to Chicago to attend Moody. Initially John desired to become a missionary to Africa, but while at Moody he sensed a calling to return to Hawaii. John completed the Pastor's Course in 1951, and began serving at Kawaiaha'o Church in Honolulu shortly thereafter. In 1953, John married **Peggy (Miura '52)**. They moved to Maui, Hawaii, to serve in the Wananalua Congregational Church in Hana. After the birth of their children Daniel and Joy, the family moved to the East Coast so John could pursue his master's at Princeton Theological Seminary.

The Kalilis returned to Hawaii in 1960, and John began serving as the executive director of the Hawaiian Division of Christian Endeavor. He later received an honorary doctorate from Piedmont College in 1985. After 48 years of faithfully serving the churches of Hawaii, John retired from the ministry in 2013.

John is survived by his wife; three children, Daniel, Joy, and Ruth; a sister, Amy; eight grandchildren; and eight great-grandchildren.

1940s

Daniel Zimmerman '49, age 95, April 19, 2018, Grafton, Illinois.

Daniel was born on February 2, 1923, to Edward and Edna Zimmerman. He worked for a short time at Owens Illinois Glass Company and at



Patterson Air Field in Ohio before entering the Army Air Force in 1943. During World War II, he served first in the Tow Target Detachment and

later flew B-29 bombers over the Pacific. During the war, Daniel sensed God's call to serve as a missionary in Africa. Following his discharge from the military, he attended Moody Bible Institute, where he met his wife, **Anna (Cady '48)**. In November 1949, the Zimmermans left for Africa to serve in the French Sudan, which later became the Mali Republic. They served until 1981 when they returned to the United States. Daniel then served by providing pulpit supply for local churches through the 1990s.

Daniel was preceded in death by his wife, Anna; his daughter, Martha Bickett; and his brother Paul. He is survived by four children, Daniel (Debra), John (Cheryl), David (Vickie), and Miriam (Paul) Speer; a sister, Mary Pepper; 10 grandchildren; and 20 great-grandchildren.

Dick Durham '48, age 91, September 26, 2017, Xenia, Ohio.

Dick graduated as the valedictorian of Washington High School in Washington, Kansas, in 1944. After high school, he served in the Navy during WWII. He later studied at Moody and got a degree from Wheaton College in Biblical and Greek Studies. He then earned his master's from Faith Theological Seminary in Wilmington, Delaware, and his doctorate from Grace

Present with the Lord

Theological Seminary in Winona Lake, Indiana. He served for 24 years as a professor at Cedarville University, where he taught Greek, missions, and biblical studies. Additionally, he was a missionary for 21 years, serving as president of the Baptist Bible Seminary and Institute in the Philippines. He was a faithful member at Grace Baptist Church for 41 years.

Dick was preceded in death by his first wife, Rose, and two sisters, Donna and Charlene. He is survived by his wife, Cathy; three children, Deborah (Jeff) Lough, Rebecca (Joseph) Frederick, and David Durham; eight grandchildren; and 12 great-grandchildren.



Jarel William Nagel '45, age 92, January 20, 2018, Clute, Texas.

Jarel grew up in Lima, Illinois, until his father died from a prolonged illness following a farm accident. His mother then moved the family to Hamilton, Illinois, where Jarel attended high school. Next, the family moved to Chicago, and Jarel attended Moody Bible Institute to prepare for mission work in Africa. Following his graduation from Moody, Jarel received training from Bellevue Hospital in New York City and became a registered nurse. In September 1953, Jarel set sail for Nigeria with his brother, Roger, to serve with Sudan Interior Mission.

Jarel married Jean Thomas on February 28, 1956, in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. They had four children and continued serving in Ethiopia until

1975 when a Marxist takeover necessitated the family's return to the United States. The family settled in Hamilton, Illinois, where Jarel worked in local hospitals and nursing homes. Jarel continued ministering through teaching Sunday School at Sutter Salem Bible Church and leading Bible studies in local jails.

Jarel was preceded in death by his wife, Jean. He is survived by four children, Barry (Pamela) Nagel, Sue (Michael) Jones, Stephen (Sally) Nagel, and Daniel (Kelly) Nagel; and eight grandchildren, Alyssa, Courtney, Evan, Andrew, Beth, Thomas, Ryan, and Jackson.

Margery Fuller '43, age 100, December 29, 2017, Sebring, Florida.

Born on April 3, 1917, Margery grew up on a farm near Oshkosh, Wisconsin. She moved into town during the Great Depression so she could work and continue attending high school. She graduated from high school in 1935. That same year, Marge attended church with a friend and trusted in Christ. She attended the state teacher's college in Oshkosh and graduated from the rural teacher's course in 1937. She taught for four years in a one-room schoolhouse before enrolling at Moody in the fall of 1941.

Marge graduated from the Christian education program in 1943 and, during a missions conference, yielded her life to serve the Lord in missions. She went on to serve at an orphanage in Colorado for one year. She returned to Moody to take missionary courses, after which she applied to SIM. She was accepted and sailed for Nigeria

in October 1945. Marge served as a teacher for the next 30 years. During that time, she also continued her own education, completing a bachelor's degree in upper elementary education in 1971. In 1982, she retired from full-time mission work and returned to Oshkosh to be with her aging mother. Following her mother's death in 1986, Marge moved to the SIM retirement village in Sebring, Florida, where she attended Southside Baptist Church.



D. Onalee (Osborn '41) Fowler, age 97, December 26, 2017, Lafayette, Indiana.

Onalee married Elston Fowler in 1945. They both enrolled at the National Bible Institute in New York City, where Onalee studied missionary medical education. They completed their education by attending language school in Edinburg, Texas, with the intention of serving the Spanish-speaking people of Colorado through Baptist Mid-Missions.

In 1954, the Fowlers moved to Lamar, Colorado, with their three young children. They founded their first church there and focused their ministry on the wives and children of migrant workers. They worked in Lamar for five years before moving to Durango, Colorado, to continue their mission work. After only three years of ministry, however, Elston was diagnosed with a brain tumor and given less than a year to live. Following this diagnosis, the Fowlers moved back to Indiana to be near family. Elston

died on March 28, 1963. Onalee faithfully raised their five children while supporting them on two part-time jobs. When her children were grown, Onalee continued serving others through home health care. She was blessed to see three generations serving the Lord in full-time ministry before her death.

Onalee was preceded in death by her husband, Elston. She is survived by five children, Philip, David (Beth), John, Celia, and Lynda Curtis.



John Schearer '40, age 101, January 1, 2018, Porterville, California.

John was born on November 16, 1916, in Hope Township, Michigan, the sixth child of W. C. and Anna Schearer. After high school, John attended Moody Bible Institute in Chicago and Gordon College in Boston until he joined the Army Air Corps in 1943. As a B-17 pilot, he flew in more than 30 missions all over Europe, including D-Day, and received the Distinguished Flying Cross and Air Medal with three oak leaf clusters. He used his time in the military to find opportunities to preach and share the gospel.

Following his military service, John moved to California, where he attended Aircraft Mechanic School in Manhattan Beach with the goal of becoming a missionary pilot. He joined other WWII veterans to form Missionary Aviation Fellowship. Together, they endeavored to reach isolated peoples with the gospel.

Present with the Lord

While in California, John met **Dorothy (Bridges '47)**, who became his wife.

John and Dorothy later moved to Boston to attend Gordon Conwell Theological Seminary. Upon graduation, the Schearers returned to California, where John entered full-time ministry. He pastored churches in Lebec, Strathmore, Palmdale, Dinuba, Sacramento, Fresno, and Clovis. Even after his retirement, he continued to preach when he had the opportunity, including serving as interim pastor in Delano, Hot Springs, Ahwahnee, and Dos Palos.

John was preceded in death by his wife of 66 years, Dorothy, and his siblings. He is survived by five children, Gail (Wally) Mertz, **Cindy (Schearer '73)** (John) **France, Susan (Schearer '74)** (Marvin) **Ahlstrand**, Carol (Pete) Arzate, and Jay (Janna); 15 grandchildren; 14 great-grandchildren; and many nieces and nephews.

1930s



Frances (Johnston) Roberts '38, age 91, June 23, 2009, Ojai, California.

Following her graduation from Moody, Frances served as the Florida state director for Child Evangelism Fellowship and wrote the very popular "Wordless Book Song." Frances also wrote hymns and served as a pianist and organist for various churches. In 1964, she founded The King's Press (now Barbour Books) and began releasing books, including her classic *Come Away My Beloved* devotional book, which sold over a million copies.

Barbour Publishing recently released a compilation of Frances's writings in a book entitled *Come Away My Beloved: A Daily Devotional*.

Submissions

To submit an alumni death notice, please send the obituary and, if possible, an attached photo (highest resolution possible) to 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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