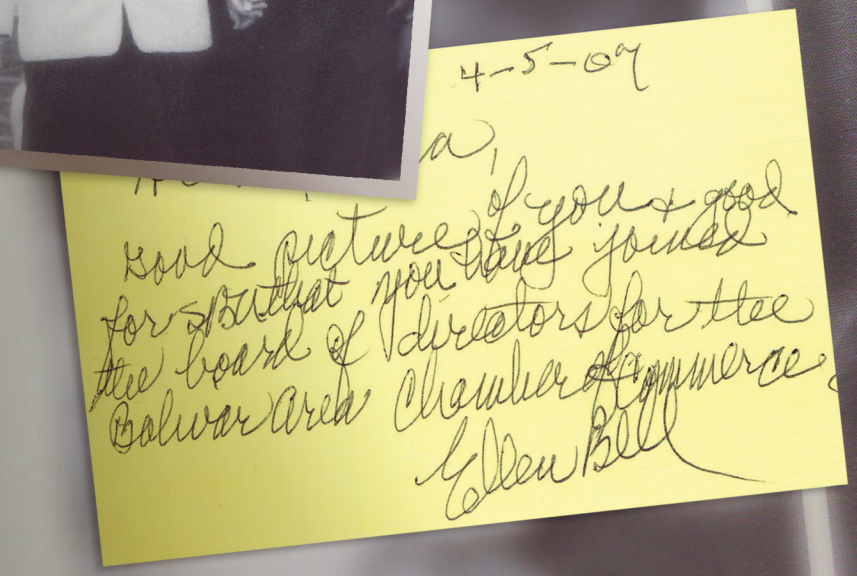
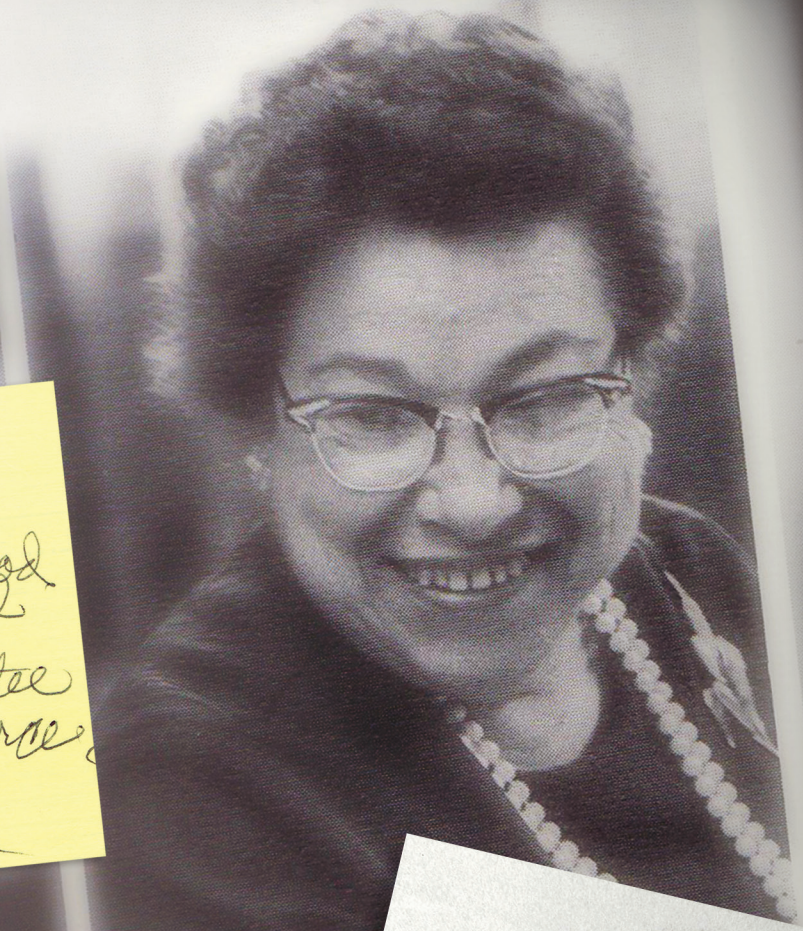
SBUlife

Magazine of Southwest Baptist University **Summer 2011**







Ellen Bell

Memories of an Encouraging life





One of the challenges of my job is to articulate what is different about SBU.

Our students enjoy small classes with world-class faculty. We have great facilities. We have a beautiful campus. We offer a liberal arts education with professional development opportunities. We provide some of the best scholarships and financial aid packages for a private college our size. Our faculty and staff strive to create a Christ-centered, caring academic community.

And… so do our sister schools in the International Association of Baptist Colleges and Universities and the Council of Christian Colleges and Universities.

So, I ask myself at least once a day: "*What sets SBU apart from other colleges and universities? What sets us apart from other Christian colleges and universities?*"

I've decided that this task is like trying to describe what is special about one's kids or one's spouse. You really can't be objective in describing someone you love. If you love SBU, it probably isn't because it's a first-rate academic institution or because we sent several athletes to national competitions this year.

If you love SBU, it's because it's family.

It's why Ellen Bell, our cover story, spent a lifetime encouraging her fellow staff members, the SBU faculty, and countless students. She loved SBU, and it was family to her. At her funeral, there were many of us from SBU in attendance, and we all had a story about how Dr. Bell (or Ma Bell, Ding Dong Bell, or Miss Bell) had encouraged us. Like every family reunion, there also were a few stories about how Dr. Bell had put someone in their place!

It's why so many of you supported the Chapel renovation; the Chapel is part of your family story. It's why so many of you will come to Homecoming in October; many SBU stories are told at these family reunions, and you don't want to miss them.

I have heard so many stories from our students about how they were going to another school until they came to visit SBU, and SBU just felt right. Those students graduate and tell me how the SBU family impacted them and made a difference in their lives.

If I am wearing SBU gear out in public, I can count on someone stopping me and telling me an SBU story. Usually, it is about how glad they are that they went to SBU or how glad they are that their child or spouse went to SBU. They tell me SBU family stories.

So, there really isn't anything different about SBU, except that our students and alumni cannot be found anywhere else. It's family.

Sharina Smith

Executive Editor

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SBUlife

Magazine of Southwest Baptist University
Summer 2011



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The 2010-2011 academic year has been an unusual year. SBU has had numerous positive events this year; however, we have had challenges. We have lost several loved ones this year. In June, we lost a good friend when Bill Jester died after a brief illness. In November, Jack Shewmaker, a great friend and outstanding donor, died suddenly. In February, two staff members lost their spouses. Rick Gallamore, husband of Diana (director of University missions) and friend of many SBU students, passed away unexpectedly after surgery. Ray Christian, husband of Rose (physical therapy secretary), passed away after battling cancer. More recently, we lost Theo Clark, former Dean of Women at SBU. The Clark family has been instrumental in many of SBU's successes and I am very pleased we named the Success Center the Ed and Theo Clark Success Center. And then, Ellen Bell died on April 19.

Ellen came to work at SBU on May 8, 1950. Since that day, she loved students and loved our University. Generations of students, faculty and staff returned her love. She served as administrative assistant for six SBU chief executives, presidents and interim presidents: John Dowdy, J.E. Rains, Dean Orien B. Hendrix, Robert Craig, Courts Redford and Jim Sells. After retiring as administrative assistant in 1990 at age 70, she worked the next ten years in the development office. I had the privilege of working with her during my early years at SBU. Any time I wanted information about a former student, graduate, or anyone associated with SBU, I would ask Ellen. She knew everyone and knew about them. After she retired for the second time, at age 80, after 50 years of service to SBU, she stayed close to the University. Judy and I would often go to dinner with her and learn more about SBU's history. There is no way to measure the positive influence she had on our students. She was known as Ma Bell, Ding Dong, Ms. Ellen, and to our more recent students, as Dr. Bell. Bestowing the honorary doctorate on Ellen Bell was one of the best things we have done. She was very deserving and certainly earned the honorary doctorate. All of us will miss her.

We have many positive things to focus on as we end the 2010-2011 academic year. Actually, we have had many successes this year that lead me to believe that the State of the University is healthy and exciting.

The 2010-2011 fiscal year was the best fundraising year in the history of SBU. The total amount given to SBU this year was $6,850,340. Our previous record year was 2005-2006 when we received gifts totaling $6,714,000. We were in the middle of the fundraising campaign for the Jane and Ken Meyer Wellness and Sports Center during 2005-2006. This year, 2010-2011, we were blessed with estate gifts from Bill Jester, Robert and Ruth Powell, and Ellen Bell. We also received gifts of $1,150,000 for the renovation of the Mabee Chapel this year. SBU truly is blessed with many friends and alumni who give generously to the University.

In December, the renovation of Mabee Chapel was begun. Bob Glidwell, Director of the SBU Physical Plant, served as the construction manager and did a great job. The project came in slightly under our $1,500,000 budget and was completed on time. The newly renovated chapel is beautiful. The new lights and sound system make a significant difference in the quality of programming we can provide in Mabee Chapel. On May 9, during our spring Board of Trustees meeting, a dedication service was held. Dr. Charles Graham, SBU alumnus, presented a concert.

One of the successes of which I am most proud is the progress we have made in missions this year: we will have 432 students and staff members involved in mission projects. This year we have had more students involved in missions than ever before. This is a great testimony for our missions' staff and a great indicator of the quality of students we have at SBU.

Because of our commitment to a stellar missions program and to the Great Commission, we are graduating students committed to doing God's work around the world. The very first missionary to Russia, after the fall of the Iron Curtain, is Mel Skinner, a 1985 SBU graduate. The sun, literally, never sets on SBU as we have graduates doing Kingdom work all over the globe.

Today, the State of our University is strong for many reasons, including our commitment to be a Great Commission University. And I believe with every fiber of my being, that God will continue to bless our University as long as we remain committed to being a "Christ-centered, caring academic community preparing students to be servant leaders in a global society," and we remain committed to being a Great Commission University.

C. Pat Taylor
President

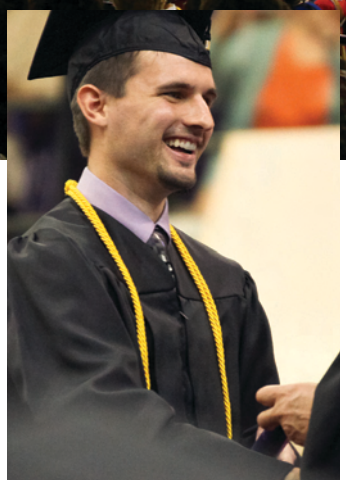




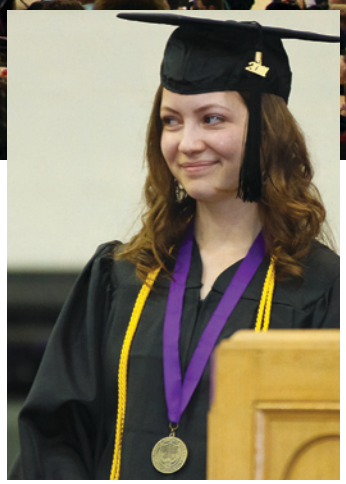
Dr. Michael Arrington



Dr. Rosalyn Snellen and Dr. C. Pat Taylor



Brandon Griffin



Holly Stubbs

SBU Spring Commencement 2011

SBU's Life Beautiful Awards for 2011 graduates were announced at Spring Commencement on May 21, 2011. Guest speaker was Dr. Michael Arrington, executive director of the International Association of Baptist Colleges and Universities.

The Life Beautiful Presentations were made by President Pat Taylor and Provost William Brown. The female recipient of the Life Beautiful Award for 2011 was Holly Stubbs, and the male recipient was Brandon Griffin. Their biographies follow below.

Holly Stubbs

Holly Stubbs is from Urbana, Ill., and graduated summa cum laude receiving a Bachelor of Arts in theatre and English. She was recognized in Who's Who Among Students in American Colleges and Universities. She is a member of Chi Sigma Theta, Phi Eta Sigma and Alpha Chi. Stubbs also was a Gordon and Judy Dutile Honors Student. For her Honors Capstone Project, Stubbs compiled and translated a Russian-language theater script, originally performed at the St. Petersburg Art Academy, where she studied for a semester.

Stubbs has been on several SBU mission trips, including China and South Asia. She grew up in Kazakhstan, where her parents were teachers and missionaries. She has been accepted to teach in China through the English Language Institute in China. She attends a home church in Bolivar.

In addition, Stubbs was an Irene Ryan semi-finalist through the Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival for her SBU performance in DOUBT.

Dr Taylor said, "Holly is a Christian who is committed to missions, both at home and abroad. One faculty member described her as exuding grace, kindness and humility no matter what the circumstance."

Stubb's parents, Gale and Alisa Stubbs, are both SBU graduates from the class of 1981.

Brandon Griffin

Brandon Griffin is from Mountain Home, Ark., and graduated summa cum laude with a Bachelor of Arts in biblical studies and

a Bachelor of Arts in psychology. He was recognized in Who's Who Among Students in American Colleges and Universities, is a member of Alpha Chi, Theta Alpha Kappa, and vice president of Psi Chi.

He is a student member of the Midwest Sociological Society, and presented papers at the Midwest Psychology Symposium in 2009 and 2010. Griffin attended the Missouri Governor's Student Leadership Forum in 2010. Griffin won the Outstanding Theology Department Scholar Award, and has served as an SBU Ambassador since 2009.

Griffin participated in the SBU mission trip to Baja in 2009 and a medical mission trip to Brazil with a group of doctors from his hometown. He is a member of First Baptist Church of Mountain Home and was a key volunteer in founding the Journey Church in Bolivar.

Griffin is captain of the SBU men's soccer club team, and he is coach of a girls' soccer team in Springfield. He served as the Polk County Drug Court Intern and Research Assistant.

Dr Taylor said, "Brandon is known by the faculty as someone who is humble and intent on self-improvement. He consistently pursues academic excellence and knowledge. He has been described as conscientious, kind, and as a person who consistently thinks of the concerns and needs of others. He has been recognized by faculty as a servant leader."

Brandon's parents are Eddie and Becki Griffin.

The Life Beautiful Award

The Life Beautiful Award was established in 1937 by Rosalee Mills Appleby, a career missionary to Brazil. This award is given annually to an outstanding man and woman in the Southwest Baptist University spring graduating class. These individuals have demonstrated by their scholarship and character that they are living a "life beautiful." The faculty selects the recipients, whose identities remain confidential until commencement.

Dr. Kevin Hopkins Awarded the Parkway Distinguished Professor Award at SBU

Southwest Baptist University Professor and Department Chair of Mathematics Dr. Kevin Hopkins has been awarded the Parkway Distinguished Professor Award from Parkway Baptist Church. Dr. Hopkins will be recognized during the 2011 fall formal convocation for this achievement.

Dr. Kevin Hopkins began his career at SBU in 1989 and has served as the chair of the mathematics department for 22 of those years. He has led the department to be on the cutting edge of the use of technology in teaching mathematics. He has overseen several revisions of the mathematics curriculum during this time as well. He has also led the department to host multiple mathematics contests for elementary, middle, and high school students each year.

Following are details from the nomination narrative submitted for Dr. Hopkins:

In addition to serving as the mathematics department chair, Dr. Hopkins teaches upper level mathematics classes and general education mathematics classes. He uses technology extensively and adds humor to his classes by composing and performing mathematics related songs.

Hopkins is a wonderful ambassador for the University, the mathematics department, and ultimately the Lord in his work with elementary, middle, and high school students across the state. Dr. Hopkins consistently organizes multiple mathematics contests each year in which hundreds of students visit the SBU campus to compete. He also organizes and leads multiple mathematics contest camps in the summer at SBU where many students learn mathematics within a Christian environment. His Christian influence has touched the lives of countless people, including students, parents, and teachers, through these activities.

Hopkins has stayed active in his field by attending and presenting at numerous state and national conferences. He has been a grader of AP Calculus tests for the last nine or ten years. He was the recipient of the Faculty Life Beautiful Award in 2006 as voted on by the SBU faculty. He also received the College of Science and Mathematics Faculty Service Award in 2007.



PHOTO: *Dr. Kevin Hopkins, SBU Professor and Department Chair of Mathematics, Parkway Distinguished Professor award.*

Hopkins is a faithful and active member of First Baptist Church in Bolivar. He sings in the choir, plays in the hand bell choir, publishes his Sunday school class email newsletter, and is the secretary of the fellowship of deacons. Over the years he has served in many ways in numerous ministries such as children's choirs and vacation Bible school.

He earned a Bachelor of Arts in mathematics and physics from Greenville College in 1983. He earned a Master of Science in 1986 and Ph.D. in 1989 both in mathematics from the University of Illinois Urbana/Champaign. He is married to Lori, and they have two children, Megan, a sophomore at Oklahoma Baptist University and Eric, a senior at Bolivar High School.






Founders' Day 2011

SBU Awarded Two Honorary Doctorates on Founders Day

SBU celebrated Founders' Day with a formal chapel program on May 11 in Pike Auditorium on the Bolivar campus. Dr. C. Pat Taylor, SBU president, delivered the address.

During the program two honorary doctorates were awarded. Missouri National Guard State Chaplain (Colonel) Gary Gilmore '79 presented Chaplain (Major General) Douglas Lanier Carver to SBU for an honorary Doctor of Divinity degree, and Assistant to the SBU President Ashley Dinwiddie presented Brigadier General Parker Campbell Thompson '46 to SBU for an honorary Doctor of Divinity degree.

A tribute to the late Dr. Ellen Bell was made by Dr. C. Pat Taylor. [see special feature on Dr. Bell, p. 12]

Biographies of Honorary Doctorate Recipients

Chaplain Douglas Lanier Carver

A native of Rome, Georgia, Chaplain Douglas L. Carver became the 22nd Chief of Chaplains, United States Army, on July 12, 2007. He holds a Bachelor of Arts Degree in religious studies from the University of Tennessee at Knoxville, a Master of Divinity from the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, Ky., and a Master of Science in strategic studies from the Army War College in Carlisle, Pa. An ordained Southern Baptist minister, he has pastored churches in several states.

In June 1973 he was recognized as a Distinguished Military Graduate and appointed as a Regular Army Officer in the Field Artillery Branch of the United States Army. After serving on active duty for six years, he resigned his commission to enter the ministry. He was subsequently commissioned as an Army Chaplain in June 1984. His Field Artillery assignments included serving as a Forward Observer, Assistant Executive Officer, Executive Officer, Battery Commander, Brigade Fire Support Officer, and Personnel Officer with the 1st Battalion, 19th Field Artillery, Fort Carson, Colo.

Chaplain Carver's previous assignments include serving as the 22nd Deputy Chief of Chaplains, United States Army, at the Pentagon in Washington, DC; the Director of Training, United States Army Chaplain Center and School, Fort Jackson, S. C.; CJTF-7 Chaplain, OPERATION IRAQI FREEDOM, Baghdad, Iraq; V Corps Chaplain, Heidelberg, Germany; Deputy Command Chaplain, United States Army, Europe

(USAREUR), Heidelberg, Germany; Installation Chaplain, Fort Campbell, Ky.; Division Chaplain, 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault), Fort Campbell, Ky.; Career Management Officer, Office of the Chief of Chaplains, Pentagon; Assistant Training and Doctrine Command Chaplain (TRADOC), Fort Monroe, Va.; Assistant Staff Chaplain, Mannheim Military Community, Mannheim, Germany; 3rd Brigade Chaplain, Fort Campbell, Ky.; and Eagle Support Brigade and 29th Transportation Battalion Chaplain, Fort Campbell, Kentucky. His awards and decorations include the Legion of Merit (1 Oak Leaf Cluster), the Bronze Star, the Meritorious Service Medal (4 OLC), the Joint Service Commendation Medal, the Army Commendation Medal (2 OLC), the Army Achievement Medal, the Army Staff Identification Badge, the Parachutist Badge, the Air Assault Badge, and the Ranger Tab. Chaplain Carver is a recipient of the Clyde T. Francisco Preaching Award (1982) from the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary.

In 1995 he received the Witherspoon Chaplain's Award from the Layman's National Bible Association for outstanding service rendered by a military chaplain in the promotion of Bible reading and study among military families.

Chaplain Carver and his wife, Sunny, have two daughters and four grandchildren.



left to right Missouri National Guard State Chaplain (Colonel) Gary Gilmore '79, Chaplain (Major General) Douglas Lanier Carver, SBU President C. Pat Taylor, Brigadier General Parker Campbell Thompson '46, and Assistant to the SBU President Ashley Dinwiddie.

Brigadier General Parker Campbell Thompson '46

BGEN Parker Campbell Thompson is a native of St. Louis. He attended high school in St. Louis and then enrolled at Southwest Baptist College receiving an Associate of Arts in 1946. He completed his undergraduate degree at William Jewell College and graduated with a Bachelor of Arts in 1948. In 1951, he earned the Master of Divinity from the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary and a Doctor of Ministry in 1980 from Eastern Baptist Theological Seminary in Philadelphia. His military education included US Army Chaplain's School, Basic, Company, Advanced Courses, Command and General Staff College, and Industrial College of the Armed Forces.

BGEN Thompson served three years in the Infantry and his chaplain service began in 1952 at Camp Atterbury, Indiana. He then served with the 3rd Infantry Division in Korea where he was wounded and decorated. Following duty at Ft. Leonard Wood, Mo., and Ft. Knox, Ky., he served with the 3rd Armor Division in Germany. Following another tour at Ft. Leonard Wood, he was assigned to the Berlin Brigade. In 1967 he was Division Chaplain of the 1st Calvary Division in Vietnam where he was wounded again, and in 1968 served as the Division Chaplain of the 25th Infantry Division. Other assignments following Vietnam were Director of the Non-Resident Department of the Chaplain's School, Post Chaplain at Ft. Dix, New Jersey, and Command Chaplain of the Test and Evaluation Command with sites from Ft. Greely, Alaska to Ft. Clayton, Panama.

A heavily decorated officer, BGEN Thompson was awarded the Legion of Merit (1 Oak Leaf Cluster); Bronze Star with "V" Device for Valor (2 OLC); Purple Heart (1 OLC), Meritorious Service Medal (1 OLC), Air Medal, Army Commendation Medal (1 OLC); WWII Occupation Medal with Germany Bar; National Defense Service Medal (1 OLC); Korean Service Medal (3 Campaign Stars); Vietnam Service Medal (4 Campaign Stars); United Nations Korean Medal with Korea Bar; Vietnam Campaign Medal with 1960 Bar and the Republic of Korea Service Medal. He received military unit awards for Army Meritorious Unit Citation; Korean Presidential Unit Citation; Greek Gold Medal for Bravery; Republic of Vietnam Gallantry Cross Unit Citation and Republic of Vietnam Civic Action Honor Medal Unit Citation. In addition, he received civilian honors including the Knight's Cross, Order of St. John of Jerusalem, which is the oldest Order of Chivalry in Europe. Since 1058 A. D., the Knight's Cross has designated knighthood. He also received The Chapel of the Four Chaplains' Hall of Heroes Medal.

Since his retirement from military service in 1980, he has served as pastor of two churches in Virginia, currently serving at North Fork Baptist Church in Purcellville. Also, he is an author, editor, researcher, and he taught classes in Chaplain History for ten years at the United States Army Chaplain's Center and School in Ft. Monmouth, NJ.



BSW program director, Christine Saladino, instructing students

SBU to Begin Bachelor of Social Work Degree

SBU students interested in helping others will have a new degree opportunity beginning in the fall of 2011. SBU is developing a Bachelor of Social Work (BSW) degree program.

A BSW degree prepares students with the knowledge base, professional values, and skills to professionally intervene with individuals, families, groups, and communities in diverse practice settings. Social workers can be found in nonprofit and government agencies, schools, hospitals, hospices, universities, legislatures, private practices, corporations, and the military.

Graduates from BSW programs are prepared for entry-level positions in the social work field. In many states, including Missouri, social workers can get licensed at the bachelor's level. The BSW degree is a prerequisite for such licensure.

"I believe social work is a natural extension of SBU's mission, which includes 'preparing students to be servant leaders in a global society'," said Christine Saladino, the BSW program director. "Professional social workers serve vulnerable populations across the globe."

Saladino said the social work profession developed more than 100 years ago to address and mitigate social problems including poverty, chronic illness, addiction, abuse and discrimination.

"The BSW program is something this department has talked about, even dreamt about, for some time" said Dr. Kevin Schriver, chair of the department of behavioral sciences. "We are excited to see this program of study come to SBU. It will give the University an additional academic major to expand our Christian mission."

The BSW program is seeking accreditation by the Council on Social Work Education (CSWE). The first accreditation visit by CSWE was conducted in January 2011. The CSWE Commission on Accreditation voted in its June meeting to award SBU's BSW program with candidacy status. Candidacy is the next step in the accreditation process through CSWE.

"Candidacy marks an important step in the development of the program" said Saladino, the BSW program director. "It also means that, according to CSWE standards, students who enter the program will be considered graduates of an accredited program."

A series of benchmarks and site visits must be completed before the program is granted full accreditation. The program will be eligible for full accreditation in three years.

The BSW program has also added a second faculty member. Amanda Keys, MSW, LCSW, has been hired as the director of field education. In addition to teaching social work courses, Keys will be responsible for the development and oversight of the field program. BSW students in their senior year will complete two practicum experiences in local social services agencies for a total of 450 hours.

"This candidacy status continues to confirm the quality of education SBU provides is exceptional. It also helps social work graduates to be competitive within the human service profession" said Keys.

The BSW program at SBU will prepare students for entry-level positions in the social work field. According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor statistics, the profession is growing faster than average for all occupations, especially in the areas of aging and health care services. There are currently more than 640,000 professional social workers employed in the United States.

Applications for admission are currently being accepted and will be considered on a space available basis. Inquires about the program should be directed to Christine Saladino, the BSW program director, at 417-328-1736 or visit www.sbuniv.edu/bsw.

Dr. and Mrs. Kitchin Retire

BY LEEANN KLINE '11

Serving the Southwest Baptist University community since 1984, the Kitchins bid the University farewell as they enter retirement. Dr. Bob Kitchin, former chairman of the department of chemistry and physics, prepared students to excel inside the classroom. Ann Kitchin, former bibliographic instruction librarian at the Harriett K. Hutchens Library in Bolivar, equipped students outside of the classroom.



With a rich academic background, Dr. Bob Kitchin received his bachelor's degree in chemistry from Mississippi State University in 1968. Then he launched his career by working as a research chemist for Pratt and Whitney Aircraft in Middletown, Connecticut, where he conducted research for two years on fuel cells for the Apollo spacecraft. Later, he worked as an analytical chemist for the Miss. State Chemical Laboratory in Starkville, Mississippi. He earned a Doctor of Philosophy degree in physical chemistry with a graduate minor in physics (mechanics) from Mississippi State University in 1976. Before joining SBU, Bob taught at Holmes Community College in Goodman, Miss. and two years at Graceland College in Lamoni, Iowa.

Ann Kitchin received her Bachelor of Arts from William Carey College in 1966, master's degree in education from the University of Southern Mississippi in 1969, education specialist degree from Mississippi State University in 1970 and a master's degree in library science from the University of Southern Mississippi in 1988. Prior to serving at SBU, Ann was an elementary school librarian and taught junior high reading in Mississippi. Ann also acted as humanities reference librarian in the library at Mississippi State University.

In their college days, the Kitchins participated in the choir at First Baptist Church Starkville, Mississippi, but they first met when Bob needed an organist for a family wedding, so he asked Ann to play. Before they knew it, they were planning a wedding of their own and got married on June 19, 1971. They had a son, Jonathan. Jonathan and his wife, Renae have three children: Chloe, 7, Ellie, 4, and Benjamin, 2.

The Kitchins heard about the job opening at SBU from Bob's soon-to-be mentor, former dean of the college of arts and sciences Dr. Darrell Strait. Dr. Strait called Bob and told him about an open chemistry position. Bob visited SBU and saw how he could invest in the department. Knowing Bob would

Top: *Students demonstrate chemistry lab skills for Dr. Kitchin*
Middle: *Ann Kitchin assisting student Angela Gaines.*
Bottom: *Dr. and Mrs. Kitchin honored during Spring 2011 commencement by SBU Provost William Brown.*







accept the job offer, Ann was hoping to find employment as well since their son Jonathan was starting kindergarten. The Lord provided as Ann was offered a position as Reference/Circulation Librarian at the Estep Library. "I knew that this was God saying we made the right choice," Ann said. Bolivar became their new home, and they started working in August 1984.

The most memorable experiences they have had while at SBU include their service on committees, developing programs, and relocating their departments. Bob and Ann have served as co-chairs on separate Higher Learning Commission (HLC) committees.

Bob was a member of the 2006 HLC Steering Committee, has served on multiple committees, and is a past President of the Faculty Senate. More than just working on committees, Bob helped start and establish the model for the Dual Credit program at SBU in 1992. (The Dual Credit program allows for students who take certain classes in high school to receive college credit for the same classes.) In January that same year, Bob and his colleagues moved their classrooms and offices from Casebolt to Wheeler Science Center.

In the summer of 1996, Ann aided in the two and a half month process of moving all the books across campus from the former Estep Library to the current Harriett K. Hutchens Library. "We got a little more space than where we were," Ann said.

Although their time has been spent teaching and instructing students, the Kitchins have learned a few things during their 27 years at SBU.

"I learned how to use the computer—things we didn't have before coming to SBU," Bob said. Bob was able to be a part of integrating new equipment and technology into his classroom and labs.

"We've totally revised our Chemistry curriculum since I've come and modernized our equipment by bringing in a micro-computer based physics lab and electronic data collection. We were the first in Missouri to do that," Bob said.

Technology also had a profound effect on the way Ann did her job.

"We went from searching by hand to searching electronically," Ann said. "Going from paper to electronic, it's all the technology that has made things easier to find."

Both have been active at SBU and in the community. Bob was awarded the Parkway Distinguished Professor Award in 2005 and the Faculty Life Beautiful Award in 2010. He also served on the board of Bolivar Live on Stage. As a talented brass musician, Bob has been a member of the First Baptist Church of Bolivar orchestra since 1988, and he has played with the SBU wind symphony off and on since 1993.

Bob also is an active member of the Republic Community Band and has been the secretary of the Board of Directors of the Bolivar Golf Club. He has worked with the Children's Music Ministry program at FBC Bolivar where he has been a Sunday school teacher and was the driving force behind the founding of the Alpha House Crisis Pregnancy ministry.

Although the Kitchins look forward to their retirement, they will miss SBU. "I will miss working with faculty, students, and my library co-workers," Ann said. Bob said he will miss having students come by just to visit. "I will miss the out-of-class rapport with alumni and students," Bob said.

For the future direction of SBU, the Kitchins say that they hope SBU will uphold the values that it currently maintains. "Our hope for SBU's future is that it will remain the same and keep with its mission statement," Ann said.

The Kitchin's contribution to SBU will continue to be greatly appreciated and their presence on campus will be dearly missed.



SBU Women's Track has Record-Setting 2011 Season

By Jeff Weseloh '09

The SBU women's track team produced a record-setting season, both on the track and in the classroom. For the first time in the history of the women's track and field program, the Bearcats produced an All-American track student-athlete. However, not only did the Bearcats produce one All-American, but seven, the most All-American's of any sport in a single year in the history of SBU Athletics.

In the 2011 Indoor Track and Field season, the 4x400 meter relay, comprised of Emma Shell (Cape Girardeau, Mo.), Tyrahnique Thomas (Freeport, Bahamas), Jennifer Gillespie (Addison, Texas), and Katie Dusenberg (Lebanan, Mo.), placed seventh at nationals, earning All-American status. This relay marked the first time in the history of the SBU women's program to have any relay qualify for nationals, and earn All-American status.

"This was such an awesome experience for me and the team," head coach Corey McElhaney '06 commented after the race. "To watch these ladies make SBU history was amazing. They have worked so hard and totally deserve this honor, yet are so humble about all their accomplishments. It's just a great time to be part of the SBU track team."

The Bearcats' success continued in the 2011 Outdoor Track and Field season when the 4x100 meter relay, comprised of Chantel Barnett (Springfield, Mo.), Jasmine Sanford (Brewton, Ala.), Tyrannique Thomas, and Corie Chuning (Excelsiar Springs, Mo.), placed fourth at nationals, the second Bearcat relay to earn All-American status this season. Thomas claimed her second All-American award, the only Bearcat to race in both events. "I am so proud of this team," McElhaney commented after the completion of the race. "You can't ask for a better way for these two seniors [Sanford and Thomas] to end their career."

The SBU women were showered with honors, each claiming All-MIAA, All-Region, and All-American status. The

PHOTOS:

At Left: Chantel Barnett, Jasmine Sanford, Tyrahnique Thomas, and Corie Chuning proudly display their 4x100 meter relay All-American trophies after a fourth place finish at the 2011 NCAA National Championships.

1. Coach Corey McElhaney, Jennifer Gillespie, Tyrahnique Thomas, Katie Dusenberg, Emma Shell, and Coach Andre English pose with their trophies at the 2011 NCAA National Championships.

2. Corie Chuning, Chantel Barnett, and Jasmine Sanford turn to the Lord in prayer prior to their race at the 2011 MIAA Outdoor Track & Field Championships.

3. Emma Shell, Katie Dusenberg, Jennifer Gillespie, and Tyrahnique Thomas display their 4x400 meter relay All-American certificates at the 2011 SBU Track & Field Awards Banquet.

4. Corie Chuning, Chantel Barnett, and Jasmine Sanford recieve their medals from the MIAA Commissioner after placing second at the 2011 MIAA Outdoor Track & Field Championships. The women would go to place 4th at the NCAA National Championships.









women re-wrote the SBU record books in multiple events including shattering the old indoor track and field 4x400 meter relay record by over nine seconds. Individually the women broke a combined eight different school records in the 2011 indoor and outdoor track seasons.

The women showed great success on the track, but even greater success in the classroom. They earned a combined ten academic awards handed out by the MidAmerica Intercollegiate Athletics Association (MIAA). Shell earned the prestigious MIAA Academic Excellence Award, awarded to those who maintain a 4.0 cumulative GPA. Chuning, Dusenberg, Shell, and Thomas all earned the MIAA Scholar-Athlete Award by maintaining a 3.5 cumulative GPA along with earning All-MIAA honors. Chuning, Dusenberg, Gillespie, Shell, and Thomas also were named to the MIAA Academic Honor Roll, an honor awarded by maintaining a 3.0 cumulative GPA.

With four of the seven All-American athletes returning next season for the Bearcats, McElhaney said the women's track and field program looks to be in great shape going into the 2012 season. The Bearcats will look to continue to build upon the success of this year, and strive towards winning an MIAA championship.

Dr. Ellen Bell: Memories of an Encouraging Life

EDITED BY SHARINA SMITH







Editor's Note:

"I am so glad you are here," were the first words I heard from Dr. Ellen Bell shortly after I began work at SBU. Now I have a folder in my desk with all of the handwritten notes of thanks and encouragement she has sent to me over the years. I try to emulate her graceful handwritten note ministry and send notes to my colleagues and students, but I fall far short of my desire to be more like Dr. Bell. She truly had the gift of making people feel like they mattered with a few strokes of her pen. In memory of Dr. Bell, my note cards are now out on my desk and pens are beside them at the ready.

Dr. Bell, each time I write a note I will think fondly of you. I am sure you have already written Jesus to thank Him for the party they had when you got to heaven!

BY DR. C. PAT TAYLOR

Ellen Pauline Bell was born December 27, 1920, in Sedalia, Missouri, to Thomas Emmit and Eva Lee Cox Bell. She was preceded in death by her parents, two sisters, her twin sister Helen Josephine Bell, who died as a child, and sister Marie Simon, two brothers, Cleo Bell and Wallace Bell, a nephew James Bell and a great nephew Danny Bell.

She is survived by a sister-in-law Edna Bell, Kirksville, Mo., a niece Deloris Davis, Freeburg, Ill., and a nephew Johnny Bell and his wife, Evelyn, of Kirksville, Mo. Also surviving are long time caregivers Sharon Garretson and Addie Garretson of Bolivar, Missouri as well as her SBU Family and a host of friends.

Ellen attended elementary school and high school in Sedalia, graduating from Smith-Cotton High School in 1938. She attended Central Business College of Sedalia and completed a business program in 1943. She also attended the University of Missouri-Kansas City and Central Seminary.

During World War II, Ellen worked at the Pratt Whitney Aircraft Corporation as a secretary in the

Medical Department. From 1947 to 1950, she was secretary at the First Baptist Church at Clinton, Missouri.

Then on May 8, 1950, Ellen Bell came to work at Southwest Baptist College. Her decision to move to Bolivar and go to work at a small Baptist junior college changed the course of history for the College and for Ellen. In May of 1950, a love affair between the College and Ellen Bell began. Her love for Southwest Baptist College and later University never wavered. For six decades, countless faculty, staff and students of Southwest Baptist have returned her love.

Generations of students, since 1950, have been impacted by this Godly woman. Students have affectionately known Ellen as Ma Bell, Ding Dong, Ms. Ellen and recent students have known her as Dr. Bell. She loved students and would keep up with them after they graduated. Any time I wanted to know something about a former student, I would ask Ellen. Her knowledge concerning our alumni was amazing.

Her early years at SWBC were spent serving as secretary to six chief executive officers: Dr. John Dowdy, Dr. J.E. Raines, Dean Orien B. Hendrix, Dr. Robert Craig, Dr. Courts Redford and Dr. James Sells. She always found time to work with students. She served as the Pep Club sponsor and at one time was the cheerleaders' advisor. She loved athletics and never wanted to miss a game. Judy would call her before football games and would say, "The weather is not good today, do you want me to pick you up?" Ellen would always say, "Yes, I will be ready."

I have this mental picture of Ellen sitting in her special seat in the southeast corner of the Meyer Center cheering on her Bearcats. I have heard stories about her popping corn during ball games and running the concessions area like a drill sergeant. I have every reason to believe that the current MIAA policy not allowing artificial noise makers at basketball games was passed because of Ellen constantly ringing bells at Bearcat basketball games. This policy probably should be known as the Ellen Bell Rule.

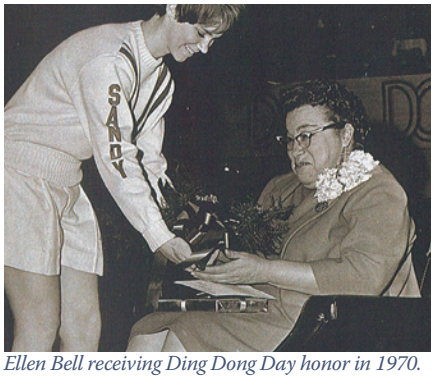
Ms. Bell has received numerous honors from SBU. In 1990, she was presented with an honorary Life Service Award. In 1992, she received the first Staff Life Beautiful award and in 1995 she received the Trustee Medallion. In 2005, I had the privilege of bestowing an honorary doctor's degree on her. When I first told Ellen that we had recommended her for an honorary doctorate and the Board of Trustees had approved it, she was reluctant. She first said that she didn't deserve an honorary doctorate and then she said she wouldn't know what to say in her acceptance speech. I reassured her, and she made an eloquent speech and concluded by telling the students they could now call her Dr. Ding Dong. The students erupted and gave her a standing ovation.

Dr. Bell was a member of First Baptist Church of Bolivar and served in various places of leadership in the church. She served as president and vice-president of membership of the Bolivar Area Community Cancer Association for several years. She served as Secretary of the Polk County Unit of the American Cancer Society and most recently was a member of the High Hopes Group of the Polk County Unit. She also held a membership in the Friends of the Polk County Library. Dr. Bell was a proud member of the SBU Women's Club and the SBU Association of Retired Personnel. Since 1950, she has been active in the life of SBU, First Baptist Church and the Bolivar community.

For her 90th birthday, Judy and I had her to come to our house for lunch with the men's and women's basketball teams. She had a great time that day. She entertained the teams with stories. She played with our dogs, B.C. and Sbu. She enjoyed me coming to the Baptist Home in Ozark and riding to Bolivar in my purple SBU truck, as she called it. But what she enjoyed the most was when my truck got stuck in the mud behind our house. I had driven the truck to the back of the house so Ellen would not have to walk down the steps. It had rained and when we got ready to leave, the truck wouldn't go. She told everyone that I had gotten my purple truck buried in the mud. She truly enjoyed my truck getting stuck in the mud. Ellen always had a great sense of humor.

SBU has lost one of our heroes. Ellen Bell has helped make SBU a successful Christian University. We will miss her. Judy and I will miss her encouragement. After every event, she would write us a thank you note, telling us what a great event we had. She always encouraged us.

What a great blessing she has been to SBU, First Baptist Church and Bolivar for the past 61 years. All of us will miss Dr. Ellen Bell.



Ellen Bell receiving Ding Dong Day honor in 1970.

By Brad Bartlett, Class of 2011

After living in Bolivar for more than 60 years, Dr. Bell relocated to the Baptist Home in Ozark, Mo., last July. She made the transition very well and enjoyed living there. She had numerous friends who visited her in the Baptist Home and continued to attend some of the SBU events she loved so much.

On April 19, 2011, at 2:45 p.m., only months after her 90th birthday, Dr. Ellen Bell passed away and went home to be with her Lord and Savior. Dr. Bell enjoyed visitors up until the time of her death and had been visited that day by her pastor Billy Russell of First Baptist Church of Bolivar, Janet Juhlin, and Judy Taylor. During the visit, Janet and Judy had presented Dr. Bell with a brand new purple SBU Bearcats hat, which she wore proudly. Always the encourager and a friend to any and all, she was with her closest friends when she passed away.

Dr. Bell's presence will always be missed on campus, but her legacy of service, kindness and school spirit will last forever.

By Rev. Billy Russell '85

Ma Bell's spiritual gift was the gift of encouragement. She knew how to acknowledge people and their ministries in quiet, private, but personal ways.

Another thing about Ma, she didn't take herself seriously. She took her God seriously. He gave her the grace to handle things that came to her in her administrative position at SBU with a mark of humility that was evident throughout her life.



SBU HOMECOMING 2011

Cirque Du Southwest

Friday, Oct. 28

8:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.
REGISTRATION CENTER OPEN
Goodson Student Union

10:00 a.m.
HONORS CHAPEL
Life Service Award Presentations
Edwin Lightfoot Distinguished Alumni Award Presentation
Presentation of Homecoming Court
Mabee Chapel

11:00 a.m.
HONOREES' RECEPTION
Mabee Chapel Lobby

11:30 a.m.
50-YEAR CLUB LUNCHEON
McClelland Dining Facility

1:00 – 3:00 p.m.
CLASS OF '61 REUNION
McClelland Dining Facility

2:30 p.m.
CLASS OF '51 REUNION
Blue Home

4:30 p.m.
STUDENT BED RACES
Burnidge Memorial Forum

5:30 – 6:30 p.m.
REUNION CLASS PRE-DINNER SOCIAL
Kresge Room, Mellers Dining Commons

6:30 – 8:30 p.m.
ALL-ALUMNI BANQUET
Recognition of LSA Recipients, Past & Present
(Childcare Provided)
Mellers Dining Commons

8:30 p.m.
MUSIC DEPARTMENT CONCEPT
Mabee Chapel

Sat., Oct. 29

8:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.
REGISTRATION CENTER OPEN
Goodson Student Union

8:30 a.m.
ALUMNI BREAKFAST
Recognition of Lightfoot Award Recipient &
Alumni Association Scholarship Recipients
Mellers Dining Commons

9:30 a.m.
DECADE PARADE WATCHING REUNIONS
Parade Route

10:00 a.m.
HOMECOMING PARADE

11:00 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.
CLUBS & CLUBS CONNECT
Organizations Reunion
Mellers Dining Commons

12:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.
BOOK SIGNING WITH AUTHOR CLYTICE C. DUZAN '48
Goodson Student Union – University Book Store

2:00 p.m.
BEARCAT FOOTBALL GAME & QUEEN CORONATION
SBU vs. Missouri Western State University
Plaster Stadium

**Schedule and event locations are subject to change.*

Please watch your mail later this summer

for your Homecoming registration form.

Registration will be available online beginning August 1.



Lindsay (Lewis) Schindler '04, M.B.A. '09
Director of Alumni Relations
lschindler@sbuniv.edu
800.526.5859, ext 1806

It's a busy summer around the Alumni Office! Homecoming preparations are well-underway, and I hope you'll make plans to join us on October 28 & 29 as we celebrate *Homecoming 2011 – Cirque du Southwest*! It's sure to be a great weekend of reunion and fellowship.

If you graduated in 1951, 1961, 1971, 1981, 1991, or 2001, it's time for your class reunion! Please remember to return your reunion class questionnaire (or complete it online) by October 7.

Many of us developed life-long friendships while at SBU, so be sure to call your friends to make sure they're coming! Online registration will be available for everyone beginning August 1, and a registration brochure will be mailed to your home later this summer. Mark your calendar and make plans to be in Bolivar on October 28 & 29!

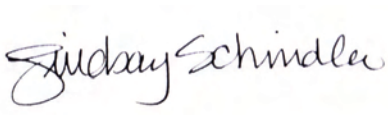
The printed publication of *SBU Life* will be going from three issues to two this year. As a result, it is more important than ever that you connect with us online!

First and foremost, we need your email address. We've been doing a monthly alumni e-newsletter since January, and if you haven't been receiving it in your inbox, then we don't have your current email address! Visit the following link to update all of your personal information, including your email address: **http://www.sbuniv.edu/alumni/keep.htm.**

Secondly, you can keep up with happenings at the University, as well as your fellow alumni by following us on Facebook. Simply search "**Southwest Baptist University**" or "**SBU Alumni**." And finally, follow University news or athletic news at our Twitter pages: **www.Twitter.com/SBUNews** and **www.Twitter.com/SBUBearcats**. We want you to stay connected!

As always, if there is ever any way the Office of Alumni Relations can serve or assist you, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Blessings,





Attention Missionaries!!

If you are an alumnus or alumna of SWBC or SBU and are currently serving with the IMB, NAMB, or any other mission organization, we would love to have your prayer card! One of our alumni missionaries recently visited campus, and gave our First Lady, Judy Taylor, the idea to display the names and photos of our alumni missionaries so that students could pray for them. This fall we'll be installing a new prayer board in Randolph Chapel on campus, and we would love to include you! Mail or email your prayer card to:

SBU Alumni Relations *or* lschindler@sbuniv.edu
1600 University Ave
Bolivar, MO 65613

1938

Vernon Charles Barr spent 38 years teaching vocational agricultural and science, five years in a rural school, 14 years in vocational agriculture and 17 years in elementary science and six years in junior high science in Mexico, Mo., and Columbia, Mo., and retired in 1982. He also spent three years in the Army Air Corps. 2910 Bluff Creek Drive Columbia, MO 65201

1940

Garnet (Newton) Weaver and Dr. Norman Weaver celebrated their 68th wedding anniversary by taking a thirteen day "Westward Ho!" motor coach tour of seven western states. They have three children, six grandchildren, and one great grandson. Norman is retired from teaching in the Logsdon School of Theology at Hardin Simmons University and Garnett from teaching kindergarten in Abilene Independent School District. Norman was a recipient of Southwest Baptist University's Life Service Award in 2007. He taught business (commerce) and religious education courses at SBU from 1960 to 1967, introducing religious education into the curriculum. They are residing at Wesley Court Retirement Community #320, 2617 Antilley Road, Abilene TX 79606-5170 nandgweaver@sbcglobal.net

1941 – REUNION CLASS

For news about Dr. Norman Weaver '41 see above, class of 1940.

1957

Leroy Seat is the author of a new book, *The Limits of Liberalism: A Historical, Theological, and Personal Appraisal of Christian Liberalism*. This is a companion volume to his earlier book, *Fed Up with Fundamentalism: A Historical, Theological, and Personal Appraisal of Christian Fundamentalism* (2007). Seat and his wife, **June (Tinsley)**, are retired Baptist missionaries to Japan. 1307 Canterbury Lane Liberty, MO 64068 LKSeat@gmail.com

1960

Saundra (McDonald) Williams has moved to Florida. 2365 W Fairway Loop Citrus Springs, FL 34434 sauny_williams@yahoo.com

1970

Marsha (Herrell) has been retired from education since 2002. She and her husband, Larry Gilbert, have been enjoying their retirement. She has four sons and sixteen grandchildren. She would like to see if anyone has yearbooks from 1967 to 1970. 1734 E. 350 Rd. El Dorado Springs, MO 64744 mgilbert6@centurytel.net

1976

Stan Sullinger recently led a session at the Region Four Annual Conference for Texas Parks and Recreation at the Pearland, Texas Community Center. The session was on the impact of understanding personalities and temperaments in work team management. Keynote speaker for the event was CBS sports analyst and former Houston Oiler, Spencer Tillman.

1978

Tom Wheeler recently has been writing articles for *Ozark Tales*. PO Box 824 Buffalo, MO 65622 twheeler@positech.net

1979

Yvieta (Stahl) Ulmer wants to catch up with friends on Facebook. 701 Hillview Drive Mt. Juliet, TN 37122 yvieta@aol.com

1982

Dawn (Williams) Holmes is enjoying the new life God has given her with kids, country, and horses. 1395 Christian Chapel Rd. Anna, IL 62906 auroraof7@hotmail.com

1983

Sylvia Lea (Clark) Edwards retired from the Navy after 20 years of service. She is currently attending Skagitt Valley College for a degree in business management. 761 SW 12th Court Oak Harbor, WA 98277

1984

Dan Doolin celebrated 14 years of service as pastor of Solid Rock Baptist Church in Wapello, Iowa, after moving there as a church planter. 720 Vernon St Wapello, IA 52653 doolinbunch@gmail.com

1986

After serving more than 10 years at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, **Jonathan Kim** came back to Dallas Baptist University as associate dean of the College of Christian Faith and Professor of Christian Education in June 2010. 619 Frank Keasler Blvd, Duncanville, TX 75116 jonk@dbu.edu

CLASS OF '51 HOMECOMING **RED ALERT:**

It's here! Sixty years have disappeared and now it's our time to shine on campus again. We have been invited to spend some of this year's homecoming time to get together at Blue Home. Blue Home is where:

- some unexpected memories will show up.
- we will celebrate Ellen Bell's memory,
- you will be expected to *bring an Ellen Bell memory story with you,*
- we will decide as a class whether or not to give a campus gift in Ding Dong's memory,
- sing the "old" alma mater song,
- we will get our group mug shot taken.
- there is a possibility that Santa will make an appearance!

Also, we can:

- see what Little Jordan looks like after 60 years,
- remember the "passing" of Muirheid Hall, Pike and the Ad building,
- check out the famous city park..

This isn't just another homecoming, it's *our sixty-year homecoming.* It's a time to let all the other classes admit that our class really was the best one to ever hit SWBC. It will be a time to play catch up with our sixty year friendships. **–Pat Hoffmeister Baker '51**

Please contact Pat Baker to tell her you're coming
417-326-2998
patabaker@windstream.net
214 West Summit, Bolivar, MO 65613
and tell her you're coming.



1971-REUNION CLASS

Steve Whisler '71

by Leeann Kline '11

Jogging the streets of Bolivar was a daily routine for Steve Whisler '71 during his career at SBU. While on one of those runs, Whisler, a former SBU music faculty member, and director of estate planning and church relations, composed the current alma mater.

Although Whisler has finished his 26-year race at SBU, his route has taken him on to serve as the minister of senior adults at Second Baptist Church in Springfield, Mo. His retirement has not slowed him down.

Concentrating on individuals fifty and older, Whisler facilitates ministries to the homebound, monthly activities, banquets, and various community outreaches which include the Springfield Victory Mission, Pregnancy Care Center, Salvation Army, and a mission trip to Nebraska in June.

"God is using Second Baptist to do great works," Whisler said. "It's an extremely missions-minded church. My role is to encourage more seniors to worship, serve, and go make disciples."

Steve and his wife Barbara were members of Second Baptist back in the late 1980s, but they relocated due to an employment opportunity in Texas.

After his retirement from SBU, it was time to return full circle: "We were away from Second Baptist for 20 years and then we came back again," Whisler said. "I think the word 'retirement' means different things to different people. Retirement for me means that I sensed that my career was complete at SBU. It was time to start a new career." This new career involves engaging in ministry and touching lives.

Whisler reflects on how the Lord has directed his steps: "There are so many ingredients in which the Lord has prepared me for other assignments over the years and this is a culmination," Whisler said. "I see this ministry as a culmination of all my previous roles in ministry. It's a calling. My SBU job was a calling and so is this."

Remembering his strong past with SBU–his parents met here and he met his wife here–Whisler also believes in the importance of trusting God for his tomorrows.

"It's really easy to presume upon your future, but if you allow Him [the Lord] to lead you, He will take you greater places than you ever could come up with, and He will weave it all together," Whisler said.

Whisler continues to run full speed ahead in ministry, and for him, there's no stopping in sight.

SBU: Our Alma Mater

Words and music by Steve Whisler '71

To thee, our alma mater, SBU,
We pledge our love and loyalty;
For golden mem'ries and the friends we cherish,
We thank and honor thee;
And with a heritage of faith in Christ,
We set our minds on things above,
That we might carry on thy great tradition
of service born of love.

To meet the challenge of the years to come,
Thy bold commitment to maintain,
May we be faithful to the task before us;
To learn, lead, teach, and train;
And with our hearts united now in love,
This prayer for thee our voices raise:
"God bless thee, SBU, our alma mater,
And hallow all thy days."

1987

Jeffrey Caudle is still with Autozone in Bolivar as a Commercial Specialist. He just formed a music group with Doug Mayes (fellow music student and outdoors buddy from his SBU days). Would love to hear from friends from the old days. 2419 S. Orchard Ave. Bolivar, MO 65613 jeffrey_caudle@yahoo.com

1989

Jon Church is the pastor of Katy Park Baptist Church in Sedalia. His wife, **Debbie (Lange)** is now co-principal of Applewood Christian School. They now have their own kids in college. Micah is in McPherson, Kan., at Central Christian College and Nathan is attending SBU. 1240 Woods Dr. Sedalia, MO 65301 jdchurch@charter.net

Tony Foeller and his wife **Cheryl (Ewing)** recently planted Harvest Church of Anna, Ill. They would love to hear from friends. They recently moved and would like friends to make note of their new address. 360 Friendship School Rd. Anna, IL 62906 tony@harvestchurchsi.com

Sean Tanner recently left American Airlines after 10 years to work as a business intelligence software development manager at SBARE-Holdings. sean.tanner@att.net

1990

After seven years at First Baptist Church in Otterville, Mo., **Ron Marsh** and his family moved to a new position with First Baptist Church in El Dorado Springs in May, 2010. 1304 S 155 Rd. El Dorado Springs, MO 64744 ronmarsh@hotmail.com

J. Michael Kerr and wife Malissa and ten children live in Clearbrook, Minn. They operate Kerr and Sons Construction and Kerr Family Farm, a produce/honey business. They would love to hear from friends. 218-776-3276

1991 – REUNION CLASS

Bobbi Geery graduated from Fuller Theological Seminary with a Master of Arts in Global Leadership in June 2009. In February 2010 he accepted a position in the human resources department as the Training and Development Specialist for The Salvation Army Southern Territory and moved cross country from California to Atlanta, Ga. 1504 Calibre Woods Dr. Atlanta, GA 30329 bobbi.geery@gmail.com

1994

Kristen (Morrow) Feola has published a book with Zondervan called "The Ultimate Guide to the Daniel Fast," an inspiring resource for individuals and churches who are seeking a deeper relationship with the Lord through the 21-day commitment to prayer and fasting known as the Daniel Fast. 3393 S. Kimbrough Avenue Springfield, MO 65807 feolafitness@yahoo.com (See Book Review on p.20)

1995

Zach Johnson, better known as the "Swine Master" is the owner and operator of "Swifty Swine Racing and Swimming Pigs." Since his graduation from SBU, Zach has taken his pig races across the country, putting on shows at fairs and carnivals from San Diego to New York. Traveling with his wife and children, Zach says, "I've always known I wanted to race pigs. This is America, and sometimes you have to go get your dream. I get to see my family every day, and I wouldn't trade that for anything."

1998

Chris Giles has been a private practice Marriage and Family Therapist for nearly four years. His wife, **Jennifer (Culis)** now works in the practice as well. Both are actively volunteering in the college ministry at Southern Hills Baptist Church in Tulsa. They would love to reconnect with old friends or meet new friends in the Tulsa area! twogiles@cox.net

1999

Kimberly Niffin's daughter, Jenna, is attending SBU and is planning on playing softball for the school. Go Bearcats! 17432 Pike 9257 Bowling Green, MO 63334 i_teach_u@yahoo.com

Ryan Poston married Blythe (Carlson) on July 10, 2010.

2002

Jeremy Shuler recently became Pastor at Birchwood Baptist Church in Independence, Mo. He and his wife, **Heidi (Nymeyer)** have attended Birchwood for four years and have both served on staff in various capacities. They are excited about God leading them in this new adventure. jeremy@birchwoodchurch.com

Andrew Keller received a Master of Arts in acting from the Liverpool Institute for Performing Arts in July 2010, and currently works as adjunct professor of Theatre Arts at Ferrum College while his wife, **Erin (Nothum) '03**, attends grad school at Virginia Tech. andrewkeller.actor@gmail.com

2007

Former SBU students Peter Keizer, Liz "Robinson" Keizer, Adam Worrel, Ashley "Boman" Worrel, and Ben Worrel moved to Hawaii to start an organic clothing line, Nuinani.

Nuinani

One year ago, Peter and his friends envisioned a brand that uses responsible production practices and gives to humanitarian causes. Being artists by nature, they see quality, hand-made goods as a business standard. This month, that dream has been realized and Nuinani has launched.

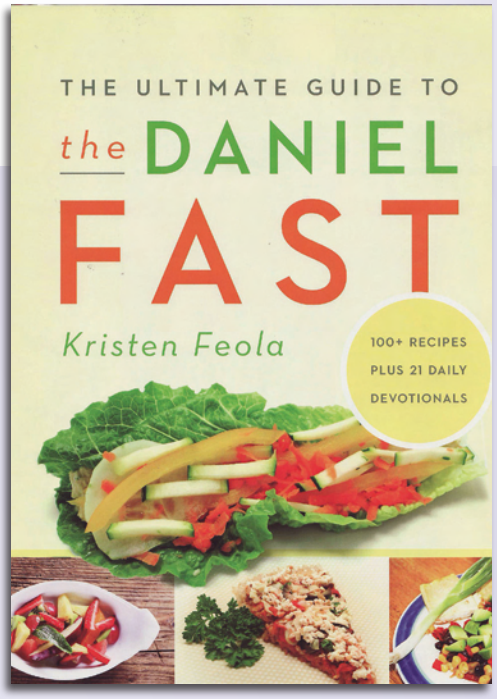
Nuinani is an independent clothing brand designed to inspire responsibility, creativity, and a genuine care for others. Peter reflects, "Nuinani is about living an intentional life." Nuinani has an immense passion for giving and believes that simple gestures can bring help to those in need. These intentions are made real with giving 5% of all sales to Children's Hunger Fund.

The team hopes Nuinani will be an inspiration to others realizing their dreams. See more at www.nuinani.com.

2008

Jimmy Faseler is currently pursuing his masters in counseling at Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary. He is working as a case manager at a residential care facility for troubled teens called Shelterwood which is a part of Doulos Ministries. 1012 Fairview Drive Independence, MO 64056 JimmyFaseler@gmail.com

Featured Alumni Book



The Ultimate Guide to The Daniel Fast

By: Kristen Feola '94

The Daniel Fast is a unique opportunity available to anyone who is hungry to know the Lord in a deeper way. Kristen Feola writes that as you deny yourself certain foods-such as sugar and processed ingredients you will not only embrace healthier eating habits, you'll also discover a greater awareness of God's presence. *The Ultimate Guide to the Daniel Fast* equips you with practical tools to enrich the spiritual and physical impact of your fasting experience, while allowing you to feast on foods that are good for you.

The book includes three parts:

- The Fast explains the origins of the Daniel Fast and why it can change your life today.
- The Focus provides 21 devotionals that will help you feed on God's truth.
- The Food contains more than 100 nutritious, easy-to-prepare recipes that follow the guidelines of the Daniel Fast.

In a conversational style, Feola helps you structure your fast so you can spend less time thinking about what to eat and more time focusing on the Lord. As Feola reminds you, you can do it! Best of all, you will discover that "to fast" means "to feast" on the only thing that truly nourishes you-the powerful Word of God.

Kristen Feola '94 is the writer of the blog www.ultimatedanielfast.com, an encouraging resource for individuals and groups who are participating in the Daniel Fast. She has worked as a personal trainer, nutritional consultant, First Place 4 Health leader, and fitness instructor. She is also an active member of Moms in Touch International. Feola lives with her husband and two daughters in Springfield, Missouri.

Marriages

Tammy (Brittingham) '00 married Matthew Maassen on August 14, 2010, in Cedar Rapids, IA. They currently live in Belton, Mo. Tammy works for Prosperity Network in Overland Park, and Matthew works for KC Orthapedic Institute in Leawood. 707 Fall Creek Circle Belton, MO 64012 tammymaassen@yahoo.com

Amber (Geier) '06 was married to Lee Hardesty on August 7, 2010.

Brett Blair '09 and **Kelcey (Rich) '08** were married May 30, 2009, in St. Joseph, Mo. They currently live in Springfield, Mo. where Brett is on staff at Hamlin Memorial Baptist Church as youth minister and Kelcey is obtaining her Doctorate of Physical Therapy from SBU.

Erin (Van de Voort) '10 married Austin Nichols on July 3, 2010, in Lenexa, Kan. They moved to Kingman, Ariz. where Erin has a new job as a Physical Therapist at Kingman Regional Medical Center. kuvande@gmail.com

Susan (Brock) '92 and **Norman Lane '91** were married Oct. 2, 2010, at the Chapel of the Flowers in Las Vegas, Nev. 3720 W. Kingsley Springfield, MO 65807 suzbabe@gmail.com

Jennifer (Miller) '07 married Andrew Kornoff on September 4, 2010, at Laguna Beach, Calif. Jennifer completed graduate school in May, earning her master's degree in occupational therapy from the University in Southern California.

Andrea (Skivers) '10 married Scott Bethal on June 7, 2007. Andrea graduated with her Master in Education from SBU in July 2010. This is her fourth year teaching at Fort Osage. She is the director of Panache Winter Guard, an independent (non-school affiliated) team in the Kansas City area. kzaneee2@aol.com

Julianne (McCampbell) '06 married Brandon George on July 17, 2010. They met while they were journeymen in Asia. They are currently living in Lawton, Okla., and are hoping to start some house churches. She is currently teaching fifth and sixth grade language arts at Lawton Christian School.

Ryan Poston '99 married Blythe Carlson on July 10, 2010. 315 Winchester Place Fairview Heights, IL 62208 ryanposton4@yahoo.com

Future Bearcats

Kevin Whitt '96 and his wife Sharla adopted and brought home their daughter, Abigail, from Ethiopia in May 2010. Kevin serves as the Lead Pastor for Harvest Community Church and is celebrating his eleventh year in this position. 76 Darlene St. Eminence, KY 40019
kswhitt@insightbb.com

Jennifer Morris '05 and Chuck Smith celebrated the arrival of Finnley Jefferson Smith Morris on October 4, 2010. 1828 S 15th St. Kansas City, KS 66103

Chris Dillabough '98 and **Bonnie (Lichtenwalner) '98** celebrated the arrival of Scott Christopher Dillabough on May 30, 2010. Chris works at the Republic Library near Springfield, Mo. 5917 N. Farm Road 171 Springfield, MO 65803
chdillabough@yahoo.com



Scott Christopher Dillabough

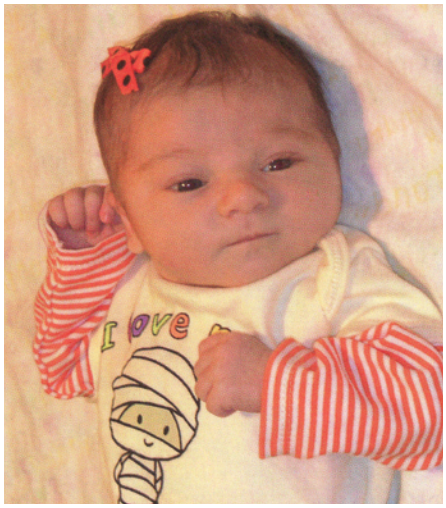
Cindy (Craig) Cole '02 and her husband Dave finalized the adoption of their three sons on December 22, 2010. Bradley Scott Cole is four years old, Xander Wayne Cole is two years old and Lonzo Reid Cole is 18 months old. 331 E. Summit Bolivar, MO 65613 cindycolept@hotmail.com

Matt Fillingham '00 and his wife Rebecca celebrated the arrival of their third son, Kai Everett Fillingham on October 19, 2009. He joined his big brothers Josiah and Robbie. 9807 N. Oak Tfwy Kansas City, MO 64155
mattfillingham@hotmail.com



Kai Everett Fillingham

Jared Webster '04 and **Cindy (Umstattd) Webster '04** announce the birth of their first child, Addison Grace. Addison was born on October 25, 2010, at 2:59 a.m. She weighed 6 lbs 12 oz. and was 18 ¾ inches long. 409 Ace Court Nixa, MO 65714
cjwebster@gmail.com



Addison Grace

Christopher Wade '90 and his wife Lara announce the adoption of their youngest daughter Hadassah Shawn Peiwu Wade. She was born December 2, 2003, and was adopted on January 10, 2011, from the Jiangxi province in China. 2278 SW Park Avenue Blue Springs, MO 64015
crwade@sbcglobal.net

Candace (Warner) Maddox '98 and her husband, Marc, announce the birth of their first son, Jadon David, on May 24, 2010, at 11:05 a.m. He weighed 8 pounds 5 ounces and was 21 ¼ inches long. 6507 S. Hardy Dr. #136 Tempe, AZ 85283
candy.maddox@gmail.com

Johnnie Dye '99 and **Bobbye Jo (Lipscomb) '99** announce the birth of their third child, Gannon Roberson Dye, on January 17, 2011. Johnnie now has his own CPA firm in Bentonville, Ark. 2405 Turner Way Pea Ridge, AR 72751
johhnie_bj@hotmail.com

Angela (Scheets) Lisle '01 and her husband announce the birth of their first child, Eden Alexandria, on June 27, 2010. Currently Angela is working as an outpatient therapist at SpectraCare Health Systems in Dothan, Ala.

Charlotte (Highsmith) '97 and **David Marsch '97** announce the birth of their baby girl, Gloria Nicole, on October 9, 2009, at 5:24 p.m. at Citizens Memorial Hospital in Bolivar, Mo. She weighed 7 pounds, 4 ounces and was 21 inches long. 455 N. Sunset Ave. Bolivar, MO 65613
cdmarsch@windstream.net

J. Michael Kerr '90 and his wife Malissa announce the birth of their 10th child, Carmi Ariel, born February 24, 2011. She weighed 8 pounds 4 ounces and was 21 inches long. She joins Samuel 18, Annie 16, Gideon 14, Timothy 11, Mary Grace 10, Benj 8, Malachi 6, Hadassah 4 and Nathanael 2. The Kerr family lives in northern Minnesota and run a construction business and produce/honey farm.

Willette (Padgett) Heuer

Willette (Padgett) Heuer '39, age 93, passed away on Christmas day, December 25, 2010, in Mountain View, Mo., her birthplace. She had thoroughly enjoyed her 93rd birthday just one week earlier with her family and a reunion with her sister Betty Gipson '47 and with her brother Tom Padgett '49 and his wife Shirley Padgett '50 in Bolivar.

Heuer was proud to be a graduate of Southwest Baptist where she had worked in the offices of Courts Redford and J.C. Pike while she was a student. In addition to her siblings, her daughter Jo Annette (Heuer) Burton '67 also is an SBU graduate. She and her daughter were both Life Beautiful Award recipients. She loved life and her family and was passionate to let everyone near her know about Jesus.

She was the oldest member of First Baptist Church, Mountain View, Mo., where she was baptized and had been active since childhood. She was united in marriage to John Clyde Heuer on November 21, 1940, at New Hope Baptist Church in Peace Valley, Mo. To this union she had three daughters, Jo Annette Burton '67, Bloomington, Ill.; Janey Beth Childers, Sarasota, Fla.; and Joni Cay Appleton, Summersville, Mo. She was preceded in death by her parents, Thomas and Alta Padgett; husband, John; infant son, John Padgett Heuer; and sisters, Opal Martin and Ola Williams.

She was also passionate about learning about health and continually educated her children and grandchildren in this area as well as being sure they all had a strong relationship with the Lord. With her failing health she remained faithful in her witness to others in Mountain View Healthcare, where "Miss Willette" was known as a precious lady. She will be missed by all who knew her.

In Memory July 2011

Edward Pennington '38

Edward N. Pennington passed away on February 26, 2011. Pennington was born in Ottawa, Kan., and he received education in Kansas, New York, and Missouri. He graduated from Southwest Baptist College in 1938 with an associate's degree. He was also was honored with the Life Beautiful Award for his Christian example. He often spoke of how SWBC molded him and very much influenced his life. Pennington established a scholarship in appreciation for what SWBC did for him. Six students each year receive funding from this scholarship. Pennington was also on the alumni board at SBU and received the alumni Life Service Award in 1974.

Pennington served in the United States Army during World War II and was honorably discharged in 1946 as First Lieutenant. Pennington retired from Philips Petroleum Company in 1980. He was a member of Trinity Baptist Church in Bartlesville, Okla. He was a leader in the church for more than four decades and served as a deacon, on pulpit committees and by teaching Sunday school.

Mr. Pennington is survived by his three children, David W. Pennington and his wife Gail of Fox Lake, Ill., Nancy Pennington Turner and her husband Joe of Bartlesville, Okla., and Dale Pennington and his wife Joanne of Exeter, N.H.; one-half brother, James V. Pennington of Edina, Minn.; three grandchildren, Heather Turner Pyle and her husband Matthew of Oklahoma City, Okla.; Jonathan Turner and his wife Jessica of Oklahoma City, and Matthew C. Pennington of Libertyville, Ill., three step-grandchildren, Darla Schultz of Vernon Hills, Ill., Andrew M. Schultz of Camp Pendleton, Calif., and Lori A. Schultz of Prescott, Ariz.; and three great-grandchildren, Parker Elizabeth Pyle, Justice Nicole Pyle, and Greyson Nathaniel Pyle all of Oklahoma City. He is preceded in death by his wife Lucille, parents, and one brother, Robert Sylvester Pennington.

Robert Ray '56

Robert Ray (Bob) Stone passed away on October 15, 2010, in Alexandria, Va. He received the A.A. degree in 1956 as well as the A.B. degree from William Jewell College in 1958. He received a jurist doctor degree from George Washington University Law School and practiced law in the Washington DC/Virginia area. He has one son, Robert Ray Stone, Nashville, Tenn.

Ronald James Meldrum '60

Ronald J. Meldrum passed peacefully into the presence of God at Titusville, Fla., on February 12, 2011, at the age of 79.

Ronald was born in Kingfield, Maine, where he grew up on the Meldrum farm on Salem Road. In 1952 he joined the United States Air Force, training in jet engine maintenance and graduating at the top of his class. For four years he was assigned to Strategic Air Command bases around the world, servicing bombers during the Korean Conflict and later.

In 1956 he married Ellinda Tipton in Lamonte, Mo., and left the Air Force. After a short time in Maine, he enrolled in Southwest Baptist College at Bolivar, Mo. In 1959 he was ordained at Forest Grove Baptist Church in Lamar, Mo., where he began pastoring. Over the next four and a half decades he pastored eight churches in Missouri and Maine in addition to helping plant two new churches.



Ronald James Meldrum '60

Ronald is survived by his wife, Ellinda Meldrum of Titusville, Fla., with whom

he shared 54 years of happy marriage; brothers Vernon Meldrum of Temple, Maine, Merton Meldrum of Coventry, Conn., and Raymond Meldrum of Kingfield, Maine; sons Steven Meldrum of New Portland, Maine, Glen Meldrum of Titusville, Fla., Roger Meldrum of Kingfield, Maine, Ronald L. Meldrum of New Vineyard, Maine, Randy Meldrum of Kingfield, Maine, and Mark Meldrum of Kingfield, Maine; six beloved daughters-in-law; and sixteen cherished grandchildren. He was predeceased by his parents, a brother, and two sisters.

Cards may be sent to Ellinda Meldrum, c/o Glen Meldrum, 3655 Frazier Ct., Titusville, FL 32780.

Greg Greven '97

Greg Scott Greven passed away on February 10, 2011, in Springfield, Mo., in a tragic fire. He graduated from Bolivar High School in 1986 and Southwest Baptist University in 1997. Greven was the chairman of the Polk County Community Connections board. He was also involved in the Governor's Council on Disability. Greg was an advocate for disabled people in the community and testified in front of The Missouri House of Representatives regarding several issues.

Greg is survived by his best friend, Theresa Cooper, and her daughter, Jocelyn, of Springfield; his parents, Richard and Susan Greven of Bolivar; one brother, Kevin Greven, and one nephew, Daulton Greven, both of Bolivar; as well as his uncle and aunt, Steve "Bud" Shadwick and Sara Shadwick of Springfield; and two cousins, Jennifer Shadwick of Seymour and Stephanie Shadwick of Springfield.

Michael Thompson II '98

Michael Thompson II passed away on March 31, 2011. Michael is survived by his wife, Adriana; his children, Jace, Ava, Davis and Mitchell; his parents Michael and Patty Thompson; his sister, April Cerna and her children, Tyler, Shelby, Patrick and Kylee; his grandparents Pat and Tom Lavezzo; as well as many other special relatives and close friends. Michael was a 1998 graduate of SBU.

Please note that alumni updates are published in *SBU Life* in the order they are received, depending on the space available in each issue. Therefore, it may take several months for Keeping in Touch submissions to be printed. Also, we will be happy to list your weddings and babies, but it is our policy not to list engagements or little expectations.

Let's Keep in Touch!

Alumni News: _____

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_____

Name: _____ Class of: _____ Degree: _____
(please include maiden name if applicable) (AA, BA, BS, MBA, MPT, MS)

Address: _____ City: _____ State: ___ Zip: _____

Email: _____ Telephone: _____

# of Children: _____ Employment: _____

Spouse: _____ Class of: _____ Degree: _____
(please include maiden name if applicable) (AA, BA, BS, MBA, MPT, MS)

☐ Please do not publish my address ☐ Please do not publish my email address

Return to: Southwest Baptist University • Office of Alumni Relations • 1600 University Avenue • Bolivar, MO 65613

You can also complete this form online at www.SBUniv.edu/alumni if it's more convenient.

For more SBU News, visit www.sbuniv.edu/news. Did you know SBU has an RSS news feed? Check it out online!







SBU dedicates Mabee Chapel renovations

By Charlotte Marsch '97

More than three decades after Pike Auditorium and Mabee Chapel were constructed on the campus of Southwest Baptist University, the first major renovation of the building is complete. The remodeled facilities were formally dedicated in an evening program on May 9, 2011.

"This chapel is the center of our campus and integral to our campus," said Dr. C. Pat Taylor, SBU president.

The original Pike Auditorium on the Stufflebam Campus (north of the present-day main campus on Pike Avenue) was built in 1925 and named after J.C. Pike, who was dean of students and president, serving the university from 1916 to 1928. The auditorium was destroyed by fire March 26, 1962.

In 1973, the trustees approved a plan to build a new chapel on the Schoffner Campus, and a fundraising campaign was launched in 1975. The J.E. and L.E. Mabee Foundation issued a $400,000 challenge grant in 1976 that ensured the campaign's success, and the new building was completed in 1978.

The school's auditorium retained the name "Pike Auditorium," while the building was named Mabee Chapel after the lead donor.

A center aisle was added in 2004, along with new carpet and a new coat of paint.

The Mabee Foundation again was the lead donor for the renovation, a $1.5 million project that cost nearly as much as the original construction. Fundraising began in February 2010 and was completed in December. Construction began after the last chapel service in December.

The renovation added about 200 seats, bringing the auditorium's capacity to more than 1,300. Lighting was increased, new seats installed and a new digital sound system added.

The university always has required its undergraduate students to attend chapel services.

"Many different ways of glorifying God will happen in this room," said Mark Rains, a 1970 graduate, chairman of the SBU board of trustees and a member of the fourth of five generations of his family to attend SBU. "The alumni, board of trustees, anyone associated with this university pray that — through this building — countless lives will be forever changed and changed by the power of God."

Rob Harris, SBU's dean of students, said the auditorium is a place that allows community among the students.

PHOTOS:
Top Left: Students Kiera Kessinger (left) and Nicole Pinkley (right) prepare for chapel in newly renovated Pike Auditorium. Photo by Lydia Freeman

Top Right: Sandra Maupin, left, Carolyn Mott (hidden) and Paul Mott view the "God's Mighty Oak" donor recognition tree in Mabee Chapel at Southwest Baptist University. The tree's leaves contain names of donors to the Mabee Chapel and Pike Auditorium renovation project.

Bottom Right: Charles Graham, a 1977 alumnus of Southwest Baptist College, presents a concert during the formal dedication ceremony Monday for the renovation of Pike Auditorium and Mabee Chapel at Southwest Baptist University.

Bolivar Herald-Free Press photos/Charlotte Marsch

"As we celebrate, thank you for understanding the importance of this facility," he said.

Charles Graham, a 1977 alumnus of Southwest Baptist College who is a traveling music evangelist, capped the renovation dedication with a concert. Graham received an honorary doctorate in music ministry from SBU in 2007.

This article first appeared in the *Bolivar Herald-Free Press* on May 11, 2011.

Steinway Concert Grand Piano Chosen for Meyer Recital Hall

A group of SBU music faculty recently made the trip to Queens, New York, to select the Steinway concert grand piano that will soon be at home on the stage in Meyer Recital Hall on the Bolivar campus. The faculty spent several hours playing and listening to five Steinways and selected the piano with the very best tone and feel.

Dr. Bill Brown, SBU provost and former professor of music said, "Selecting the new Steinway piano for our recital hall was really a once-in-a-lifetime experience. We were able to tour the factory and see all the care and workmanship that goes into building a grand piano. The process of selection was exciting, lots of fun, but also a bit grueling – this was a very important decision for our University!"

As of June 30, a total of $63,560.85 in gifts and pledges has been made toward the $132,000 goal. If you wish to participate in this very exciting campaign, please contact Theresa Daniels, Director of Donor Development at 417-328-1835 or tdaniels@sbuniv.edu.

Please join us in giving students the opportunity to experience this majestic musical instrument. Every gift will make an impact on current SBU students and prospective students for many years to come.



Dr. Bill Brown, Dr. Robert Carney, and Dr. Melinda Jones beginning the tour of Steinway & Sons



SBU's new Steinway Concert Grand Piano

SBUlife

Southwest Baptist University
1600 University Avenue
Bolivar, MO 65613

