



"With individual beauty and appeal each comes forth from the Master's wheel. With a special touch He leaves His mark, perfected in love from the Father's heart."

> From "The Potter's Wheel," a poem by Tafadzwa Mhondiwa Mugar.

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1890

1890—The committee to develop a "western school" to serve the Adventist conferences west of the Mississippi river votes to locate the new school in Lincoln, Neb.



1891—73 students attend Union College for the first time. Due to unfinished buildings and electrical grid, students spend the beginning in darkness (see page 12).

1891—A small barn was purchased on the west side of what is now 48th street—the start of the College View church. Though only four attended the first service, now more than 1,500 attended each Saturday.



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About the cover:

Two neo-classic icons make a return to Union's campus—John Wagner returns as president (see page 10) and a '67 VW Bus becomes the symbol for campus visits (see page 6).

Photo: Steve Nazario

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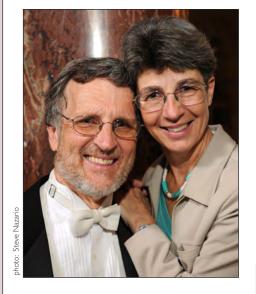


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John Wagner: Back in the driver's seat/10

John Wagner, president from 1986-1991, has been elected president for the second time.



Unionaires celebrate 25 years with Dan Lynn/14

Alumni weekend will feature a reunion of Unionaires from the Dan Lynn era—the past 25 years.



Sailing to recovery/22

Matt Satterlee '94 is using bis sail boat to carry on Union's legacy of mission service.

Project Impact 30th anniversary/16 120 years ago today/12 Class-ifieds/24 In memory/26

1895



1895—The Nebraska Sanitarium is established to treat ailing students. This sanitarium was modeled after the Battle Creek Sanitarium.



1899—Practical Educator, Union College's first newspaper is published.

1890s—Union earns the nickname "Peanut Hill" during the late 1800s when Lincoln residents use Union's campus as a park. An entrepreneurial student sells peanuts to visitors as they picnic on Union's lawn, and residents begin to refer to Union as "Peanut Hill" as the reputation of the peanuts spreads across the Lincoln area.

EDITORIAL

FOOTPRINTS FROM UNION

by John Wagner, Union College president

S ince reading Longfellow during my own days in college, these lines have stuck with me, and they resonate now more than ever. When I think of the men and women who have studied at Union College and left these halls, I am conscious not only of their impact on our campus, but of their contributions to their professions, churches, communities, families and society. These footprints continue to make the Union College experience something of which we can each be proud.

I am happy to once again be following in the footprints of the presidents of Union College, great men who have touched many lives, and have helped create and define Adventist education. To catalog the lessons I've learned from Union's history would take much longer than this editorial allows, but I do want to share a few key points I think are critical for us to hold fast as we look to the future.

An Adventist education must be accessible. The keynote of Union's first chapel service on Sept. 30, 1891 was entitled, "All Thy children shall be taught of the Lord." We still believe that, and what it means for us as an institution has only grown. I am

pleased with the Teaching Learning Center, a campus service that helps students succeed in college regardless of disabilities or previous academic struggles. I'm pleased Union offers a religion class for students who have no Adventist background to help them understand the culture and religion they've immersed themselves in. I'm pleased with our Student Financial Services, who work closely with families to find ways to pay the necessary cost of education. And I'm very pleased with our alumni who give back to their alma mater, making miracles possible in the lives of today's students through scholarships, facilities and innumerable other ways

There are colleges who only accept the brightest and richest. I am proud Union isn't one of them. Our goal is to help good kids find their greatness, whatever their background.

An Adventist education neither begins nor ends at the boundaries of our campus. The College of the Golden Cords

"Lives of great men all remind us We can make our lives sublime, And, departing, leave behind us Footprints on the sands of time."

> (Henry Wadsworth Longfellow, A Psalm of Life.)

has always had a strong focus on missions, and finding one's personal mission. Our students don't wait until graduation to start, either. Whether through internships, service projects, civic engagement, student missions, or being conscientious consumers, our students are positive participants in society outside of Union, sharing the values they learn here with the world.

That commitment also continues after graduation. Wherever I go, I meet alumni who demonstrate a lifelong commitment to the learning, service and leadership that are key to Union's mission.

An Adventist education must be both Adventist and an education. Whether discussing science, technology, literature or nearly any other field of study, I sometimes encounter a perception that learning is in opposition to faith—both from academics and Christians. Our faith and our world share the same Author, and at Union College, we will continue to explore our world and find how God is revealed through it and its cultures. I believe our high standards as educators and

our unique identity as Adventists support each other, reflecting the same drive to know and serve God better.

In this issue of *CORDmagazine*, you will read how these and so many other driving principles of Adventist education have played out in Union's history, and continue to write our present and future. Just as energy moving through water creates waves, so too has Union experienced crests and troughs throughout our history. A biographer once said that a subject who only wants to tell the positive perspectives of his or her life reveals no sense of accomplishment. It's when the highs and lows—either personal or institutional—are expressed and presented for public view that greatness can truly be recognized and celebrated.

We thank God for His leading through both the ups and downs of our 120-year history, and ask for His strength to be worthy of our predecessors, and examples to our successors. **ħ**

1900



1899—The class of 1898 makes a memorable gift by gathering enough rocks to represent the number of students in the senior class. The largest rock, dubbed Mammoth, was unmovable, so after many failed attempts, they built the rock pile around it. On their 50th anniversary, the class laid a cement foundation around the rocks.





by Tiffany Doss '11

Campus News

Union College offers leadership minor

magine interviewing for your dream job. You sit across the desk from your potential boss who's been nodding his head in approval of your responses and laughing at your jokes. Leaning back in his chair with a smile, he says, "Ok, I have one last question. Give me an example of a time you played a leadership role. How did it go and how did people respond?

Funding for the new program will come from a \$75,000 grant from Adventist who have considered leading in a hospital director of the minor and vice president

write for various Union-related publica-

smoothly without these undergraduates

actively gaining leadership experience.

tions. The college wouldn't operate as

For many Union College students, the hard part would be choosing which leadership experience to talk about.

This fall, Union launched a more formal way for students to gain leadership experience through a minor in leadership. "I think it's been a long time coming," said Kelly Phipps, senior communication major. "Union is known for its level of student participation and focused leadership. This minor compliments what students already do here and now we will be able to graduate with more tangible proof of

Union students already plan and lead most non-academic events on campus, such Project Impact, a day when 800 students and employees volunteer at more than 70 sites across Lincoln. Students also coordinate mentorship opportunities, alumni connections, help with recruitment, plan spiritual programs, facilitate many of their own classes and actively

Health Systems in Colorado to "build a pathway for students, especially those setting," said Linda Becker, administrative for Student Services. "Many Adventist health facilities have a low number of denominational workers. Hopefully this minor will encourage more students to fill Adventist health care positions—medical and administrative."

The minor will require 18 credits, including four core courses: Creative Leadership, Historical Issues in Leadership, Experiences in Leadership, and Christian Ethics. The remaining classes will overlap with major programs such as nursing, business or communication. "The minor also requires an internship," Becker said, "We want to make sure all students have had a chance to exercise their abilities and have had the chance to connect and learn from other leaders before they graduate."

Good leaders understand there are various ways and styles to directing a team or event. Participating in the student-led

leadership cohort, those pursing the minor discuss books and world events, listen to guest speakers and go on field trips that expose them to a variety of styles and leadership positions.

Phipps says she enjoys these weekly meetings and recently coordinated a tour of the Nebraska State Capitol, which included an in-session unicameral legislature meeting.

"Field trips show us what 'leading' means and what approaches are commonly taken in different environments and situations," said Phipps. "The cohort has shadowed an administrator at Saint Elizabeth Regional Medical Center, we've gone to the capitol building and have witnessed what needs to happen 'behind the scenes' to keep the Lincoln Symphony running smoothly."

Among the first students who will graduate with this minor, Phipps says she's excited to be a part of this milestone in Union's history. "This has been so much more then an academic experience," she said. "The classes and being part of a group of leaders have given me invaluable insight and have allowed me to be more versatile—an essential ingredient to effective leading." A

Union's core enrollment stays steady

by Ryan Teller '98

While Union College fell slightly short of enrollment projections for the 2011-12 school year, core enrollment held steady with an official fall head count of 886 and a full-time equivalency of 803 compared to 901 and 811 in 2010-11.

"Even though our overall student headcount and full time equivalency declined slightly, our enrolled full-time student count remained steady," explained John Wagner, president. "We are thankful for every student. Each one makes a significant contribution to our unparalleled educational experience."

While Union College budgeted for an increase in enrollment based on the previous year's growth, most operating revenue comes from tuition from full-time students. With 268 freshmen and transfers, the number of full-time students actually increased slightly from 757 in 2010 to 758 in 2011. The rest of the students do not take a full load of classes (at least 12 hours) or are enrolled in advanced placement high school level classes.

Union also adjusted the formula for reporting full-time equivalency (FTE) to align with the requirements of the U.S. Department of Education. Previously, Union used different formulas to report to different organizations, but now uses the Department of Education formula for all reporting, effectively lowering the FTE number compared to previous years (from 818 to 811 in 2010-11). A

1905

1905—Union College is accredited under the New York Board of Regents.

1906—Senior class donates the first Golden Cords display. It is mounted in the administration building chapel (see page 23).



1908—The city of Lincoln builds a street car line from Lincoln to College View via Sheridan

1909—The Nebraska State Department of Education accredits Union College for the first time.



1917—The first Union College annual, Golden Cords, is published.

CAMPUS NEWS

Alumni gift classic VW Bus to Union College

by Ryan Teller '98

A steady flow of attendees stopped to admire the shiny two-toned classic, peering in the windows and posing for pictures next to its iconic logo. The red and white 1967 Volkswagen Microbus instantly became a star of the exhibit hall at the 2010 General Conference Session in Atlanta.

"We knew the bus would be a great addition to the Union College display at the session," said LuAnn Davis, vice president for Advancement. "But we didn't consider the universal appeal of the VW across generations and cultures. Many people stopped to share stories of their own VW buses from years past—here in North America, in Europe, in Africa—all over the world."

What started as a clever image in a Union College magazine advertisement morphed into reality for the General Conference exhibit and now has become a regular part the college's recruiting efforts. Thanks to the generosity of Rich '69 and Lynnet DeRemer '70 Reiner, Union College recently purchased the VW Bus featured in the Atlanta exhibit..

The dream

When an image of a classic VW bus first appeared in a 2008 Union College ad encouraging prospective students to make the trip to visit Union, the group planning the GC session booth was inspired to find a real version for the exhibit. After discovering that restoring a bus would be cost prohibitive, Steve Nazario, the planning committee chair, searched for a bus to rent for the ten-day event. When a nationwide search turned up nothing, Nazario found the perfect vehicle almost next door.

"I started reaching out to Volkswagen clubs in the area," Nazario explained. "I met Pete Klucas, a guy who restores classic Volkswagens. He told me about a bus he restored here in Lincoln that might be available." The owner agreed to allow



A 1967 VW Bus loaned by a Lincoln resident proved to by the hit of Union's exhibit at the Seventh-day Adventist General Conference Session in Atlanta in 2010.

Union College to use the bus as part of the General Conference exhibit at no charge.

"The bus turned out to be a huge hit at the session," said Nazario. "The Union College booth received lots of attention from attendees and the media."



An alumni gift allowed Union to buy the same classic VW Bus.

Inspired by what they saw at the session, the Reiners offered to gift funds to purchase a VW Bus for the college. A yearlong search for an affordable, original bus came up empty until Klucas suggested Union approach the owner about purchasing the same bus. "Even though he really liked the bus, the owner agreed to sell," said Nazario. "And it already had the perfect paint job."

The classic VW has already become a key part of marketing Union College's visit program that brings hundreds of prospective students to campus each year to experience college life for themselves.

"The bus is a real head turner," said Becky Dewey-Daniel, the guest experience manager. "During special events we take prospective students on tours downtown with the bus. The kids love the experience and it increases our presence in the area. The bus always distinguishes us at events."

About the Volkswagen

Union College's bus is a 1967 Volkswa-

1920



1920—Union College builds its first gymnasium.

1923—Union College is accredited as a junior college by the North Central Association (which still accredits Union today).

1926—School pep song "Slinga de Ink" used in a school program for the first time.



CAMPUS NEWS

gen Type 2, thirteen-window passenger van. Discovered in a Nebraska cornfield, the vehicle was restored to its original condition by Pete Klucas of Top End Engineering in Lincoln.

The Volkswagen Type 2 was the second automotive line introduced by the German automobile manufacturer. The van was introduced in 1950, initially based on Volkswagen's first model, the Beetle, also known as Type 1. The Type 2 is generally considered to be the forerunner of modern cargo and passenger vans. The first genera-

tion of the VW Type 2 with the split front window, called the Microbus or Splittie among modern fans, was produced from March 8th, 1950 through the end of the 1967 model year. From 1950 to 1956, the T1 was built in Wolfsburg; from 1956 it was built at the completely new Transporter factory in Hannover.

American enthusiasts commonly refer to the different models by the number of windows. The basic Kombi or Bus is an 11window (a.k.a. 3-window bus because of three side windows) with a split windshield, two front cabin door windows, six rear side windows, and one rear window. The deluxe model featured eight rear side windows and two rear corner windows, making it the 15-window (not available in Europe). The sunroof deluxe with its eight small additional skylight windows is, accordingly, the 23-window. In the 1963 model year, the rear corner windows were discontinued, making the latter two the 13-window and 21-window models respectively. În

PA Program announces first Primary Care Service Scholarship recipients

by Kelly Phipps '12

For physician assistant students like Barrett Waldrep, a veteran combat medic for the United States Army, a \$22,000 scholarship will truly help him accomplish his childhood dream.

"My desire to become a PA can be traced to my upbringing in rural north Florida where medical coverage was sparse," Waldrep said.

After witnessing the death of his grandparents and stepmother due to lifestyle related illnesses, Waldrep decided to enroll in Union College's Master of Physician Assistant Studies program because he wanted to dedicate his life to prevention education and medical care.

Union announced the first five recipients of the Primary Care Services Scholarship on Thursday, Sept. 15, at a ceremony in the new PA classroom in the lower level of the Union College library.

In 2010, Union received a \$792,000 grant from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services as part of the Expansion of PA Training program, allowing it to award \$22,000 to five new PA students over the next four years and to expand the program from 25 to 30 spots in each class. Each scholarship is renewable one time, totaling \$44,000.

One of only 28 PA programs in the country to receive the grant, "our program stood out for its clear track record with the



John Kilstrom, Lauren Kelley, Barrett Waldrep, Kathryn Rabe and Jacob Ayuen all received Union's first PA Primary Care Service Scholarship.

underserved," said Mike Huckabee, Union's PA program director. "Our curriculum is designed to give opportunities to work in locations that lack proper healthcare."

The PA students work with underserved people in a variety of ways, including at a monthly foot clinic at the Matt Talbot Community Kitchen and clinical rotations at People's City Mission and in rural medical facilities.

Waldrep reflects these same values of service. "I want my life's work to be a tribute to God and those who have influenced me in my spiritual, academic and medical ventures," he said.

Four other students—Jacob Ayuen, Kathryn Rabe, Lauren Kelley, and John Kilstrom—also received scholarships for the 2011-12 school year.

The PA program also awarded the first PA Humanitarian Award Scholarship to Megan Leveranz, a second-year PA student from South Dakota. The award was funded by two alumni and is given to a student who shows an exceptional desire to serve others.

"This is part of our Christian calling," Huckabee said. "Our program attracts students truly interested in living a compassionate life." \hbar

1930

1930—Lincoln annexes College View.

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1933—Union holds the first "college days," a week for academy seniors to visit campus. Today, Union holds a variety of weekends for juniors, seniors, musicians and athletes from across the nation to visit campus.

1927—Clocktower supersedes the Educational Messenger as school newspaper.

Campus News

Board approves physician assistant expansion plans

by Ryan Teller '98

Even before excavators begin breaking ground for the new science and mathematics complex, the Union College Board of Trustees has approved a plan to convert part of the Don Love Building to make more space for Union's two newest programs.

"This started as a plan to create more room for our physician assistant program," said Gary Bollinger, vice president for Financial Administration. "Our goal is to make the renovated space meet the needs of the PA program and also the international rescue and relief program."

At the regular board meeting on February 6, the board approved a plan to renovate a roughly 15,000 square-foot area currently leased to Advent *Source* to provide classroom and skills lab space for the two programs.

"The success of the health sciences and related programs have been key to the growth and success of Union College," said President John Wagner. "We believe that by providing adequate space for these popular programs, we will continue to strengthen the future of our school."

Expanding programs require more space

Since its launch fifteen years ago, the physician assistant studies program has shared the upper floor of Larson Lifestyle Center with nursing. But both programs have experienced significant growth in the last few years.

In 2008, nursing began enrolling a January class each year, which effectively doubled the number of students in the program. The physician assistant program enrolled 30 students for the first time this year after accepting only 27 last school year and 25 in previous years. While this expansion was made possible, in part, through a grant from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, classroom space in Larson was no longer sufficient and a classroom in the library was renovated to ac-



PA, nursing and IRR have outgrown the skills lab training facility.

commodate larger classes.

Even with an expansion of nursing offices, two classrooms, and a high-tech simulator lab in an adjacent building, the two programs, along with international rescue and relief, have been forced to share a small clinical skills lab—packed full with a PA class of 30 students.

After a exploring a number of options, the board decided to move ahead with converting the south end of the Don Love Building currently occupied by Advent. The renovated area will provide adequate skills lab and classroom space for both the PA program and the IRR program. The move will allow nursing to expand into the entire second level of the Larson Lifestyle Center.

"This expansion allows us to continue to build on the reputation Union has for PA graduates with integrity, compassion, and excellence," said Mike Huckabee, PA program director. "God has blessed Union with exceptional students, more than the PA Program can accept up to this point. The opportunity of this expansion will strengthen the PA program with enhanced educational facilities and the room we need to grow."

About AdventSource

More than thirty years ago, Union College started an industry on campus to manufacture supplies for Pathfinders and other ministries. In the mid-1990s, Union College spun off the organization, which was rebranded Advent *Source* and now operates independently to serve all of North America. Advent *Source*, which produces and sells a host of ministry materials and provides meeting and website support services for churches, has continued to lease the space on the north end of the Don Love Building.

The board's facilities committee is finalizing plans to relocate Advent *Source* on or near campus, Bollinger says. The company provides more than \$100,000 each year in student employment and a number of business services for the campus.

A timeline is being established for the relocation of Advent *Source* and the renovation of the academic space. "Architects are already creating possibilities," he said. "We will be working on these projects concurrently with the science and mathematics building project." \hbar

1935



1934—Union College Medical Cadet Corps becomes the first program in the denomination to prepare students for medical service in the military. 1937—North Central Association accredits Union College as a senior college.

1937—A long tradition of roller skating begins at Union College.



1936—Union College President M.L.Andreasen originates the slogan, "College of the Golden Cords."

Campus News

Union honors student veterans

by Kelly Phipps '12

Strengthening students for a service-driven life is at the core of Union College's mission. Amid wars and rumors of war, one professor found time to honor students who served their country.

"In the 26 years I've been teaching at Union, we've never honored military veterans who are also our students," said Bill Fitts, professor of English and himself a veteran of the Vietnam conflict. "We have around 15 veterans in addition to children of vets in the student body this year. I decided it was time we pay tribute to these folks for their sacrifice and service."

On Nov. 10, a day before Veterans Day, Fitts worked with a team to coordinate the first student veteran recognition

ceremony. The program consisted of speeches, prayer, music and recognition of service.

Following Fitts' historical presentation, guest speaker Jamie Obrecht took the stage. A Vietnam Marine veteran who leads an outreach program for military veterans in the Nebraska State Penitentiary, Obrecht encouraged the multigenerational vets present to encourage one another.

Fitts then read each student veteran's name, service branch and Military Occupational Specialty (MOS) as each stood in front of his or her service branch flag. Honored audience members also included one World War II and two Korean War veterans.

Current student veterans represented a variety of services and specialties including a combat engineer, airborne reconnaissance, combat medic, a ground ambulance and flight medic; Navy coremen; a Navy corewoman with specialization in internal medicine and urology, a Marine core mortar man and rifle squad leader.

"It was great," said Shaun Kirby, junior religion and social work major and Air Force aviation resource management vet. "It was an automatic bonding experience because it's something we have done that truly cost us something in our lives."

As the program closed with prayer, there was no room for words—just tears. "That's how much it means for someone in the service to hear a simple thank you," Kirby explained.

Medical Cadet Program

There was a time in Union's history when the school actively prepared students to be soldiers—not to use weapons, but to save lives on the battlefield. Everett



Union College has a history of preparing students for military service through the Medical Cadet Corps.

Dick '24, longtime Union professor and World War I veteran, started working at Union after his military service. Concerned about another world war, Dick convinced the college administration to create a program to train young adults to be medics in the military.

Dick wanted to give Adventist young men medical training so they could easily move into a medic's role when drafted—one of the few roles open to conscientious objectors who refused to carry weapons. As chair of the program committee, Dick recruited an Army major to train students

in combat first aid—carrying litters, splinting, bandaging and administering morphine.

The program became known as the Medical Cadet Corps and soon expanded to Pacific Union College, Walla Walla College (now Walla Walla University), Atlantic Union College, Southern Missionary College (Southern Adventist University), Emmanuel Missionary College (Andrews University) and the College of Medical Evangelists (Loma Linda University).

When the United States joined World War II in 1941, Adventist institutions were already preparing young men to serve, and they saved countless lives. Desmond Doss, a Seventh-day Adventist and World

War II medic, was the first conscientious objector to be awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor, the highest military honor in the United States.

"I had not been Adventist for very long when I was drafted for the Vietnam War," said Fitts. "In the midst of our physical and occupational training, I realized there were people who already knew how to do medical tasks."

To Fitts' surprise, these men were trained through

one of the Adventist Medical Cadet Corps programs. The company sergeant, the platoon leader and squad leader were all Adventist.

"We were at the cutting edge of preparing people to be medics and care men," said Fitts.

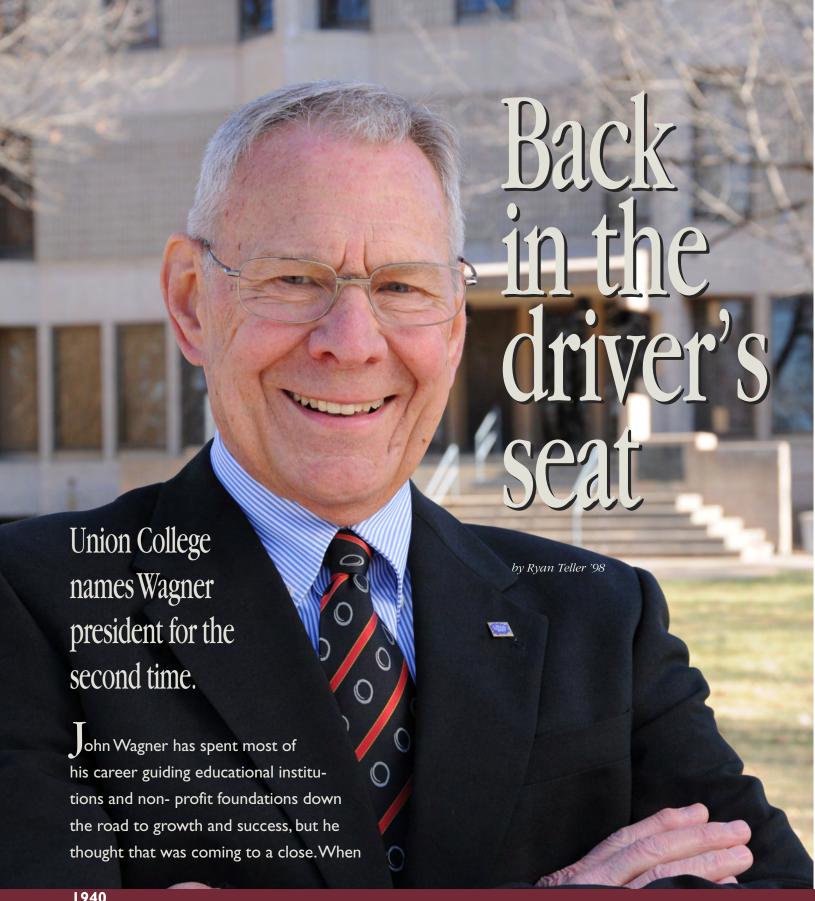
While Union College no longer runs a Medical Cadet Corps, academic programs such as international rescue and relief, physician assistant studies, nursing, education, social work and many others still empower Union College students for lives of service to their nation and humanity. A



1938—Union builds the first library. The library has since moved three times and now the Ella Johnson Crandall Memorial Library resides in the Don Love Building.



1939—Former Lincoln mayor and philanthropist, Don Love, gifts money to build an industrial center at Union College. This building is now called the Don Love building.



1940

1940—Union College founds another industry, College Furniture Manufacturers.

1940s—During the mid-1940s segregation came to an end at Union College.



1942—A new gymnasium, the Thunderdome, is built. This gym is stil<mark>l i</mark>n use today.

> 1944—Jorgensen Hall is built to house the science program.



the Union College Board of Trustees called Wagner out of semi-retirement to return to Union as interim president, he expected to stay just long enough for the board to find a permanent replacement for David Smith. Now, just a half a school year later, the board has removed the "interim" and asked Wagner to stay on as president.

"This is a very exciting time for Union College and I am honored to be here," Wagner said. "As we move forward and build a new science and math building and develop other initiatives, I know God will continue to bless this great college."

Though he didn't march the aisles of College View church, diploma in hand, Wagner's previous service at Union helped him develop a love for this midwestern campus. "My wife and I have felt more loyalty to Union than we ever did to the colleges we attended," explained Wagner, who previously served as academic dean at Union from 1980-83 and then as president from 1986-1991.

Tom Lemon, chair of the Union College Board of Trustees and head of the presidential search committee, believes Wagner's track record at Union speaks for itself. "John already has a strong relationship with our alumni and is able to articulate the Union vision," Lemon said. "The *Our Promising Future* capital campaign is at its peak right now. As the new science and mathematics building will begin to come out of the ground in the next few months, a president who knows the alumni, history and vision of Union College is extremely important."

As the college begins construction on the new science and mathematics building this spring and raises at least \$2 million more to reach the \$14.5 million capital campaign goal, Lemon feels that a

consistent vision from the president will be vital to Union's continued success. "A college campus is more organism than organization," Lemon said. "By definition, organisms either grow or die, but they never stand still. John has demonstrated his ability to meet difficult circumstances in the past and we believe he can lead the college through this period of campus change and growth."

Although daunting, the challenge of building a large new facility on campus is welcome compared to what Wagner faced during his first presidency at Union. "When I arrived as academic dean, Union was riding high," he remembered. A new Larson Lifestyle Center, computer terminals in every dorm room and a campus radio station made for lots of excitement both on and off campus. "But all the great ideas came with a price tag that none of us were aware of at the time."

Wagner left Union in 1983 to become president of Southern College, now Southern Adventist University, in Tennessee. In 1986, Union asked him to return as president, reeling from the realization of more than \$9 million in debt. "There was a lot of belt tightening right from the start, but the campus understood that," Wagner remembered. "Even though we had to cut or say no, there was still a good spirit on campus."

During his time as president, his wife, Lilya, served as vice president for Advancement, and the two worked side by side to help reduce the college debt. When they left in 1991, the debt had been

cut in half. Although Wagner founded and served several not-for-profit foundations, the work he started at Union ultimately resulted in complete retirement of the debt in 2001

"I think the highlight of that first term as president was the spirit of the campus," Wagner remembered. "We all worked together to achieve a goal that was really the salvation of Union College."

"When he was president, obviously we were struggling to make every penny count," said George Gibson, a professor of history who had been hired by Wagner during his time as academic dean. He remembered Wagner putting the entire budget up on the wall during an employee meeting. "He told us that everything was up for grabs, including his own budget. He didn't give himself preferential treatment, and that's probably one reason why he was so well liked."

Gibson recalled one encounter with Wagner during his previous presidency that summed up his leadership style. During a late afternoon hallway conversation, Wagner inquired how Gibson's doctoral dissertation was coming along.

"You're using a computer aren't you?" Wagner asked. Gibson didn't have a computer at home or in his office and explained that the one computer in the division office was always tied up during the day. Wagner beckoned him into his office.

"In those days, the computer department always made sure the

president had a laptop as well as a desktop," he remembered. "John handed me his laptop and told me to use it write my dissertation." Gibson finished his Ph.D. and has taught at Union ever since.

"John is the epitome of servant leadership," said Gibson, who also served on the presidential search committee. "He has the ability to grasp what is on the horizon, know what should be done and support the campus leaders who make it happen."

"I see myself as a cheerleader," Wagner explained. "I don't get much done by myself, but I can be supportive of the people who have the expertise and success. I think it's very important to recognize people's accomplishments, even with just a note or an email."

Wagner also believes in his "ministry of presence," a term he borrowed from his former boss at Sligo Seventh-day Adventist Church where he served as part-time administrative pastor before returning to Union last summer. He makes it a habit to be as many school events as possible—from awards ceremonies to basketball games to social events—and "I try to get to every building on campus every week or two, just to say hi and see how things are going."

"That's John," agreed Gibson. "He loves to be around people." Already once retired before serving at Sligo church, Wagner doesn't expect to lead Union for thirteen years, as his predecessor did. His primary goal is to help the college see the successful completion of the science and mathematics complex and new physician assistant facility. "We'll see what happens," he said. "but I'm hoping when I'm finished, God can say, 'well done." h

1945

1945—The College View street car line, the last in Lincoln, is replaced by a bus line.

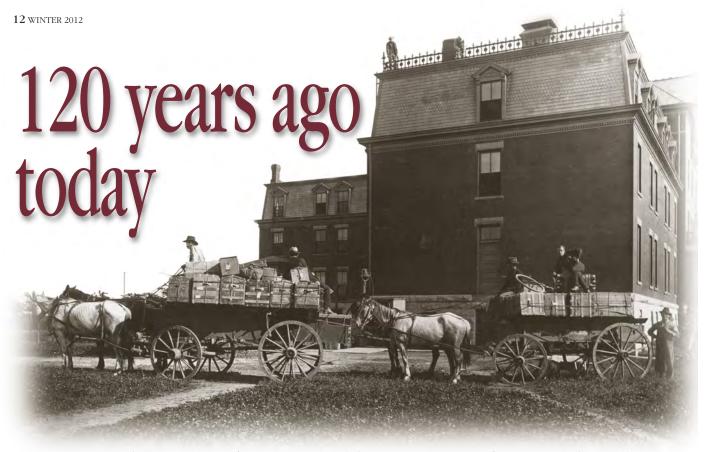


"I don't get much done by myself, but

I can be supportive of the people

who have the expertise."

1946—The Union College School of Nursing is founded in partnership with Boulder Sanitarium and Porter Sanitarium. It was the first collegiate nursing program in the state of Nebraska and in the Adventist denomination.



Union celebrates with a ground blessing for the new building.

by Nicole Onjukka Meharry '04

old. Rainy. Muddy. Even dismal. These words don't describe a typical autumn in Nebraska. But that is just the description given for the first fall morning Union College opened its doors to the 73 eager students—later known as the "Original 73." It was Wednesday, September 30, 1891, to be exact, approximately 18 months following the construction of the first building on campus, a tool shed, in March of 1890. While little in the way of ceremony marked either of these events, students were pleased to hear the bell that would summon them to classes, meals and worship, ring out its inaugural tune on that first full day of school.

The students were greeted by Professor Prescott and the words written on the blackboard at the front of the room: "All thy children shall be taught of the Lord"—the motto of Adventist education at the time. The students sang and prayed together before introducing themselves and their home states of Iowa, Minnesota, Kansas and Nebraska. That afternoon was spent in preparation of a schedule—not an easy undertaking with the varying educational backgrounds of each student. While Union was a college in name, few actual college students were part of that first group, which was made up of mostly what would now be considered academy age young people. Classes began on Monday, October 4, after each of the students received grade classification based on

their previous school experience.

Each school day during that first 12-week term included five 45-minute classes with 15-minute breaks. A music student played the piano during breaks as students marched single file to their next destination. The combined playing and marching made the entire building tremble—a veritable earthquake of enthusiastic scholastic pursuit. Each 12-week term was followed by a week without classes, though no one really thought of this as a vacation because most students could not afford to go home more than once every year.

Despite the rain, mud and generally dismal conditions, the spirit of the student body was overwhelmingly positive on that first day. Each one was aware of being at the start of something grander than just another school year and most felt the pioneer calling of roughing it for the greater good of building a strong school for the future. And they truly were pioneers, surviving with one kerosene lamp per room, one chair per student—which meant they had to carry their seats with them to the dining hall and chapel—and no indoor running water.

That first week ended in much the same way it had begun: with cold, rainy weather and the interminable muddiness that came from tramping around a campus that was for the most part



1947—Largest number of golden cords hung at one ceremony. In 1906, the graduating class gave a map to the college to commemorate the service of student missionaries. This map displays a golden cord connecting the location of Union College to places were students served. The Hanging the Golden Cords became a yearly tradition and a symbol of Union College.

1949—Class of '49 prepares a space west of and running parallel to 51st Street and dubs it the Fortyniners Field as a class gift. Relocated in 1967 to north of Calvert Street between 53rd and 56th Streets, the class of '49 rededicated the Forty-niners Field in 1989, and it now houses softball, football and fields.

still a construction site. The students celebrated Sabbath in the parlor and the day drew to a close with them huddled around the kitchen range for warmth, listening to an impromptu program put on by the dorm mother and other faculty members. A general feeling of homesickness and gloom pervaded the group until Professor Droll, the science teacher, lightened the mood by playing a rousing round of "Pop Goes the Weasel" and the cook popped some corn for the school family to share. Union College would face many challenges and changes in the days and years ahead, but those first students and employees forged a spirit of family

and togetherness that still exists on campus today.

Even though the strict rules and structured schedule were difficult for those first prairie women and men to grow accustomed to, the prevailing challenge of the first school year at Union was that clay-like Nebraska mud which clung to everything in sight. Many improvements were made to the physical structure of the campus during the 1891 school year, the most appreciated of which were the makeshift wooden sidewalks, connecting the

wooden sidewalks, connecting the buildings to each other and the main 48th Street thoroughfare.

There may be some reminiscent mud in the coming months as Union once again breaks ground for the improvement of its physical property. One hundred and twenty years after that construction site became the college, Union is once again building—this time a science and mathematics complex that will eventually sit on the property east of Rees Hall and adjacent to Woods Audito-

rium. Unlike the first groundbreaking, the beginning of this new complex was celebrated with an event to commemorate this bold new step into Union's bright future.

The school family, including students, faculty, staff and parents, gathered for a picnic supper during Parents Weekend, on Friday, September 30—exactly 120 years after the campus bell first chimed across campus. Thankfully, even though the Nebraska clay had already been broken to begin preliminary work on the complex, the mud that so plagued the "Original 73" didn't pose a problem for the more than 700 members of the Union Col-

lege family who gathered to celebrate together, and the evening successfully memorialized the college's plans to update the campus with this new building.

Union recently launched the capital campaign, "Our Promising Future," to provide \$14.5 million in funding for this new facility, which will offer modernized labs and increased space for science and mathematics programs.

Alumni and friends of the college have already pledged more than

\$12 million in support of *Our Promising Future*.

Union does have a very promising future. But it is only when we look to the past, to our humble beginnings—those mudsoaked days of 1891—that we see the pattern of promise and progress that God has blessed this college with since its inception. As we enter that future, we pay homage to those who have literally and figuratively forged new roads and paved the way for our success today. \hbar



Union held a ground blessing for the new science and mathematics complex on Sept. 30, 2011—Union's 120th birthday.

New science and mathematics complex update

Last June, Union College announced the \$14.5 million *Our Promising Future* capital campaign to fund the construction of a new science and mathematics complex. To date, alumni and friends of Union College have donated \$12.48 million toward the project.

Even though ground will not be broken for the new science building until later this spring, the roar of bulldozers and the beeping of dump trucks backing up already echoes across the north side of campus as workers build new parking areas and upgrade infrastructure to prepare for the new complex.

The lot at the corner of 49th and Bancroft, next to Kern Courts, has been paved to provide 50 parking spaces next to campus. The college also installed 20 diagonal parking spaces along Bancroft Street behind Engel Hall and Rees Hall. These lots will help replace parking lost to the new building.

As part of the project, Union College purchased two blocks of city street: Bancroft Street between 49th and 51st, and 51st Street between Bancroft and Calvert. Eventually, Bancroft will

be rerouted to create an entrance for the new science and mathematics complex, but per city ordinance, Union added driveway style entrances to the intersections during Christmas break and will soon add signage welcoming drivers on to Union College property.

Union will celebrate ground breaking for the new project with a special ceremony at 1:30 p.m. on Friday, April 6, during Homecoming Weekend 2012. According to Gary Bollinger, vice president for Financial Administration and project manager, excavation to reroute utilities will begin in early February, and plans call for construction to begin on the building site around Homecoming Weekend.

If you want to be a part of *Our Promising Future* or join in the ground breaking ceremony, visit www.ucollege.edu/promisingfuture or call 402.486.2503. The campaign is scheduled to wrap up in December 2012, so don't wait to be part of Union's promising future.

1950

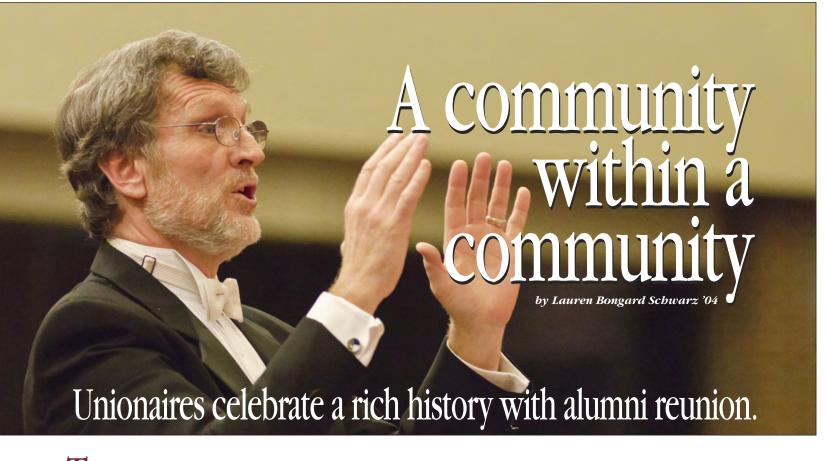
1950—Student Association is organized. It is now known as Associated Student Body (ASB).





1952—Union College builds New South Hall. The next year, Old South Hall burns on Christmas night, damaging the new building.

1953—Union becomes the first Adventist college to offer a major in social work.



he select Unionaires choral group has served as a community within a community for more than a thousand Union College students over the past 58 years.

Under the direction of directors John Wesley Rhodes, William Haynes, Lyle Jewell, Elmer Testerman, Lynn Wickham and current director Dan Lynn, Unionaires has grown from a small cluster of students that performed locally to a renowned and select group that has traveled across the United States and the globe.

This year marks Dr. Dan Lynn's 25th year as Unionaires director, with a reunion celebration as the capstone of Alumni Weekend.

Rebuilding the Unionaires: The Lynn Wickham years

As a Union College student, former director Dr. Lynn Wickham was a charter member of the Unionaires in fall 1954 under founding director Dr. John Wesley Rhodes. The group included about 14 students who performed locally and throughout Nebraska and neighboring states.

Eighteen years after graduating with a music education degree, Wickham returned to Union as choral director in 1972. "I'd always wanted to teach music, but I had no idea I'd be coming back to Union," he laughed. "It seemed like the right place at the right time when I received the invitation, so I stepped in and decided that a good place to start was rebuilding the Unionaires."

In the following years, Wickham made the Unionaires his own, choosing more difficult music and touring a wider area. The num-

ber of voice majors increased, giving him a larger pool of students to draw from and growing the professionalism of the group.

During Wickham's 14-year tenure, the group toured Europe, performed with the Lincoln Symphony, Nebraska Chamber Orchestra and Nebraska Brass, and performed on-campus musicals, chamber operas and a stage version of the Nativity.

When Wickham stepped down in 1986, current director Dan Lynn accepted the position of choral director. He remembers what it meant to follow Wickham's legendary service. "Lynn Wickham is a great voice teacher, and he did so much to develop the music program," said Lynn. "He had a great record and great rapport with the students, so it was an honor to accept that position."

Now, after 25 years at the helm, Lynn is the longest-serving choir director in Union's history.

Making music together: The Dan Lynn era

Under Lynn's leadership, the select group has continued its legacy of intensive practice, dynamic concerts and extensive touring. The Unionaires continually tour throughout the Midwest, and have committed to a two-year cycle of visiting all academies and major metropolitan areas in the Mid-America Union. They've also traveled across the United States to both coasts and visited Florida. The group's theme song, "I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light," annual Christmas concert and year-end concert at the Nebraska State Capitol rotunda have become cherished hallmarks for many Unionaires.

1955

1954—Music department chair J. Wesley Rhodes establishes the Unionaires, a small touring choir still active today.

1955—The Nebraska Conference (now Kansas-Nebraska Conference) purchases land on the corner of 48th and Prescott for the conference headquarters and the Nebraska Book and Bible House. The conference office has moved to Topeka, Kan., but the Kansas-Nebraska Adventist Book Center is still located across the street from Union College.

1957—49th Street becomes the first paved street built through campus.

1957—The first Central Union-wide Mass Choir and Band Festival for academies is hosted by Union College and Union College Academy. In 1995, Lynn created the Octet, a group of eight standout Unionaires members selected for their talent and dedication. The Octet often performs complicated pieces and travels long distances, including to Russia, Canada and Alaska. In 2007, the group was expanded to include one more member in each section and renamed The Twelve.

Kristine Elliston Lemons '97 graduated with a degree in business and a minor in vocal performance. She first sang in Dr. Lynn's choir as an academy student participating in music festivals at Union, so she was excited to audition for the Unionaires when she enrolled at Union College.

"I still remember my very first rehearsal with the Unionaires," she said. "It was the first time I was part of a choir where every member was required to audition. Just going through the warm up exercises brought tears to my eyes—it sounded so good!"

As an Octet member, Lemons traveled to Russia by way of Alaska and the Northwest Territories in 1996. "I'll never forget that experience," she recalled. "Those weeks were amazing and fed my love of experiencing new cultures and meeting new people from around the world."

Touring allows the Unionaires to share their talents and the fruits of their hard work, but Lynn admits that rehearsals are his fa-

vorite part of conducting. "It's making music together four or five times a week in rehearsal that gives us time to perfect a piece or a passage, and when you get it right, it's a goose-bump experience," he said. "Rehearsals are where the blood, sweat and tears happen; where you get to know each other and really get to share in each others' lives."

The group frequently shares prayer requests and personal struggles and triumphs along with their musical successes, making rehearsals a unique bonding experience. "We truly become a smaller community within a larger community," said Lynn. "Being in this group has tremendous rewards on a spiritual, emotional and educational level."

"Many of my friends that I am still close to today were a part of Unionaires," Lemons said. "There's a special bond created when you're a part of a group like that; when you spend time practicing, touring, and experiencing life together both on and off campus."

A deeper connection through music

While most people only see the final product, the value of Unionaires

isn't purely practicing and performances. "Music and art reach the emotional and spiritual side of us, while most other courses teach to the left-brained and concrete side," he said. "Music reaches deep inside where other subjects can't and provides a spiritual connection we all need."

Lynn explains that practicing and performing music builds students' characters and confidence. "Everything we do in the music classroom fits together to form a tremendous growth and development experience that goes beyond education," he said. "It turns students into leaders who mentor, develop and nurture others."

The embodiment of this is evident in graduates like KaDene Garrett Evans '03. Evans was part of Unionaires for four years and a one-year member of the Octet. She says she remembers the educational benefits of both groups. "Dr. Lynn always made sure we knew why we were doing what we were doing, whether it was in warm ups, stretching or making the last adjustments before a performance," she said. "I was a music major, and that helped round out my educational experience by making what we learned in the classroom a practical part of our lives."

Now, Evans teaches private piano and voice lessons from the Montana home she shares with her husband and two young daughters. She explains how her experience in Unionaires has

helped her become a more effective teacher. "I often think back to what we did in Unionaires that was fun and made us better singers and performers," she said. "That experience helps me portray to my students ways of stretching, warming up and performance styles that I wouldn't be able to pass on otherwise."

Unionaires reunion, April 5-7, 2012

This Alumni Weekend, April 5-7, 2012, Unionaires from the Dan Lynn era will get their chance to celebrate Dr. Lynn's 25 years as choral director. The weekend features special reunion events and a performance incorporating current and past Unionaires. Octet/The Twelve members will also perform several selections.

Lynn says he's anticipating a good turnout for the event. "I look forward to this reunion because it's going to give us a chance to relive old memories and sing together," said Lynn. "Many haven't done that since they graduated, and this will be our chance to, for a weekend, be part of that community again." \(\begin{align*} \begin{align*} \hat{\text{h}} \end{align*} \)



The Unionaires give a concert in the rotunda of the Nebraska State Capitol each May.



1958—Women move into a completed Rees Hall, which replaced North Hall as the womens' residence. A second wing was later added to accommodate more students.

1959 —Associated Student Body produces the first student directory, *Peanut Hill Populace*, later renamed *Peanut Gallery*.

cleaning up a yard.

Project Impact 2011:

When Tyler Bissell's team finished their assigned tasks at the Folsom Children's Zoo, they went looking for more work at a residence where another team was still

But the group noticed shoulder-high grass and weeds in front of a house across the street, so they quickly commandeered

three lawn mowers and two weed whackers and set to work.

"The family who lived there just had a baby," explained Bissell, a sophomore international rescue and relief major. "The other little kids had been begging their father to mow so they could play on their swing set. The surprised man thanked us over and over, and the kids did, too. The smiles on their faces made it all worthwhile."

With a record 72 sites served by Project Impact in 2011, many students embraced the opportunity to do more.

More than 750 Union College students, employees and friends gathered under the clock tower on the cool, sunny morning of September 8 to kick off the 30th anniversary Project Impact, Union College's annual community service day.

Nebraska Senator Tony Fulton was on hand to read a special proclamation by the state legislature, as was Pastor Ted Wilson, president of Seventh-day Adventist world church, who also gave



an evening talk at the College View Seventh-day Adventist Church.

"Project Impact is a great way to make new friends and get better acquainted with old friends,"

said Andrew Stevens, a junior math education major, as he painted playground equipment at a local elementary school with Demion Dublin and Charles Tamay. "It's a bonding experience and you create a special bond with everyone you've helped out. You feel good and have fun at the same time."

"You see all these little kids out here watching us and smiling." Dublin, an elementary education major, agreed. "It can't get better than this, honestly."

Vanessa Chavez, a junior health sciences major, helped create a gravel path and put up a fence at a shelter for teenage mothers. "I just think about the young mothers," she explained. "If I were in that position or if I knew someone in that position, I would want some help like this. I think about how it will benefit them."

Pastor Wilson spent the day weeding yards and setting fences. "I believe I was most impacted by the numbers of young people working together on a project," he said. "We cleaned up some



General Conference President Ted Wilson, and his wife, Nancy, participated in Project Impact at several sites around Lincoln.

1960

1962—Union College and College View church launch College View Academy. In 1964, operation is taken over by Seventhday Adventist Schools of Lincoln, a venture sponsored by all the Lincoln area churches.

1963—Union College's education program becomes the first in the Adventist system to receive accreditation from the National Council for the Accreditation of Teacher Education. NCATE accreditation means Union's program adheres to the highest standards in the nation, making it easier for graduates to be licensed in any state.



1965—Jerry Lake becomes Union's first student missionary by serving in Inca Union, South America. noto: Aron Crews

th anniversary of showing yards today, and when you have a number of people who focus on Students service

what they are supposed to do, it's amazing how fast the job gets done. I

think that's a great analogy for how the church works. The eye is not the foot and the hand is not the ear. When we all work together under the guidance of the Holy Spirit, the Lord can accomplish an enormous amount through us."

Each year, more than 80 percent of the campus family participates in Project Impact, an event planned, coordinated and exe-

cuted by students. Since its inception, an estimated 18,300 volunteers have impacted Lincoln with more than 115,000 hours of voluntary labor. According to available research, Project Impact is the longest running collegiate service day with the highest percentage of campus participants in the nation.

"I was amazed by how many people helped with all the planning and made Project Impact a success," said Anna Coridan, a senior nursing major who coordinated the event along with Bernice Tumangkeng and Jayme Anderson. "It helped me, as a leader, to better understand the importance of team build-

ing and not taking too much on myself. An event like this would have never happened without the help of a great group of students."

"This demonstrates to leaders in the church that they can trust young people to organize things and don't have to micromanage everything," said Wilson after observing the student leaders in action. "The Lord has given them tremendous intellect and creativity. Give them the broad strokes and let them run with it." Union College took time at the evening meeting to honor

those who helped establish the original Project BRUSH. Dr. Dean Hubbard, president of Union College in 1981, received an award for his part in launching Project BRUSH. He and his wife, Aleta, took the idea with them to Northwest Missouri State University where he served as president for 25 years, where Project BRUSH also continues. Union also honored Pastor Rich Carlson, Union College's vice president for Spiritual Life for providing consistent support to student leaders through the last 30 years.

"I couldn't ask for a better place to work," said Carlson. "The fact that we

are celebrating the thirtieth anniversary of Project Impact is a testament to the quality of our students at Union College who lead out and participate each year." A



Each year more than 80 percent of campus takes a day off to serve Lincoln's service agencies.

How it all started

Inion College students were making an impact in the Lincoln community long before Project Impact had a name. A focus on service has always been an integral part of Union's identity.

In 1974, sponsors of the student mission program began raising money to repair and improve the homes of elderly residents of the College View neighborhood. Harnessing the positive potential of competition, a prize was offered for the student who raised the most money, and students worked hard to gather pledges. However, it wasn't until 1981 the formal tradition we now know as "Project Impact" began.

On September 29, 1981 for Union's 90-year anniversary, the college launched Project BRUSH (Beautifying Residences Using Student Help) with a goal to paint and clean 100 homes in 10 years. Even when the Lincoln Action Program, a local nonprofit that supplied the paint for the first five years, stopped

sponsoring the event, Union's students and employees wanted to keep going, and found other ways to buy the paint. The annual one-day event became a tradition, as close to the heart of the college family as the Golden Cords. By September 1991, the campus family had exceeded that goal. And they still wanted to do more.

Starting its second decade, the annual event changed directions and was re-branded, "Project Impact." A \$62,500 grant from the Joseph E. Mertz Memorial Educational Foundation provided support for a new type of community service: supporting those who help the community all year.

On August 27, 1992, more than 200 students and faculty worked in 11 different non-profit agencies completing needed tasks such as painting, cleaning, and yard work. The response was the same across the board: "Please come back next year."

Union has ever since.

1965

1966—Union College gets its first computers. They are used in registration, and Edwin Eivins begins teaching computer classes.

1966—Construction begins on Prescott Hall, a men's high-rise residence hall.



1968—Union College-owned KUCV 91.3 FM goes on the air. This ten-watt, FCC licenced station replaced KVUC, a low-power AM signal only available on Union's campus. The station later increased power to 18,000 watts and switched to 91.1 FM.



Why I never left Union College

had never ventured west of the Missouri River, so I decided to visit Union after my first year of college. After studying at a large university, I really liked the smaller size and more intimate campus I found at Union. Everyone was friendly.

I returned for classes in the fall of 1965. Enrollment was high and jobs were scarce, but Don Smith, then head of the maintenance department, hired me because of my painting experience. I ultimately graduated from Union College with a degree in social work in 1970, but it was working with Don that changed the course of my life.

Don Smith was the gold standard for bosses-a patient teacher and a true craftsman who emphasized quality. Don built machines used by Union's broom shop and built or made major alterations to equipment in the maintenance shop.

He was also quick to lend his talents to students. When a student wanted to build a triangleshaped aquarium to fit into a corner, Don, without the aid of a calculator, deftly checked the student's measurements and helped him make adjustments so the aquarium would fit.

Don offered me a job as his assistant after I graduated. Knowing I could still learn from Don and that I enjoy repairing and building things, I accepted. Now I've worked in Union's Plant Services for more than 40 years,

is dedicated.

in the maintenance shop that allows me to visit many areas around the campus on a regular basis.

It turns out maintenance work fits my personality. I am not fond of mindless, repetitive Sisyphean tasks. I like variety, working outside and doing something useful. More importantly, I feel my work contributes to the success of Union College, and in turn helps fulfill the mission of the Seventh-day Adventist Church. Each Golden Cord hung on the wall in the administration building is a testament to Union College's worldwide impact for good.

> I take pride in my small contribution to that mission.

It has been said that no man is irreplaceable, but I feel Don may be the exception to that rule. I have worked with a lot of talented people in Plant Services, but no one person could replace Don Smith. I know he made a very significant impression on the direction of my life, and I thank God I have the opportunity to do the same for students now.

I've seen a lot of changes in the physical plant at Union College over the years, but the core values and spirit of the peoplethe foundation that makes Union unique-are still intact. I believe Union has only gotten better with age, and we are better prepared now than we ever have been to meet students' needs and helping them succeed. A



Bruce Bottsford continued working in the Plant Services deand I still love the variety of work partment since graduating from Union nearly 42 years ago.

1975—Everett Dick Administration Building completed.







1975—The original administration building is torn d<mark>ow</mark>n.



Professor perspective: Nancy Petta

ancy Petta, program director for Health and Human Performance, has seen a lot in 30 years of teaching at Union College, but what means the most is seeing the impact she's been able to make in the lives of her students.

Petta, now one of Union's longest-tenured faculty, came to Union to teach in the Health and Human Performance program in 1981 after a brief stint teaching physical education at Dakota Adventist Academy in Bismarck, N. D. "I remember I started working right when Larson Lifestyle Center opened," she said of Union's indoor pool and fitness facility. "Before that, offices for Health and Human Performance were situated where the bathrooms are currently located in the Thunderdome [Union College's gymnasium]."

Like many Union professors, the most meaningful part of her job is daily interaction with students. Most Union students are required to take Concepts of Wellness, a class designed to help students learn beneficial health practices, and Petta thrives on hearing students share how lessons learned in Concepts and other health classes changes their lives.

At the beginning of each semester, all Concepts of Wellness students have blood tests taken that highlight any key areas where health improvement is needed. Several of her students have been alerted to serious health issues through these tests and Petta often receives emails from students who graduated years before, thanking her for the wellness tips they learned to apply on a daily basis. "I hear 'I am exercising today because of that class' a lot," she said.

Petta recalls one student in particular who took a different sort of advice. "Judy Sloan was one of the best P.E. students ever in our program," she said. "After she graduated and had been teaching academy P.E. for a while, she stopped by my office for a

Sloan explained her plans to earn a graduate degree in administration even though her dream was to be a college P.E. teacher. Petta, who earned a doctorate at the University of Nebraska, advised Sloan to enroll in UNL's doctoral program for physical education and live on campus at Union College, participating in The Best of Both Worlds program.

"She enjoyed her experience at Union and thought it would be a great idea to live on campus again," said Petta. "She enrolled the next semester." Sloan finished her degree and now teaches in the School of Physical Education, Health and Wellness at Southern Adventist University.

"To this day we joke about what would have happened if Sloan didn't stop by my office that day," Petta said. But Sloan's love for Union College is no joke. Her original dream to teach college P.E. came from attending national P.E. teachers conven-



Nancy Petta has taught health classes at Union for 31 years.

tions with her professors while a student at Union College, so she recently established an award, jointly funded by the Health and Human Performance faculty, to help students attend similar conventions and feed that same passion for P.E. she experiences.

Thirty years at Union

"I didn't grow up Adventist so my view of college students [at a public college or university] is different than what Union students are," explained Petta. "It's such a unique experience here." She feels the values instilled in students through many on-campus ministries and Christian faculty provide a sharp contrast to her own experience at a public university.

Petta contributes to that experience by starting new programs and classes. In 2002, she helped launch and manage an employee wellness program, which she estimates has garnered 70 percent employee participation each year. She has also helped mold the Health and Human Performance curriculum by adding new courses such as Healthy Eating.

"The healthy eating class has been growing," Petta explained. "It's fun because students learn how to maintain a good diet and at the end of the semester we cook a big healthy dinner at my house."

She also teaches a variety of sports classes and enjoys introducing students to unique sports. "We have a brand new pickleball class," said Petta. Classes like pickleball—a sport with elements of tennis and badminton— along with many more traditional sports or athletic pursuits help students fulfill general education requirements.

But in the end, Petta's favorite class is still Concepts of Wellness. "There's no other class where students learn the practical concepts of taking care of themselves," she said. "It makes a difference in students' lives." \hat{\Lambda}

1976—The George Stone laboratory school opens. The only school of its kind in the Adventist system, George Stone provides extensive observation and teaching opportunities for Union College students in a multigrade classroom environment and still operates on campus today.

1975—Construction begins on the new College View church.

1978—The Teaching Learning Center is established. It is the first program in the Adventist system and one of the first in the country to provide assistance to students with learning disabilities.



A lifetime of memories starts at Union College: Dan Cornforth remembers.

by Nicole Onjukka Meharry '04



Dan Cornforth graduated from Union 74 years ago.

O one ever described Dan Cornforth '38 as a wallflower. Hard worker? Yes. Thoughtful student? Yes. Caretaker of wallflowers? Well, there was that one instance. But let's begin at the beginning.

It was 1934, and Dan was set to graduate from Maplewood Academy in Hutchinson Minn. Always well liked by peers and teachers, it wasn't surprising when one such concerned teacher, Ethel Hartsell, asked Dan what his plans were after graduation. She quietly suggested that attending Union College might be in his best interest. Dan told Mrs. Hartsell that he had heard many positive things about the college and believed it to be a place of the highest standards, but he'd had to work so much to pay his way through Maplewood, he just wasn't sure if he was ready—scholastically or financially—to be successful at Union. Hartsell encouraged him to contact the business manager at Union, an old principal of Maplewood Academy, and when he did, the business manager secured a job for him at the college dairy. This job not only allowed him to begin attending Union, but also provided Dan with enough money to pay for four years of education and enough memories to last a lifetime.

At 96 years of age, Dan has a surprisingly thorough recall of those memories. Dan laughs this off and says, "I met my wife, Margaret Johnson '38, received my education and my first real calling at

Union—the experience shaped my entire life—how could I not remember it?"

Some of his favorite memories include Friday night vespers with talks by President Andreasen and the teachers who became his dear friends, most notably, Frank Yost, whose son Dan babysat and who he remained friends with throughout college and afterward. One such vivid memory tells the rest of the wallflower story. It was a Saturday night and Dan headed over to the girls' dorm to escort Margaret to the marches in the college gymnasium. Margaret was not ready when he arrived, but Dan noticed another girl, Doris

Franklin Loveless '39, in the lobby. He decided that since she was so shy and had never had the opportunity to attend the marches that he would take her over for some fun, just until Margaret arrived. Being the thoughtful caretaker he was and knowing Doris understood his commitment to Margaret, Dan did not see the trouble in all of this. "But Margaret was so angry," Dan remembered. "She recounted her disappointment in no uncertain terms. She said, "Dan, you're not to take care of all the wallflowers." And from that day on, I tried not to. Thankfully she forgave me and we were very happily married after graduation."

Dan feels as though Union prepared him for a very successful life after graduation, both personally and professionally. He majored in Bible and French and became certified in teaching—a much sought after certification following college, especially if you were lucky enough to be married to a teacher as well. Dan and Margaret received a call to teach grades one through eight in Grand Junction, Colo., right out of Union and enjoyed their post there for one year before moving on to Denver Junior Academy. Dan said, "Union prepares people to do what they do well and stick to it. I

never felt unprepared for my professional life, and I owe that solely to Union College."

Now living in a retirement community in Ukiah, Calif., within walking distance of his beloved

Adventist church, Dan says Union is never far from his mind and his heart. He has served as class representative for his graduating class and a few surrounding classes for many years now and enjoys being able to stay involved at Union by giving back (and encouraging others to do so as well). And he's not alone with his memories—a fellow Union graduate, Joe Beckner '40, lives in his community as well, enriching Dan's life and ability to recall the past. "Union forges friendships that last a lifetime. And memories that stick—I'm still trying not to get mixed up with any wallflow-

"...the experience shaped my entire life—how could I not remember it?"

1980



1980—Union opens Larson Lifestyle Center, an indoor pool and fitness facility for students and the community. This building also becomes home of the health and human performance program and the Division of Nursing.

1981—The Joshua C.Turner Arboretum is dedicated as a statewide arboretum site and named for the longtime Union groundskeeper.

ers," Dan said with a wink. A



A college beyond compare:

Dr. Robert and Frances Brown remember Union

by Nicole Onjukka Meharry '04

wo kids from the Midwest (one in Iowa and one in South Dakota) attended different academies, but heard the same thing about continuing their education—there's no school better than Union College. And though that was 1934 and those "kids" are now enjoying their nineties, one thing hasn't changed—Robert '40 and Frances Miler '40 Brown still believe there's no school better than Union College.

"There was no question we would attend Union," recalls Frances Brown. "No other school could compare with Union's reputation, especially to folks in the Midwest." So off they went to Nebraska, beginning their freshman year at Union at the same time, but not together. Frances laughed, "Bob didn't remember me that year, though I remembered him. Then I left for the nursing program in Boulder, Colo., for the next three years and that's when he forgot all about me." While Frances enjoyed her years as a nurse-in-train-

ing through Union's satellite program, Bob stayed busy back in Lincoln, on Union's campus. He threw himself into every extracurricular activity offered, took a job in the broom shop, dabbled in class officer politics, and rounded out his senior year by acting as editor-inchief of the Golden Cords, president of the Division of Academic Sciences Sigma Iota Kappa, prayer band leader, Sabbath School teacher and a member of the Medical Cadet Corps. Ever a curious man of science, Bob especially loved the time he spent assisting in the physics lab.

Whether or not Bob remem-

bered Frances during her absence from campus, circumstances aligned to bring them together when Frances returned to campus for her senior year in 1940. By that time, Bob had graduated from Union and been accepted into the master's degree program for



Dr. Robert Brown and Frances



study in physics at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. Thankfully he still had to eat, and Union's cafeteria was as good a place as any for a cheap meal. It was over these lunchtime treks back to campus that Bob "met" Frances and they began their relationship of now more than 70 years.

"Union was a total joy to us," agreed both Bob and Frances. "The college was and still is a place of great Christian character. The activities, programs and people all contribute to the wonderful Adventist environment that's always been so evident on campus." It's why they've stayed connected to the college throughout their lives. Bob served as Union's president from 1970 to 1973, and the Browns thoroughly enjoyed their time on campus then. After receiving a call to work at the Geo-Science Research Center, they left Union's campus to follow Bob's dreams of science research, but were grateful for their brief return to the school

that always meant so much to each of them.

Now settled in Huntington, West Virginia, the Browns don't make it back to campus anymore. But that doesn't stop them from praying for, supporting and remembering Union whenever possible. Bob served as class representative for many years, keeping connected with his schoolmates and encouraging them to give as generously as Union gave to them at the start of their adult lives.

Union truly holds the gold standard in the hearts of Dr. and Mrs.

Brown. The college held that place separately in each of them from the first suggestion way back in their senior year of academy and as their hearts grew together, so did their love for that old "college in the West." \hbar



1981 The Project BRUSH community service project sets a goal to paint 100 houses in 10 years (see page 17).

1982—McClelland Art Gallery opens next to dining room in the basement of Culver Hall.

1984—Atrium in Don Love Building is completed, connecting the two old industrial buildings. This building eventually becomes the home of the library, student center, campus store, Plant Services, Teaching Learning Center, Career Center, and Woods Auditorium.





1983—Union becomes the first college in the nation to put a computer terminal in every residence hall room.

1984—A Rieger pipe organ is installed in the College View church.



1985—Faculty, staff and students use grocery carts to move the library to its new home in the Don Love Building, named Ella Johnson Crandall Memorial Library. Students begin accessing the library catalog via

their computer terminals.



at a convention in Orlando, Fla., in 2005. "Gary did a mission spotlight," he said. "He talked about his medical and dental effort mission in Kiribati and I just felt inspired, like when I had gone on mission trips in academy and college. My interest in travel and mission work never died—it had just been put on the back burner."

Satterlee had big plans for Caelestis from the beginning. Immediately after the purchase he helped create Sailing to Recover, a public nonprofit charity that is dedicated to educating people in drug addiction recovery and alcohol abuse while in a sailing environment and atmosphere.

As a nurse, Satterlee often works with those in recovery and has volunteered in several sober living homes (similar to halfway houses). Sailing to Recovery is a combination of his passions for helping people and sailing. Each week guests are loaded onto Caelestis and motored to an anchor point in the South San Diego Bay for an Alcoholics Anonymous meeting. Satterlee explained that in this more relaxed atmosphere people seem more comfortable and willing to participate in meetings.

As someone who personally battled addiction, Satterlee feels strongly about connecting with others who have had similar experiences. After a snowboarding accident in 2000 left Satterlee with a severe back injury, he slowly became dependent on narcotic prescription medication. Six years later, he was introduced to a substance abuse recovery program. "I reached a point where I had to take a step back and consider the direction my life was taking," he said. "I made the personal choice to go to the meetings and get help. That's when I started my life over."

Satterlee is quick to acknowledge everyone's journey is different. "Each story of recovery is individual yet similar in many ways," he explained. "There is fear, pain, growth, and healing. Living aboard Caelestis helped me by keeping me focused on my long-term goals. Now I'm holding recovery meetings on Caelsetis,



which is giving others a new chapter in their own recovery. It was a joy to see the peace it brought people and I'm glad that I can provide that opportunity for many people. I've enjoyed being a registered nurse and helping others. Now I can do it in a balanced way and live my dreams at the same time through our mission work waiting for us in the Kiribati Islands."

The next leg of Caelestis' journey will begin in the early months of 2012 as Satterlee and his father set sail for the South Pacific. The two will be assisting Morgan linguistically and by transporting medical goods, personnel and medical equipment. They plan to stay for at least three years and hope to offer their

services to other outfits and groups needing similar support.

Beyond selling most of their belongings, Satterlee and his father are doing all they can to financially prepare for this journey. Tourists and locals take day excursions and sunset cruises on Caelestis each weekend. Satterlee says it's a great way to meet people and talk about the upcoming mission trip. A voluntary donation is asked for at the end of each cruise and all money goes toward the nonprofit program and maintaining the boat. While Satterlee is in the islands, fundraising will be done by board members as well as help from friends and families.

"Where we're going is one of the most isolated parts in the world," said Satterlee. "The only communication is ham radios or satellite phones. The Seventh-day Adventist community has a pretty good foothold there and are currently the only outside medical support the islands receive. My passion is helping less fortunate people by providing them a needed service and accepting them for what they believe. Lives are changed by our attitudes and how we reach out."

To learn more and support the efforts of Sailing to Recover and *Search for One* visit searchforone.org and sailingtorecovery.org. \hbar

The College of the Golden Cords: A history of mission service

M ission service has long been a part of Union College's identity. Even though Union College did not become the "The College of the Golden Cords" until the late 1930s, the golden cords became a symbol of Union's missionary spirit early its history. The class of 1906 first came up with an idea to commemorate alumni who went abroad as missionaries with a large map and golden strings linking Lincoln to each country served by Union graduates.

The map itself has undergone many transformations over the years, but the cords stood the test of time as each year more were added to represent new missionaries. In the late 1960s, when Union students began taking a year off from their studies to serve as missionaries, including Jerry Lake '66 to South America in 1965, Dr. Karla Krampert Walters '69 to Panama in 1967 and Ruthita Jensen Fike '71 to South Vietnam in 1969, Union expanded the golden cord ceremony to include student missionaries, too.

The golden cords display took its current form in 1989 when Victor Issa '80 created a large wall-hanging cultured bronze and marble map of the world with the clock tower in the center. Permanently housed in the lobby of the Everett Dick Administration Building, the sculpture moves to the College View church each year during Homecoming weekend for a special ceremony to honor new missionaries.

Now, 105 years later, more than 1900 cords adorn the display. "Union College still strives to connect each student with Jesus and their calling to His service, at home or around the world." said Pastor Rich Carlson '73, campus chaplain and one of Union's first student missionaries to Peru in 1970. "Our cords still stretch around the world as we share the good news about Jesus wherever our lives connect with others."



1986—Union College forms the Warriors men's intercollegiate basketball team. Later women's volley-ball and basketball and men's golf are added as varsity sports. The Warriors are not members of an athletic association, but play a full schedule of games against other colleges in the region.

1987—Union College and College View church cosponsor the first outdoor Easter Pageant..

1988—Union College gifts KUCV to Nebraska Educational Telecommunications Commission as a flagship public radio station

CLASS-IFIEDS

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'67 denotes graduation year ('67) denotes last year attended or preferred class year

1940S4 0 s

Ray ('43) and Ruby Howell ('41) Jacoshenk celebrated their seventieth wedding anniversary on June 2, 2011. They met at Union College where both earned two-year teacher certificates. Ray taught in North Dakota and Ruby taught in Missouri, but they corresponded constantly and met up in North Dakota when Ruby secured a job there. Ray was an avid fast pitch softball player and Ruby loved to volunteer and take art classes. In 2010 they traveled to Hawaii for Ray's ninetieth birthday. Ray went snorkeling in the ocean to celebrate. They have endured the hardship of losing two of their children. They have eight grandchildren and 12 great-grandchildren.

Norma Marsh Sheffield '49

lives in White House, Tenn., where she keeps busy sending weekly letters containing Sabbath school lessons, extra reading or a providential story to others who enjoy the materials. She still plays the piano for her church

1950S5 o s

Lloyd Austin '54 and his wife, Marion, celebrated 70 years of marriage on December 24, 2011. Lloyd is a retired minister. He and Marion live in Eckert, Colo.

Alice Schoun Cunningham

'54 lives in Scottsdale, Ariz. She worked for New York Life Insurance Company, and is now retired. She first soloed in a Cessna 150 airplane in April 1977. Alice still loves to snow ski.

1960S6 0 s

Sherrill and Jacqueline Hopkins Wondra '61 are retired and live in Pahrump, N.V. They work with the SDA Oasis Outreach Food Ministry. Sherrill is the treasurer and Jackie is the clerk. Jackie is also the chairperson of the Holiday Taskforce in Pahrump. They enjoy praying with email prayer partners, table puzzles, the senior domino club and reading.

Karen Stephens Essig '66 and her husband, Paul '66 (dec.) retired in 2004 after 40 years of service in various Adventist organizations, including 24 years of mission service in Asia. They enjoyed retirement in Denton, Texas, for seven years. In March 2011, they moved everything to Chiapas, Mexico, to live near their son

and his family. While in Chiapas, Paul became ill, prompting them to return to Texas. In August 2011, Paul was diagnosed with Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease. His struggle with this rare brain condition ended on 11-11-11. He was 69. Happy memories and admiration for a life well-lived are the treasures Paul's family members will hold as they look forward to the approaching resurrection morning. Karen now lives in Graham, Texas, near her parents.



Paul and Karen Essig

1980S8 0 s

Michael Goebel '81 is the new CEO of Adventist Hinsdale Hospital. In his new role as CEO,



Michael Goebel

Goebel assumes responsibility for overseeing day-to-day operations. He is leading the hospital's vision and strategic planning and building relationships with community leaders and other stakeholders. Prior to accepting this position, Michael was COO of Littleton Adventist Hospital in Colorado.

1990s, o

Morre Dean '91 has accepted the position of CEO of Centura Health in Parker, Colo. Prior to accepting this position, Dean was CEO of Glendale Adventist Medical Center.



Morre Dean

2000s o s

Christopher '02 and Aubrey Oliver '04 Nelson live in Tigard, Ore. They welcomed Judah Michael Nelson on June 10, 2011. He joins big brother, Benjamin, at home. Aubrey is a full-time mommy and Christopher is a structural engineer with Froelich Consulting Engineers.

1990

1992—Project Impact replaces Project BRUSH as the annual community service day event (see page 16).



1993—The Career Center is created to help students with job searches, testing, counseling, peer advising and practice interviews.

1993—Union Scholars program is created for students who have demonstrated superior scholastic ability.



1994—The nursing program establishes a Foot Clinic serving Lincoln's homeless population. Now a partnership with the PA program, students provide foot care and new socks and shoes at the Matt Talbot Kitchen and Outreach on a monthly basis.

CLASS-IFIEDS



Benjamin and Judah Nelson

Jessica Jorgensen Cress '05 and her husband, Barry, welcomed Allison Daniele Cress on April 4, 2011. Allison joins big brothers Caleb and Owen at home. They live in Zanesville, Ohio, where Jessica is a stay-at-home mom



Owen, Allison and Caleb Cress

Tyson '05 and **Jenny Stricker '01 Davis** welcomed Lexi Jane Davis on May 4, 2011. She weighed 8 lbs 3 oz.



Lexi Davis

Michelle Halim '07 welcomed Lily Bean Carlin-Halim on December 13, 2010. Michelle lives in Lincoln, Neb. She works as a State Victim Advocate for Mothers Against Drunk Driving.



Lily Bean Carlin-Halim

Trent '07 and Katie Jackson '09 Russell are proud to announce the birth of Kaden James Russell born September 27, 2011. Kaden joins big brother, Noah, at home. They live in Auburn, Wash., where Trent is the instrumental director at Auburn Adventist Academy and Katie is a full-time mom.



Trent, Katie and Kaden Russell

2010s os

Josh Few '10 accepted a position at Monterey Bay Academy in La Selva Beach, Calif., as one of the assistant deans. He will also be teaching classes as needed.

People 1 e Placements 1 s

Brittany Blankenship is the new grant coordinator for the Teaching Learning Center. She graduated from Walla Walla University in 2010 with a bachelor's in English and then spent a year as a volunteer English teacher in Peru. Brittany is the daughter of fellow staff members Peter and Verna Blankenship.

Daniel Cress '08 is now a recruiter for Enrollment Services. After graduating from Union College with bachelor's degrees in religious education and physical education, Daniel taught religion at Forest Lake Academy in Florida. He and his wife, Trina Peterson Cress '07, have two children, Brylee and Ian.

Lorie Escobar '92 & '03 is the new office manager for Student Services. After graduating with a degree in psychology, Lorie earned a master's degree in counseling from Doane College and most recently worked with at risk youth for Omni Behavioral Health in Beatrice, Neb.

Ruth Ibuado '11 is the dean's assistant in Rees Hall. She graduated from Union in 2011 with a bachelor's degree in business administration and plans to enroll in law school this fall.

Lauren Kent is a graduate assistant for the international rescue and relief program. She graduated with a bachelor's degree in outdoor leadership from Western Carolina University in 2007 and will graduate from Southern Adventist University in May with a master's degree in outdoor education. Lauren is married to Aaron Kent '09.

Elysia Forde Ockenga '02 has joined the faculty of the Division of Nursing. She graduated with a bachelor's degree in nursing in 2002 and most recently worked in the oncology and stroke unit at St. Elizabeth Regional Medical Center in Lincoln. She and her husband, Nathan Ockenga '02, have three children, Adin, Abbie and Anders.

Kenneth Osborn has joined the faculty of the Division of Science and Mathematics to teach chemistry. He earned a doctorate in biophysical chemistry from the University of Kansas and spent the last seven years teaching at a community college in Kansas.

Liliana Ramos is the new evening cook at Union Market. After emigrating from Peru, she enrolled in Union's ESL program in 2007, and most recently worked as a nursing assistant at Homestead Nursing Home in Lincoln. Liliana and her husband, Juan, have three children, Aaron, Dan and Kelly.

Ellen Broseghini Rose '02 has joined the faculty in the Division of Nursing. She graduated in 2002 with a bachelor's degree in nursing and most recently worked at Lincoln Surgical and at the University of Missouri department of surgery. Ellen and her husband,

1995

1995—Union College connects to the Internet and access is provided to all residence hall rooms, laboratories and teacher's offices.

1995—Union implements a Spiritual Journey program as an optional course of study dedicated to facilitating growth in one's relationships with God.

1995—The Best of Both Worlds program is established in conjunction with the University of Nebraska Lincoln and Nebraska Wesleyan University, allowing students to live at Union and study at a nearby campus.

1997—Union College establishes physician assistant studies, a baccalaureate degree program.



CLASS-IFIEDS

Frankie '02, have one daughter, Emma.

Michael Steingas '10 is the new strategic marketing coordinator for Enrollment Services. He graduated in 2010 with a bachelor's degree in communication and most recently had an internship at Tillamook Country General Hospital in Oregon.

Stephanie Wylie is now a loan counselor for Student Financial Services. She attended Andrews University and most recently served as strategic systems coordinator for the university.

Transitioned:

Buell Fogg '72 is the new associate chaplain for Union College. Buell graduated from Union with a bachelor's degree in religion and speech education and then earned a master's degree in school guidance and counseling from Albertson College of Idaho. He has worked at Union since 1990 and most recently served as assistant to the president.

Sandra Tallman is the new office assistant for the health and human performance program. She has been the office assistant for the Division of Religion for seven years and will continue in that position also.

IN MEMORY

Death dates and/or obituaries have been received for the following individuals.

Mabel Gosnell Tucker Campbell ('34), Lee's Summit, Mo., died Dec. 26, 2011, at age 101.

She was born in Lander, Wyo. She met **Joe Tucker '33** at Union College. He preceded her in death. She was a soft-spoken, generous woman, and lived her life showing kindness and love. She is preceded in death by her second husband, Russell Carpenter, and five brothers. She is survived by sister-in-law Joanne Tucker, and several nieces and nephews.

Vivian Ellison Combes ('35), Greencastle, Ind., died Sept. 27, 2011. She was born January 6, 1931, in Guthrie, Okla. She was a member of the Glendale church in Indianapolis. She taught for more than 30 years at Indianapolis Junior Academy. Vivian was preceded in death by her husband, Ralph Combes '38. She is survived by two daughters, Della Decooman and Deanna Pendleton; two granddaughters; one great-grandchild and three great great-grandchildren

John Watson ('37), Montrose, Colo., died July 12, 2011, at age 91. He was born April 24, 1920; in Montrose, Colo. John was a member of the Montrose church. He was preceded in death by his wife, Annie. Survivors include sons Dan and Tom; five grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

Merrill Thayer '41, San Diego, Calif., died Nov. 2, 2011, at age 94. He is survived by two daughters, Merilyn Christenson and Linda; two grandsons, Andrew Christenson '10 and Greg Christenson '10; sister, Marge Courtney and nephew, Jerome Thayer '61.

Shirley Rosenthal Rouhe ('43) Harrison, Idaho, was born February 14, 1924, in Detroit Lakes, Minn. She died July 31,

2011. She is survived by a son, Stephen; daughters, Suzanne Hensen, Cathy Keyes; stepsons, Edward and Richard; stepdaughter, Suzanne Nelson; six grandchildren; eight great-grandchildren and 10 step great-grandchildren.

Harley Schander '45, Miamisburg, Ohio, died June 6, 2011, at age 93. He was born April 26, 1918, in Heaton, N.D. Harley served as pastor in a number of areas, including the Midwest, New England, the South and Canada. He is survived by two sons, Quentin and Kenneth; two daughters, Mary Manchur and Alice Merrill; seven grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

Hugh Coy '47, Walla Walla, Wash., died June 25, 2011, at age 87. He was born in Ames, Iowa, on Aug. 7, 1923, where he grew up and attended Oak Park Academy. After graduating from Union, Hugh worked as business manager at various academies and at Union College. Hugh and his wife, Madeleine Douma Coy '46, served as missionaries in South Africa from 1951 to 1957. When Hugh retired he enjoyed volunteering at the retirement center, making hats for the homeless and doing what he could for others at church. Sadly, Madeleine passed away in 2009, but Hugh kept participating in these activities until he became sick with acute leukemia two months before his death. He is survived by daughters, Linda Wernick ('70) and Joellen Lee '76; four grandchildren and four great-grandchil-

June Nickle Newton '47, Cleburne, Texas, died Dec. 13, 2011, at age 88. She was born in St. Helena, Calif., on May 18, 1923, to George and Vivian

Nickle. She and her husband, William Newton, served as missionaries in Puerto Rico for many years where she ultimately became head of the bilingual secretarial science department of Antillean Union College. June was a member of the Joshua, Texas, Seventh-day Adventist Church. She was preceded in death by her parents and husband, William. She is survived by sons, James and Ronald; stepsons, Jerry and Allen; stepdaughter, Rashelle Stirewalt; numerous grandchildren and great-grandchildren; foster sister, Amelia Lopez and niece, Vivian Seiler.

Colleen Norman Patterson '47, Pueblo, Colo., died Sept. 15, 2011. She loved to cook, travel, and visit with friends She was preceded in death by her first husband, John Patterson; son, Robert; an infant daughter; sister, Carol Upton and granddaughter Alicia Patterson. She is survived by her husband of 17 years, Tom '51; son, John ('73) and daughter, Laura Christenson; stepchildren, Dale Patterson and JoAnne Senoma; sisters, Delores Rowell and Mabel Ethredge; numerous grandchildren, great-grandchildren nieces and nephews.



Colleen Patterson

2000

2000—Union College's physician assistant studies program is accredited—only the second in the state of Nebraska.



2001—Union retires a debt, which in the mid-1980s exceeded \$8.9 million.



2004—The Ortner Center is completed. This renovation and addition to Culver Hall created an information center, conference center and completely renovated dining hall in addition to the men's residence.

IN MEMORY

Howard Marks '48. Des Moines, Iowa, died July 14, 2011, at age 93. He was born June 21, 1918, in rural Wexford County, Mich. He completed grammar school and academy in Cedar Lake, Mich., before entering the United States Army in April 1941, serving in the medical corps. While stationed at the Fitzsimmons Army Hospital in Denver, Colo., he met Joyce Lyon '46 at church and they were married June 7, 1944, the day after D-day. Howard then earned a Master of Education from Kansas State University in 1955. He taught in Nebraska, Kansas, Colorado and Iowa. He is survived by his wife of 67 years, Joyce; daughter, Monica Hendricks of Santa Clara, Calif.; son, **Russell Marks '73** of San Luis Obispo, Calif.; two granddaughters, and three greatgrandchildren. He was preceded in death by his parents and five sisters.

Lorraine Waller Payne '48

was born on April 26, 1926. She was an important part of the Camelback church in Phoenix, Ariz., where she died. She died on October 17, 2011, at age 85.

Frank Hale, Jr. ('49), Columbus, Ohio died July 27, 2011, at age 84. Frank earned a B.A. and a M.A. in communication and political science in 1950 and 1951 from the University of Nebraska. He earned a doctorate in communication and political science from Ohio State University in 1955. Frank was awarded a post-doctoral fellowship in English literature from the University of London in 1960. He was president of Oakwood College (now Oakwood University) from 1966-1971, and he was the first African American to hold a deanship in the graduate school at OSU. He authored and/or edited 12 books and more than 50 articles in professional journals. He was widely recognized for his many contributions in the field of higher education. Frank recently authored, "What Makes Racial Diversity Work in Higher Education" and "How Black Colleges Empower Black Students: Lessons for Higher Education." Prior to his third retirement, he was executive assistant to the president at Kenvon College. He was preceded in death by his father and mother; and first wife, Ruth Saddler Hale. He is survived by his second wife. Mignon Scott Hale; son, Frank III; daughters, Iteoma Kwesi, and Sherilyn Wilkins; stepsons, Oliver and Michael Palmer; two granddaughters; two stepgranddaughters; two grandsons; two step-grandsons; four great grandchildren and two step great-grandchildren.



Frank Hale Jr.

Edwina Bowen Latham ('49),

Ooltewah, Tenn., died July 8, 2011, at age 82. She was a member of the Collegedale church for many years. She made hundreds of children's dresses for the Samaritan Center in Collegedale, for local children and for children overseas. She is survived by sons, **Craig ('77)** and David; two grandsons; three great-grandchildren and one brother, Bennie Bowen.

Raymond Pelton '49, Loma Linda, Calif., died May 19, 2011, at age 90. He was born in Hot Springs, S.D. Raymond worked as a hospital administrator, in the department of GC, and helped inspect denominational medical facilities around the world to improve health care services. He is survived by his wife, Virginia Carter Pelton '49; son, Ronald and daughter, Cynthia.

Gladys Davis Royer ('49), Santa Rosa, Calif., died March 29, 2011, at age 89. She was born in Kansas City, Kan., on March 5, 1922. She is survived by her husband, **Tom '49**; daughter, Rebecque Johnson; four grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

Floyd Scott '49, Aurora, Colo., died Jan. 16, 2012, at age 92. Floyd graduated from Oak Park Academy in 1937. He became an RN in 1941 and then served in WWII. He earned his medical degree from Loma Linda University in 1952. His residency was in physical medicine and rehab. Floyd worked as a physician in the Pacific Northwest until 1964. He worked as a physician at Porter Hospital in Denver, Colo., for nearly 30 years. Floyd was



Floyd Scott

preceded in death by a daughter, Koni ('72). He is survived by his wife Vonsella; daughters, Nancy Danelson '88, Kathryn Ratliff ('79), Karen Clark ('83), Barbara Silvas, Michelle Tassia; sons, Floyd Jr '84 and Larry; eleven grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

Vernon "Red" Wahlen '49 Fort Collins, Colo., died August 30, 2011, at age 89. Red was born December 24, 1921, in Middle River, Minn., to Joel and Mabel Wahlen. He grew up on a farm in Pope County, Minn. and attended high school in Benson where the highlight was playing right guard for the football team. Red served in WWII in the US Army as Tech Sgt. for the amphibious engineers in the Pacific Theatre. He met the love of his life, Donna Martin Wahlen '49. Red and Donna were married, Sept. 4, 1949, in Loveland, Colo. He put himself through dental school with the help of the GI bill and carpenter skills. He graduated from the University of Nebraska in 1954. Red and Donna moved to Clark, S.D., where he set up his dental practice. In 1959, they moved to Fort Collins where Red practiced until retiring in 1991. Red was a loving husband and father who



Vernon Wahlen

2005

2006—Union College is first named to the *U.S. News and World Report's* Best Colleges list. Union has made the list every year since.



2007—The Union College physician assistant studies program confers master's degrees for the first time.



2008—Raven Underwood Downs becomes the 10,000th graduate to join Union's Alumni Association.

IN MEMORY

enjoyed taking his family skiing, golfing, fishing, and hiking anywhere in the Colorado mountains that held such a place in his heart. Red and Donna were passionate fans of the CSU Rams basketball team. He was an active member of the Fort Collins church, where he served as elder, school board chairman and Pathfinder leader. He is survived by his wife, **Donna**; son Mark; daughter, Marianne Samson, four grandchildren, five great-grandchildren and brother, Ernie ('42).

Lois May Shepherdson Watts '49, Loma Linda, Calif., died Nov., 13, 2011, at age 92. She was born May 25, 1919, to Mildred Blackstone and William Lloyd Shepherdson in Kirksville, Mo. She enrolled at Union College in 1937 to take teacher training and met Carl Watts who was studying for the ministry. When finances forced them to drop out of college to work, Lois May taught church school in Topeka and Carl was publishing secretary for the Kansas Conference. They married in 1942. Returning to Union in 1945 they graduated together in 1949. The couple served the Missouri Conference before accepting a mission appointment to Japan. During their 18 years in Japan and Okinawa, Lois May taught Adventist missionary and military children in a one-room school in Okinawa. She also often welcomed 10-15 homesick young soldiers who showed up unannounced for Sabbath dinner. When Carl became Japan Union President, Lois May taught missionary children in Tokyo. On their return to the U.S. in 1973, the couple worked in Southeastern California where Lois served as a teacher and in the child evangelism department. Lois and

Carl's 69 ½ years of marriage provided many adventures including riding a motorcycle with their baby girl strapped in a box on the back, flying with two toddlers and the family dog in Carl's two-seat Taylor Craft airplane, traveling around the world to five continents and climbing Mt. Fuji and Mt. Sinai. Lois May is survived by her husband, **Carl Watts '49**; daughter



Lois Watts

Kit Watts '66, Milton-Freewater, Ore; son **Howard ('64)**; granddaughter, Kandice Watts, and grandson, Travis Watts, and many nephews and nieces including **Carolynn Weber Ytredal ('63)**.

Oscar Gerst '50, Casper, Wyo., died Oct. 24, 2011, at age 85. He was born Sept. 2, 1926, in Des Moines County, Iowa. Oscar taught school and was a talented artist. He enjoyed making beautiful wood creations. Throughout his life he shared Christian literature with those around him. Oscar was preceded in death by his wife. Helen. He is survived by brothers, Albert '47, Gordon '51, and Martin ('57); sister, Ruth '53, nieces, nephews, and grandnieces and grandnephews.



Oscar Gerst

Benjamin Beck '50, Milwaukee, Wis., died January 28, 2011, at age 95. He was born July 2, 1915, in Woodworth, N.D. He was a member of the Milwaukee Central Church. His wife, Emma '51, preceded him in death. He is survived by his son, Jim and daughter, Judy.

William "Bill" Nelson '50, of Mt. Dora, Fla., died April 13, 2011, at age 87. His professional life was dedicated to education as a teacher, professor and college president. He is survived by his wife of 63 years, Maryon Jung Nelson ('47); two sons, four grandchildren, and 14 great grandchildren.

William Spanos '51, Del Mar, Calif., died Feb. 7, 2011, at age 86. He was born Dec. 8, 1924, in St. Louis Mo. He survived by his wife, Charline; son, William Jr.; daughter, Susan Holcombe; four grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

Gerry Thompson '51, Roseville, Calif., died June 19, 2011, at age 82. He was born in Hotchkiss, Colo., on June 30, 1929. Gerry's lifelong passion was education. He taught in Colorado, Missouri, Nebraska

and California. As an ordained minister, Gerry performed many marriages, baptisms and funerals for friends and family. He completed his career in 2002 as director of education for the Pacific Union Conference. Gerry is survived by his wife, **Eunice Guptill Thompson '68**; sons, Greg and Ron; daughter, Becky Evans; brother, K. Don; sister, Beryle Marah and seven grandchildren.



Gerry Thompson

Roy Beard '56, Lincoln, Neb., died August 14, 2011, at age 81 after a long battle with cancer. He was born March 14, 1930, in Independence, Kan., where he lived before going to Union College in Lincoln in 1948. The Korean War forced Roy to take a short leave of absence from school while he served as a medical technician and baker in the United States Army. After he received his discharge, he returned to Union College where he completed his business degree and met his wife Wanda **Butcher Beard '56**. They were married May 27, 1956. After moving a few times, they settled in Dallas, Texas. In 1969, they opened their own natural foods market, called Roy's, which they operated for 40 years. After Wanda died in 2009, Roy

2010



2008—Union graduates the first class from the international rescue and relief program, a unique degree combining survival, rescue and disaster response training with a baccalaureate degree focused on medical work, project development or public safety.



2011—Dr. David Smith leaves a legacy as Union's longest serving president (13 years).

In Memory

moved to Lincoln, where his daughter, son-in-law and grandchildren have their home. He served as a church elder and greeter for many years. He is survived by his daughter, Alice Hillhouse '88; two grandchildren; two brothers, Walter Beard and Ben Monk; and niece, Betty Lou Wilson. He was preceded in death by his parents, Frank and Alice Beard; wife, Wanda; brothers, Earl and Raymond; step-father, Harry Monk; and sisters-in-law Aloma and Loretta.



Roy Beard

Celia Clark George '57, Delta, Colo., died March 26, 2011, at age 81. She was born on Sept. 5, 1929, in Newton, Kan. She worked as a music educator and director of nurses. She and her husband, Gale, owned a nursing home and she also held various church offices. She is survived by her five children, 13 grandchildren, 10 great-grandchildren; brothers, Earnest '53 and Glen; sisters, Violet Cruz '56 and Marilyn Stearman '61. Celia was a member of the Montrose church.

Stanley Chan '59, Loma Linda, Calif., died Sept. 27, 2011, at age 81. He was born in China May 8, 1930. His father was a pioneer-

ing Adventist pastor in China. Stanley attended Adventist schools and became a teacher. While in Hong Kong, he married Lomina Chang on April 19, 1953. After graduating from Union College he earned a degree as a laboratory technician. During the 1960s he helped start the Los Angeles Chinese Seventh-day Adventist church and then the Loma Linda Chinese church in 1975. He is remembered for his generosity and his love for God. He is survived by his wife, Lomina; two sones, Gordon and Raymond; daughter, Linda and grandchildren.



Stanley Chan

Esther White Kanneberg ('60), Boise, Idaho, died May 3, 2011, at age 69. She was born June 26, 1941, in Oshawa, Ontario, Canada. Survivors include her husband, Richard '65; daughter, Wendi; son, John; brother, Don ('67) and four grandchildren.

Jeriel "Jay" Howard '61, Palm Springs, Calif., died Nov. 9, 2011. He was born in Wharton, Texas, in 1939. He graduated from Union College with an English degree and worked in education for the rest of his life. He earned a master's and doctorate from Texas Christian University. In 1978 he joined the English faculty at Northeastern Illinois University in Chicago and served in various leadership positions within the department until he retired in 2002. Jay co-wrote 11 college-level text books and was an authority on religion and literature. After retirement he moved to Palm Springs where he was active in several organizations and St. Margaret's Episcopal Church. He is survived by his partner of 44 years, Richard Francis Tracz.

Paul Essig Jr. '66, Graham, Texas, died Nov. 11, 2011, just three months after he was diagnosed with Creutzfeldt-Iakob disease. Paul married his college sweetheart, Karen Stephens **Essig '66**, June 5, 1966, one week after their graduation. Paul earned a master's from Iowa State University and a doctorate from Michigan State University. He was a professional educator for 40 years including 24 years of overseas mission work. He was preceded in death by his parents, Paul '31 and Jeanette Franks Essig '31 and sister, Caroline O'Dell '59. He is survived by his wife, Karen '66, son, Paul III; daughter, Shondalyn and two grandchildren. He will be fondly remembered by



Paul Essig

his in-laws; three nephews; three nieces and seven grandnephews and nieces.

Evelyn Prunty Smith '66, Hot Springs, S.D., died Nov. 3, 2011, at age 67. She was born Sept. 6, 1944, in Los Alamos, N.M. Her father worked on the Manhattan Project where they developed the atomic bomb. Her birth certificate listed Rural, N.M., because of the secrecy of the place. She earned two degrees from Union College in early childhood education and in medical technology. While at Union, Evelyn met her husband of 47 years, Duane '64. Survivors include her husband. Duane; three sons, Bradley, Jeffrey, and Timothy; brother, Fred and two grandchildren.

Samuel Woods ('66),

Burleson, Texas, died Oct. 8, 2011, at age 66, from injuries sustained in an auto accident. He is survived by his daughters, Pamela Spring and Mindy Colvin; son, Clint; nine grand-children and numerous other family members and friends in southern Illinois.

Alice Donaldson Austin

('76), Collegedale, Tenn., died April 21, 2011. She was born March 26, 1935, in Los Angeles, Calif. She graduated from Ukiah Union High School in Ukiah, Calif., in 1953 and married Wiley Austin '72 on Sept. 5, 1953, in Ukiah. She earned a college degree while raising two children and graduated from Southern Adventist University in 1987 with a degree in long-term health care administration. Alice is survived by her husband, Wiley; daughter, Dawn; son, Russell; two sisters, Helen Bradley and Harriett Kelso; two brothers, George and Malcolm Donaldson; one



2012—Union will begin construction on a new 55,000 square foot science and mathematics complex to serve the growing demands of science, health science and mathematics education.

Beyond—If you'd like to be a part of Union College's future, please visit www.ucollege.edu/promisingfuture to see how you can get involved.

IN MEMORY

granddaughter and two great-grandchildren.

Valerie Miller Lehman '76, Cody, Wyo., died July 10, 2011, at age 56. She was born Sept. 11, 1954, in Streeter, N.D. Valerie was a member of the Cody church. Survivors include husband **Kevin** '79; sons, Bryan and Jonathan; sisters Linda and

Rita; brother, Lyle ('83) and fa-

ther, Walter.

Lvnn Schlisner '76, Madison. Tenn., died Aug. 1, 2011, at age 62. He was born Aug. 1, 1949. Lynn joined the army in 1968 and served as a paratrooper in the 101st Airborne Division in Vietnam, where he was wounded and received a Purple Heart. He felt called to the ministry and so he and his wife, Lona, moved to Lincoln so he could attend Union College. Lynn served in South Dakota, Oklahoma and Potomac conferences before accepting the call to be senior pastor of the Madison Campus church in the Kentucky-Tennessee Conference. He was diagnosed with a brain tumor in 2005. Lynn believed in and was dedicated to Seventhday Adventist Christian education. Lynn is survived by his wife, Lona; daughter, Sissel Jacob '05; sons, Eirik and Trevor; two grandchildren; brothers, Gary ('65) and Mick; sisters, Jani Becker '75 and Robyn.



Lynn Schlisner

Sandra Posey Gotch '80,

Houston, Texas, died Aug. 10, 2011, at age 52. As a nurse practitioner, she was the first African-American to serve on the United States President's Board of Health Care Reform. She is survived by her husband, David; sister, Charlene Moss; brothers, Darrel and Dominic; and sisterin-law, Tammy Samuel.

Notice of the following deaths has been received:

Elvera Roedel Barker ('39), Loveland, Colo., born Sept. 16, 1920, died Nov. 27, 2011, at age 81.

Ruth Steinke Reinking ('42), Auburn, Wash., died May 2, 2011, at age 90.

LaVera Schrenk Youker ('42), Portland, Ore., died May 27, 2009.

Joseph Yamamoto '44, Honolulu, Hawaii, died Oct. 28. 2010.

Xavier Butler '45, Nashville, Tenn., died February 2, 2011.

Stacia Alexenko Merickel '46, Portland, Ore., died May 21, 2011.

Margot Christiansen Coppage '47,

Groveland, Fla., died August 13, 2010, at age 87.

Dale Pegel ('47), Marshall, Minn., died Dec. 31, 2010, at age 86.

Donna Scott Filipps ('48), Tulsa, Okla., died Jan. 18, 2012.

Lawrence Nelson ('49), Oxford, Pa., died Sept. 27, 2011, at age 82.

Eleanor English Slocum '49, Manlius, N.Y., died Oct. 27, 2011, at age 86.

Chris Heil '50.

Holy Springs, N.C., died April 22, 2011, at age 90.

Lawrence Robison ('50), Bullhead City, Ariz., died Sept. 11, 2010, at age 89.

Bob Fesler ('51), Highlands Ranch, Colo., died Feb. 5, 2011, at age 80.

Eugene Schultz '51, Altamonte Springs, Fla., died Feb. 12. 1999.

Ethel Nakama Knueppelholz '52,Melbourne Beach, Fla., died Dec. 6, 2010, at age 82.

Byron Butrum ('53), Englewood, Colo., died May 15, 2011.

Russell Cleveland '53, Yuba City, Calif., died July 17, 2011, at age 80.

James Hottal '54, Bristow, Okla., died Sept. 24, 2011, at age 84.

Rosalie Haffner Zinke '54, Hendersonville, N.C., died May 14, 2011, at age 80.

Clifford Thompson '56, Gahanna, Ohio, died Dec. 3, 2011, at age 79.

Jim Bramblett ('57), Salem, W.V., died April 14, 2009, at age 72.

Morford ('57), Denver, Colo., died June 27, 2011, at age 84.

Frances Osborne

Elmer Lampson '58, Milton-Freewater, Ore., died April 9, 2011, at age 83.

Dick Hall '59, Loma Linda, Calif., died Oct. 14, 2011.

Charlene Ewing Farnsworth ('60), Sparta, Tenn., died Sept. 9, 2004. Josephine Olson Ward '62, Rocklin, Calif., died April 27, 2010.

Edwina Jay Crismond '63, Ronan, Mont., died Sept. 5, 2011, at age 70.

Roxanna Sinclair Blair ('66), Groveton, Texas, died May 29, 2011, at age 70.

Daisy Yung-Sheng Mao '71, San Francisco, Calif., died July 22, 2011.

Former Faculty:

Theresa Kennedy, chair of the Division of Nursing July 1979-June 1985, died July 16, 2011, in Collegedale, Tenn.

Friend of Union College

Edith McClain, Loveland, Colo., died Feb. 24, 2011, at age 85. Edith was born Oct. 17, 1925. She married LaVerne, on July 21, 1946, in Bremerton, Wash, Edith and LaVerne devoted their lives to working with young people in the area of education for the Seventh-day Adventist church, including at Union College, where LaVerne was an administrator. She is survived by sons, Richard '70 and Donald; daughters, Dixie Patrick '80 and Debra Kirby; nine grandchildren and 11 great-grandchildren.

Correction

In the Summer 2011 issue **LaVerne McClain's** name was misspelled. We apologize for this error.



Ifred Pancake took only one class at Union College, but this brief encounter helped him understand the importance of Adventist education as a key ingredient for life.

At first, Pancake, an organic wheat farmer in western Kansas, made a gift to Union College in honor of his late wife. He understood that students, much like wheat, must be nurtured to grow, so he designated the funds to help two seniors pay off their bill so they could receive their transcripts.

A few years later, Pancake set up a donor advised fund with the Seventh-day Adventist world church headquarters. He directed that the interest from this fund be distributed annually to several Adventist schools, including Union College, to help students pay for living expenses, tuition, room and board, books and fees.

Because of his foresight, The Alfred G. Pancake Donor Advised Fund has already bridged the funding gap for many students, and will continue to help Union College students grow and flourish for years to come.

Interested in mixing up your own recipe for helping Union students? It doesn't take much to make a difference. Contact the Advancement office at 402.486.2503 or visit www.ucollege.edu/advancement to find out more.

It takes ForeSight...



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