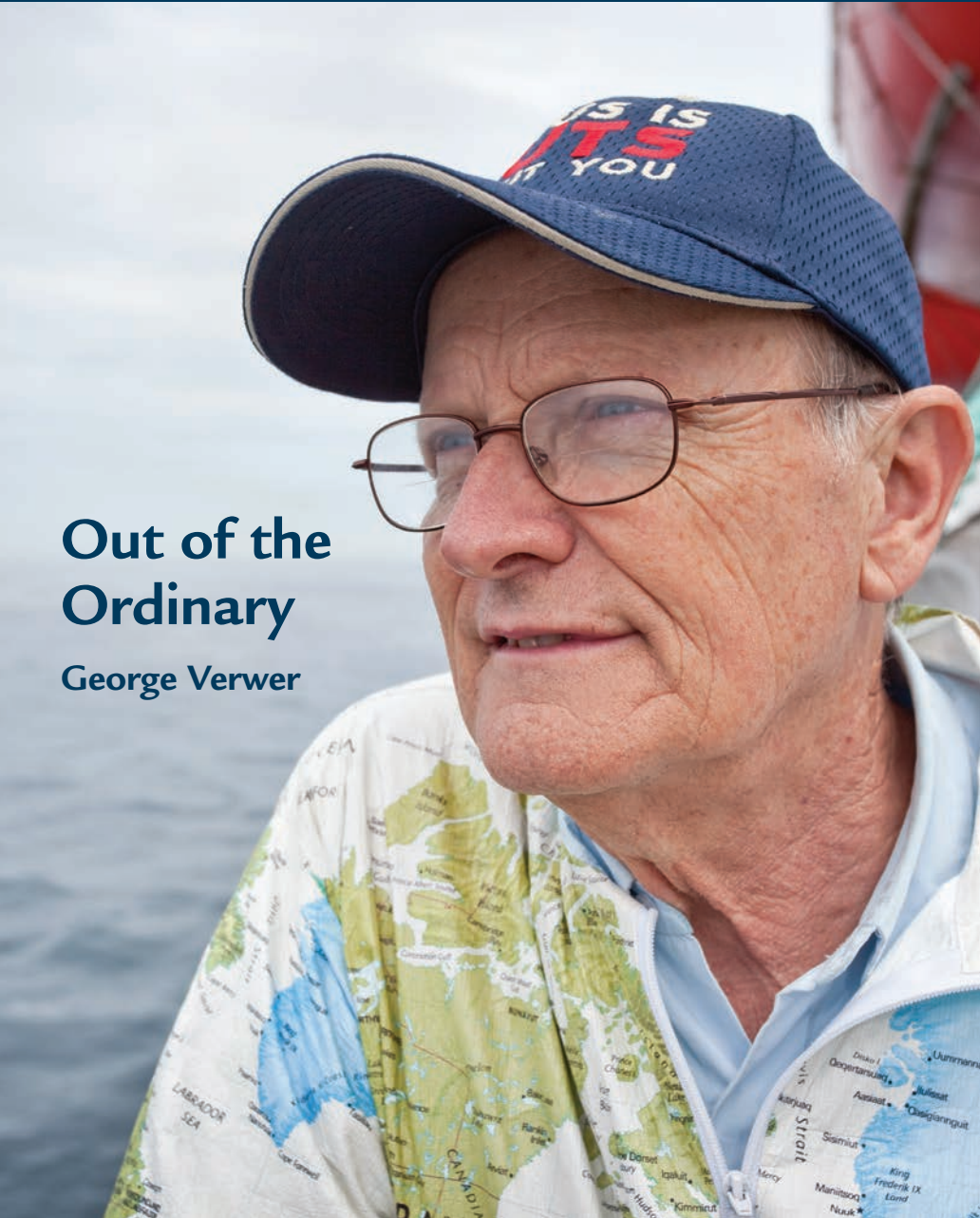


MOODY  
Alumni News

Winter 2016

Out of the  
Ordinary

George Verwer



# From the Executive Director



*God is using  
Moody alumni  
in powerful  
ways on the  
mission field.*

Dear friends,

I have been newly inspired by the powerful ways God uses Moody alumni on the mission field—whether they serve in America, somewhere overseas, or even *on* the seas!

In this issue you can read the amazing stories of older and younger missionaries such as George Verwer, the inimitable founder of the ship-based ministry Operation Mobilization, and Ruth Potinu, who lives with her husband and child in a grass hut. You'll also read about a young couple ministering after a flood and a single woman serving government workers in Myanmar.

Founder's Week is just around the corner, and Feb. 7 is Alumni Day. If your graduation year ends in a "2" or "7," you have a reunion this year! Plan on attending the alumni banquet, followed by your reunion in a room reserved for your class. Order banquet tickets at [moody.edu/alumni-founders](http://moody.edu/alumni-founders), by sending in the attached card, or by calling (312) 329-4412. We hope to see you soon!

Your updates and prayer requests are welcome at [mbialum@moody.edu](mailto:mbialum@moody.edu), or call (312) 329-4412.

Serving Christ together,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Nancy K Hastings".

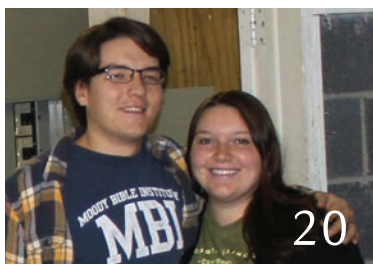
Nancy (Andersen '80) Hastings  
Executive Director, Moody Alumni Association

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Moody Alumni News, Winter 2016 (Vol. 66, No. 3): Executive Director: Nancy (Andersen '80) Hastings; Managing Editor: Linda Piepenbrink; Art Director: Lynn Gabalec; Alumni Notes Editor: Haley Versluys; Alumni Board of Directors: Tobias Brown '05, Chris Drombetta '14, Peter Grant '83, David Lee '08, David Malone '89, Tracy (McPhail '14) Reed; Leonard Reiss '84, Julie (Carlen '80) Ross, Jim Shedd '72, Yvonne (Hurd '80) Wolf.

Moody Alumni News is published spring, fall, and winter by the Moody Bible Institute Alumni Association at 820 N. LaSalle Boulevard, Chicago, IL 60610-3284. It is distributed to Moody alumni free of charge. To help equip the next generation of ministry leaders studying at Moody, please visit [www.moody.edu/give-back](http://www.moody.edu/give-back). Send alumni updates and photos to [alumnews@moody.edu](mailto:alumnews@moody.edu), or call us at (312) 329-4412. Visit the alumni website at [moody.edu/alumni](http://moody.edu/alumni) where you can view *Moody Alumni News* online.

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## Professor Helps Moody Students Produce Documentary



*Bob Gustafson (right) advises Austin Henckel and Doyun Kong on a video project.*

Two Moody seniors who enrolled in Video Editing with assistant professor **Bob Gustafson '82** helped produce a documentary of an embattled Chicago neighborhood. Doyun Kong and Austin Henckel worked with a local filmmaker to help capture and edit video interviews.

“It was a great partnership,” Gustafson says. “The students stepped it up and said, ‘Not only will we edit, but when can we help shoot it?’ They got credit for it, but they took it over the top and turned it into a ministry.”

The students collaborated with the Chicago History Museum and Breakthrough Urban Ministries, a community-based nonprofit organization founded by **Arloa (Monkemeier '75) Sutter** with a film club for neighborhood youth. The result was *Forty Blocks: The East Garfield Park Oral History Project*, which premiered on screen July 12 at the museum. “This film is a slice of a larger undertaking from the Chicago History Museum to document unique stories from Chicago neighborhoods,” Gustafson says.

Breakthrough’s film crew had researched East Garfield Park’s history and interviewed 28 residents to document the untold story of the neighborhood’s demise after 1970 and also share examples of hope and renewal. The Moody students were there “setting up the lights, using the camera, working behind the scenes,” Gustafson explains. “Like D. L. Moody mentioned the need for ‘gap men’ to be trained for all sorts of ministry work, these students were using their gifts to serve in an urban setting.”

Gustafson, who joined the faculty in 2013, wants to increase opportunities for Moody’s communications majors. He advises a team of students who run the Moody Media Lab, serving local churches through videography, web design, and photography. The students meet with clients, determine client needs, put together a budget, and do the work.

“Our students show up on set, assist, learn, get credit, and then the ministry gets a video at a very affordable rate,” explains Gustafson, who spent two decades as a video producer at Willow Creek Community Church in Barrington, Ill. “We also produce ministry websites, design logos, and create social media campaigns.”

Over the summer, 35 communication majors did media-oriented internships all over the world, including Focus on the Family, he says.

Gustafson attended Moody as a pastoral major, knowing he wanted to go into youth ministry and teaching. “Moody gave me a great foundation on my theology and critical biblical thinking. It was so important for where I was headed,” he says.

## More than a President: Nyquist the Umpire



***Seventh inning stretch:** Moody Board of Trustees member Jerry Jenkins, Timothy Group President Pat McLaughlin, and President Paul Nyquist at a Little League ballgame.*

On a hot July day several years ago Timothy Group President Pat McLaughlin needed a partner to help him umpire a double header of the Near West Little League in Chicago. When Moody President Paul Nyquist called and joked that he was going to come to the game to “harass” him, McLaughlin turned the tables and told him to come dressed in gray slacks and black shoes; McLaughlin would supply the ump shirt and hat. Nyquist bravely showed up. “He did an incredible job on the bases,” McLaughlin recalls. “He knows baseball!”

McLaughlin, who consults with Moody’s fundraising, sent a photo of Nyquist in his baseball gear to the Moody Board of Trustees with this message: “Your president can preach, teach, lead, raise money, and now he even umpires.” **Jerry Jenkins ’67-’68**, the then board chair, shot back a text and indicated he was jealous. “Of what?” McLaughlin asked. Jenkins wanted to umpire with them, so

McLaughlin ordered shirts and caps, and the rest is history.

In 2015 **Jim Elliott ’83**, vice president of Stewardship, also joined them to ump a game. “All three of my crew—Dr. Nyquist, Mr. Jenkins, and Mr. Elliott—have done an excellent job,” McLaughlin says. The past two years he even got Nyquist to work “the dish” (home plate).

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**“Your president can preach, teach, lead, raise money, and now he even umpires.”**

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“It’s a privilege to serve the kids this way,” Jenkins says. “This is a challenged neighborhood with few fathers involved. We lead the kids in prayer before the games and try to encourage and teach them as we officiate. They seem to get a kick out of having ‘real’ umpires make their games feel like a big deal. But the truth is, Pat is the only real umpire.”

## Vote for the 2017 Alumni Board Nominees

The Alumni Board of Directors, which meets twice a year, consists of alumni who represent the 45,000 living alumni of Moody Bible Institute and Moody Theological Seminary. Annual elections replace members who have completed their term of service. Read about the nominees below, cast your vote on the inserted ballot card, and mail it to the Alumni Association.

### Beginning Term in January 2017



**Cherie (Bruchan '75) Balog** is employed by the Network of Biblical Storytellers, a professional association for clergy and laity.

Along with serving as a volunteer chat coach at the Billy Graham Evangelistic Association, she also serves on a seasonal basis with its sister organization, Samaritan's Purse. Cherie volunteers with Indy Reads, an adult literacy program, and with the Heartland Film Festival. She serves her church as a lector, altar guild member, and membership class facilitator.

After graduating from the communications program at Moody, Cherie completed her BS in Journalism at Northern Illinois University. Cherie and her husband, Kevin, reside in Fishers, Ind., and have one daughter.

**Steve Dutton '86** has served since 2011 as the executive director for Hellenic Ministries, an international, nondenominational Greek missionary society, based in Wheaton, Ill. Before



that, he served the organization by pastoring an international church in Athens, Greece, for 16 years.

In 1992 he received his MDiv from Trinity Evangelical Divinity School, while also serving as an associate pastor at a church in the western suburbs of Chicago. Steve, and his wife, **Karen (Pontier '87)**, have three children: **Kayla Dutton '16**, Joshua, and Hannah.



**Col. Joe Hilbert '93** is the commander of the 82nd Airborne Division Artillery in Fort Bragg, N.C. While attending Moody, he participated in the

Army ROTC program at the University of Illinois at Chicago and graduated with a regular army commission as a field artillery officer. He has served in a variety of command and staff positions in the U.S. and Europe, and was deployed in Haiti, Kosovo, and Afghanistan.

Joe is an Olmsted Scholar with an MA in European Studies from the Universität Leipzig in Leipzig, Germany. He also graduated from the U.S. Army Command and General Staff College and earned his MA in Strategic Studies from the U.S. Army War College.

Joe and his wife, **Beth (Newbrough '91)**, serve in local churches and Army chapels. They live in Fort Bragg, N.C., with their three children.

## Completing Term in December 2016



**David Malone '89** is the new dean of the college and seminary library at Calvin College in Grand Rapids, Mich. David and his wife, **Kelly (Kritzman '90)**, also

plan to explore the region and become connected with a home church.

Before moving to Grand Rapids, David and Kelly lived in Wheaton, Ill., where David served as an associate professor of Library Science and leader of the Resource Description and Digital Initiatives group at Wheaton College. They have one daughter, Katie.



**Leonard Reiss MA '84** has been senior pastor at Saint Albans Union Church in Saint Albans, Maine, for 12 years. He is also a first responder

crisis chaplain with Billy Graham's Rapid Response Team and with Samaritan's Purse. Previously he was associate pastor at Koerner Heights Church in Newton, Kansas, and has pastored other churches since 1983.

Leonard and his wife, Jannita, have eight children and four grandchildren. He says, "It has been a joy to be a small part of the Alumni Association Board of Directors for the past six years."

## Plan to Attend Alumni Gatherings at Founder's Week 2017

Enjoy Bible teaching and fellowship with former classmates during Founder's Week, Feb. 6–10, 2017. Alumni events on Moody's Chicago campus include reunion dinners on Monday, Feb. 6, for the classes of 1967, 1977, 1992, and 2007. The alumni banquet and five-year-increment class reunions take place on Tuesday, Feb. 7. Tickets (\$15 each) must be purchased by Jan. 25, 2017. For more details, visit [moody.edu/alumni-founders](http://moody.edu/alumni-founders), see the attached card, or call (312) 329-4412.

On Alumni Day, Feb. 7, the Faculty Citation Award will be presented, and during the evening session, the Alumnus of the Year will be named, followed by a reception. In addition, the Moody Men's Collegiate Choir (formerly the Men's Glee Club)

is celebrating its 60th anniversary. Conductor H. E. Singley hopes to have 250 former members participate in the reunion choir on Tuesday evening. Rehearsals will be held on Monday and Tuesday afternoon. For information, contact [h.e.singley@moody.edu](mailto:h.e.singley@moody.edu).

Alumni Day speakers are **Gary Chapman '58**, **David Anderson '89**, and **Eric Rivera '03**. Throughout the week, hear biblical teaching from Paul Nyquist, Tony Evans, Michael Easley, Don Sunukjian, Josh Moody, Duane Litfin, Bryan Loritts, Janet Parshall, Terry D. Streeter, and Jamie Rasmussen.

Limited free parking is available at Moody Bible Institute, where shuttle buses will transport people to and from The Moody Church for evening sessions.

## Three Alumni Receive Distinguished Service Awards



*Cecil Bedford accepts award at Moody Aviation during his retirement celebration.*

**Cecil Bedford '78** devoted 38 years of ministry to Moody Aviation. He and his wife, **Joyce (Taylor '74-'75)**, came to Moody as students from British Columbia, Canada. After graduating, Cecil volunteered in Moody Aviation's avionics shop for a year before being officially hired. As a professor of missionary aviation technology he served as avionics shop manager, avionics instructor, and maintenance department manager. He shepherded Moody Aviation's transition from Elizabethton, Tenn., to Spokane, Wash., in 2003.

Over the years, Cecil has invested in the lives of nearly 700 graduates, including more than 480 who went on to serve in missions around the world. He built strong partnerships in mission aviation circles and helped raise funds for two large hangars and several airplanes.

"Cecil has consistently modeled servanthood, commitment, perseverance, sacrifice, compassion, flexibility, and teamwork—all with a desire to build a culture that would outlast him, honor the Lord, and advance Moody Bible Institute in Spokane and Moody Aviation," said

Jack Lewis, campus dean at Moody Bible Institute in Spokane.

Cecil was nominated by **Jim Conrad '98**, Moody Aviation's new director of flight operations, Jack Lewis, Moody Bible Institute's campus dean in Spokane, and David Schipper, Moody trustee.



*Brian Wechsler receives award at Cannon Beach Christian Center, Cannon Beach, Ore.*

**Brian Wechsler '83** serves as executive director of Village Missions in Dallas, Ore., providing support and spiritually qualified missionary pastors to America's small rural churches.

Brian and his wife, **Carole '83**, entered Moody Bible Institute in 1980. Brian received the award for the outstanding Greek student and went on to take graduate courses from Moody.

Accepted as Village Missionaries in 1983, the Wechslers were sent to Finchford, Iowa, to serve the Community Bible Church. In October 1989 the Wechslers left to pastor the Morning Star Community Church at Red Feather Lakes, Colo. As the congregation grew, they built a 250-seat church facility in 1997. Although it burned down in November 1998, Brian encouraged the congregation,



and a new church was dedicated in July 1999. Brian also served on the local school district advisory board and was elected Red Feather Lakes Citizen of the Year in 1994.

Brian began serving on the board of Village Missions in 1997 and became director in 2000. He has traveled from coast to coast, explaining the state of the mission and spreading its vision.



*Brian Shepson receives award June 16 at MAF headquarters in Boise, Idaho.*

**Brian Shepson '82** is an instructor and chief pilot of flight training in aviation resources at Mission Aviation Fellowship in Boise, Idaho.

A pastor's son, Brian was seven when he first desired to become a missionary pilot. During high school he spent a summer at the Nate Saint House in Shell, Ecuador. When he contacted MAF for advice about how to get his pilot's license, he was told, "Go to Moody Aviation."

Brian met **Connie (Evans '78)**, his

future wife, in the Moody Chorale. After graduation, Brian served as a Moody Aviation flight instructor for three years. Since then he has completed 30 years of service with MAF, including a year in language school, 10 years in Shell, Ecuador, and 19 years in MAF's flight training department. In addition, he served on the board for the Nate Saint School, preached at the local church, and wrote airplane training manuals.

"Brian is a superior pilot that Moody Aviation prepared well," said **Gene Jordan '75**, who supported his nomination. "Brian realized that the Cessna he was flying was only a tool to be used appropriately to help those in physical and spiritual need. His easy-going manner, with a practical joke slipped in here and there, endeared him to the jungle communities, adults and children alike."

Brian serves as an elder at his church, preaching occasionally and teaching a small group Bible study. He is also a board member of Fairhaven Ministries in Roan Mountain, Tenn., a Christian retreat center founded by his father, Dr. Charles Shepson.

*The Alumni Association honors select graduates who have distinguished themselves through faithfulness to the Lord, perseverance in service, and contribution to the cause of Christ. To nominate alumni for this award, contact [mbialum@moody.edu](mailto:mbialum@moody.edu).*

## Music Ensembles' Winter Tour

Moody's music ensembles will be on tour January 13-15, 2017. The Moody Chorale will travel to churches in Wisconsin, the Moody Men's Collegiate Choir will sing in Michigan, the Women's Concert Choir will be in Indiana and Ohio, and the Moody Symphonic Band will perform in Illinois. For details, visit [moody.edu/concerts](http://moody.edu/concerts) or call (312) 329-4080.

## New Faculty Join Moody



**Dr. Steven H. Sanchez** joined the Division of Bible and Theology at Moody's Chicago campus. He previously taught for 11 years at

Emmaus Bible College in Dubuque, Iowa. Steven received his doctorate at Dallas Theological Seminary. He and his wife live in Lombard, Ill., with their four children.



**Dr. Dominick Hernández** relocated to Moody Bible Institute in Spokane, Wash., to teach in the Bible department. He recently lived five years in Israel where

he worked on his doctorate at Bar-Ilan University and served with a local international congregation. He and his wife have two children.



**Matthew Moore** joined the Division of Communication Arts at Moody's Chicago campus. He previously taught at Cedarville University and

received his Master of Fine Arts degree from George Washington University in Washington, D.C. Along with working as a teacher and director, Matthew founded Lamp and Light

Productions, where he performs dramatic Scripture presentations.



**Dr. Craig Hendrickson** joined the Division of Applied Theology and Church Ministries as an assistant professor of Pastoral Studies

on Moody's Chicago campus. He previously worked at North Park University in Chicago as an adjunct youth ministry professor, a mentor to athletes, and the coordinator of Sunday evening campus worship events. He also served as lead pastor in various churches across California and New York. Craig recently completed his PhD in Intercultural Studies from Fuller Theological Seminary. Craig and his wife have one daughter.



**Dr. Valencia Wiggins** joined Moody Theological Seminary in Chicago as an assistant professor of clinical mental health counseling.

She previously worked as a staff psychologist at Wheaton College Counseling Center and as a counselor at Moody Counseling Services and Meier Clinics. Valencia received her PhD from Walden University in Minneapolis, Minn.

## Pie in the Face Helps Fund International Students



Student plants a pie in **Nancy (Andersen '80) Hastings'** face for a good cause.

The Alumni Association helped raise more than \$60,000 for international student scholarships during Moody Week at Maranatha, held July 2–9, 2016, at the Maranatha Bible and Missionary Conference in Muskegon, Mich. Moody Stewardship representative Jeff Roloff offered to have a pie thrown in his face if \$30,000 was raised. When donations reached twice that amount, executive director **Nancy (Andersen '80) Hastings** volunteered to have a pie thrown in her face as well.

Serving the whipped cream pie was Zimbabwe-born Moody student Ayanda Khumalo, known as TK, who works part-time for the Alumni Association. He led morning worship throughout the week. “On behalf of all the international students at Moody—you have no idea how I’m savoring this moment—thank you for raising \$60,000, thank you everyone,” he said before planting the pie in Nancy’s face.

Nancy was a good sport: “It was fun, and TK had a bit too much fun doing this!” she said.

International students incur additional expenses due to TOEFL exams, visas, and travel. The scholarships provide assistance to international students in need and help with both education and room-and-board costs.

Plan to attend Moody Week 2017, July 1–8, with speakers Dr. Paul Nyquist, Crawford and Karen Loritts, **Michael Rydelnik '77**, and Michael Vanlaningham.

## Book Reviews

### *If I Could Do It All Over Again*

Read honest answers to hard questions such as “A life lesson I will never forget” and “What do I do with my regrets?” in *If I Could Do It All Over Again* (Harvest House Publishers). Moody Radio host **Jon Gauger '80** offers insightful quotes from his interviews with more than two dozen respected Christian leaders, including alumni **Gary Chapman '58**, **George Verwer '60**, **Ron Hutchcraft '65**, and former Moody presidents Michael Easley and Joseph Stowell.

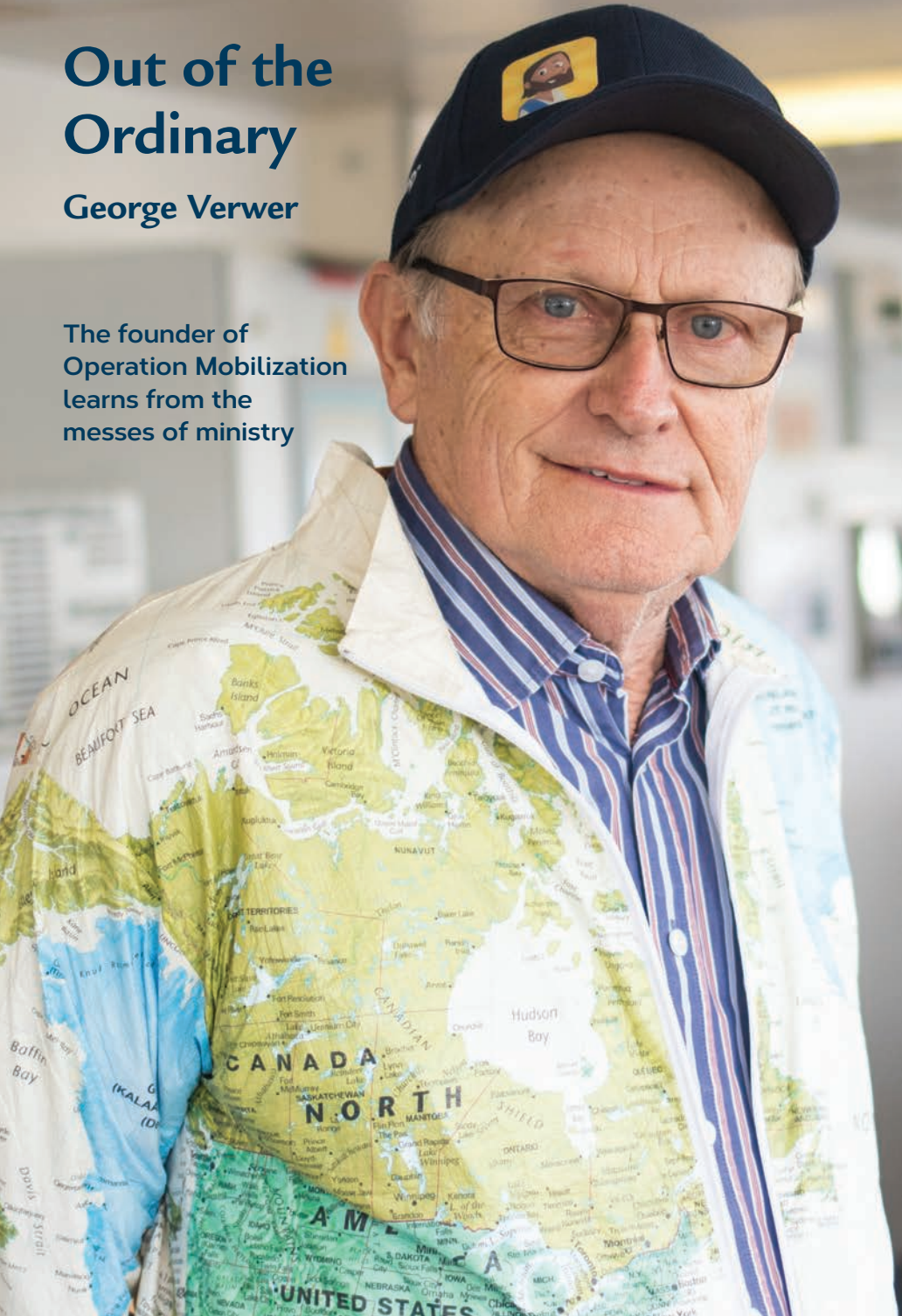
### *Warfare Praying*

*Warfare Praying: Biblical Strategies for Overcoming the Adversary* (Moody Publishers) by **Mark I. Bubeck '49** shares biblical wisdom and personal stories to help Christians transform their prayer life and live in spiritual victory. His update of *Overcoming the Adversary* (first published more than 30 years ago) remains relevant and helpful. Bubeck explains how to overcome the enemy and intercede for others through the Word of God and the weapon of doctrinal prayer.

# Out of the Ordinary

George Verwer

The founder of Operation Mobilization learns from the messes of ministry



Wearing his signature world jacket, **George Verwer '60**, the founder of Operation Mobilization known best for its worldwide evangelistic ship ministry, came back to campus last year to energize Moody Bible Institute students: "We all—including me with all my struggles and weaknesses to this very day—need to know God loves us. When you feel like, *How can God use a scumbag like me?*, it's then you really need to know God loves you."

George, who was named Moody's Alumnus of the Year in 1986 and received an honorary doctorate from Moody in 2011, is transparent about his weaknesses. He speaks openly about his battles with impatience and irritability, continually recommending Christian books that have helped him, such as Roy Hession's *Calvary Road*. "God loves you even when you fail," he says. "God is doing great things in the world today in the midst of messy situations."

God used what seemed like a failure, George says, to bring about Operation Mobilization in 1961. He and his wife, **Drena (Knecht '59-'59)** had just moved from Mexico to Spain, where he was studying Russian in hopes of reaching communists for Christ. He and a ministry partner headed for Moscow that summer, smuggling Scriptures in their vehicle. But before the summer even ended, they were arrested as American spies, interrogated by the KGB, and kicked out of the country.

After devoting a day to prayer, George realized his vision was too small. "God showed me that my job was to mobilize the church to reach their own continent and then spread into the Muslim and communist worlds," he says. He organized teams of volunteers in Europe to do short-term missions trips, a concept almost unheard of at the time. Within a year

of his arrest, he was sending Russian-speaking European Christians back into the USSR.

George learned that when Plan A doesn't work, Plan B or C might be just as good. "Perhaps you feel you are on Plan F or G. I say, 'Praise God for a big alphabet' and press on!" he writes in his book, *Out of the Comfort Zone*.



*George and Drena Verwer*

In 1964 George and his family moved to India, where OM has since planted 3,000 churches and 110 schools, especially reaching the Dalits, "untouchables" in the Hindu caste system. When George had to leave India, he and his family moved to Nepal, expanding the work. But overland travel proved difficult, so George came up with a new idea: a large ship that would serve as a floating Christian bookstore and a launch pad for short-term missions around the world. After securing a crew, he and Drena and their three young children lived on board the *Logos*, a 2,319-ton ship, which set sail in 1971. When it sank off the southern tip of South America in 1988, no lives were lost, and supporters helped OM acquire an even bigger ship.

George passed the baton of leadership in 2003, but he is still active as OM's special projects ministry coordinator. Now 78, he and Drena live in the United Kingdom and are



*OM's 12,000-ton Logos Hope docks at ports around the world.*

raising funds for projects in 100 countries, including getting Bibles to people in poverty. Last year he spoke in 250 meetings in 27 countries. He says he's preached more than 20,000 times since he graduated from Moody, the place that impacted his passion for missions.



*George engages children about missions.*

### **Preparing for the Harvest Field**

George was excited about the emphasis on evangelism when he arrived at Moody Bible Institute in 1958. "I was hungry for God, hungry to reach the world with the gospel," says George, who had been born again

at a Billy Graham meeting in 1955. Besides evangelistic assignments, being exposed to Moody's daily prayer meetings, Bible teaching, missionaries, and spiritual books was "like drinking from a fire hydrant," he says, "and realizing my life was to be totally committed to reaching those who had never heard."

His zeal at Moody was contagious. Taking Luke 14:33 literally, George called his friends to forsake all for the gospel. Students would bring their possessions and sell them in his dorm room, then use the money for Bibles and missions.

George met Drena at Moody, telling her he was going to be a missionary and that if they married she'd probably be eaten by cannibals. After graduating and getting married, the newlyweds moved to Mexico in 1960. To get there, George traded their wedding cake for gasoline, and they lived in a small room in the back of a Christian bookstore he'd started, but Drena didn't complain. "She's radically committed to Jesus and to missions," George says.

## Messiology

Through his travels over the years, George says he has encountered many struggles in the church: pride, laziness, prejudice, autocratic pastors, the misuse of mission funds, wrong theology. George has a personal proverb: “Where two or three of the Lord’s people are gathered together, sooner or later there’s a mess.”

This year he wrote *Messiology* (Moody Publishers), a book describing the mystery of God’s patient and merciful work in the midst of messy situations and churches, bringing about His plan and purposes. George shares insights for applying a grace-awakened attitude in the church. He also has a new film, *George for Real* (visionvideo.com).

In his Moody chapel address, George summed up his thoughts:



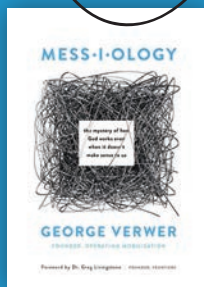
George with Brother Andrew, founder of *Open Doors* and author of *God’s Smuggler*

“I see very few broken people who are willing to lay down their lives for the mission fields of the world. Praise God for every exception. God is using all kinds of people to accomplish His purposes around the world, and I thank Jesus that I’m a tiny part of it.”

# CAN GOD MAKE SOMETHING OF THIS MESS?

If anyone can create the term *messiology*, it’s George Verwer. Founder of the world’s largest mission organization, George spent 60 years leading gospel movements around the globe.

In *Messiology*, George reflects on his life and ministry to remind us that God works in mysterious ways. *Messiology* urges us toward love, patience, affection, and grace. Learn to trust God always, even in failure.



Give a gift of any size to receive this book.  
Request your copy today at [moodyalumni.org](http://moodyalumni.org).

# Serving in Southeast Asia

Moody graduate uses  
her communications  
skills in surprising ways



At 4:00 a.m. Tilly jolts awake to the sound of Buddhist chanting. It goes on until 10:00 p.m. “We don’t have electricity and we don’t have water and it’s always hot, but the spiritual darkness is very oppressive,” she says.

**Tilly MA’10** is in her second term as a communications trainer for government workers in Myanmar (we’re not using her last name for this story). Getting to live an incarnational lifestyle in a Buddhist community was an answer to prayer, but peace and quiet are hard to come by. According to Tilly’s language teacher, Burmese people need to hear chanting because they fear spirits and ghosts. For the same reason, they choose not to live alone.

Each week Tilly travels six to 12 hours each way to teach at a government training center in the capital city as well as in two other towns. The government workers who arrive for class ask, “Did you sleep okay? Did you hear noises?” Tilly tells them she prayed to Jesus for protection and had a good sleep.

Fully funded by friends and supporters in the States, Tilly works in an unpaid secular job. But her present position is not what she envisioned when she first felt the tug toward missions.

### **From Moody to Myanmar**

Despite being half Burmese and born in Burma (now Myanmar), Tilly grew up in England with her British grandfather. Saved at 17, she got an undergraduate degree in business management and began working for the British government. Later Tilly moved to Chicago to work for the British Consulate in human resources and immigration.

When she joined The Moody Church and took a short-term trip to Nigeria in 2005, she says, “God planted a

seed in my heart for cross-cultural ministry.” In 2007 she began taking classes at Moody Theological Seminary for a master’s in biblical studies.

While attending a prayer meeting, she sensed God redirecting her path to Asia. “It was God’s leading. It certainly was not mine,” she says.

A year after graduation, she took a vision trip to Thailand and Myanmar, and prayed for confirmation from God’s Word. God reminded her of Romans 10:14–15, “How are they to hear without someone preaching? And how are they to preach unless they are sent?”

Convinced, she applied to a faith-based nongovernmental organization and raised all of her support in three months. By February 2012, Tilly was on the field.

### **Starting from Scratch**

When Tilly’s team leader first suggested the government teaching job, Tilly saw it as a natural fit because of her previous experience. “How hard can it be teaching communication skills?” she said. “We do this all the time at work.”

It didn’t take long to realize her Western communication style was not going to work in Myanmar. “We come from a culture that asks, ‘What do you think? What are your thoughts on this?’” she says. In Myanmar, the government workers were reticent to share opinions due to decades under a military dictatorship. Recently the first free, peaceful election in 60 years resulted in a new government, opening up some communication with the outside world. The government workers needed to learn basic skills for international meetings, such as shaking hands, answering questions, and making small talk. Tilly tried creative, strategic ways to get her students to express their thoughts



*Tilly and a coworker at a government meeting.*

and feelings. “I was pioneering the whole thing. I built the curriculum from scratch,” she says.

For example, she would present three different dishes of Myanmar cuisine and ask them which dish they preferred. She assured them there was no right or wrong answer. She also posed questions for small talk, such as “What’s your life motto?” or “Who’s your hero?”

These questions provided opportunities to share her faith. “Jesus is my hero because of these reasons,” she would say. Because of her Asian looks, people assume she is Buddhist. Some asked if she went to the Buddhist temple to do merit. “No,” she said. “I have visited temples, but I am a follower of Jesus.”

### **Burned Out and Burdened**

After a year of working alone, Tilly was exhausted. Burdened for the government workers, she appealed for help at a field conference. “They need Christ, but I cannot do this work by myself. I need a team.”

As a result, four new members joined Tilly. Their labors are not in vain. After a training session, a high-ranking officer in Tilly’s class asked her and her team to teach communication skills to 56 government officials as preparation for a national meeting.

Recognizing it as “God’s assignment,” Tilly and another team member offered two weeks of intensive training.

Tilly also mentors some of her local church’s youth group and is involved in “healthy church training.” She facilitates small group discussions with church leaders on such topics as dealing with conflict, false teaching, and cross-cultural missions.

“We really want the churches in Myanmar to do mission, to reach out to their own people group,” Tilly says.

### **Rejuvenated at Moody**

When Tilly was back in Chicago recently, she attended every Bible study possible at church because, she says, “I was starved.” Thinking back to her seminary days at Moody, she loved all of her classes. “That’s what I really miss,” she says. “Having studied at Moody with the Word so rich and so in depth, and attending a church that’s so solid in the Word and preaches the gospel clearly, and you go to Myanmar and there is no feeding.”

Now she’s back in Myanmar, coveting prayers for God to work. When the government workers ask why she would leave the States to come to Myanmar where everything is a struggle, she replies, “We have been so blessed in our country, and we want to be a blessing to you.”



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# 'THIS IS MINISTRY'

New Moody grads serve their community after devastating floods



“Man, I didn’t expect this,” **David Bush BA ’14, MA ’15** said as he waded waist-deep through floodwater in First Baptist Church, Rainelle, W.Va. Less than six months earlier he had begun pastoring the church with his wife, **Amy (Harrah) ’15**. Both of them had grown up just 35 miles away in Oak Hill, so serving in Rainelle felt like coming home. But on June 23, 2016, heavy rains had not only destroyed the church’s Sunday school classrooms, offices, library, food pantry, and boilers, but also devastated the community and displaced many of the church members. The “thousand-year flood” would claim the lives of two dozen people.

Feeling helpless, David took a look at his disheveled office and noticed on a shelf the “servant towel” he had received from Moody President Nyquist at the end of his undergraduate program. Half of it was covered in muddy water while the other half remained gleaming white. It was a moment of clarity for David: “This is what ministry is going to be. This is ministry. This is life.”

With their members and the community in mind, David and Amy decided to clean up their Christian Life Center first and use it as a headquarters to distribute food, clothing, and cleaning supplies. Church members began ripping down tents and VBS decorations, but with three inches of mud covering the floor, the work was tedious and slow. David prayed, *God, how are you going to make a way through this?*

Not even 15 minutes later, people from David’s home church, Oak Hill Baptist, showed up with three truckloads of supplies and said, “Let’s start working!” The next day David joined with five pastors to hold a community service in a store parking lot. Each pastor gave a five-minute

devotional and David preached about Christ being a servant. “We are still together and more importantly God is present with us,” he told the gathered crowd.

Looking back, David said, “I think that really solidified our town and helped us come together.” He estimates that more than 20 people in Rainelle committed their lives to the Lord. “When your house is gone, you’re unhindered from the things that tether you to this world,” he says.



*David and Amy Bush*

David and Amy are grateful for the many churches that worked in the distribution center, raised money for flood victims, and prayed for provisions. “It was constant,” Amy says. On the Tuesday after the flood, people were praying for the church’s food pantry ministry. That same day they received a sizable donation for it.

As they move from response to recovery, David and Amy have converted the distribution center into housing for volunteers. They welcome the church work teams who are helping to rebuild and repair homes, parsonages, and churches. “It’s a beautiful thing to watch,” he says. The work is expected to take five years, but David and Amy are committed to helping the people they came to serve.



*Mike and Alan Redden (from left) help David, their pastor, muck out flooded houses.*

In fact, returning to West Virginia after Moody was always in their plan. “We wanted to get our degrees and get back to the people we love,” Amy says.

Besides the flood, the West Virginians they love are suffering from a declining economy, high unemployment, and an opioid epidemic, leading to “a general sense of hopelessness,” Amy explains. She’s thankful that her pre-counseling degree taught her the valuable principle of empathy, “understanding what they’re saying, not just thinking of what you’re going to say to make them feel better.”

### **West Virginia Roots**

David and Amy were friends since middle school and became high school sweethearts. Amy came to Christ as a teenager, thanks to a youth pastor and his wife who faithfully picked her up for church and even included her in family trips. “That was when my faith became my own,” she says. “I really sensed God moving me into a deeper relationship and in more of a ministry direction too.”

Meanwhile, David grew up in a Christian home doing theater, such as acting with his dad in *Hatfields & McCoy*s. An aptitude test at age 13

revealed people skills that suited David for work as a bartender, a fast food worker, or clergy. When he asked his mom what “clergy” meant, she said, “Talk to your pastor.”

Soon after that he opened the Bible and randomly read from Ecclesiastes 12. The end of the book transformed his life: “When all has been heard, the verdict is this, fear God and keep his commandments for this applies to every man. All will be brought into judgment whether good or evil. All will be brought to light.”

David was convinced: “There’s nothing else I can do that will matter besides being a pastor.”

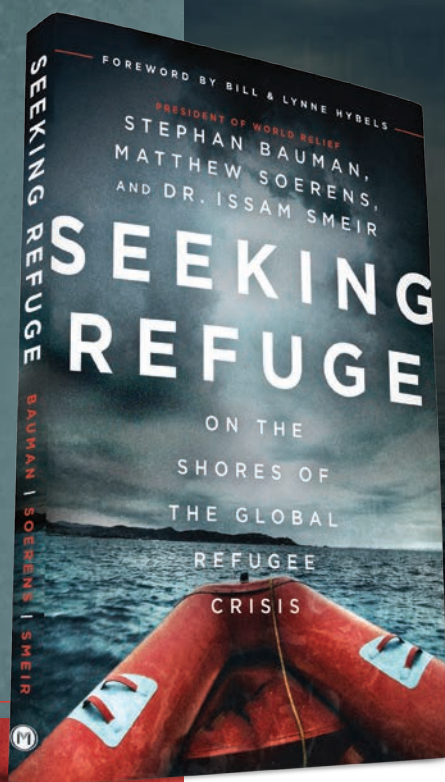
In high school he gave a speech that expressed his greatest wish: “If I could do anything, I would like to do something like D. L Moody did—he really changed the world.”

David appreciates the wise counsel he received from his professors in the BA/MA pastoral studies program. “Dr. John Koessler helped me to know that ministry is not about programs; it’s not about the glitzy and glamorous ministry that I think some people picture,” he says. “It’s about humility and serving where you’re at with what you have.”

“Some people—including some Christians—have allowed fear to dominate the refugee conversation. This book thoughtfully counters the falsehoods that give rise to much of that fear, and calls each of us to be bold agents of Jesus’ transforming love.”

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*From the Word to Life®*

# The Nearness of God Is My Strength

Ruth Potinu responds to life and death in Papua New Guinea



*Ruth with a  
widow named  
Rachel, who sewed  
their blouses.*



For five days **Ruth (Uehle '10) Potinu**, a missionary in Papua New Guinea, watched over her firstborn son in the intensive care nursery. While Trevor recovered after inhaling fluid into his lungs at birth, two other babies died. "I watched a mom having to say a final goodbye to her baby," Ruth recalls. "She didn't cry but her face was twisted up in so much pain."

Ruth has faced the sadness of loss in her own life. While growing up as an MK in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, her twin sister died at age eight from malaria. In the last few years she also lost her grandma and grandpa, **Betty (DeNeui '52) Pontier** and **Ray Pontier '50**, her aunt, **Martha Pontier '86**, and her friend Alice. "Those experiences really test your faith and take your faith from a head knowledge to a heart truth," she says. Ruth writes about her life in a blog, [simplycontemplating.wordpress.com](http://simplycontemplating.wordpress.com), and she's writing a book on how to grieve in a healthy way.

A year after Ruth's sister died, civil war broke out in the Congo and her family moved to the United States, working in a Christian camp and then with international students. Her parents, grandparents, and great-grandparents had all been missionaries in Congo. Twenty-one of her relatives have prepared at Moody, including her maternal great-grandfather, **Paul Vernon Clifton '28**, dad, **Lawrence (Larry) Uehle '80**, mom, **Marilyn (Pontier) Uehle '78-'79**, younger sister **Sarah (Uehle) Price '13**, and Sarah's husband, **Eric Price '13**. Ruth was attracted to Moody's passion for missions but she also wanted to be a writer, so she majored in communications.

### Moody and Beyond

While at Moody, Ruth wrote for the student newspaper and became editor

in chief. "I absolutely loved the practical experience I gained while working at the *Moody Standard*, even the crazy late nights doing paste-up until two in the morning," she says. After graduation, Ruth worked as a correspondent for a Christian TV station and then as publisher of a weekly newspaper she reopened in her southern Illinois hometown. People enjoyed the local news; nevertheless, her heart was not in it. "I wanted to be working with kids in Africa, not running a newspaper in a small town," she explains.



*Ruth, Trevor, and Simon Potinu celebrate Papua New Guinea's Independence Day.*

By the end of 2012 she decided to shut the paper down. Exhausted physically, mentally, and financially, she wondered why God hadn't sent her straight to the mission field after graduation. "I had a fleeting thought that if the almost two years at the newspaper made the timing right so that I would meet my husband, then it would have been worth it," she says.

In the end that's exactly what happened.

### Life with Simon

Soon after turning 26, she began working in a children's home in Kenya. On her way there, she visited an alumna from Moody in Northern Ireland and was introduced to Simon, a man who



*Ruth enjoys a mumu (pit-cooked pork and bananas) with her niece and nephews.*

had served with Operation Mobilization, studied with Youth with a Mission, and was finishing Bible college. They stayed in touch and got married at the end of 2014, then began serving with Missions Afield in Papua New Guinea, where Simon had been born.

Ruth was well received by her husband's tribe. A new grass hut, with passion fruit and oranges hanging from the ceiling, awaited them in the remote mountain village of Anga. About a year later, Trevor was born in the capital city of Port Moresby, where Ruth and Simon spend part of the year. When she brought the baby to Anga, the villagers thanked her for adding a new member to the tribe.

Ruth has learned Pidgin English, the trade language that allows her to talk easily with her in-laws and villagers. She misses having good Internet but enjoys daily ministry opportunities, whether she's helping Simon provide blankets for elderly people or taking care of some children whose mother recently passed away. "If someone in the community dies, everyone stops what they are doing to attend the house cry, a time of sitting with the family during their time of grief," she says.

One of Ruth and Simon's goals is to start mission projects but leave them in the hands of people with a

similar heart for the work. Because books are a big need, Ruth started the village's only children's library. She and Elisabeth, a first-grade teacher, recently gathered donated books and used a Sunday school donation to purchase books from the local Christian bookstore.

When Elisabeth took the initiative to use the library to teach phonics, 25 children graduated from the program. "Seeing a program start, then letting someone else take charge with their expertise just felt so incredible because it was something God was doing," she says.

Ruth and Simon both feel called to help vulnerable people. They are helping to build a house for a widow, her children, and her widowed mother-in-law. In addition, they facilitate a monthly fellowship for widows in Port Moresby. The widows share their stories and prayers to encourage each other. "These ladies have very real struggles but amazing faith as well," she says.

One of the enduring things Ruth learned at Moody was from a chapel speaker who spoke from Psalm 73. "He encouraged us, as we go about life, to stop and remind ourselves that the nearness of God is our strength—in hard times and good times, to cling to that truth," she says.

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# The Earliest Musical Tours

Last year Moody musicians gave 100 concerts to people in 20 states and six foreign countries. The four touring groups—Moody Chorale, Symphonic Band, Men’s Collegiate Choir, and Women’s Concert Choir—trace their founding years to the 1950s. But the tradition of traveling ensembles dates back further, to the earliest days of Moody’s founding.

D. L. Moody planned a gigantic outreach effort for the 1893 World’s Columbian Exposition, tent meetings that would feature preaching and gospel singing. With his favorite singer, Ira D. Sankey, exhausted from touring, Moody needed to recruit lots of new musicians, the best gospel singers from all over the country. He brought in a dozen soloists and at least four male quartets, including one from Oberlin College.

Moody’s plan was simple. He pitched a tent on the midway, near the newfangled Ferris wheel, Buffalo Bill’s Wild West Show, and “hoochie-coochie” dancers. At Mr. Moody’s show, the preachers and singers presented a brief program, led the group in song, and then passed out free tickets to gospel services held throughout Chicago.

Every night for six months, various churches and concert halls hosted gospel events. Moody had persuaded his preacher friends to spend their summer “vacation” in Chicago, working the fair. Everyone said yes—just imagine the month of July, with C. I. Scofield, A. B. Simpson, R. A. Torrey, A. C. Dixon, J. Wilbur Chapman, and A. J. Gordon preaching at various venues every night. The best musical groups, like the Oberlin Quartet, would sing at the opening of one service, then escape to a waiting Gospel Wagon that drove them to



*The Moody Quartet*

a second meeting while the first was still in progress.

The 1893 World’s Fair put Chicago on the map, an important milestone in its rise to global leadership (the event was later memorialized by a blue star on the Chicago flag). But the fair was also a watershed moment for D. L. Moody himself, as his personal leadership and influence grew to national proportions. Moody had the unique ability to organize 100 separate preaching sites all over Chicago, with

two million people attending one of his services during the fair.

And the crowds went home singing. Moody's music groups taught the crowd new songs of testimony; the concerts became known for their congregational singing as well as their musical performances. Most of the songs came straight from Sankey's *Gospel Songs* or other hymnals published in Chicago.

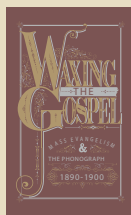
As the summer progressed, some of the vocalists had to return home, so the remaining Oberlin singers recruited replacements, the best singers from each of the quartets. They formed a new super group with a great idea for a new name—the Moody Quartet. But first they needed formal permission from their namesake.

Until this point, D. L. Moody had been careful to leave his name off the institutions he founded. The Chicago Avenue Church and the Chicago Evangelization Society would not be given Moody's name until after his death. But the evangelist agreed to the quartet's request, asking the newly named group to tour with him on behalf of the young Bible institute. Later they would travel the Chautauqua circuit and sing in residence at Moody's Mount Hermon School.

"All of the members of the quartet have cultivated voices and sing with a buoyancy and dash that is at once pleasant and satisfying," a Pittsburg newspaper said. Their resulting fame would garner favorable publicity for the new Bible institute in Chicago, but with one irony: None of the singers had ever attended Moody's school.

Perhaps the quartet would have been forgotten if it weren't for one quirky moment. Harry Heath, a New York optician and recording hobbyist, met the quartet at an 1897 Ocean Grove concert and asked them to sing into his gramophone. The brown wax  
(*Musical Tours continued on page 47*)

## Review: Waxing the Gospel



What did early gospel music actually sound like? Thanks to the work of several researchers, this long-discussed question finally has an answer. Archeophone Records

has just released *Waxing the Gospel*, a new 3-CD project featuring rare recordings from the 1890s.

Many of the selections have Moody connections, including an 1897 performance by the Moody Quartet, 26 recordings by Ira D. Sankey, and two Scripture recitations by D. L. Moody himself.

The *Waxing the Gospel* title comes from the original recording format—brown wax cylinders, notoriously fragile. Very few of these recordings remain playable today (usually worn out after a few dozen uses). So imagine one researcher's surprise when a hand-printed label showed the name of Fanny Crosby, the blind songwriter for whom no recordings were known to exist!

The collection of 102 songs comes with a lavishly illustrated 382-page book, including photos from the Moody Bible Institute Archives. Producer Richard Martin used the latest digital technology to restore the recordings, including a D. L. Moody disc loaned from the Archives collection. As can be expected, some of the hiss and crackle remains, typical of period recordings. Music researchers view the recordings as an important glimpse into contemporary performance practices. If anything, the new release illustrates Moody's contributions to the emerging genre of gospel music.

A 37-year-old entrepreneur finds confidence in God's grace



## Business Mogul Got His Start at Moody

**Mark Aardsma '98-'00** was 24 when he was laid off from his job. With a wife, two young children, and an old farmhouse they were renovating, he didn't immediately look for another job. Instead he set up a computer in the basement and paid bills by doing freelance software work.

"I was falling back on some of the things I did as a student employee at Moody," says Mark, who majored in communications while working for the Information Technology Services department. "I had started to discover during my time at Moody that I was good at writing software. My bosses taught me much about leadership and management. They gave me opportunities to work on projects above my pay grade, and they believed in me."

He left Moody during his junior year to lend a hand at his dad's small business. That year, in 2000, he married **Jennifer (Forney '08)** and got the job he later lost during a downsizing. Now, as he worked at an old table in the basement, he started writing software for individual clients. When he realized many clients

shared the same needs, he began writing and selling prepackaged software for e-commerce. Late one night, he solved a search engine optimization problem and created an upgrade. "That's when things really started to open up," he says. "Over the course of just a couple of years I went from below middle class to well above middle class."

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**"Whether it's creating jobs or mentoring people or giving money, we have the chance to do a lot of good."**

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As his business grew, he moved out of his basement and later began two audio-visual companies. One of them, ATS Acoustics, an acoustic panel manufacturer, was one of the fastest-growing businesses in the United States for three years in a row, he says.

Today Mark is a 37-year-old multimillionaire, an investor, and a business entrepreneur with 37 employees and a new book, *Investing with Purpose*.

Mark is thankful for the financial

benefits he's gained, but he says it's not what drives him. "Whether it's creating jobs or mentoring people or giving money, we have the chance to do a lot of good." In his book and in business, he urges people to be intentional with their time and resources. "Work hard so you have something to share. Doing well doesn't necessarily mean doing well in business and making money. It could mean being an excellent pastor," he says.

To pay forward what he's learned, he has started a leadership development group. Every month he meets with a group of 10 community leaders to provide "group interaction, support, relationship building, and entrepreneurial skills building," he says.

Recently he met with leaders at his church and developed a white paper on how to coach and develop church volunteers. "That's something I love," he says, "so I was super excited to be invited for that."

### Developing Christian Courage

Mark says his life today is a far cry from the fearful student who arrived at Moody in 1998 with a couple of suitcases plus "other baggage in the form of undeveloped character, painful life experiences, and personal struggles."

Though saved as a young boy, Mark says he had the mindset that God was harsh. Like the man in Jesus' parable who buried his talents, "I didn't want to mess up. I was very afraid of doing things wrong. I didn't want to disappoint God." That mindset kept him out of trouble, but it also kept him from trying anything new. "I was trying to take as little risk as I could, which kind of results in a small life relationally and workwise," he says.

His Moody classes provided the theological framework for understanding God's grace, and looking back he is grateful for the people who modeled Christian love. "My professors affirmed

my work, and they saw potential in me I didn't see in myself," he says. Mark remembers being terrified when asked to read his writing aloud in **Jamie (Storms '86) Janosz's** advanced writing class, but she was always positive. His RA also encouraged him not to fear making a mistake.

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**"If I fall flat on my face, that is fine because God is still going to be really happy to see me when I come to Him. . . ."**

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While his confidence increased through his time at Moody, he admits that for the first couple years of his career, he was mostly focused on running his business and "trying not to screw the whole thing up." But while studying Galatians in a small group Bible study at his church, he realized God's grace would be there even if he failed. "That directly correlated with me finding the courage to start going after my own entrepreneurial possibilities," he says.

He also realized he was not alone in that struggle, and he began coaching employees and others in ways he has been helped. "To me, someone learning they're not going to get condemned if they make a mistake, that is spiritual growth. That's part of the gospel—that there's grace for them."

Mark has experienced that grace firsthand. When he "struck out" on a trucking software business he started in 2015, he began thinking about new opportunities. "I'm still trying to maximize everything I can," he says. "But if I fall flat on my face, that is fine because God is still going to be really happy to see me when I come to Him and really proud of me, and His embrace is going to be there whether I mess it all up or not."

## Life & Ministry Notes

### 2010s



**David Look '14** works for Scout Properties, a real estate company that partners with Homes for Homes, an organization

that funds housing needs of poor and oppressed people in impoverished countries. In 2015 they built 20 houses in Uganda and Mexico.

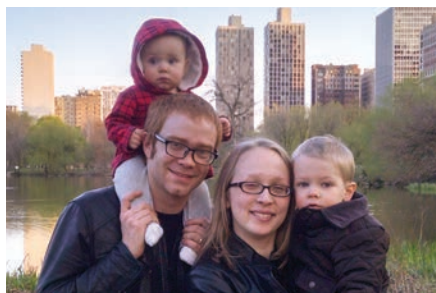
David and his wife, Aimee, live in Nashville, Tenn. Before pursuing a career in real estate, he worked for a Fortune 500 company.

@ dlook@scoutnashville.com

### 2000s

On June 19, **Philip Martyn '06** began serving as senior pastor at First Baptist Church in Holly, Mich. Before that, Philip served as a deacon at The Moody Church in Chicago. He previously served in churches as a Sunday school teacher, Bible study leader, music minister, youth leader, and street evangelist. He received his MA in Linguistics from Oakland University in Rochester, Mich.

Philip and his wife, Lauren, have two children: Isaac (2) and Rosalie (1).



**Andrew Dressler '04** recently published two books: *Traveler: One Girl's Amazing Journey of Spiritual Discovery* (2016) and *Starting Over:*

*From Ruins to Rebirth* (2016). These books began as letters that Andrew wrote home to his son and daughter while he was deployed. He says, "I wanted both my children to have a unique story, written just for them, that shared specific lessons and values that I felt were important."

After graduating from Moody, Andrew received his MDiv from Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary. In 2011 he began serving as a U.S. Army chaplain based in Fort Carson, Colo. He has been married to his wife, Jennifer, for 19 years.



In January 2016 **Benjamin Richey '02** began serving as senior pastor at First Baptist Church in Kernville, Calif. He previously

served for six years as assistant pastor at Heritage Baptist Church in Prattville, Ala.

Ben and his wife, **Heather (Hedge) '02**, have three children: Mikaela (11), Christopher (9), and Calvin (2).

@ ben@kernvillechurch.com

### 1990s

**Kori (Henry) Trierweiler '99** published her first book, *Know Your Enemy by Knowing Your God* (Overboard Ministries), last May. Her husband,





**Craig '99**, has served as a pastor at New Hope Community Church in Traverse City, Mich., for 17 years. Craig and Kori, who recently celebrated their 19th wedding anniversary, have four children: Annika, Ella, Darci, and Kyle.



**Jeff Turcotte '96** recently began piloting for Endeavor Air after 18 years of full-time ministry with Mission Aviation Fellowship. During their time with MAF, Jeff and his wife, **Michele (Hogerwerf '93)**, served in Mali, West Africa. Jeff also served on loan as an instructor to Moody Aviation and as co-founder and CEO of the Spokane Turbine Center ministry. He later worked in fundraising at MAF headquarters in Nampa, Idaho.

Jeff received a Master of Public Administration and Graduate Certificate in Non-Profit Administration at Boise State University.

**Mary Nettles '91** tutors at Shiloh Christian Academy, a boarding school



in Melbourne, Fla., for elementary through high school boys. She also serves as missionary liaison for Shiloh

Tabernacle in Sebastian, Fla., where she maintains contact between 40 missionaries and their supporting church. In 2014 Mary published *The Color of Roses* (Xulon Press).

Mary worked as a volunteer crisis pregnancy counselor before serving as director of client services. She previously served with Urban Mission where she procured goods and services for a ministry serving the homeless and economically distressed in Steubenville, Ohio.

Mary and her husband have been married for more than 50 years. They have two sons, four grandchildren, and one great-grandson.

## 1980s



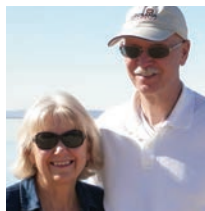
**Lorne Shaw '80** serves as a youth pastor in Hartland, New Brunswick, Canada. Previously Lorne, and his wife, **Deb (Forte '82)**, served in

Nigeria for 16 years, teaching at various schools in the country. Lorne and Deb have one child, Josiah, who is 13.

## 1970s

**Jan Loyd '76** recently launched a devotional Bible study book, *The With-ness of Our God: Relationship in Every Dimension* (Westbow Press). She has

## Life & Ministry Notes

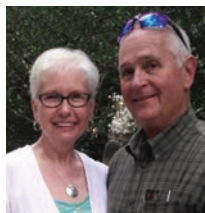


also served as a teacher in a preschool, as well as in the ESL and GED fields. Before his retirement, her husband **John '76** was a mechanical

engineer for Kodak. After graduating from Moody, John and Jan served together in youth ministry in their church in Virginia and attended Dallas Seminary.

John and Jan have lived in Ohio for 32 years. They have two children and five energetic grandsons.

🌐 [abranchinthevine.com/with-ness-of-our-god](http://abranchinthevine.com/with-ness-of-our-god)



**John Davidhizar '79** is the executive director of Forest Glen Christian Camps and part-time pastor of a small rural church. He

previously served as director of Child Evangelism Fellowship in Houston for five years.

His wife, **Kathryn (Johnson) '76, '78**), has served in various educational and musical capacities in churches, local CEF groups, and camps. She also mentors mothers at the local Mothers of Preschoolers.

John and Kathryn met while resident assistants at Moody. John and Kathryn have 10 children, nine of whom have spent time on the foreign mission field. They are blessed with 15 grandchildren.

**Elizabeth (Wells '76) Darr** is working on her MDiv from The Kings University in Southlake, Texas, along with her certification for disaster crisis

counseling from the Billy Graham Evangelistic Association. Elizabeth is part of a new location launch of Gateway Church in Dallas where she will lead a small group and work with a financial counseling and life strategies recovery group.

After graduating from Moody, Elizabeth received a BA in Psychology from the University of Texas, a certification in strategic planning from the University of Pennsylvania–Wharton Business School, an MBA from the University of Texas, and grief recovery certification. Elizabeth spent 30 years in several Fortune 500 companies where her responsibilities ranged from operations management and strategic market planning to global product initiatives.

Elizabeth married William after her graduation from Moody. For 15 years he battled a chronic illness before passing away in September 2013. Elizabeth says, “I have learned so much about the Father’s profound love for me. My heart’s song is that the remainder of my days be a life of serving others in times of crises, demonstrating the love, grace, and mercy of our heavenly Father.”

📧 [emd0929@gmail.com](mailto:emd0929@gmail.com)



**Donald Sweeting '76**, Moody Alumni Association’s 2016 Alumnus of the Year, was elected the president

of Colorado Christian University. From 2010 to 2016, Dr. Sweeting served as president of Reformed Theological Seminary in Orlando, Fla. He previously served as senior

pastor at Chain of Lakes Community Bible Church in Antioch, Ill., and Cherry Creek Presbyterian Church in Denver, Colo.

Dr. Sweeting received his MA from Oxford University and his PhD in church history from Trinity Evangelical Divinity School. Along with serving as a member of the Evangelical Theological Society, he has written several books including *How to Finish the Christian Life: Following Jesus in the Second Half*.



**Gordon Canaday '76**, the chief engineer at Moody Radio Northwest, retired after 40 years of service. On July 26, current and

former staff gathered to celebrate his many faithful years of ministry. Gordon was responsible for maintaining the radio transmitter and towers at KMBI, where he often traveled across mountains in hazardous weather. One coworker said, "We are thankful for Gordy's servant heart. He is truly a blessing to everyone who has had the gift of working with him."

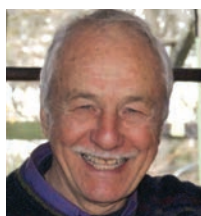
Gordon, and his wife, June, have three daughters and five grandchildren.

## 1960s

**Willem '66 and Evona (Adkins '66) VanGemeran** celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on June 15, 2016. During their first 10 years of marriage, they attended the University of Illinois, Westminster Theological Seminary, Hebrew University in Jerusalem, the University of Wisconsin, and Geneva College in Pittsburgh, Penn. They



served for 40 years in teaching ministry at the Geneva College, Reformed Theological Seminary, and Trinity Evangelical Divinity School. Willem published his own writing and guided many students in their doctoral dissertations when he directed Trinity's doctoral program. Evona served as director of international students at Trinity. They are now both retired and live near their family in El Paso, Ill. They say, "These years witness to God's goodness, as we've learned to relate to each other, to embrace family, to involve ourselves with the church, to be challenged by the academic world and by traveling and teaching in a number of countries."



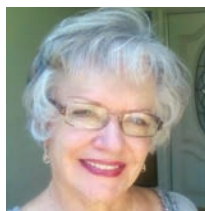
**Gerald (Jerry) Eberhardt '66**

has served as a missionary in the town of Apt, France, for 17 years. With the support of

the local church, he evangelizes in French open air markets, distributes Christian literature, preaches, and visits members of the congregation. Before his ministry in Apt, Jerry and his wife, **Darla (Colwell) '65**, served in Morocco before they were removed from the country. In 1979 they moved to Colmar in northeast France to

## Life & Ministry Notes

minister to Muslims living in the area. Jerry is blessed with three children and two grandchildren. In 2007 Darla went to be with the Lord, but through this Jerry says, “He has faithfully and abundantly supplied.”



**Mary Jane (Matthesen '66) Lamoreaux-Graves**

has been playing the piano and singing since she was three years old. She

shares gospel tracts and witnesses to others as she lives for Christ. She strives to impart her love for the Lord to her grandchildren.



**Paul '64 and Cheri Klaassen** recently celebrated 49 years of marriage. Paul directs a choir of 45 seniors who sing hymns and

play hand chimes through a ministry at Lenexa Baptist Church in Lenexa, Kan. Paul and Cheri also sing in a large worship choir and orchestra. Paul says of his time at Moody that “singing in the Chorale gave me the direction I needed in my life.”

Paul was a public school teacher until his retirement in 2003. Once a year the Klaassens go on an international missions trip where they build homes, do street evangelism, and serve with children’s ministry.

📧 cpklaassen67@yahoo.com

**Gary '60** and Nancy **Dusek** celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on July 31, 2015, with a trip to Virginia,

Tennessee, California, and Hawaii. Along the way they visited their daughter Michelle in Virginia Beach, Va, and their daughter Nicole in Ventura, Calif.

After Gary received his MDiv from Wheaton College Graduate School of Theology in 1967, Gary and Nancy moved to Waltham, Mass., where Gary earned an MA and PhD in ancient history and languages of the Near East from Brandeis University while Nancy taught French and English. In 1970 Gary began serving as senior pastor at First Baptist Church of Chelmsford, Mass. In 1977 Gary and Nancy moved to Sunnyvale, Calif., where Gary served as senior pastor at First Baptist Church and Nancy taught kindergarten through third grade and high school French and Health.

Gary pastored two more churches in southern California, while Nancy continued as a bilingual teacher until her retirement in 1993. After Gary retired in 1997, he taught high school social studies until 2007.

Gary and Nancy attend Ventura Missionary Church, where they are actively involved in Bible studies, jail correspondence counseling, and worship service technology. They enjoy spending time with their two children and six grandchildren, as well as traveling.

## 1950s



**Joe Hopkins '59, '62** graduated with degrees in Missionary Radio and Missionary Aviation. He, along with his wife, **Elaine**

**(Lamberson '61)**, went on to minister

with Mission Aviation Fellowship in Brazil, Honduras, and California.

In 1972 the couple moved to Elizabethton, Tenn., where Joe served for 10 years as a flight instructor for Moody Aviation. In 1983 Joe founded Mission Safety International, an organization that provides safety services to various missionary aviation and training schools. Joe served as the president and CEO until he retired in 2004, but he continues to serve part-time.

Joe and Elaine live in Johnson City, Tenn., and have three children.



**Donna Garwood '58** celebrated her 80th birthday last April. Fellow alum **Rob Pearson '65** joined Donna to sing the Moody Fellowship Song

and give the devotional at her party. Donna is active in her church and with the Daughters of the American Revolution. Along with volunteering for the state of Nebraska and teaching a Bible study, Donna is a certified notary public. Donna served as a missionary with SIM in Nigeria from 1960 to 1978.

## Births

To **Jeff '99** and **Heidi (Kunkle '99) Freeze**, a daughter, Dorothy Clair, born March 13, 2016, in Dakar, Senegal. Dorothy joins seven older siblings. Dorothy was named for her great-grandparents, **Abram Clair Hess '46** and **Dorothy Dierking '45**. Heidi has given birth to children in five countries: Côte d'Ivoire, France, Mali, Senegal, and the United States. Jeff



and Heidi are missionaries in Mali, where they encourage local believers in evangelism and discipleship.



To **Isaac '06** and **Kacie (McNeil '05) Mann**, a daughter, Hope Elizabeth Mann, born June 2, 2016. Hope joins siblings Judah and Elly.

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



To **Tyler '16** and **Katie (Holmes '14) Ringer**, a boy, Stryder, born September 25, 2015. Stryder is the grandson of **Dion '94** and **Audrey (Seiver '94) Ringer**.



To **Cody '12** and **Haley (Harding '12) Irwin**, a boy, Hudson Jeremiah, born November 2015.

Cody serves in youth ministry at their church and Haley works with Encompass World Partners in Atlanta, Ga.

## Life & Ministry Notes



### Marriages

Henry and **Tabitha (Smith '03 Challis)** were married on March 19, 2016, at Pico Rivera Bible Church in Pico Rivera, Calif. They live in Baltimore, Md.

Pictured are **Dr. Matthew Smith '78, '93, Melodee (Copeland '79) Smith**, Zephyr Challis, Henry, and Tabitha.

To Mike and **Paige (High '10) Guzman**, a boy, Memphis Lazar Wolf Guzman, born April 27, 2016, in Nashville, Tenn. Memphis joins his sister, Zao Guzman.

Mike and Paige work for Apartment Life Ministries, hosting monthly events to build relationships and share the gospel with residents. Mike also works at Asurion in tech support.



### Gatherings



Alumni gathering at South America Mission's 100th anniversary celebration, September 2015.

### Submissions

*Send us the details of your recent transitions, ministry updates and accomplishments, family news—and, if possible, a high-quality photo. To submit an alumni death notice, send the obituary, alumni details, and a high-quality photo. We may edit your submission for accuracy and length. Email [alumnews@moody.edu](mailto:alumnews@moody.edu) or mail Moody Alumni Association, 820 N. LaSalle Blvd., Chicago, IL 60610-3284. For more information, call (312) 329-4412.*



Alumni gathering in Harare, Zimbabwe, May 29, 2016. Pictured are **H. E. Singley '71**, **David '82** and **Sue '81–'83 Rousseau**, and **Sonja Goppert '00**.



Moody alumni **Drew Goodman '05**, **Dariusz Brycko '99**, and **Joel Wood '99** gathered at the Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church Synod, June 7–9, 2016.



Multiple generations of Moody alumni and their children gathered at the Lemenager family reunion. Alumni include **Scott '79** and **Polly (Kistler '77) Lemenager**; **Benjamin '04** and **Renee (Lemenager '05, BS '14) Kuwitzky**; **Brent '05** and **Susan (Lemenager '05) Stutzman**; **Bryan '11** and **Katherine (Lemenager '00) Lupo**; **Paul '08** and current student **Elizabeth (Lemenager) Park**; and current student **Mark Lemenager** and **Rachel MacMahon**.



In July 2016, three sisters, **Beth (Bachert '77) Palmer**, **Barbara (Bachert '80) Islas** and **Susan (Bachert '79–'82) Porter**, posed in front of their old dormitory, Houghton Hall.



**Dr. Harold Foes** (center) turned 80 on August 7, 2016. Pictured are (l to r) **Ruth Beam '92**, **Dr. H. E. Singley '71**, **Dr. Wayne Widder**, **Robert Shackelford**, **Dr. Fred Dickason '54**, and **Dr. Gerald Edmonds '57**.

To see more gatherings, visit [facebook.com/moodyalumniassociation](https://facebook.com/moodyalumniassociation).

## Present with the Lord



**Donald G. Smith '40-'40**, age 97, June 15, 2016, Littleton, Colo.

Don began teaching

speech, homiletics, and evangelism at Moody Bible Institute in 1954. Don launched the Communications major at Moody and served as the department chair for many years. In the 1975 yearbook that was dedicated to Don by his students, he said, "Teaching at Moody is the greatest job in the world."

Don's students remember him enjoying a meal with them in the dining room, throwing a Frisbee around in the plaza, and faithfully mediating relationships between faculty and students. Along with serving the students and faculty as a professor for 30 years, Don also worked as the dean of faculty.

Before Moody he pastored First Baptist Church of Amboy, Ill., from 1944 to 1949 and served as youth

pastor at Judson Baptist Church in Oak Park, Ill., from 1949 to 1957.

After retiring from Moody in 1984, Don continued to teach, preach, and serve as vice president at Trinity College in Trinity, Fla. He wrote and produced commentaries on almost every book in the New Testament, which he sent internationally through email. In 2004 Don moved to Colorado to live with his son, Don R. Smith.

Besides Moody, Don studied at Aurora University, majored in Speech and English at Northwestern University, and received his Doctor of Theology from Northern Baptist Theological Seminary.

Don was preceded in death by his three siblings; his first wife, Adeline; and his second wife, **Virginia (Pipkin '44) Watts**. He is survived by one son, **Donald R. Smith '67, '72**; two grandchildren; four great-grandchildren; and four stepchildren, **Susan (Watts '64-'66) Walker Avis**, Stan, Sharon, David, and their families.

## 2000s



**Cyril Camacho '01**, age 44, May 6, 2016.

Cyril served Moody for 12 years, first as a resident assistant

and head desk supervisor, and later as the assistant dean for housing in the

Residence Life department. In 2014 Cyril received his MEd in Higher Education from Abilene Christian University in Abilene, Texas. He later worked at Santa Clara University as a practicum intern and at Penn State University in the Residence Life department as the area coordinator. Cyril was a member of the Association for Christians in Student Development for 15 years. He is remembered as a kind, servant-hearted friend and mentor.



## 1990s



**Susan (Bachar) Plate '94**, age 93, May 6, 2016.

Along with volunteering at her church and at the Des Plaines

Public Library, Susan was a supporter of numerous missionaries and faith-based charities. A lifelong learner, she enjoyed crocheting, needlepoint, gardening, hiking, and traveling.

She is survived by her children, George (Bridget) Plate, Karen (William) Steger, and **Susan (Plate '70-'71) Worthington**; four granddaughters; three great-grandchildren; a sister, Lydia; and nieces and nephews.

## 1970s

**Robert Sellers '73**, age 83, April 22, 2016, Benona Township, Mich.

Robert was a printer at Offset Press Company in Oak Park, Ill. Before his retirement, he worked for the DuPage County Sheriff's Department in criminal records and microfiche management. Robert lived in Wheaton, Ill., with his wife, Joanne, for 40 years before they moved to Benona Township. He was a member of Rothbury Community Church in Rothbury, Mich., and an avid runner.

Robert is survived by his wife, Joanne; his children, Sherry (Stephen) Stroup, David (Claudia) Sellers, Chris (Cindy) Sellers, Tim Sellers, and Jodi (Andy) Wojcik; 10 grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren.

**Darwin Anderson '71**, age 74, June 14, 2016, Salem, Ark.

Along with working as a pastor and printer at various churches, Darwin served in the United States Navy. He was also a dedicated member of Salem First Baptist Church in Salem, Ark.

Darwin is survived by his wife, **Elena (Chodakowski '68-'69)**; seven daughters, Rachel (Bryan) Kasch, Sarah (Steven) Harber, Deborah (Craig) Graber, Hannah (John) Burnside, Naomi Anderson, Esther (Kevin) Sanders, and Elizabeth Anderson; his four siblings, Nadine, Morgan, Paul, and Roger; and four grandchildren.

## 1960s



**David L. Johnson '66**, age 70, April 25, 2016.

David was born into a family of committed pastors. His

grandfather, John Lee, was an evangelist and his father, **Alvin Johnson '47**, was a superintendent at the Chicago Rescue Mission.

After graduating from Moody, David went on to attend Grand Rapids Baptist College, Capital Bible Seminary in Greenbelt, Md., and Trinity College of the Bible and Theological Seminary in Newburgh, Ind. Over the course of his 50 years of ministry, he served as pastor at five churches. In 2014 David retired from First Baptist Church in Grove City, Pa., after serving for 27 years as the senior pastor.

David is survived by his wife of

## Present with the Lord

48 years, Lois; his children, Bradley (Charlene), Cindi (John), Mandy (Bryon), and Mindy (Dave); and his 10 grandchildren.

**Richard Busk '60-'61**, age 81, January 28, 2016, Mitchell, S.D.

Richard served in the U.S. Army from 1954 to 1956. He was a pastor in 10 churches across Iowa, Nebraska, South Dakota, and Minnesota for over 38 years.

He was survived by his wife, Renella; three children; seven grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

### 1950s



**Bill Copeland '59-'60**, age 88, January 27, 2015, Talliquia, Okla.

Before attending Moody Bible Institute, Bill

served in the U.S. Air Force during World War II. After graduation, he attended the Chicago Music Conservatory and Northern Baptist Seminary. Along with serving as a senior pastor, music pastor, and children's education pastor in churches across Illinois, Missouri, and Kansas, Bill also worked as a general contractor.

In 1973 Bill and his family moved to Yucaipa, Calif., where he served as the music and education pastor at Yucaipa First Baptist Church. In 1978 Bill began working as associate pastor at Dunlap Acres Church before becoming senior pastor at Calvary Baptist Church in Calimesa, Calif., in 1981.

Bill was preceded in death by his wife of 44 years, **Shirley (Colenso '46-'47)**. He is survived by his second wife, Alice; his brother **Arthur Copeland '50-'50** and wife, Joan; his sister Pat (Richard) Burlingame; his four children, Bill (Barbara) Copeland, Candace (Charles) Humphries, **Melodee (Copeland '79)** and husband **Matthew Smith '78, '93**, and Jonathan (Stephanie) Copeland; 13 grandchildren, including **Tabitha (Smith '03) Challis**; 24 great-grandchildren; and three great-great grandchildren.

**Virginia Landis '55 '75**, age 88, January 13, 2016, Harrisburg, Pa.

After graduating from Moody, Virginia traveled to Anvers, Belgium, to study French and tropical medicine. She returned to the United States to receive her BS in nursing and to graduate from the Frontier School of Midwifery in Hyden, Ky.

Virginia went on to serve with Africa Inland Mission for 20 years in the Democratic Republic of Congo and Kenya. While she was serving in Kenya, Virginia taught physical education at a missionary school, worked as the school nurse, and served at a medical center in Kijabe. After returning from Kenya, Virginia began working with Child Evangelism Fellowship in Eastern Pennsylvania. She served with CEF in over 25 counties raising support, working as head nurse, doing visitation, overseeing administrative details, and serving as the county director.

Virginia was preceded in death by her two sisters, Elizabeth and Darlene. She is survived by her brother, Roger (Mary), and several nieces and nephews.

**Frank Dilley '55**, age 87, June 28, 2016, Bradenton, Fla.

Frank attended Moody for two years before taking a break to work and get married to his wife, **Miriam (White '56)**. In 1951 he served in the U.S. Army for two years in France. Upon his return, Frank completed his Moody education and attended Northern Baptist Seminary.

Frank pastored a small church in northern Indiana before serving as a youth pastor in Norwalk, Conn. He served as the Missouri state director of Child Evangelism Fellowship for 10 years before his retirement. After his retirement, he went on to work at SIM in the receiving department.

Frank was preceded in death by his daughter and son-in-law, Janice and Robert Cosby. He is survived by his wife of 65 years, Miriam; his daughter, Joan (Mark) Kinnett; four grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

**Carl LaVerne Sheneberger '55, '73**, age 85, July 11, 2016, Boise, Idaho.

Carl was a chaplain's assistant in the U.S. Army from 1956 to 1958. He later worked in film processing for Moody Institute of Science in California, now known as Illustra Media. Carl served in church ministries across California and Idaho, including Gideons International for over 30 years. He is remembered as a patient and hardworking husband and father.

Carl was preceded in death by his younger brother, Harold, and two grandchildren. He is survived by his wife, **Frances (Harms '52) Sheneberger**; his six children, Linda (Ken) Selby; Leland (Marcia) Sheneberger; Laura (Mike) Fulford;

Leonard (Donna) Sheneberger; Lily (Aaron) Tabor; and Lester (Amy) Sheneberger; 15 grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

**Robert Wills '53**, age 87, March 3, 2016.

Robert graduated from Moody and Taylor University in Upland, Ind. He was a member of the Ironworkers Local 172 and Village Baptist Church in Whitehall, Ohio. His later life revolved around taking tickets at a movie theatre, where he was a witness and counselor to the other employees.

He was preceded in death by his brother, Herbert. He is survived by his wife of more than 61 years, **Joanne (Jordan '53)**; his sister, Mary; his children, Elizabeth, Daniel, Rebecca (Robert), and Stephen; and his seven grandchildren.



**Robert Schofield '53**, age 91, May 19, 2016.

Bob served in the U.S. Army Air Corps in southern China during

World War II. Following the war, Bob worked as a printer before enrolling in Moody Bible Institute's photography major. After marrying **Dollie (Shook '53)** upon his graduation, Bob worked for Moody Institute of Science as a film editor and foreign language editor.

Bob faithfully prayed for and shared Christ with his neighbors. He was involved in his church, Boy Scouts, and family fishing and camping trips.

He is survived by his wife, Dollie; his three children, Tim, Sam, and Cyndie; and his grandchildren.

## Present with the Lord

**Betty (DeNeui '52) Pontier**, age 85, February 5, 2016.

While attending Moody, Betty met and married **Ray Pontier '50**. In 1955 they moved to the Congo and served with Africa Inland Mission. While there, Betty led women's Bible studies and sewing classes, assisted her husband with his dental work, worked in accounting, and visited neighboring villages.

In the early 1970s, Ray and Betty moved to Katri, Sudan, to build the Katri Bible School, where Betty led a kids club of more than 160 children. Despite obstacles, she confidently trusted God with her life and the lives of her family.

In the 1990s, the Pontiers moved to Kenya where Betty managed a guest house and ministered to missionaries and British expatriates until her retirement in 1998. After Ray passed away in 2004, Betty moved to Minneola, Fla. Even with cancer, she displayed kindness and joy in the Lord.

Betty was preceded in death by her parents, Henry and **Florence '23 DeNeui**; her husband, Ray; and her daughter, **Martha Pontier '84**. She is survived by three siblings; her children, **Ronald Pontier '78-'81**, **Jean (Pontier '77) Morse**, Jim, and Carol; 13 grandchildren; and seven great-grandchildren.

### 1940s

**Tim LaHaye '44**, who died July 25 at age 90, attended Moody Bible Institute from January to April of 1944 when he was 17 years old and just out of high school. His term was cut short by World War II, when he enlisted in the U.S. Air Force.



LaHaye and Moody Trustee **Jerry Jenkins '67-'68**

collaborated on the bestselling *Left Behind* series of novels. At

Dr. LaHaye's memorial service, Jenkins called him "a soul winner whose absence leaves a void in my soul. To call him a friend was the privilege of a lifetime."

LaHaye pastored Baptist churches in South Carolina, Minnesota, and California. He helped establish the Moral Majority in the 1970s and has authored more than 85 books on such topics as biblical prophecies, spiritual growth, marriage, and temperament. A graduate of Bob Jones University, he also earned a doctor of ministry degree from Western Theological Seminary and a doctor of literature degree from Liberty University.

He is survived by his wife, Beverly, four children, nine grandchildren, and 16 great-grandchildren, all of whom attended the memorial service, arriving from eight different states.

**Robert Parker '46-'47**, age 89, April 20, 2016.

Robert Parker Jr. is survived by his wife of almost 20 years, Esther Parker.

**Ellen (Vander Molen '48) Miller**, age 91, June 5, 2016, Clayton, Ohio.

Ellen was a Sunday school teacher, pianist, and active volunteer with Child Evangelism Fellowship. During World War II, she was hired by the Wright-Patterson Air Force Base in Dayton, Ohio, as an advanced typist.

After attending Moody Bible Institute and Grace Theological Seminary, she and her husband, Arthur, went on to live in Panama, Costa Rica, and Arlington, Va., before retiring to Clayton, Ohio.

Ellen was preceded in death by her husband, Arthur; her infant daughter, Beverly; and her sister, Mary Helmick. She is survived by her children, **Ted '75, '77** and wife **Jean (Pennington '77) Miller; Marianne Miller '76;** and **Shirley (Miller '85)** and husband **Kevin '84 Eshleman**; her brother, Joe (Doris); five grandchildren, including Nathan Miller, Carolee Miller, **Nicholas Eshleman '08** and wife Jenny, **Juliana Eshleman '13,** and **Gwen Eshleman '13;** and one great-grandson.

**Doris (Dillin) Prindle '47,** age 100, March 27, 2016, Hot Springs, Ark.

Doris, and her husband, **Franklin Prindle '47,** attended Lansing Bible Institute and Moody together. After her graduation, Doris worked alongside her husband as a children's worker and teacher as he pastored in various churches over the course of their ministry. In 1949 Franklin began his first pastorate at Assyria Bible Church. In 1954 they moved to Chariton, Iowa, to serve at Chariton Bible Church before returning to Assyria Bible Church in 1960. After pastoring at a final church in Dowagiac, Mich., the Prindles became managers of the Highlander Motor Lodge.

Doris and Franklin retired to their home in Vandalia, Mich., before moving to Little Rock, Ark., in 1996. After Franklin's death two years later, Doris eventually moved to Hot Springs, Ark., where she served as a dedicated

member of Signs of Love Deaf Church. Doris's church family remembers her as an example of God's faithfulness and grace.

Doris was preceded in death by her husband, Franklin, and her two sisters. She is survived by her children, Priscilla and Daryl (Vicki); two grandchildren; seven great-grandchildren; and two great-great-grandchildren.



**Shirley (O'Brien '45) Vickers,** age 92, April 10, 2016, Fraser, Mich.

After graduating from Moody,

Shirley served as a church secretary for 13 years. She went on to work with McCord Corporation in Detroit, first as secretary and later as director of human resources.

Shirley was a faithful member of Gratiot Avenue Baptist Church in Detroit that later became Cornerstone Baptist Church in Roseville, Mich. She taught Sunday school for more than 60 years, served on the mission board nominating committee, and was active in the women's missionary circle. Shirley is survived by 17 nieces and nephews and 31 great nieces and nephews.

**Edna Wagnell '44,** age 94, January 13, 2016, Grants Pass, Oregon.

From the time she was a child in Long Island N.Y., Edna knew she was called to be a missionary in the Congo. Edna followed her brother, **Joseph Wagnell '40,** to Moody Bible Institute. In 1947, after her graduation, she sailed to the Congo with Africa Inland Mission,

## Present with the Lord

where she served in a small tribe on Congo's Sudanese border. After her retirement in 1991, Edna served in her home church before moving to Wisconsin to be near her niece. In 2015 she moved to Grants Pass, Oregon, to be near her nephew and his wife.

Edna is remembered for saying she was "thankful for Moody training and the privilege of serving the Zande people in the Congo."

### 1930s



**Nell (Festa '37) Eggleston**, age 104, August 18, 2016.

In 1942 Nell traveled to Chile with the Gospel Mission of South America, where she taught Bible at a mission school, wrote scripts for a radio program, and edited a Spanish periodical and mission magazine. After her marriage to Lyle Eggleston in 1959, they continued to serve together in Coquimbo, Chile. In 1971 the Egglestons began a mission program in Temperley, Argentina, before their assignment to Montevideo, Uruguay, in 1978.

After Lyle passed away in 2003, Nell taught a women's Bible study class in Spanish in Bradenton, Fla., for nine years. Even at the age of 104, she loved to sing and quote Bible verses.

**Albert Middlebrook '38**, age 99, May 22, 2016, Phoenix, Ariz.

Albert served in the U.S. Navy as a hospital corpsman during World War II, first in a hospital in Wales



and then aboard a ship in the Pacific Ocean. He was instrumental in establishing Light Bearers Christian Ministry in Phoenix, Ariz.,

providing worship services in care facilities. Albert faithfully served the members of Bethany Bible Church in Phoenix for 55 years. He also enjoyed learning, teaching, feeding birds, and telling jokes.

Albert was preceded in death by his wife, Grace. He is survived by two daughters, three grandchildren, and five great-grandchildren.

**D. Helen (Gibson '37) Page**, age 102, April 6, 2016, Tahlequah, Okla.

After her graduation from Moody, Helen and her husband, **Robert Page '37**, moved to Bemidji, Minn., to serve as rural missionaries with Oak Hills Fellowship. Helen was a gifted pianist, a women's Bible class teacher, and a secretary and bookkeeper at the Oak Hills Fellowship administrative office.

After serving for 52 years as missionaries in Bemidji, Helen and Bob moved to Tahlequah, Okla. Following her retirement, Helen continued to do volunteer work and piano accompaniment for various musical groups. She is remembered by her family and friends for her gracious spirit, hospitality, and love for the Lord.

Helen was preceded in death by her husband of 74 years, Bob. She is survived by her four children, James, John, Sarah, and Ruth; six grandchildren, and 11 great-grandchildren.

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## Faculty



**Michael Kane**, age 64, June 1, 2016, Cincinnati, Ohio.

Mike served for 13 years as dean of Educational Resources and

Distance Learning at Moody Bible Institute, beginning in 1993.

Mike graduated in 1975 from Central Missouri University, where he was actively involved with The Navigators. Following his marriage to Alisa Edwards, the couple moved to Dallas, where he earned his ThM from Dallas Theological Seminary and his PhD in Higher Education Administration from North Texas State University.

In 1986 Mike and Alisa moved to Kleefeld, Manitoba, Canada, to teach at Providence College and Seminary. Mike also served as interim pastor for three churches. In 1993 the Kanes moved to Portage, Ind., to work for Moody. Mike also ministered at Liberty Bible Church, teaching home small groups, leading committees, and serving on the elder board. Mike went on to work at Cedarville University for four years. Along with his heart for teaching the Bible, Mike is remembered for his authenticity and his laugh.

Mike was preceded in death by his father and his mother-in-law. He is survived by his mother, Nancy; his five siblings; his wife, Alisa; three children, **Bethany (Kane '04)** and husband **Jon '02 Skorich**, Michael (Ashley), and Robbie; and two grandchildren.

**David Gotaas**, age 92, April 16, 2016.

After eight years as missionaries with TEAM in Venezuela, David and his wife, Lois, moved to Chicago where David served on the pastoral staff at The Moody Church and taught at Moody Bible Institute for 10 years. He pastored at Winnetka Bible Church for 13 years, and later served for five years as the director of doctoral studies at Columbia Bible Seminary. David's family remembers him as having a passion for seeing everyone come to faith in Jesus.

David's education included Moody and Northwestern University, where he earned an MDiv in 1952 and a ThD in 1958. After his retirement David continued with his schooling, receiving an MA and PhD in International Studies from the University of South Carolina.

David was preceded in death by his wife, Lois; his son, David; and his six siblings. He is survived by his children, Sharon (Don) Frahler, Ruth and **Andy Anderson '79**, Barbara (Keith) Johnston; and Sally Gotaas; 10 grandchildren; nine great-grandchildren; and numerous nieces and nephews.

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## Musical Tours *(from p. 29)*

cylinder, stored in a dusty box for a hundred years, was recently discovered and restored by Archeophone Records (see Review, p. 29).

The Moody Quartet traveled together until 1898, then gave a farewell performance at Moody's funeral in 1899.



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