



MU *today*

M A G A Z I N E

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CAMPUS MINISTRY PROGRAMS Expand at Methodist University

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The Magazine for Alumni & Friends of Methodist University

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On the Cover: Built in 1969, Hensdale Chapel is a place for students, faculty, staff members, and the community to gather for interdenominational worship services, special events, and performances. The stained glass pictured on the cover is from the door leading into the chapel.

Editor
Maria Sikoryak-Robins

Associate Editor
Robin Davenport

Alumni Editor
Lauren Cook Wike

Associate Alumni Editor
Michaela Brown

Athletics Editor
Kirbie Britt

Campus Photographer
Roxana Ross

*University Relations
Photographer*
Yashaswi "Yasu" Shrestha

Contributing Editors
Ray Baker
Bill Billings
Martha Davis
Pam McEvoy
Krista Lee
Michael Molter

Creative Director
Rhonda Forbes

Photo Contributors
Courtney Benton
Cecilia Bode
Bill Parish
Student Media Staff

*Vice President of
University Relations
and Campus Ministry*
The Rev. Dr. Michael Safley

Dean of the University
Dr. Delmas Crisp

President
Dr. M. Elton Hendricks

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The 36th annual Economic Outlook Symposium



Pictured above (L-R): **Marty Cayton '90**, Sue Byrd, Wayne Daddetto, and Wilson Teachey

was held Thursday, Oct. 15, 2009, at 6:30 p.m. in the Grand Ballroom of Fayetteville's Holiday Inn Bordeaux. Marty Cayton was named the Economics and Business Alumnus of the Year. Cayton, president of Amerizon Wireless, graduated from Methodist College in 1990 with a Bachelor of Arts in business. Through the company's strong relationship with Motorola, Amerizon Wireless serves customers such as the City of Fayetteville, Public Works Commission, the City of Winston-Salem, Cumberland County, Forsyth County, Fort Bragg/Pope AFB, and many other customers who require critical communications solutions.

The Greater Good Award went to Sue Byrd for her efforts with Fayetteville Area Operation Inasmuch. Wayne Daddetto, president of Tactical Support Equipment, received the Entrepreneur of the Year Award. Wilson Teachey, president of Hubbard Pipe and supply, received the Business Person of the Year Award.

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QUESTIONS?

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1 David and Kay Edwards, representatives of the Edgar & Lois E. Draughon and Janie Bell Edwards Gibson Scholarships with their recipient Mahila Burgess, along with students Krystal Poirier and Yalita Rivers, who both spoke at the luncheon.

2 Mary Hayslip, representative of the Katharine Purdie Scholarship with student Ashley Stoudt, recipient of The Powers Swain scholarship.



3 Bob and Kathryn Christian with student Caroline Thomas, recipient of the Dr. Robert S. and Kathryn F. Christian Endowed Scholarship.

4 Walt and Loretta Swing with student Crystal Metzger, recipient of the Walter M. and Loretta S. Swing Accounting Scholarship.



MU Hosts 2009 Scholarship Luncheon

Methodist University hosted its 2009 Scholarship Luncheon on Friday, November 6, 2009, at 11:30 a.m. in the Nimocks Fitness Center. Seventy-one scholarship representatives, 62 students, and 21 staff members attended the event, including representatives from the United Methodist Foundation and the North Carolina Community Foundation.

Krystal Poirier, a recipient of the Louis D. & Bernadine L. Thomas Scholarship and the William P. Lowermilk Scholarship, spoke at the event. "You are making a big impact—thank you for helping me get my four-year degree." Poirier is a senior from Wilmington, N.C., who will graduate in December with a Bachelor of Science in biology.

Yalita Rivers, a music major and recipient of

the Louis D. & Bernadine L. Thomas Scholarship, also spoke at the event. "I will be the first one in my family to graduate from college," she said. "I will turn a childhood of defeat into a future of success." Rivers is from Lumberton, N.C., and will graduate in May of 2012.

"We rejoice in your successes and we are delighted that we can help you along the way," said Dr. Robert Christian, who has been a part of the Methodist University community since 1968. Dr. Christian served 40 years as a full-time professor of English. His wife, Kathy, served 20 non-consecutive years as a nurse and library assistant. After his retirement, Dr. Christian returned to Methodist University to teach part-time. The Robert S. and Kathryn F. Christian Scholarship is awarded to a junior or senior

majoring in English or writing with an overall grade point average (GPA) of 3.4 or higher. "Our major contribution has been years of service," said Dr. Christian, adding that they had recently included Methodist University and their beloved church in their will.

For the 2008-2009 academic year, Methodist University awarded \$10.2 million in financial aid; the 159 endowed and annual scholarships provided an additional \$1.1 million of additional assistance. Approximately 90 percent of all students rely on scholarships and loans to attend Methodist University. Dr. Elton Hendricks, in expressing appreciation to scholarship representatives, said "I recognize that an overwhelming majority of the students at Methodist University would not be able to experience what they experience here without your support; I am very conscious of your generosity."

Board of Trustees Adopts 2010-2015 Strategic Plan



Mr. Harvey Wright,
chair of the Board of Trustees

The Methodist University Board of Trustees voted Oct. 24, 2009 to adopt the fifth Strategic Plan in the history of Methodist University. Implementation of the plan will guide strategic decision-making for the fiscal years beginning July 1, 2010, and ending June 30, 2015. These goals are targets for Methodist University to be a top-choice, comprehensive university that attracts and retains a capable and diverse student body.

“The foundation for a culture of excellence relies on an ambitious plan and a noble vision,” said Dr. M. Elton Hendricks, president of the University. “The goals in the 2010-2015 Strategic

Plan provide a framework for an engaging, enriching, and empowering environment; I am confident the MU community will be motivated to fulfill these goals.”

The work of the current Strategic Planning Committee began in April 2009 when President Elton Hendricks appointed Dr. Delmas Crisp, vice-president for Academic Affairs and dean of the University, to chair the strategic planning process. The Strategic plan draws upon the work of these earlier committees and the input collected during two campus-wide Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Threats (SWOT) analysis sessions held in April 2009. During those half-day sessions on a Saturday, approximately 125 faculty, staff, students—both undergraduate and graduate, and alumni—met to brainstorm strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats that face Methodist University in the next five years.

Shortly afterwards, school deans nominated faculty to serve, and the vice-president for Student Development and Services nominated a student representative. President Hendricks approved administrators to serve, and Mr. Harvey Wright, chair of the Board of Trustees, appointed two Trustees to serve.

The Strategic Planning Committee identified the following over-arching goal and six University-wide goals that developed out of the seven “Sub-Reports” representing each unit of the University.

2010-2015 STRATEGIC PLAN

Over-Arching Goal

Methodist University will be a top-choice, comprehensive university that attracts and retains a capable and diverse student body by providing relevant traditional and professional academic programs and an overall culture of excellence through highly qualified and motivated faculty and staff in an engaging, enriching, and empowering environment.

University-Wide Goals

1. Culture of Excellence

Methodist University will create a culture of excellence among the faculty, staff, and students.

2. Revenue and Resources

Methodist University will increase revenue through the development and implementation of new academic and certificate programs; through the expansion of major gift giving, planned giving, and corporate, foundation, and government funding; through increased full-time undergraduate day enrollment; through increased retention of full-time day, freshman-to-sophomore students; through increased occupancy in residence halls; and through securing a new bond.

3. Enrollment

Methodist University will grow the undergraduate day program through recruitment and retention by 15 percent from 2010 to 2015 while continuing to enhance the academic profile of the freshman class.

4. Physical Facilities

Methodist University will improve and add physical facilities from 2010 to 2015.

5. Technology

Methodist University will upgrade its administrative and academic technology from 2010 to 2015 to provide better service to students, faculty, and staff.

6. Global Citizenship

Methodist University will increase global awareness and global citizenship among its students, faculty, and staff from 2010 to 2015 by increasing environmental and social awareness; by enhancing existing programs; and by developing new programs that focus on the global society for faculty, students, and staff.

MU Experiences Record New-Student and Day Program Enrollment

Methodist University experienced a significant growth this fall in its new-student and day program enrollment. The freshman class grew from its previous all-time high of 431 to 469 students.

Of the 469 enrolled freshmen, 31 percent are Presidential Scholars with an average grade point average (GPA) of 3.79 and an average SAT score of 1112. Recipients of this honor are eligible for renewable scholarships ranging from \$5,750 to \$17,500 per year for up to four years.

“Seventy-five of the 469 new students this year are from Cumberland County, which is the largest new-student attendance we have ever had from within the county,” said Rick Lowe, vice-president for Enrollment Services.

Day program enrollment, according to Michael Hadley, assistant dean for Institutional Research and Effectiveness, is at a record high—up three percent from 1,603 last fall to 1,657 this fall. “We have also experienced a 26 percent increase in our graduate enrollment, increasing from 145 students last year to 182 students this year,” said Hadley.

“I believe this record enrollment is a reflection of the outstanding opportunities we provide to our students and the growing reputation of Methodist University,” said Dr. M. Elton Hendricks, president of Methodist University.



Author Discusses

IMMIGRATION STRUGGLES

during Opening Convocation

Thomas Hutton, Student Government Association (SGA) president, said three words came to mind when he thought of Sept. 11. The first word was “geometry”—the class he was sitting in when he heard the news. Secondly, he thought of the family and friends he could not get in contact with because he did not have a cell phone. Finally, he thought of “community.” Hutton remembers that eleven people from his hometown of Ridgewood, N.J., lost their lives Sept. 11. “I saw the U.S.A. as one body,” he said.

Paul Cuadros, the author of *A Home on the Field*, spoke at Convocation. Cuadros, the son of Peruvian immigrants, is an award-winning investigative reporter who joined The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill in 2007 as an assistant professor in the School of Journalism and Mass Communication. The book was selected as the common reading text for all freshmen students this fall. Cuadros illustrates within the text the cultural isolation that immigrant workers experience as they try to make their lives in America. The story is set in Siler City, N.C., where Cuadros was the coach of a newly-formed Latino high school soccer team.

“It is a fact that the current immigration system is broken,” he told the students, faculty, and staff members. “People have a justifiable right to be upset about how their community is changing.” As a result, he advised the audience to become informed consumers, examine moral equations, and think critically. “Being the loudest and the angriest does not make you right,” he said. “Let that be the first lesson you learn in college.”

Cuadros anticipates that by 2042, America will become something else. “[The year] 2042 is your generation’s real challenge,” he said. “What is this change going to mean for this country? For many people, it’s a very scary thing.” For Cuadros, however, it is America’s reality; the way to react, he said, is by doing what is right versus doing what is easy.

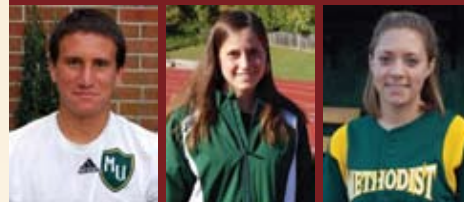
Methodist University celebrated the beginning of its 50th academic year with Opening Convocation Sept. 11, 2009, at 11 a.m. in Reeves Auditorium. Dr. Hendricks, Methodist University president, noted that not only is Sept. 11 a day to reflect on the lives of those who died in the worst terroristic attacks on American soil, but it is also a day to be grateful for all of those who sacrificed their lives in service to others.

Award Recipients

Francie Barragan *McLean Coach of the Year*

Mr. Al Cleveland, immediate past chair of Methodist University’s Board of Trustees, and women’s tennis Head Coach Francie Barragan

“The award recognizes one coach annually who has performed at a high level in the areas of team success, both on the field and in the classroom, community service and involvement in their professional organizations,” said Bob McEvoy, director of Athletics. Only current Methodist University head coaches with a minimum of three years of head coaching experience at MU are eligible for the award. The award is funded on an annual basis by the McLean Foundation, and recipients receive both a plaque and a stipend.



Stephen Fox, Kristyn Zeiler, and Alex Bass *Male and Female Scholar Athletes of the Year*

Each year, MU’s Department of Athletics honors the male and female student-athletes with the highest cumulative grade point average. Men’s soccer player, Stephen Fox, received the Male Scholar Athlete of the Year award for the second consecutive year. Cross country and track athlete Kristyn Zeiler and softball player Alex Bass have been named the Female Scholar Athletes of the Year.

Susan Martin *Sykes Cup Award*

Susan Martin claimed her second straight individual National Championship last month and helped the women’s golf team to their 12th consecutive title. Based on her success this past year, Martin has been selected to receive the Mason Sykes Cup for the second year in a row.





Shuanna Jones, a sophomore majoring in biology, and Anna Gore, a senior majoring in biology, were selected to receive scholarships in the amount of \$1,500 from NETWORTH. The recipients (pictured above) received one disbursement of \$750 for the fall 2009 semester, and will receive a second disbursement for spring 2010.

Pictured at left (L-R): Lauren Cook-Wike, Michaela Brown, Shuanna Jones, President Hendricks, Anna Gore, and Robin Davenport

Board of Visitors GOLF

Tournament



Louis Cox shakes hands with MU student caddy Matt Pelton.

September 23, 2009 marked the fifth annual Methodist University Board of Visitors walking golf tournament on Methodist's 6,200-yard private course, dubbed by students as "down back." Though challenging, the event continues to receive rave reviews due to its uniqueness. More friendraising than fundraising in nature, the field is limited to 54 players. Rounding out each foursome is a PGA golf management upperclassman or member of the Methodist University golf team, while underclassmen serve as caddies.

Players arrived as early as 10:00 a.m. to take advantage of putting, chipping, bunker play, and pre-shot routine clinics offered by PGA Golf Management Program faculty and staff who are, themselves, PGA Professionals. Ramsey Street Chick-Fil-A owner Bob Bangs sponsored lunch, then players either walked or were transported into position for a noon shotgun start. Topping off the day was a fabulous dinner sponsored by Texas Roadhouse.

Also not the typical captain's choice, players were provided the opportunity to play their own ball, with one ball gross and one ball net counted for each hole. Prizes were awarded to the top six teams and included Titlelist drivers, hybrids, woods, wedges, and putters. Participants were also provided the opportunity to sign up for three free golf lessons provided by students in the PGA golf management program.

The Methodist University Board of Visitors, comprised of 40 local and business community members, serve as ambassadors in connecting the University with the community. Officers and executive committee members for 2009-2010 are Stacy Bledsoe, Chair; Nathan Howie, Vice Chair; Lynne Greene, Immediate Past Chair; Dr. Ken B. Lewis, Karen McDonald, and **Dave Foster '76**.

Other sponsors for the tournament included Jeb Designs; Lance, Inc.; Pepsi; Saam's Party Tents; Safety Insurance; and Sodexo.



The first place team, taking home Titlelist drivers, consisted of Robert Hines, student golfer Josh Speight, Charlie Speegle, and Louis Cox (*not pictured*).

First Place	Louis Cox, Robert Hines, Charlie Speegle, and student Josh Speight
Second Place	Lamar Williams, Mike Steadman, Rob Walters, and student Preston Combs
Third Place	Tim Price '91, Jim Kalvolsik, Scott Marinelli, and student Alex Weir
Fourth Place	Bevan Grice, Vance McGougan, Dickie Vinent, and student Dave Angelotti
Fifth Place	George Rose, John Cook, Ned Garber, and student Mike Wesko
Sixth Place	Walt Swing, Tom Emsweller, Hampton Oxendine, and student Liam Friedman
Closest to Pin	Rob Walters
Longest Drive	Scott Marinelli

Fall 2009 Lecture Series



Nimocks Speaker Series



The first event of the **2009-2010 Nimocks Speaker Series**—"Nepal: The Foothills of the Himalayas"—was held Sept. 28, 2009. Methodist University students **Abhishek Kansakar**, **Sakun Gajurel**, and **Yashaswi "Yasu" Shrestha**,

all from the country of Nepal, gave the presentation.

Kansakar spoke about the country's economy, imports and exports, money and banking, and recreational activities that generate over \$1.7 billion in revenue. He said just one Mt. Everest expedition could generate up to \$75,000 in revenue. Gajurel spoke about religion, education, and family life. She noted that Nepal has over 70 different ethnic languages. "We have our own ethnic and cultural diversity," said Gajurel. Shrestha spoke about history and politics from as early as 1769 to the present day.

The second presentation was held Oct. 22. Methodist University students Salek Maoloud Lebaihi and Mustapha Saleh, both from Western Sahara, spoke at the event. In a petition before the Fourth Committee during the United Nations Hearing on the Western Sahara Oct. 6-7, 2009, Lebaihi asked, "How long do Saharawis have to wait to exercise their right of self-determination?" During his petition, he added, "The people of Western Sahara have been waiting for more than three decades for an opportunity to have a say in their future. Self-determination is not just a basic right, but also one of the main principles that led to the founding of the United Nations. The Committee must act and use its influence to allow the Western Sahara people to participate in a referendum and exercise their right of self-determination." During the presentation, Lebaihi addressed politics in Western Sahara and Saleh talked about its history, culture, and population.

Qunchao Zhan gave the third presentation of the Speaker Series. Zhan's hometown is Laizhou, Yantai, China. She talked about the languages, food, traditional dress, and problems that are facing those in her hometown.

The Nimocks Speaker Series is funded through the Col. (Ret.) David R. Nimocks International Professorship of Business. The purpose of the 2009 fall/winter series is to expose Methodist University students and interested individuals to new cultures and encourage them to travel and study abroad. The Nimocks International Professor of Business serving from July 1, 2008 through June 30, 2013 is **Dr. Gregory Combs**, associate professor of sport management and coordinator of the Sport Management Program at Methodist University. Dr. Combs received his B.S. from Eastern Illinois University and his M.A. and Ed.D. from the University of Northern Colorado. He has been involved in coaching and working in the sport industry for nearly 25 years and served in the United States Army for 12 years.

WRAP-UP

Lecture Series Focuses on Love and Justice

Two lectures that focused on love and justice were held Monday, Nov. 9, 2009. **Nicholas Wolterstorff, Ph.D.**, faculty emeritus of philosophical theology at Yale Divinity School—where he has held the Noah Porter Professorship of Philosophical Theology—was the guest speaker for the series. He spoke on “Love and Justice: What’s the Problem?” and on “Love and Justice: What’s the Solution?”

“The problem is, I think, the misinterpretation of the meaning of the words love and justice,” Professor Wolterstorff said. “Justice has to do with rights. Love, however, has two dimensions. The first is seeking good for someone—benevolence; the second one is due respect for the worth of the other other—care for the other.” Therefore, Professor Wolterstorff concluded that Jesus meant care for when said we should love our neighbors. “Essentially, we should care for our neighbors,” Professor Wolterstorff concluded.

Dr. Wolterstorff has written books on metaphysics, aesthetics, political philosophy, epistemology, and the philosophy of religion. In the fall of 1993, he gave the Wilde Lectures at Oxford University. In the spring of 1995, he gave the Gifford Lectures at St. Andrews University. He has been president of the American Philosophical Association and of the Society of Christian Philosophers.

Dr. Wolterstorff’s presentations were part of the annual Womack Lecture Series, which strives to promote public awareness of religious scholarship by bringing an expert in the field of religion, philosophy, or ethics to Methodist University. The lectures are intended to raise moral and spiritual issues in

the public consciousness, and to provide an educational and cultural service to the community.

The series is named for **Dr. Samuel Womack** and **Norma Womack**. Dr. Womack was the university’s first instructor in religion and organized the Department of Philosophy and Religion. He also served as the academic dean before retiring in 1984. His wife, Norma, graduated from the university and served as a librarian until her retirement in 1988.



Tally Leadership Center Hosts Norb Vonnegut

Methodist University’s **Tally Leadership Center** hosted **Norb Vonnegut**, wealth management advisor and author of *Top Producer*, who presented Monday, Oct. 5, 2009. *SmartMoney* magazine named *Top Producer* one of “Seven Smart Books: The Best Fall Reads” for 2009.

Vonnegut spoke about “Leadership Lessons from Wall Street.” After earning a Master of Business Administration from Harvard College, Vonnegut began his financial career with Citicorp in the Philippines, and then moved to Chase Manhattan in New York and Australia. Vonnegut has worked for Morgan Stanley, Paine Webber, and Kidder, Peabody and Co.

SECEE Lecture Series

The Southeastern Center for Environmental Excellence (SECEE) hosted its first Guest Lecture Series Friday, Oct. 16, 2009. Michael McEvoy, a 2007 graduate of Methodist University, spoke at the event. McEvoy earned his Bachelor of Science in environmental and occupational management (ENM) with a concentration in regulatory compliance and a minor in legal studies.

Following his graduation from MU, he worked for the James Austin Company. McEvoy helped put in place an environmental department for the company, which at the time, had two process areas and 35 employees. He is currently an environmental manager at INVISTA™ in Wilmington, N.C.

“In my work experience, I inherited two broken environmental programs; the industry is looking for educated individuals who will help maintain compliance and regulate day to day actions,” said McEvoy. “By performing these actions, we are not only saving our companies money, we are thanklessly saving lives and resources.”

McEvoy spoke about his background and his interest in environmental compliance, his current responsibilities at INVISTA™, and the need for environmental careers.

“I believe there is no career path more critical to the future of society than choosing a career path in environmental studies,” said McEvoy. “There should be a certain excitement around MU’s ENM Program because graduates of the program make up the future of the environment.”



PROJECTS FOR PEACE

by Yashaswi Shrestha



Two years ago, Milca Baptista—an international student at Methodist University—graduated from Armand Hammer United World College of American West, New Mexico. After spending four years abroad, she decided that it was time to return to her home in Baguia, East Timor, and help develop her community.

Baptista, a sophomore majoring in marketing, was awarded this year's 100 Projects for Peace by the Kathryn Wasserman Davis (KWD) foundation for her initiative to install a water tank and improve community sanitation in her hometown.

According to the World Health Organization, East Timor, a newly formed Southeast Asian country, is amongst the poorest nations in the world. The World Health Organization recently estimated that about 44 percent of the population had no access to clean drinking water and only about 32 percent of the population was privileged with sanitation facilities. Baptista's hometown, Baguia, is sparsely populated with approximately 10,000 people, but the majority of them face water-related and sanitation problems on a daily basis.

...ABOUT 44 PERCENT OF THE POPULATION HAD NO ACCESS TO CLEAN DRINKING WATER...

This summer, Baptista, her parents, and a local non-governmental organization (NGO) called Friends of Baguia began the project in the mountainous and green hillside region of Baguia. According to Baptista, she received help from over 100 people in her community to help implement the project. Euibubu, a local spring in the region, is the primary source of water for the water tank and the community restrooms. The plan is to link the spring to her project sites in order to generate a constant supply of water for her project.

"Bureaucratic problems have delayed the project," said Baptista, who had to settle various government and land ownership issues to start the construction process. "It was a lot of digging, cleaning, and traveling," said Baptista.

She believes that managing the project over the summer changed her attitude and her view about community work. She emphasized that the inspiration and the idealism came from the United World College that continued to encourage her to think of community projects in her hometown to improve the lives of people in and around her neighborhood.

"The project is 80 percent complete," said Baptista, who is currently managing her project from college. She stays in touch weekly with a representative from Friends of Baguia who is assisting with her project. She hopes that the project will be accomplished by the end of the year so life will be easier, more convenient, and hygienically sound for the local people.

International Food Festival and Pangea





Going Green at MU

by Jasmina Gobeljic

"At Methodist University, we recycle everything except glass—a fact that is unknown to most of our students," said Carla Raineri Padilla, director of the Environmental and Occupational Management (ENM) Programs at Methodist. She explained that during the previous year, Methodist University put forth additional efforts to become a community that is environmentally aware and active. She said that these changes involve recycling, introducing biodegradable materials, replanting, and educating students and staff about the importance of being environmentally conscious.

Professor Raineri Padilla noted that MU is carbon neutral and the trees that exist on our campus (600 on-campus and 200 off-campus) consume more carbon than MU actually produces.

"Beginning in December, Methodist University will work with a new recycling company," said Raineri Padilla. "This should help improve our recycling plans because even more recycling bins will be placed throughout campus." Recycling bins for plastic and paper will be in most classroom and office spaces, and in the residence halls.

Several of the plastic materials used in the cafeteria and the Lion's Den have been replaced with biodegradable materials. In the front of the Lion's Den, recycling bins have been added for plastic bottles. Although small, these significant efforts reduce the use of plastic. "We try to save as much energy and water as possible," said Peggy Dill, general manager of Sodexo. "We wasted water and other resources washing trays, so we discontinued the use of trays in the cafeteria. Students think of sustainability less when they are given a large tray, which can be loaded up with large amounts of food that is often wasted."

The cafeteria is supplied daily with fresh groceries that come exclusively from North Carolina. "By doing this, we do not only support local industry, but we also reduce the amount of gas burned in order for our food to be delivered," explained Dill. The next project is called "Weigh the Waste." This project will emphasize the importance of students' commitment to sustainability. At the end of each month, the amount of wasted food will be weighed and the number will be presented to

students. The goal of the project is to encourage students to be cognizant about the amount of food that is wasted and to end up with the lowest possible number.

Additionally, Methodist University's horticulturalist, Jim Darden, has implemented an ongoing sustainability plan. During Homecoming weekend, Darden hosted a walking tour of the campus, where he pointed out that his team has replanted the green areas of campus with plant species that are native to North Carolina. This positively influences the campus's aesthetics, but it also saves resources since the native plants adapt successfully and do not need to be replanted every year. Darden

plans to use the money saved to implement additional sustainability projects recommended by members of the MU community.

According to Raineri Padilla, our campus is protecting not only local plant species, but it is also one of two places on Earth that is home to some of the rarest species of butterflies.

This semester, the students also had an opportunity to reach for ideas and support from one of the lectures presented by the Southeastern Center for Environmental Excellence. Michael McEvoy, a 2007 graduate of Methodist University, was the guest speaker for the event. He spoke about ways individuals should react in situations that are hazardous to the environment.

Methodist University's campus-wide green initiatives will continue to grow as new sustainability programs are implemented in 2010.

Social Networking at MU

by Anja Sakotic

As different types of technology emerge and the popularity of social networking increases, Methodist University has developed its own presence on the Web. The Office of Admissions offers a "360° Tour" of the campus, complete with driving instructions and a campus map. MU also has a number of profiles that live on Facebook. The most developed MU Facebook groups include: MU's International Programs with more than 150 active members; MU's Outdoor Adventure Club, which has more than 100 members who regularly participate the activities; and Economic Anonymous—relatively the youngest group with a Facebook profile, but with more than 50 members involved in the group's activities.



Facebook serves as one of the main sources of communication between professors and students. These profiles contain information about events occurring on campus and photos from previous events. However, Facebook is not MU's only social networking venture—Twitter, YouTube, and MySpace are just a few of the others. These sites offer videos about Homecoming events, cultural and food festivals, workshops, presentations, and many others. Social networking helps establish MU's academic and cultural image. Find out more by visiting <http://www.methodist.edu/admissions/index.htm>, becoming a fan of "Methodist University Alumni" on Facebook, or visiting King Monarch's Photostream at <http://www.flickr.com/photos/kingmonarch>.



CAMPUS MINISTRY PROGRAMS

Expand at Methodist University

Open Minds... Open Hearts... Open Doors...

By Maria Sikoryak-Robins
and Donna Wilson

“Methodist University is committed to helping each student grow toward wholeness—physically, mentally, socially, spiritually, and academically. The mission of Campus Ministry at Methodist University is to offer the love and acceptance of Jesus Christ to all persons by planting the seeds and providing a nurturing spiritual environment for the seeds to grow and develop. Everyone is welcome to participate in Campus Ministry for worship, fellowship, study, support, pursuit of justice, and service to our neighbor.”

— *An excerpt from the Campus Ministry Mission Statement*

The Rev. Dr. Mike Safley, campus minister, takes very seriously his role to make chapel an exciting and engaging experience for each individual.

"I believe in creating transformational experiences in which students, faculty, and staff can grow in their faith journey," said Safley. "Campus Ministry provides a variety of programs and worship experiences to appeal to the diverse needs of the students. We encourage all types of music—from gospel, praise and worship, to jazz and traditional music—in our programs."

Campus Ministry programs have grown over the past several years. On most weeks during the semester, over 300 students participate in one or more Campus Ministry programs.

"Campus Ministry has helped me find where I fit at MU," said Kristy Zeiler, a junior at MU. "It has given me a great group of friends that I can depend on and that hold me accountable. It also reminds me to keep my priorities straight and make time for God each day, which gives me the peace that God promises to provide in the midst of my busy schedule."

On a campus that does not require attendance at religious services and programs, Safley is

impressed with the number of students who voluntarily give of themselves each semester.

"Campus Ministry is a place that I have grown not only as a follower of Christ, but as a person who is excited and ready for the real world," said Thomas Hutton, president of the Student Government Association. "With numerous activities happening on a weekly basis, and community service activities throughout the year, Campus Ministry provides students with the opportunity to interact with all different students and people from all over the world."

In the same way each person is encouraged to reach his or her potential through participation in diverse styles of worship, opportunities are expanding within various ministry groups on campus.

Students can participate weekly in the following activities:

- **Men's Bible Study** has taken new initiatives this year within the community. The group, which meets at 8 p.m. every Thursday at Chick Fil-A, is also offering volunteer services to downtown organizations.
- **Women's Bible Study** meets Wednesday nights at 8:00 p.m. to expand their faith and

knowledge of Christianity.

- **Catholic Mass**, led by Father John Kelly, is held every Sunday night at 9 p.m. in Hensdale Chapel. The mass is open to everyone.
- A handful of students participate in God Time every Wednesday night. **God Time** is an in-depth Christian-based, student-led service for those interested in exploring traditional practices.

In His Grip meets Monday at 8:00 p.m. in the Commons. This semester, the group hosted its second annual Trick-or-Treat food drive and donated over 600 pounds of non-perishable goods to Second Harvest Food Bank. This is the third year the group has conducted the "Skillz to Pay the Billz" for PGM students interested in In His Group. Texas Roadhouse contributed 100 free appetizers and ScrubOaks catered the event. Bob Bruns is the group's advisor, and each semester, he invites the group for dinner and the infamous "Bruns Buns" at his home. These buns, baked by Mrs. Bruns, are "perfectly baked buns with magical frosting."

"One thing we have struggled with since relocating is finding a home church," said Bob Bruns. "In many ways, the students and University community have become our church family. Being able to walk with, watch, learn from, and grow with these young people has been a remarkable opportunity."

Fellowship of Christian Athletes (FCA) is a group that is open to athletes, coaches, the general student body, and faculty and staff members. FCA meets Tuesday at 8 p.m. in the Alumni Dining Room. Speakers this year include Greg Fischer, the Rev. Dr. Michael Safley, Pat White, Coach David Smith, Clyde Comber, Coach Dee Dee Jarman, Matt Gowins, Chris Coats, Jan Turner, Lindsie Bentham, and Sarah Sawade.

"FCA is a place where I can share my passion for Christ with others and feel at home," said sophomore Lindsie Bentham.





Out of FCA emerged **Common Ground**, which is a praise and worship band that provides musical outreach to the local area and surrounding counties. The band has played at chapel, FCA, Chick Fil-A, the Butler Horse Farm, Bethany United Methodist in Elizabethtown, and the East Coast FCA College Retreat at Smith Mountain Lake, Va.



One Voice, which is the international, interdenominational Gospel Choir directed by Nicole Butler, has made several appearances in chapel, at local churches, and in the surrounding community. The group's president is Ralph Chew, who is a senior at Methodist majoring in elementary education.

The **Leadership Team**, which is composed primarily of the leaders and advisers of each ministry group, meets monthly to discuss Campus Ministry activities and outreach. Soup Talk, an open discussion group for students to discuss their concerns and questions about incorporating faith into life, takes place every Sunday night at the Campus Parsonage.



“One thing we have struggled with since relocating is finding a home church. In many ways, the students and University community have become our church family. Being able to walk with, watch, learn from, and grow with these young people has been a remarkable opportunity.”



MU Alumni are also involved in mission work. One example is Jason Williams '98, who, along with other executives from the Raleigh Urgent Care Network that he founded, donated his time and medical expertise to care for 120 people per day in a village in Burkina Faso in Africa. Burkina Faso is the third poorest country in the world, and to date Williams' team is the only group of western medical practitioners that has visited to provide care. During their ten-day trip in April 2009, the team provided medical treatment, medications, and preventive care that was donated by Urgent Cares of America, Inc. (UCA) and affiliated clinics of the Raleigh Urgent Care Network.

“ In the four years that I have attended Methodist University, Campus Ministry has not only grown to be a huge part of campus life, it has grown to be a huge part of my life. ”

A desire to provide service, and share love and faith with the community was the drive behind the creation of **Beta Sigma Phi**. The new service sorority has participated in the North Carolina Agricultural Fair, and assisted with the Warrior Angels, Operation Christmas Child, Stop Hunger Now, and the Moravian Love Feast. The sorority also served the nursing home residents on our campus at Thanksgiving and provided Christmas care packets for the Children's Unit at Cape Fear Valley Hospital. Under the leadership of senior Alexis Howard, there are eighteen girls in the sorority.

Last year's **Easter Jam** was sponsored by Chick Fil-A. Participants included the Gospel Choir, guest performer Veronica Johnson, and Common Ground. Tommy Hutton organized the event last year, and he is arranging for a national performer to come to campus in April of 2010.

Finally, the Rev. Dr. Mike Safley and a work team of nine MU students went to **Belize** in the spring of 2009.

"Last year, traveling to Belize not only gave us (MU Students) the chance to develop lifelong friendships, it gave us the chance to put our faith into action with a global impact," said Sam Morrison, director of University Calendar and Events. "In the four years that I have attended Methodist University, Campus Ministry has not

only grown to be a huge part of campus life, it has grown to be a huge part of my life."

A co-ed work team of 25 students will travel to the island of Eleuthera, Bahamas, February 28 – March 7, 2010. For more information about the trip, please contact the Rev. Dr. Mike Safley at (910) 630-7515 or Sam Morrison at

(910) 630-7062. To view the highlights from last year's trip, go to www.youtube.com and search for "2009 Methodist University Work Team – Belize." For more information about Campus Ministry, call Donna Wilson at (910) 630-7157, or stop by and say hello in the Campus Ministry Office in Berns Student Center.

CHAPEL STAFF

Mark Gourley	Organist
Dr. Scott Marosek	Director of Chapel Music
The Rev. Dr. Mike Safley	Vice-President for University Relations and Campus Ministry
Larry Wells	Assistant Director of Chapel Music
Donna Wilson	Director of Ministry Events and Administrative Services Advisor to Beta Sigma Phi



SENIOR STAFFERS Reflect on Five Decades

by Bill Billings '68

Methodist's two senior staff members—Gene Clayton and Earleene Bass—share several distinctions. Both came to Methodist in 1963, and both are still here and enjoying their work. Gene Clayton was hired as a physical education instructor, and Earleene Bass was hired as faculty secretary/switchboard operator.

Since April 1990, Mr. Clayton has been vice president for business affairs. He has held more jobs than anyone in school history and has frequently joked about that. Over the last 46 years, he has taught P.E. and biology; coached tennis, cross country, basketball, and golf; and served as athletic director, director of intramurals, dean of students, and director of development.

Mrs. Bass retired in 1996 after 33 years as faculty secretary, but returned in 1997-98 to help Dr. John Sill put together Methodist's self-study report for the school's 1999 reaccreditation effort. From 2000 to-2002, Mrs. Bass transcribed 45 oral history tapes for Lynn Clark, who interviewed some of the early staff, trustees, and supporters of Methodist for the school history. In 2004, after her husband James died, Mrs. Bass called to see if there was anything else she could do; that's when George Blanc, dean of students, hired her to work half-time as administrative assistant in the Office of Housing and Residence Life.

GENE CLAYTON

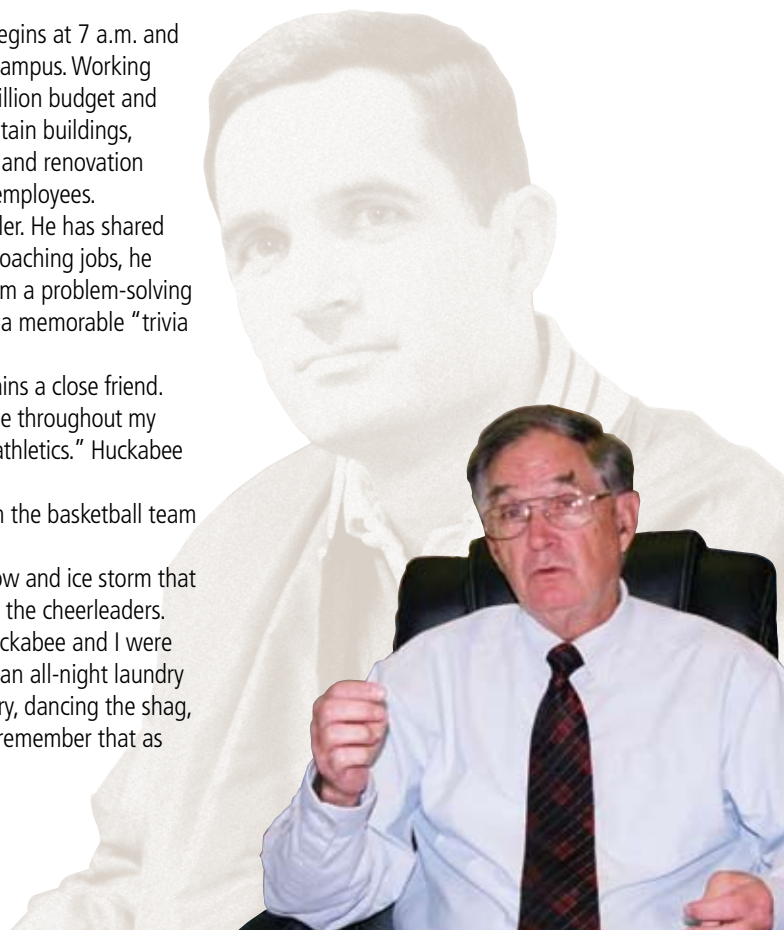
Gene Clayton is one of the busiest persons on campus. A typical work day begins at 7 a.m. and includes back-to-back appointments, phone calls galore, and meetings all over campus. Working closely with University President M. Elton Hendricks, he manages MU's \$48.5 million budget and a business staff of 32 persons who keep the books, purchase supplies, and maintain buildings, grounds, and vehicles. He also plans and secures the financing of new buildings and renovation projects and serves as the chief personnel officer for a workforce of nearly 400 employees.

Clayton can remember all his former athletes by name and is a good storyteller. He has shared many "tall tales" at athletic banquets and homecomings over the years. Of his coaching jobs, he said, "I've really enjoyed seeing student athletes win and succeed. By nature, I am a problem-solving type, and I set goals," he noted. Drawing from his storybook, Clayton presented a memorable "trivia quiz" at Methodist's 50th anniversary banquet, which delighted older alumni.

Among Clayton's former players, Jerry Huckabee, who played basketball, remains a close friend. "Jerry and his wife Faye kept the basketball clock and basketball scorebook for me throughout my 20 years of coaching," he said. "Jerry made a lot of trips with me when I was in athletics." Huckabee was recently inducted into the MU Athletic Hall of Fame.

In a 2002 oral history interview, Clayton remembered a time in the 60s when the basketball team and cheerleaders became stranded by a snowstorm on I-95.

"We had just played NC Wesleyan in Rocky Mount and there was a huge snow and ice storm that caused a traffic jam. The activity bus was in front, and I was driving the van with the cheerleaders. We pulled off 95 and found a strip motel with two vacant rooms. While Jerry Huckabee and I were trying to secure the rooms, the team and cheerleaders went across the street to an all-night laundry with a jukebox and a popcorn machine. They spent the whole night in the laundry, dancing the shag, eating popcorn and doing what students do to have a good time. And they still remember that as one of the best things that ever happened to them."



When he says Methodist is “a family affair,” Gene Clayton means it. Clayton’s wife Pat has said many times, “Gene is married to Methodist College/University; he just lives with me.” Clayton does not argue with that statement, saying, “Coaching took so much of my time, Pat had to raise our two girls.” Pat graduated from Methodist in 1968 and taught in the Cumberland County Schools for many years; in the early 70s, she served briefly as director of alumni affairs at Methodist. The Clayton girls, Christy and Cathy, also graduated from Methodist.

Clayton considers the tripling of enrollment (from 750 to 2,250) during Dr. Hendricks’ first two decades as president to be Methodist’s

greatest single achievement during his 46 years at Methodist. “New programs and sports brought additional students,” he said. “Enrollment growth is responsible for our improved financial condition. Except for one or two years, we’ve had a balanced budget with small surpluses. We’ve been able to add to our cash reserve fund each year.”

“Methodist’s renaissance really began with the construction of the March F. Riddle (Physical) Activities Center in 1988-90,” recalls Clayton, who was director of development during that period. “That said



Methodist College was going to make it,” he added, “and it launched a period of remarkable growth. Raising funds for the PAC was a labor of love; planning and directing the construction of subsequent buildings has also been rewarding. I have also enjoyed working with Dr. Hendricks, who is a visionary and a man of high principles.”

President Hendricks has been very pleased with Gene Clayton’s work. “When Methodist College was building the Riddle Center in the late 1980’s, I was impressed with Gene’s knowledge, attention to details, and his ability to work with bankers and builders. In 1990 I appointed him Vice President for Business Affairs. He is one of the reasons Methodist University has been able to construct so many new buildings. And, importantly, he has ensured that we have had a balanced budget almost every year.”

While Clayton believes Methodist will continue to grow, he would like to be able to fund more new capital projects and needed renovations to older buildings on campus. “We need about \$10 million to take care of deferred maintenance,” he explained. “We need new heating and air conditioning systems in Reeves Fine Arts Building, the Classroom Building, and the Berns Student Center. Our streets and parking lots need resurfacing. We need an elevator in the Classroom Building.”

Looking ahead, Clayton is excited about the five-year strategic plan adopted by the Methodist University Board of Trustees at a planning retreat October 24. “It’s an ambitious plan, but the trustees were supportive and enthusiastic,” he noted. “I believe we can do most, if not all of it.”

EARLEENE BASS

Earleene Bass may be a great grandmother, but she loves current technology—things like text messaging and creating spreadsheets on her PC. She describes Dean Blanc and the Student Life staff as “great bosses who treat me like an equal.” Tanya Davis, director of housing and residence life, is her immediate boss, but she also works closely with the area coordinators and student resident advisors. Although the residence halls are at capacity, she believes resident students are generally “happy campers.”

“Today’s students are more sophisticated than they were 40 years ago,” she noted, “and I am impressed with this year’s freshmen.” Her kindness and efficiency have prompted the residential coordinators to shower Mrs. Bass with stuffed animals as tokens of their appreciation. When she was faculty secretary, Mrs. Bass used to send birthday cards to college staff members on their birthdays; she did that on her own initiative.

When President Hendricks announced the name change to Methodist University November 1, 2006, Mrs. Bass was seated on the front row in Reeves Auditorium. “That was a great moment,” she said. Looking back over five decades, she says she will never forget the student workers who helped her run the switchboard, operate mimeograph machines, and type and collate large documents. “I would love to hear from my former student workers,” she added. They can send e-mails to ebass@methodist.edu.”

When asked to list some of her all-time favorite associates at Methodist, Mrs. Bass mentioned Parker Wilson, who taught history, Dr. Sam Womack, the third academic dean, and Dr. Hendricks, Methodist’s third president. She said the secretaries on campus helped each other in the early years and worked extremely hard with no fringe benefits. Her starting salary in 1963 was \$265 a month. “The first two presidents did not invite secretaries and maintenance workers to the Christmas dinner,” she noted. “When Dr. Hendricks got here, he invited us to the dinner and said, ‘Everyone who works on this campus is important.’ He also gave us fringe benefits.”

She remembers Parker Wilson for his kindness and sense of humor. “His Miss Piggy puppet always had a seat of honor at faculty luncheons,” she recalled in a recent interview. She also recalls Parker’s flair for the dramatic. “I remember one very foggy morning when Parker came by my office on his way to class and quipped, “I was in Bunnlevel before I realized I had passed Methodist!”

The former faculty secretary occasionally typed manuscripts for professors at home, on her own time. She remembers two projects in particular: “I typed Mary, Queen of Scotts, a book written by Dr. Clarence Hulley, a history professor. I also typed Dr. Earl Martin’s dissertation for his Ph.D. in sociology.”

Mrs. Bass is proud that her son Ronnie graduated from Methodist in 1991, that her daughter Ann attended MC, and that her granddaughter, Jo Shonebarger, once worked as Education Department secretary. Like Gene Clayton, Earleene Bass regards the staff and students at MU as her extended family. George Blanc, dean of students, may have said it best: “Earleene Bass is a jewel!”





FALL Sports WRAP-UP

The Methodist University Department of Athletics has had a busy fall with many teams earning important victories. The Monarchs blended newcomers with veterans, all gaining valuable experience for the future of Methodist athletics.



Duane Ross and Bill Dunn took over the Methodist cross country team in 2009, helping the Monarchs to top-five finishes at the USA South Conference Championships. Methodist junior Kristyn Zeiler paced the women's team all season earning, Runner of the Year honors from the conference. Zeiler went on to compete at the NCAA South Regional Championship. On the men's side, freshman Aaron Holmes led the men through the regular season, earning multiple USA South Rookie of the Week honors.

The Methodist volleyball team finished 2009 with its best season in more than 15 years. The Monarchs opened up with a 5-0 record before finishing with 19 wins, the most since 1992. In September, the team toppled perennial rival Greensboro for the first time since 2001. Methodist had not advanced to the semifinals since 2005, but went on to earn the fourth seed in the tournament and the quarterfinal match over Ferrum 3-1 to face top seeded Christopher Newport. The Monarchs came up short to the Captains, but finished the season with a foundation for seasons to come. Four players earned All-Conference honors and senior Jordan Grady finished her career with 1,767 digs, the most in Methodist history.



After the Methodist women's soccer team opened its season at 1-4, there were many questioning how they would finish. The Monarchs went on to finish the regular season at 9-9-1 overall and 5-2-1 in the USA South Athletic Conference. Once the tournament seeding was announced, the Monarchs were awarded the fifth-seed, setting up a quarterfinal at fourth-seeded Shenandoah University. Methodist prevailed 3-1 in a penalty kick shootout, the first shootout victory in three attempts over the last 10 seasons. The win set up No. 5 Methodist to face top-seeded Meredith in the semifinal. Having lost to the Angels twice in 2008 and earlier in 2009, the Monarchs battled to a 2-1 win to eliminate the top seed and became the first fifth-seeded team to advance to the tournament championship. Methodist took the 1-0 lead over No. 2 Christopher Newport, but the Captains came back to earn the 2-1 win for the championship. The Monarchs finished their season 10-10-2 with five players earning USA South All-Conference honors and four players being named to the All-Tournament team.





The men's soccer team placed third in the USA South Athletic Conference this fall. The Monarchs went 9-9 in the regular season and 4-2 in the conference before hosting Shenandoah in the USA South Tournament quarterfinal. Methodist advanced on a 4-1 victory to face No. 2 N.C. Wesleyan in the semifinal. Methodist scored the first goal of the game, but the Bishops fought back to win 2-1. The Monarchs finished their season at 10-10 and six players were awarded All-Conference honors. Methodist senior Bret Brennan also earned All-Tournament recognition.



More than 150 football players reported to camp in August ready to move into the new field house renovated this year. The Monarchs were treated to a new building with coaches' offices, a 150-locker room, academic area with study tables, recruit visitation area with flat screen televisions, and a weight room with storefront windows. The Monarchs opened up the season with a tough loss to Campbell, but came back and won games over Guilford and Shenandoah, with last-second heroics from sophomore kicker Tyler Mosko. Methodist finished the season with a 10-9 win over Christopher Newport, only the second in program history. Methodist football has also initiated a partnership with Warrenwood Elementary School where players volunteer their time to support the students in their Positive Behavior Support program.



In other action, the men's and women's tennis teams had abbreviated fall seasons with both teams hosting tournaments and competing in the Intercollegiate Tennis Association (ITA) regional championships. The women also picked up two team wins against Catholic and Hood. The teams will pick up in the spring competing for USA South Championships in April with hopes of earning NCAA Tournament bids.

The Methodist men's and women's golf teams both earned number one rankings in Division III through their first tournaments this fall. The men won all five tournaments, including The Gordin Classic, which features some of the top teams in the country. The women's team opened up with first year Head Coach Tom Inczauskis earning his first tournament win at the O'Brien Division III Fall Championship in Notre Dame, Ind. Both teams will continue competition in the spring as they look ahead to the 2010 National Championships.



With the fall seasons complete, the indoor track and field team, and both the men's and women's basketball teams will prepare for the winter season. For winter schedules and news about Methodist athletics, check out the official Monarchs' Web site at www.mumonarchs.com!

2009 HALL OF FAME Inductees

Jason Childers '98 (Men's Basketball), **Chad Collins '01** (Men's Golf), **Allyson Greer Kotes '94** (Women's Golf) and **Jerry '66, and Faye '68 Huckabee** (Men's Cross Country, Men's Basketball, Men's Tennis) were recognized Oct. 16 during an Induction Banquet as part of MU's Homecoming festivities.

Jason Childers competed for the Monarchs' men's basketball team from 1993-1997. Childers is the only NCAA All-American in program history after scoring a school-record 596 points during the season. He led Methodist to the Dixie Intercollegiate Athletic Conference regular season and tournament championships before advancing to the "Elite Eight" of the NCAA Division III National Tournament. Childers finished his career with 63 blocks to rank seventh all-time at Methodist. Subsequent to his Methodist career, Childers played professional basketball with the Raleigh Cougars and traveled overseas to compete with Sweden-Poang OBBK.

Chad Collins is one of just three Methodist men's golfers to earn First Team All-American honors four times. Collins competed for the Monarchs from 1997-2001, helping the team to their last two National Championships in 1998 and 1999. He won the individual national title in 1998, 1999 and 2001 while winning the conference title twice and becoming a four-time First Team All-Conference selection. Collins has competed in 25 PGA Tour events over the past three years. Currently on the Nationwide Tour, Collins most recently finished in a tie for second at the 2009 Price Cutter Charity Championship Presented by Dr Pepper on Sunday.

Allyson Greer Kotes is another four-time First Team All-American golfer, competing for the Methodist women's golf team from 1990-1993. One of just seven in the women's program, Kotes won three team titles with the Monarchs and



claimed the 1992 Individual National Championship. During her collegiate career, she won six tournament titles before going on to become a LPGA Teaching Professional.

Jerry Huckabee participated in the first three athletic programs at Methodist, lettering in cross country, basketball and tennis. He was a two-time All-Conference selection in cross country and claimed the Dixie Intercollegiate Athletic Conference individual title in 1965 while leading the team to its first ever conference championship. After graduating from Methodist, Jerry and his wife Faye continued to support Methodist athletics. Jerry ran the electronic scoreboard while Faye kept the scorebook for 20 years from 1966-86. Jerry also served as a volunteer assistant to Gene Clayton in both men's golf and women's tennis. Jerry coached the men's golf team to a tournament championship in Old Mille, Va. while Clayton was recruiting elsewhere. In 1975, Jerry traveled with Clayton and the women's tennis team to the AIAW National Tennis Tournament where the team finished tied for fifth. Still an active tennis player, Jerry was the captain and number one player of a Fayetteville team that won the Mixed North Carolina State Championship in USA League Tennis in 2002.



Methodist 2008-09 Champions Recognized

The Methodist University 2008-09 champions were recognized at halftime of the final football game this season. The cheerleading, women's tennis, track and field, and men's and women's golf teams were honored for their success last spring.

DIG PINK

This fall, thousands of volleyball teams from around the country participated in the Dig Pink National Breast Cancer Awareness Rally. High School and college teams promoted breast health education in the community and raised funds to help eradicate breast cancer.

Methodist University hosted its Dig Pink event Oct. 3, 2009, while hosting Ferrum College at the March F. Riddle Center on the campus of Methodist University. Dig Pink attendees cheered the Monarchs to victory, and contributed to breast health awareness by making a statement and wearing something pink in the stands. The Methodist volleyball team sold T-shirts and collected donations for the cause. The proceeds from the event went to benefit the Side-Out Foundation, a national 501(c)(3) located in the Washington D.C. Metropolitan Area.



The foundation has raised hundreds of thousands of dollars for breast cancer research through volleyball tournaments, clinics, and rallies held throughout the United States. Funds are currently devoted to targeted therapies and molecular profiling, which is where there is a hot bed of research activity. Side-Out also devotes a portion of the funds to local and national "Life with Cancer" support organizations. The name underscores the purpose of the organization—"Side-Out" in volleyball occurs when one team wins a point while its opponent is serving, thereby regaining serve or control of play. Likewise, in the war against breast cancer, the Side-Out Foundation will support health care professionals in their pursuit of practical solutions for women and men with this disease, thus enabling those affected to regain control of their lives and live them to the fullest.



**PINK ZONE
BASKETBALL GAME
FEBRUARY 13 AT 2 PM**

The Methodist Monarchs will host their "Pink Zone" basketball game sponsored by the Women's Coaches Basketball Association (WCBA) Feb. 13 at 2 p.m. to benefit the Kay Yow/WBCA Breast Cancer Fund and Cape Fear Valley Health Foundation Friends of the Cancer Center. The halftime program will honor breast cancer survivors.

Fans wearing pink to the game will be admitted free with a donation and can buy "Pink Zone" T-shirts at MU basketball games or online before the event. A silent auction will be available.

For more information, call 910.630.7283, email djarman@methodist.edu or visit Pink Zone central at www.mumonarchs.com/sports/2009/1/19/pinkzone09.aspx?id=72.





HOMECOMING



METHODIST
UNIVERSITY



2009

Strike Up the Band!



The Classes of '64 and '69 made their mark with the historic 45th reunion of the first graduating class and a great turn-out and “roaring” good time for '69 graduates during Homecoming 2009!



HOMECOMING

The weekend kicked off with a reception at ScrubOaks, the new restaurant near Methodist's campus that five alumni are behind. With delicious appetizers compliments of the ScrubOaks alumni (**Tim and Gwen Holtsclaw '92, '68; Scotti Sykes Marshburn '96; Darren Thompson '96; and J.P. Laird '08**), alumni had fun looking through annuals from reunion years and getting caught up on each other's lives. While most of the Class of '69 continued their reunion at the restaurant, others departed to attend the Friday evening Hall of Fame Banquet, where **Jerry** and the late **Faye Huckabee, '66, '68, Allyson Greer Kotes '94, Chad Collins '01, and Jason Childers '98** were inducted. Following the Hall of Fame Banquet, alumni returned to ScrubOaks, where the Class of '69 were still going strong, for a reception in honor of Jerry Huckabee arranged by **Gene Clayton**, former coach and athletic director and now Vice President for Business and Finance at Methodist.

Saturday began sunny and brisk, with a complimentary breakfast at the Alumni Registration Tent available as well as the MU Alumni Association's Silent Auction and Methodist University and College Alumni items for sale. **Bill Billings '68** was on hand and signed many copies of his new history of the first 50 years of Methodist. Alumni helped themselves to breakfast and then set off for the campus tour with **Jim Darden '69**, the Choral Reunion rehearsal, the Alumni Basketball games in the Riddle Center, the Tennis Reunion, the University Bookstore, or stayed at the breakfast tent to enjoy the fellowship.

On the menu for the annual Lunch on the Green was soup with ravioli and Chicken Marsala, just right for a chilly day, and served up by proprietor **Mark Moses '97**. Mark has donated this meal for increasing numbers of returning alumni for four years running. This year well over 200 attended. All proceeds from the lunch go to the Alumni Endowed Scholarship. The program included a performance by the Alumni Chorale, conducted by Dr. Michael Martin and former director **Alan Porter**, and the presentation of the MU Alumni Association Awards, recognition of classes in reunion,



recognition of past MUAA award winners, and recognition of the current year's Hall of Fame inductees. Just as the program was concluding, a new tradition passed on Joe Stout View Lane – the student Homecoming Parade, complete with the Homecoming Court in cars, cheerleaders and dancers in the lead, and the new Marching Monarch Band culminating the procession.

Alumni had an opportunity to tour the new Football Field House before the 1:00 p.m. kick-off. The Monarchs were victorious on the football field against Shenandoah, winning 17-14 in overtime, and against Greensboro in Men's Soccer, battling back from behind for a 2-1 win.



2009 Strike Up the Band!



Saturday evening about 60 alumni gathered for a party at ScrubOaks with entertainment by **Rockin' Rahn Kersey '89** the DJ, and Dr. Warren McDonald and his band. Dr. McDonald is Director of MU's M.B.A. program, but he also was once a lead singer and guitarist with The Embers, and he had alumni on their feet and dancing to two sets of beach music. Rockin' Rahn kept things rolling with tunes throughout the last five decades, and he had people line dancing with the Electric Slide, the Cha-Cha Slide, and the Cupid Shuffle. He then had them singing with karaoke. All agreed that the heavy hors d'oeuvres were fabulous, and the brownie bites and fried cheesecake were too good to pass up!

Altogether, Homecoming 2009 was a great way to celebrate renewed and new friendships and our love of Methodist University! For an alumni photo gallery, go to www.methodist.edu, select Alumni, and view Homecoming.

MU Presents *Ride! Ride!* A True Story from the Life of John Wesley

by Jasmina Gobeljic

Methodist University presented a true story from the life of John Wesley through the musical titled *Ride! Ride!* From Nov. 19-22, 2009, Methodist University faculty, staff, and students, and the Fayetteville community watched several months of hard work and commitment come together in a two-hour show. The musical was as educational as it was entertaining.



The plot of *Ride! Ride!* centered around the true story of Martha Thompson, who was persecuted and thrown into the notorious asylum of Bedlam. She was later rescued by John Wesley and became a pioneering evangelist in England's Northern provinces. The show was a masterful depiction of class divisions in 18th century England, and the ways John Wesley interacted with the gentry, the working class, and those living on the streets. There was humor, pathos, and a multitude of memorable songs.



The performances reflected the hard work that—under the direction of Dr. Stan McDaniel—went into the production. The stage design, sound, lighting, and detailed costumes helped keep the audience engaged. The actors portrayed the society in its true form and the effect on the audience came mainly from the divine spiritual experience, which had an effect of enlightenment.

The presentation of the musical *Ride! Ride!* was done by special arrangement with Bardic Editions of Buckinghamshire, United Kingdom. All rights to *Ride! Ride!* are shared by Penelope Thwaites and the estate of Alan Thornhill. To see more photos, visit King Monarch's Photostream at <http://www.flickr.com/photos/kingmonarch>.



Get a job or promotion?
Get married? Have a child?

Let us know!

If you're a Methodist alum, we want to hear all your good news, or just where you are and what you're up to!

Drop us a line at alumnioffice@methodist.edu or log in to our online alumni directory, **Monarch Connections**, and send in a Class Note to keep us, and your classmates, up-to-date. We will publish your Class Note in the next issue of *MU Today* magazine. We would love to receive your mail as well — you can write to us at Alumni Affairs, Methodist University, 5400 Ramsey Street, Fayetteville, NC 28311. Don't forget to include a picture or two!



NEW BENEFITS for Alumni

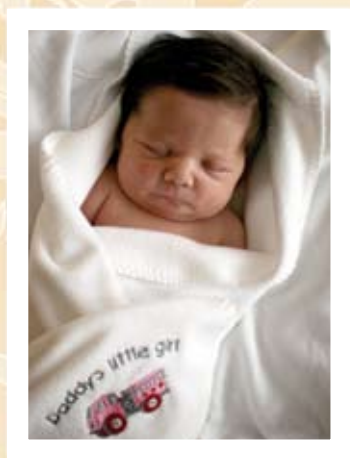


Watch your mailbox because Liberty Mutual will be offering a new auto, home, and renters insurance program for Methodist University alumni.* You can learn about this program by going to www.libertymutual.com/methodialumni, or by calling 800-524-9400, or you can visit a local sales office.

Another new, free benefit for Methodist alumni was announced in July, enabling alumni to become **Alumni Members of the Nimocks Fitness Center**. Dedicated in fall 2007, the Fitness Center offers state-of-the-art aerobic and strength training equipment (with flat-screen HD TVs to watch while you work out), a basketball court, an indoor multi-level running track, men's and women's locker rooms, and a lounge area. For more information and to sign up for an Alumni Membership in the Nimocks Fitness Center, please call us at (910) 630-7200 | (800) 488-7110 ext. 7200, or e-mail alumnioffice@methodist.edu. We'd also love to have you drop by the Alumni Affairs Office in the Horner Building on campus to pick up your application any time between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday!

**Group discounts, other discounts, and credits are available where state laws and regulations allow, and may vary by state. Certain discounts apply to specific coverage only. To the extent permitted by law, applicants are individually underwritten; not all applicants may qualify. Coverage provided and underwritten by Liberty Mutual Insurance Company and its affiliates, 175 Berkeley Street, Boston, Mass.*

Alumni News



Elizabeth Grace (Gracie) King



Kate Elizabeth Swink



Elliott Jordan Nawoe Smith



Olga Saprygina '06 and Christopher Forman '08

BIRTHS

97 David and Kendra Clark '97, '98 are proud to announce the birth of their second child, Benjamin Webb, on Nov. 2, 2008. He joins big sister, Mackenzie. The family currently resides in South Jersey, N.J.

99 Christy King '99 and her husband Tom are thrilled to announce the birth of their daughter Elizabeth Grace (Gracie) on July 27, 2009. Gracie weighed in at 7 lbs. 12 ozs. and was 20.5 inches long.

Kevin & Erin Swink '99 welcome the birth of their second daughter, Kate Elizabeth, born on July 1, 2009!

02 Leemour Banks Smith '02 and her husband would like to announce the birth of their precious first-born son Elliott Jordan Nawoe Smith. He was born on July 2, 2009 at 8:16 am, in Charlotte, N.C.

WEDDINGS AND ENGAGEMENTS

03 Dr. Justin Clark Curlee '03 married Dr. Sarah Catherine Ferguson at noon, June 3, 2009, at St. Irene Seaside Terrace in Santorini, Greece. The mayor of Santorini officiated. The bride and groom are both employed by Ardor Health Solutions as Traveling Physical Therapists. After a Mediterranean Cruise and tour of Italy, the couple is currently completing a contract in Kennewick, Wash.

05 Jenny Lymangood '05 married Chas Minnemeyer Oct. 17, 2009 in Naperville, Illinois.

Nicholas Ondrako '05 and Jennifer Bruckschen, both of Glen Allen, Va., were married Aug. 22, 2009, at Whistling Straits in Haven, Va. The couple honeymooned in Rome, Italy, and resides in Glen Allen, Va.

05 Olga Saprygina, '06, '08M and Christopher Forman were united in marriage Sept. 12, 2009, at the Forman's Residence in Spring Lake, N.C. The ceremony was officiated by Dr. Robert Christian, Methodist minister and English professor at Methodist University. The couple resides in Orlando, Fla., and the bride is a physician assistant working in a dermatology practice.

07 Elizabeth Rose Adcox '07 married Jason Doyle Bowen Nov. 7, 2009, at Fayetteville Community Church with the Rev. David Canady officiating. The couple plans to live in Hope Mills.

Bridget E. Holcomb '07 and **W. Thomas Walker '08** were married on July 11, 2009. The Rev. Richard Ginnever officiated. The couple honeymooned at the Outer Banks, in North Carolina, and reside in Apex, N.C.

08 Leslie Ann Thomas '08 would like to announce her engagement to Travis Andrew Nunn of Aiken, S.C. The couple plans to marry at 4:30 p.m. Dec. 5, 2009, at Barclay Villa in Angier with Bishop Paul B. Keeter officiating. Following the wedding, the couple plans to live in Fayetteville, N.C.

CLASS NOTES

64 James Johnson '64 says: I can't believe it has been 45 years! I retired in September 2000 with almost 38 years with the state of North Carolina. I have also been preaching since January 1964, and am in my 12th year as Pastor of Concord Baptist Church in Rose Hill, N.C., and my 45th year of pastoring. I am the proud grandparent of two precious girls: Mollie (7) and Abbie (6).

70 Anne R. Owens '70 lives in Bowie, Md., and will welcome her third grandchild in December. She is has been on disability since 2004 following three careers. The first was as director of education and teacher in a Christian school, the second was in the newspaper advertising management field, and the third career happened after her children were grown and educated, when she became an employment specialist in the disability services field. You can reach her at russieo@verizon.net.

71 Alvin Burgess '71 says: "Hi to all from Mary and Al Burgess!" Al was medically retired due to severe back problems in February 2008. Mary continues to work for Belk of Virginia. They have four grandchildren (three boys and one granddaughter). Genealogy is a subject that the couple is exploring together. They will be traveling to Apex, N.C., for family research soon.

80 Rick and Karen (DiDolci) Ketchem '80 have been married for 27 years and are living in the Metro Atlanta area. They have two daughters, Lindsay, 24, an alumna of the University of South Carolina, and Mallory, 18, an incoming freshman for the fall of 2009 at the University of South Carolina.

82 Andrea (Holtsclaw) Malpass '82 and her husband, Chris, live in Goldsboro, N.C. They have two sons, Christopher (24) who just got married in August 2009, and Taylor (20). Both sons tour professionally, as the opening band for Merle Haggard. When the boys are home, the family has a band that tours regionally. Andrea and her husband are both employees of the Wayne County Public School System.

83 Gil Wise '83 was featured in an article with Duke University's *Faith and Leadership* magazine. A link to the article can be found at www.solidrockumc.org

90 Teresa L. Swint '90, co-owner of Grapes & Hops LLC, passed the Certified Specialist of Wines Certification Exam. The 100-question timed exam deals with all aspects of wines, including viticulture, grape varietals, regions and sub-regions, chemical compositions, and production. There are fewer than 2,000 certified wine specialists in the U.S.

92 Jimmy Maher '92, a former soccer coach at Fayetteville Academy, has joined *CityView*. He will be responsible for advertising sales on its Web site and in the magazine. He is a native of Ireland and has eight years of experience in medical sales.



(Pictured from L-R: Taylor Malpass, Linda and Christopher Malpass, Andrea '82 and Chris Malpass)



Karen Didolci '80



Gil Wise '83

Alumni News (cont'd.)

93 Michael C. Jordan '93, CPA has been promoted to Shareholder in Pittard Perry & Crone in the Goldsboro, N.C. office. His areas of concentration include not-for-profit organizations, medical practices and governmental audits, as well as providing income tax preparation, planning and business advisory services. In 2007, Jordan was appointed for a second term to the North Carolina State Board of CPA Examiners for three years. He was elected president of the State Board of CPA Examiners in March 2009. Jordan resides in Goldsboro with his wife, Ellen and their two daughters.

Jamie Sykes '93 has joined Sport Supply Group Inc. (SSG) as sales manager for Southeastern North Carolina. Sykes will be based in Fayetteville and provide direct team sales representation to schools, universities, recreation departments, and travel teams throughout the region for SSG divisions Bocock Sports and Dixie Sporting Goods. Sykes is a Fayetteville native and former president of a local sporting goods company.

95 Jan Nicholson Hill '95 has had her book, *Interim Minister Saddle Your Horse: A United Methodist Intentional Interim's Story* published by the The Intentional Growth Center. For more information, visit www.IntentionalGrowthCenter.org.



Michael C. Jordan '93

96 Jeremy Wiernasz '96, a member of TPC Scottsdale's professional staff for the past three years, has been named head golf professional at TPC San Antonio. TPC San Antonio will open in January 2010 with 36 holes of golf designed by two of golf's most innovative architects: Pete Dye and Greg Norman. Situated on 2,800 rolling acres at the base of the beautiful Texas Hill Country, both the AT&T Canyons Course by Pete Dye and AT&T Oaks Course by Greg Norman are being built with the infrastructure to be host venues for PGA TOUR tournaments.

98 Donald M. Warren '98, '00 completed a Master of Arts in Church Music from Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary (GETS) in Evanston, Illinois in May of 2009. GETS is a seminary of The United Methodist Church. He is currently pursuing ordination as a Deacon in The North Carolina Conference of The United Methodist Church and certification in Music Ministry. Upon completing the degree, Donald has moved back to Fayetteville while searching for a ministry position in the North Carolina Conference.

01 Chad Collins '01 locked up his PGA Tour card for 2010 with his third runner-up finish of the year. Collins earned \$56,700 and moved from No. 15 to No. 9 on the money list with \$255,514.

03 Bobbie Jessel '03 received her master's degree in international relations from Troy University in May 2009.

06 Tracy Renfro '06 has opened her own fitness training studio. The studio, "Fitness Dynamics", is located at 150 Andrews Road in Fayetteville, N.C. Tracy is a certified personal trainer.

07 Colleen Walsh '07 received her MBA from University of Massachusetts at Dartmouth in May 2009. Colleen currently works for Titleist.

Rebecca Marie Lewis '08 successfully completed the North Carolina State Board of Certified Public Accountant Examiners' Uniform CPA Examination, by passing one or more sections in the second quarter. The tests cover four areas: auditing, financial accounting and reporting, regulation and business environments.

09 Rahila Muhibi '09 was featured in the *Los Angeles Times*, *The Richmond Times Dispatch*, and *The Fayetteville Observer* for her philanthropic activities in her home country of Afghanistan. She is in London, England, pursuing a master's degree.



Coach DeeDee Jarman had 18 alumnae returned on Homecoming for an alumnae game and reunion at the Riddle Center. Returning alumnae were thrilled to see the new Methodist Monarch statue that has been installed in front of the Riddle Center, compliments of an anonymous alumnus donor! This Monarch seemed pretty friendly, though, as they all gathered around him for a photo. *Kneeling (L-R):* Regina Reeves '07 and Lauren Maloney '04. *Standing, L to R:* Alexandra "Zan" Messer '09, Jennifer Mish '02, Christen Snyder '05, Ashley Smith '07, Yolanda McNeill '05, and Amanda Underwood '09. *Back Row, L to R:* Brandy McCollum '03, Amy Todd '99, Stacy Williams '07, Doris "Dee" Richards '06, Melody Dark '02, Mary Beth Warfford '03, Chasale Hester '08, and Allison Compton '04.

THE MONARCH MASCOT

Given by a Methodist University alumnus to honor coaches and student athletes who have excelled in their respective sport—both academically and athletically—and by so doing, have exhibited the skills, self-discipline, enthusiasm, cooperation, and good sportsmanship of champions. Go Monarchs!



Homecoming 2009 marked the first-ever Professional Tennis Management (PTM) Alumni Reunion! Coach Pete Petersen arranged for Mark Faber '94 and Kristine Broadwell '99 to give a tennis seminar on the morning of October 17. Following the seminar, alumni played current PTM students while fans cheered them on. The eleven Alumni playing included Carlos McKenzie '69; Jerry Monday '71; Mark Faber '94; Mary Mercer '98; Kristine Broadwell '99; Kevin Criscoe, Kevin Caccia, Glen Kitner, and Ben Porter '04; Keith Criscoe '06; and Julie Angrick '07. The alumni soundly defeated the PTM students. Coach Petersen says the next alumni reunion is a work in progress.

MU Alumni Association Presents

2009 Alumni

Awards



The Methodist University Alumni Association presented the 2009 Alumni Awards during the “Lunch on the Green” held on Homecoming day, Oct. 17. Dr. M. Elton Hendricks, 2006 recipient of the Distinguished Alumnus Award on the occasion of the 50th anniversary of the University, presented the 2009 Distinguished Alumnus Award to **Jim Darden, class of 1969.**

Darden was very active as a student at Methodist. He served on the Student Judicial Council, was senior class president, and served as the cornerstone of the then-Methodist College men’s basketball program. Darden played for Coach Gene Clayton from 1965-69 and was a Dixie Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (DIAC) 1st team All-Conference selection all four seasons. Darden, who was honored at the 2001 DIAC conference tournament as one of Methodist College’s top-10 all-time players, still holds three DIAC tournament records as well as the NCAA-III record for single-game rebounds with 36. He was inducted into the Methodist University Hall of Fame in 2001. He was a scholar athlete—he graduated cum laude from Methodist and went on to Duke to earn a master’s degree in science education.

Jim is the owner of Darden’s Nursery and Landscaping, a wholesale container azalea nursery and landscape design and installation business located in Clinton, N.C. For 25 years, he served as chair of the Horticulture Technology Department at Sampson Community College in Clinton, a position he retired from in 2004. In 2005, he returned to Methodist as full-time horticulturist, and in this capacity, he has completely altered the landscape with numerous beautification projects that keep the campus blooming year-round. He was also deeply engaged in the planning and implementation of the bioretention ponds that dot the landscape around the new Science Building and Nimocks Fitness Center, which preserve native flora and prevent erosion and runoff.

In 2006, the Alumni Association presented Darden with the Outstanding Alumni Service Award for his service as a member of the Alumni Association Board of Directors and for his many donations of plants and shrubs from his nursery that grace the campus and help to create a pleasing atmosphere for students, faculty, staff, and visitors.

Jim has written three books and he lectures frequently on camellias and other horticultural topics. He is a member of and has served as president of the Fayetteville Camellia Club, and is on the Cape Fear Botanical Garden Board of Directors.

He is married to Mary N. Darden and they have two sons, James and Jeff.

The Outstanding Alumni Service Award was given to **The Rev. James Malloy, Jr. ’78.** Rev. Malloy served on the Alumni Association Board in the 1990’s, and was anxious to become involved again when a new church appointment brought him within traveling distance of the campus. He has served on the MU Alumni Association Board since 2007. He brings his church youth group to assist in beautifying the campus every year during the Clergy/Laity Friends (now the Friends Association) Work Days in July. He is always available to help with Homecoming activities and promotes Methodist in numerous ways, including giving the Greatest Gift Scholarship, Pastor’s Certificate, and donating items for the Alumni Endowed Scholarship Fund Silent Auction every year. He attends the alumni luncheon held during the North Carolina Conference of the United Methodist Church’s Annual Conference each year, and recently he has been involved in alumni and student efforts to re-charter the Lambda Chi Alpha Fraternity at Methodist.

As a student at Methodist, Rev. Malloy served as president of the Student Government Association, was a member of Lambda Chi Alpha, served as yearbook editor, and participated in the Masque Keys theater group.



The Outstanding Faculty/Staff Award for 2009 went to **Ron Foster, PA-C ’90.** In 1992 Ron Foster became the medical officer of then Methodist College, and in 1994 he began developing the Physician Assistant Program. He went on to become the director of Methodist’s Medical Science Division and assisted in taking Methodist to a graduate level institution with the addition of the Master of Medical Science in physician assistant studies degree—Methodist’s first master’s degree program. From 1995-2003 he served as director/founder of the Methodist College Physician Assistant Program and director of the Student Health/Women’s Health Clinic, and he returned to Methodist University in 2005 as director of the Physician Assistant Program. He presides over one of the most successful PA programs in the state, with graduates consistently achieving a 98 percent pass rate on national exams. And it is a growing program, with plans to break ground next year on two new buildings that will allow for admission of 15 additional students per year to address the shortage of health professionals in North Carolina.

Ron Foster is a charter member of the N.C. Academy of Physician Assistants and also serves on the PA Advisory Committee for the N.C. Board of Medical Examiners, the Leadership Committee of the N.C. Academy of Physician Assistants, the Committee of Infectious Disease, the N.C. Medical Society, and others.



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Loyalty Day 2010 Tuesday, February 9

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CORRECTIONS TO 2008 ANNUAL REPORT

Please note the corrections below to our 2008 Annual Report. We sincerely apologize for the oversights, and value your friendship and support.

CIRCLE OF EXCELLENCE (\$25,000.00 to \$49,999)

North Carolina Community Foundation, Inc.
Ms. Terri Union & Mr. Carlos Zukowski

TRUSTEES ASSOCIATES (\$10,000.00 to \$29,999)

U M Higher Education Foundation

DEAN'S SOCIETY (\$1,000.00 to \$4,999)

General Board of Higher Education & Ministry
The Rev. Dr. and Mrs. Brian Gentle
United Methodist Women North Carolina Conference
Mr. & Mrs. L. Stacy Weaver, Jr.




Visit MU's online alumni directory, **Monarch Connections**, today! To sign up, go to www.methodist.edu, click on Alumni, then click on the Monarch Connections logo or links and follow the log-in instructions.

Once logged in you can:

- Search the **directory** for your MU friends and former faculty by name
- Search by **year** and by geographic region
- Click on any alumni e-mail address to **send an e-mail**
- Edit your own information (i.e., add a full profile)
- Post and read **Class Notes**, including photos (Class Notes will automatically be picked up for publication in the next *MU Today*)
- Volunteer as a **Mentor** or search for one

All members of **Monarch Connections** receive periodic updates and the *Monarch Monitor*, MU's Alumni E-newsletter, from the University. Comments or questions? Contact us at alumnioffice@methodist.edu or call (910) 630-7200 or (800) 488-7110 – we'd love to hear from you!



What better way to celebrate the holiday season
than by giving a gift that will benefit a student
or an academic program?

Gifts must be postmarked by Thursday, December 31, 2009,
to be eligible for a 2009 charitable deduction.

We hope that you will consider including Methodist University
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Students reflect on how their Methodist University experience is empowering them for the future.



*Heather Schneider
Class of 2009*

I love the size of Methodist University and its Christian affiliation. I am majoring in Justice Studies with a concentration in Forensic Science. I feel tremendous pride and sense of ownership of the forensic program at MU. I work as a lab assistant in our forensic science lab which means I virtually have unlimited hands-on experience in my field of study. I interned with CSI in Las Vegas, which allowed me to see more action in six weeks than an entire semester in Fayetteville. It was very fast-paced, but I had so much lab experience that they treated me more like a colleague than an intern.

I plan on getting my master's degree and then pursuing a career in academia or research. Las Vegas told me they would love to have me test and join their team.



*Ralph Chew
Class of 2011*

As part of the Student Activities Committee, I bring a lot of fun to campus. I helped to bring the performance of comedian

Jen Kober to campus and she was hilarious. We also hosted Recycled Percussion, a group that boasts the fastest single-stroke drummer in the world.

I perform myself as part of the Gospel Choir. We're more of a family than a choir. We visit various churches and organizations and it's encouraging when people tell you how much joy you bring them.

I'm a junior majoring in Education. I have already completed field experience at Westarea Elementary School and Howard Hall Classical School. Our department offers great opportunities to connect with teachers and public schools in Cumberland County. Because of my experiences here at Methodist, I know I'll graduate prepared to be an effective teacher.

MU coaches won me over. They were so welcoming – and persistent – I chose to come to Methodist to major in Biology and play shortstop for the Monarchs. As a student-athlete, I feel like I'm on two teams. I'm surrounded by people who cheer me on, in the classroom and on the field. The Biology program is tough but it gives me lots of options. I'm considering grad school for physical therapy.



*Brian Inghram
Class of 2011*

I love being a part of Men's choir, the MU Chorale and the Fellowship of Christian Athletes. I'm grateful that Coach Austin and Mr. Martin, the choir director, are flexible and they help me juggle commitments.

I've gained so much from being a student-athlete that I'm using baseball as a way to give something back. I just finished my second mission trip with my Dad, teaching kids in Nicaragua to play baseball. I like to think I shared the word of God and a little MU spirit, too.



The Yellow Ribbon That's as Good as Gold.

Methodist University is a participant in the Yellow Ribbon Program (Chapter 33). If you are a qualified veteran or family member, you may be able to attend Methodist University tuition-free with no student loans. At Methodist University we are committed to supporting active duty military families and the veteran community.



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