Aware is published quarterly by the development office for alums and friends of Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary, a graduate school of theology related to The United Methodist Church.

Founded in 1853, the seminary serves more than 500 students from many denominations and various cultural backgrounds, fostering an atmosphere of ecumenical interaction. Garrett-Evangelical creates bold leaders through master of divinity, master of arts, master of theological studies, doctor of philosophy, and doctor of ministry degrees. Its 4,500 living alumni serve church and society around the world.

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President Philip and Dr. Elaine Amerson

Inauguration and Installation of the Rueben P. Job Chair in Spiritual Formation

President Philip and Dr. Elaine Amerson

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“There’s a wideness in God’s mercy like the wideness of the sea.” So goes the opening lines of the great hymn, “There’s a Wideness in God’s Mercy.” I have been thinking much about the call to widen our vision and our imaginations in recent days. It is time to think more horizontally. Much of what has occurred in the church and theological education over the past decades seems to be vertically focused. How can we strengthen the individual seminary, the congregation, the denomination? This seems to have been the predominant theme. It is understandable... we want our institutions to succeed, so we measure them against others. We are more comfortable building up our familiar institutions and programs.

I was reminded recently of the Giant Sequoia trees and the fact that they grow tall and strong in direct proportion to the ability of their root systems to grow wide and function in an ecology that is interconnected with other trees and vegetation. “Horizontal complementarity” is language that comes from the sciences of environmental studies and geology. It speaks of the relationships of adjacent ecological regions.

As I step away from my duties as president, I am mindful of the broad ecology which blesses us. We have wide relationships with alums, friends, faculty, and students. Where are the places that we can expand our range of linkages? How will we be a school that is known for cultural polymathic partnerships? I am thrilled to see the many places where Garrett-Evangelical is building strategic partnerships with other seminaries, more congregations, and other denominational groups. I am thrilled to watch as we see the value of lay education, digital learning formats, and new forms of residential programs.

We are, after all, indebted to the vision of John Wesley who spoke of “the world as my parish.” Our future is bright as we build ever wider alliances even as we continue to grow to the heights of excellence. As the hymn puts it:

For the love of God is broader
than the measure of the human mind;
and the heart of the Eternal
is most wonderfully kind.

If our love were but more faithful,
we should take God at this word;
and our life would be thanksgiving
for the goodness of the Lord.
Interview with President Philip A. Amerson

Since June 2006, Philip A. Amerson has faithfully and honorably served as president of Garrett-Evangelical. President Amerson has provided leadership during exciting and challenging days and has brought imagination and tireless commitment to theological education at the school, the national church, and beyond. Among the significant achievements during this time, President Amerson saw enrollments increase by over twenty percent; led a major renovation of campus facilities; and worked to double capital campaign gifts and pledges surpassing $75 million of the $100 million goal. Under his leadership, Garrett-Evangelical emphasized hospitality and sustainability; added faculty positions in Wesley and United Methodist studies, global Christianity and world religions; and supported the establishment of the Rueben P. Job Chair in Spiritual Formation.

As President Amerson prepares to retire as of December 31, we asked him some questions to reflect on his time here and share his insights on the future.

Q: What do you believe the shape and composition of an ideal seminary community would be?

A: Years ago, I learned that community is, first and foremost, a means of grace. Communities are always imperfect because they are human. They also provide the space for God’s work among us. We can’t predict who will show up or what gifts those who do might discover and share. The question assumes there is an ideal that somehow can be achieved. Like all things, communities change. Each entering class brings with it persons with a new set of opportunities, gifts, potential, and challenges. Each year, one of my favorite times is welcoming the 50-year alums back to campus. They have participated in community formation throughout their years of service. Perhaps we get close to an “ideal” as we see their ministries as a composite of what God can do through a lifetime of faithful service.

However, I believe your question is about the here and now, day-to-day realities of seminary life. Let me re-frame the question and ask, “What constructive role might seminary communities play in relationship to the larger society?” “What difference does it make that there are seminaries?” There are many responses that come to mind. Let me mention three ways seminaries make a contribution, and perhaps from this we could say that as seminaries are doing these things well, they are pointing toward an ideal.

First, seminaries provide a setting for the formation of persons called to ministry. The goal of this formation is to develop leaders of faith, knowledge, character, and skill. Second, seminaries must be centers in the production of knowledge. There are new moral and spiritual questions to be addressed by the church and the world. Seminaries have a singularly important role in this regard. Third, I would mention the role seminaries play in modeling a hospitality that welcomes everyone to the table. At a seminary we are able to model what it means to be a place of “knowledge and vital piety.” We are a place that sends students into the field and celebrates the multiple ways we live the faith in our time. We are a place where theological diversity is respected and persons from various cultures, races, sexual orientations, and social backgrounds are welcomed.

Q: What is the most challenging aspect of being Garrett-Evangelical’s president, and what have you enjoyed most?

A: Which day? Every morning there are new challenges, and these are also opportunities. I suspect the best answer to this would be something like, “helping the seminary stay true to its primary mission.” The purpose statement for the school is, “to know God in Christ and through preparing spiritual leaders to help others know God in Christ.”

Of course, in order to fulfill this mission we must have a high-quality faculty. So, on some days I begin my work thinking about how to secure the strongest faculty possible. Seminaries also must have students with great potential. On other days, I spend my time strengthening our recruitment and scholarship support. Then there are the days that begin with a concern about facilities or technology. All of this requires funding, and so there are days when I am visiting...
The MOST challenging aspect is determining how to spend one’s energy and time. This is the challenge and also the joy. There is never one day like the last. Each day offers the hope that in some small way (and sometimes in a large way) the school is being made more vibrant and sustainable.

Q: What do you think the future of graduate theological education will look like?

A: Predicting the future of theological education is difficult if not impossible. Changes occurring today in theological education are remarkable. Entire campuses are being moved or closed. Valued assets like libraries and buildings are being sold off. New degree and certificate programs seem to be invented every month. The traditional three-year master of divinity degree program is now offered by some schools in two years. Entire degree programs (at both the masters and doctoral levels) are now offered in online formats.

Experimentation, even desperation, seems to be in vogue. Still, I am not convinced that radical changes will endure. There are some constants I do believe will continue in the future. I believe that through all of the experimentation we will learn of the great value of communities of formation and the value of classical disciplines. Our delivery formats may change, but we will need communities of formation of some type. We will discover new programs—especially in lay education and contextual education. I predict that seminaries will work more closely with congregations to develop internships and explore ways curriculum more directly touches the lives of those in the pew. These are exciting times... I will watch with much expectation.

Q: What is your favorite passage/story/book in the Bible?

My favorite scripture? Next you will want to know my favorite grandchild! There are so many passages that move me. The prophetic writings of Isaiah or Jeremiah are full of helpful perspectives on the human condition. I love the Johannine materials with the call to join the beloved community and live toward a mature faith. If, however, I had to name only one book and one passage, I suspect it would be the Gospel of Luke with those marvelous parables of Jesus. Particularly compelling is the passage from Luke 10 known as the “Good Samaritan” story. This story is so rich in meaning—and so often misread in popular culture—that I have spent most of my adult life studying and coming to new insights surrounding the passage. This is what I love about the story—there are so many new lessons imbedded in the parable that I am certain it will continue to instruct me long into the future.

Each year, two Garrett-Evangelical graduates are selected to receive Distinguished Alum Awards. One is given to a Garrett-Evangelical alum who graduated more than 25 years ago and a second award honors a Garrett-Evangelical alum who graduated 25 years ago or less. Nominees should embody the principles of Christian service in effective ministry and be graduates of Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary or one of its parent bodies (Garrett, Evangelical, or Chicago Training School).

Nominations must be received by June 30, 2014. Awards will be presented at commencement of the following year. Persons previously nominated will be considered and will not require a second nomination to insure their consideration.

A nomination form is available at www.garrett.edu...Alums and Friends...Distinguished Alums. Or contact Betty Campbell at 847.866.3971 or Elizabeth.Campbell@garrett.edu.
Dear Friends,

We are incredibly grateful for the many alums, friends, trustees, churches, foundations, and corporations who supported Garrett-Evangelical in the 2012-13 academic year with their generous financial gifts, their prayers, and their wise counsel. Your partnership enabled the seminary to once again fulfill its mission of preparing bold Christian leaders for the church, the academy, and the world. We invite you to view the 2012-2013 Honor Roll at www.garrett.edu/honorroll.

More specifically, your gifts enabled the seminary to:

- educate 428 students for various forms of ministry and send forth 77 masters and doctoral graduates into the world;
- provide much needed scholarship support to deserving students, making it possible for more students to attend seminary and for Garrett-Evangelical to see an increase in its enrollment for the third straight year;
- complete the funding for the Rueben P. Job Chair in Spiritual Formation and to appoint Dr. Frederick W. Schmidt as the first holder of this chair;
- continue funding a faculty position in global Christianity and world religions for four more years, with Dr. Hendrik Pieterse filling that position;
- appoint Dr. Jaeyeon Lucy Chung as the new director of the United Library and assistant professor of pastoral theology;
- increase the occupancy in seminary dormitories and off-campus housing through continued improvements and renovation of our facilities;
- celebrate the first graduates from the seminary’s Plus program which began three years ago;
- upgrade faculty computers and software and move to a faster processing environment;
- hire a human resources person to provide support and assistance to seminary employees;
- add $5.5 million to the seminary’s Forging Our Future: Phase Three campaign, and surpass the $75 million mark in the $100 million endowment campaign.

We give thanks daily for you. You have helped us accomplish our mission for the 160th year in a row. We hope and pray that you will continue to support us in this new academic year with gifts, prayers, and counsel. Together we can ensure that our churches and communities have the truly exceptional Christian leaders they need and deserve.

With deepest gratitude,

David Heetland
Vice President for development

P.S. Come and visit us if you can and see firsthand the good your gifts are doing.
Development Office Summary

Fiscal Year 2012-2013 Gift Sources and Totals

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<th>Campaign Component</th>
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Forging our Future Endowment Campaign

The $100 Million Endowed Campaign for Garrett-Evangelical
Update as of June 30, 2013

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Garrett-Evangelical has been at the forefront of Protestant seminaries in developing studies in spiritual formation. Beginning in 1984, Dwight Judy, now emeritus professor of spiritual formation, taught a doctor of ministry course in spiritual formation, an innovative class for Protestant seminary education at the time. Today spiritual formation classes permeate the curriculum at the certificate, masters, and doctoral levels.

As Garrett-Evangelical celebrated its first 25 years of leadership in spiritual formation, it recognized that it was uniquely positioned to continue developing and enhancing studies in this area. However, this would only happen if there would continue to be a full-time faculty person teaching in spiritual formation. Thus, in 2010 seminary administrators decided to raise $2 million to permanently endow a faculty position and to name it in honor of one of its distinguished alums, Bishop Rueben P. Job. Bishop Job has been at the forefront in spiritual formation within the life of the church, serving as a consultant in Christian spirituality, spiritual retreat leader, spiritual guide, and author or co-author of more than 20 books.

Upon learning of the seminary’s plans, Bishop Bruce Ough, a colleague and friend of Bishop Job, said, “I rejoice that Garrett-Evangelical is seeking to establish the Rueben Job Chair in Spiritual Formation. Faithful and fruitful leadership in the 21st century is more dependent than ever on clergy leaders who balance technical competency with the heart-desire to be formed in the image of Christ. Rueben Job has embodied this balance throughout his life and ministry, and Garrett-Evangelical continues to champion the integration of spiritual formation and academic rigor. This is a fitting recognition of Bishop Job and a wise and essential investment in the next generations of spiritual leaders for the church and the world.”

A committee was formed, chaired by seminary trustee Jim Beddow, and the seminary publicly launched its fundraising efforts in April 2010. Hundreds of people responded out of deep appreciation for Bishop Job’s ministry and in recognition of the importance of such an endowed faculty position at a seminary.

However, by October 2012, the seminary had raised less than half of what was needed to fully endow the chair. That month Bishop Ough, Jim Beddow, and David Heetland, vice president for development, had a conference call with Bishop Job to inform him of the status of the fundraising efforts and to let him know that Dwight Judy would be retiring in December 2012. If the chair was not fully funded by then, the faculty position would have to remain vacant until the funds were raised.

“Are you sure you have done everything you can do?” Bishop Job asked. He had offered his name and endorsement to this endeavor, recognizing that this faculty position would continue his life’s work when he was no longer alive. Now in frail health, would he live to see this dream fulfilled?

Following the conference call, Ough, Beddow, and Heetland talked about what else they could do. They had made numerous personal visits, written countless letters, and hosted gatherings. What more could they do?

That night it struck Heetland that perhaps they had not done enough of the one thing Bishop Job emphasized throughout his ministry—pray! He began to pray fervently each day that God would lead them to one or more persons who could help complete the funding for the endowed chair.

A couple of weeks later Heetland received an email from someone he did not know. She introduced herself...
as Billie Wilbur and said she was the lay leader of a small membership church in rural Texas. She frequently took online courses to grow and develop knowledge and skills since educational opportunities were very limited where she lived. Through one of those online courses, she was encouraged to enter a discernment process about her own vocation and call to ministry. As a result she drove to Dallas for a weekend and took a class at Perkins School of Theology entitled, “What God Wants for Your Life.” It was there she first heard of spiritual direction and learned of a new two-year training program in spiritual direction being offered. She signed up for the program, and it had a profound impact on her spiritual journey. She wrote that she believed spiritual formation classes, like the ones she took, could help form transformative lay and clergy leadership.

“People in the pews need what seminaries offer,” she wrote, “not just through the education of our pastors, but through access to those wonderful teaching resources ourselves!” She went on to say, “It is my understanding that Garrett-Evangelical has a commitment to spiritual formation and spiritual direction through the work of the Rueben Job Chair.” Therefore she and her husband, Jay, were considering an initial grant to the chair from the family foundation they were in the process of establishing, and were seeking further information.

Heetland called Wilbur. She shared with him that the person who is often her own “spiritual companion” is a Garrett-Evangelical alum, Billie Blair, pastor of two small membership churches in Kansas and founder of Tallgrass Spiritual Retreat Center. Blair is a spiritual director and certified in spiritual formation, having been taught by Garrett-Evangelical’s Dwight Judy. Heetland told Wilbur about the seminary’s spiritual formation program and encouraged her to visit the seminary website (www.garrett.edu) to learn more. He concluded the conversation by saying, “You need to know that your email is an answer to my prayers.” Wilbur responded, “You need to know that this conversation is an answer to my prayers, as I have been praying to find an institution which shares my values and vision for spiritual formation.”

And much prayer—the Wilburs decided to postpone establishing their family foundation and to make a gift directly to Garrett-Evangelical to complete the funding for the Rueben Job Chair so that it could continue its pioneering work in spiritual formation studies without interruption. As Wilbur explained, “Having been exposed first hand to the type of leadership that Garrett-Evangelical is responsible for made the decision very easy!” Their gift was received in early December 2012.

Later that month it was time for another phone call to Bishop Job—this time to share the good news that the Rueben P. Job Chair in Spiritual Formation was now fully funded. “My prayers of petition have turned into prayers of thanksgiving!” he humbly responded.

In January 2013, a faculty search committee was formed to begin the process of advertising for, interviewing, and selecting the first holder of the Rueben P. Job Chair in Spiritual Formation. In May the board of trustees approved the faculty recommendation to hire Frederick Schmidt as the Rueben Job Associate professor of spiritual formation. Schmidt began his work at Garrett-Evangelical in July.

There is one more interesting piece in this remarkable story. Who so inspired Bille Wilbur in that two-year program she took in spiritual formation? Unbeknownst to Garrett-Evangelical’s faculty search committee, it was none other than Frederick Schmidt! Informed of the appointment of Schmidt to Garrett-Evangelical’s faculty, Wilbur responded, “The prayer of my heart was to be able to share what I gained from those two years of study with others. Through the work of the Job Chair, God has answered my prayer in a big way.”

After several more email exchanges and phone calls—
Garrett-Evangelical is pleased to announce the inauguration of the endowed Rueben P. Job Chair in Spiritual Formation and the installation of Dr. Frederick W. Schmidt into this chair as the Rueben P. Job Associate Professor in Spiritual Formation. The inauguration and installation ceremony was held on September 10, 2013, in the Chapel of the Unnamed Faithful. The establishment of the endowed Rueben P. Job Chair in Spiritual Formation continues Garrett-Evangelical’s commitment to academic rigor and profound spiritual formation.

Beginning with its first spiritual formation class in 1984, Garrett-Evangelical has long been at the forefront of Protestant seminaries in supporting faculty and developing programs in this area. Under the creative leadership of the academic dean and faculty, Garrett-Evangelical proposed the curriculum structure for United Methodist certification in spiritual formation, which was formally adopted by the denomination in 2000. The seminary has since created a specialized master of arts degree in spiritual formation and evangelism and is uniquely positioned to continue developing and enhancing programs at the certificate, masters, and doctoral levels. With this chair, Garrett-Evangelical is the first among Protestant seminaries in the United States to have a fully funded chair in spiritual formation.

“The establishment of the Rueben P. Job Chair in Spiritual Formation affirms Garrett-Evangelical’s deep and abiding commitment to nurture spiritual leaders,” said President Philip Amerson. “This faculty position will help ensure that the church has leaders who are not only intellectually prepared to serve God and others, but who are spiritually formed in Christ so God can use them to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.”

Schmidt comes to Garrett-Evangelical from the Perkins School of Theology at Southern Methodist University in Dallas, Texas, where he served as the director of spiritual formation and Anglican studies, as well as associate professor of Christian spirituality. He has also served as canon educator and director of programs in spirituality and religious education at Washington National Cathedral; special assistant to the president and provost of La Salle University in Philadelphia; a fellow of the American Council on Education; and as dean of St. George’s College, Jerusalem. Schmidt holds a bachelor’s degree from Asbury College, a master of divinity from Asbury Theological Seminary, and a doctor of philosophy from Oxford University.

Regarding his appointment, Schmidt said, “Being named as the inaugural holder of the Rueben P. Job Chair at Garrett-Evangelical is a distinct honor. I am excited about bringing my past experiences to bear on the work associated with the chair and the opportunities for moving forward in new and exciting ways that honor Bishop Job and the many donors who made this new position possible. Great credit goes to my colleague, Dwight Judy, emeritus professor spiritual formation, who has done so much to advance the work of spiritual formation at Garrett-Evangelical and across the church.”
Everything is changing for churches. They are losing their members, their vigor, and their respected place in the fabric of society. The laity’s formation in the faith is often superficial. Societal and economic conditions make effective ministry challenging. Old models do not seem sustainable, and the future seems unstable at best.

You might assume I am describing the situation of mainline Protestant churches in the United States, and the description certainly fits. But I wrote that description with a very different context in mind: sixteenth-century Germany. In that place and at that time, the church was facing its own challenges.

The church’s critics were vocal and numerous. Prominent academics questioned the power the church had traditionally held in society, and popular songs and stories portrayed priests as inept and self-interested. Individual Christians were certainly pious, but their piety was often unorthodox and sometimes openly heterodox. Public figures used religion for their political gain, and the church hierarchy was more interested in temporal power than shepherding souls. Meanwhile, the Ottoman Empire was threatening to overtake central Europe, and famines and inflation made a stable economy nearly impossible.

This was the situation that Christians faced in the sixteenth century, and despite the bleak parallels between then and now, knowing this part of the church’s past gives me hope for the church of the future. Remembering how much the church has been through and the many forms it has taken in its long history can help us be less anxious about our current situation. Anxiety has a way of making us think our circumstances are unique and insurmountable. It is a normal response to change, but it is not a particularly helpful response.

There is an older, romanticized type of history that viewed prominent historical figures as giants who walked among mortals, handing out exquisite pearls of wisdom as they went. Many of these figures were truly great and wise, but that is only part of the picture. It is important to remember that they had anxieties, doubts, and failures as well. In short, they were no more or less capable than we are to meet the church’s current challenges, and the circumstances they faced were at least as difficult as ours.

The Protestant reformers had a particularly difficult task since they had to re-build a church structure from scratch. In their exile from the pope, whether forced or self-imposed, they were separated from the institutions, communities, and resources that were familiar to them. Yet they rose to the challenge and tried to address the issues of their time through many different channels.

They committed themselves to studying, discussing, and living by the Bible. They carefully considered their theology and practices to discern what needed to change and what needed to stay. They reformed worship practices to reflect and to teach their theology. They organized poor relief in cities. They told the laity that their baptismal vows were every bit as important as the clergy’s vows. And they used the new medium of the printing press to foster biblical faith, saturating communities with instruction on prayer, the sacraments, ethics, childrearing, suffering, and Christian vocation. Many of those laypeople responded by engaging in theological discussions, teaching their children the Bible and the catechisms, urging their rulers to be just, and serving their neighbors and communities.

The results of the Reformation were not all positive, but the movement did create churches that were vibrant enough to nurture the faith of their members and to impact their societies. This is just one example of a challenge the church has met during its long history. In many different contexts, the Holy Spirit has formed churches that engage and respond to society in faithful service. Taking the long view of church history, the current situation is one challenge the church has faced among many. In that perspective, our crisis might seem less threatening. When we are less anxious about the future of “our” churches, we are more open to the Holy Spirit’s call to God’s churches in our time and our place.
Garrett-Evangelical Welcomes Four New Trustees

Garrett-Evangelical announces the addition of four new members to its board of trustees: Judith Mateo Bunyi, Laurie Haller, Marianne E. Inman, and Robert K. Phillips. The seminary also welcomed four new affiliate trustees: Robert Fuquay, Bruce Pohlig, William White, and J. Keith Zimmerman. To read more about our affiliate trustees, go to garrettseminary.blogspot.com.

Judith Mateo Bunyi was ordained a deacon in the Iowa Annual Conference of The United Methodist Church in 1994 and ordained an elder in 1996. During her ministry, she has served as pastor of several churches throughout the Iowa Conference and is currently the pastor of Wesley United Methodist Church in Vinton. In addition to her parish ministry, Bunyi has served on various district and conference committees including the Board of Ordained Ministry and as co-chair of the Conference Order of Elders.

Bunyi has also served several positions at extension ministries including vice president of academic affairs and dean of the graduate school at Wesleyan University-Philippines (1997-1998) and team leader and director of Small Group Ministries for the General Board of Discipleship of The United Methodist Church (1998-2000). During her tenure as president of Harris Memorial College, she worked to establish the Center for Christian Discipleship and to provide training and resources to clergy and lay leaders in various districts within the Philippines Central Conference. As a member of the Association of Theological Education in South East Asia and the Philippine Association of Schools, Colleges, and Universities, she has participated in accreditation of colleges and seminaries in the Philippines, Hong Kong, Indonesia, Malaysia, Myanmar, and Taiwan.

Bunyi holds a bachelor of arts degree in speech and drama from the University of the Philippines, a master of arts degree in speech communication from Indiana University-Bloomington, a doctorate in speech communication from Indiana University-Bloomington, and a master of divinity degree from University of Dubuque Theological Seminary. She is the author of various articles on small group and intercultural communication and Building Your Small Group Ministry (2000 Discipleship Resources).

Laurie Haller is a United Methodist pastor who has served a number of local churches in Michigan over the past 31 years. She is currently serving as senior pastor of First United Methodist Church in Birmingham, Michigan, with her husband Gary.

Haller’s leadership has spanned numerous denominational, ecumenical, and international roles. She served on the West Michigan Conference Board of Ordained Ministry from 2004-2012 and chaired the board from 2008-2012. She also served as director of the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry from 2004-2012. She chaired the Africa University Task Force of the Grand Rapids District, raising $500,000 with an anonymous $500,000 matching gift, to build the Ubuntu Retreat Center. The dedication of the Center will be on March 19, 2014. In addition, Haller has spread her passion for the world and its people by leading numerous mission trips to Cuba, Haiti, Zimbabwe, and Israel/Palestine. In 2010, she received the National Clergy Renewal Grant from the Lilly Endowment.

Haller received her master of divinity degree from Yale University Divinity School in 1980; a master of music degree in organ performance from Yale University School of Music and Institute of Sacred Music in 1978; a bachelor of music degree, summa cum laude, Wittenberg University in 1976, and spent time as a student at Berliner Kirchenmusikschule, West Berlin, Germany (1974-1975). Haller has also published numerous articles in the Michigan Christian Advocate and Worship Arts, essays in the United Methodist Reporter, UM Insight, and Faith in Action of GBCS, and maintains a weekly blog called “Leading from the Heart” (www.lauriehaller.org).
Marianne E. Inman is president emerita of Central Methodist University (CMU) in Fayette, Missouri, having served as president from 1995 to June 30, 2013. During this time, the university experienced a six-fold increase in enrollment, a ten-fold increase in the number of degree-granting sites in Missouri, and a tripling of the endowment and the annual operating budget.

Inman’s service beyond the campus includes a four-year term as president of the University Senate of The United Methodist Church (2008-2012) and two terms as president of the Independent Colleges and Universities of Missouri. In addition, she has served as a member of the board of the Missouri Colleges Fund, the Great Rivers Council of the Boy Scouts of America, the National Association of Independent Colleges and Universities, and the National Association of Schools and Colleges of The United Methodist Church. She continues to serve as a member of the Advisory Council for the Council of Independent Colleges NetVUE Initiative (Network for Vocation in Undergraduate Education) and as a peer reviewer for accreditation through the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools. For the last ten years, she has served on the faculty, speaking on development, for the New President’s Institute at the Council of Independent Colleges Presidents Institute.

Inman currently resides in Georgetown, Texas, and is a member of First United Methodist Church there. She holds a bachelor of arts degree with highest distinction (French, Spanish, and English secondary education) from Purdue University, a master of arts degree in French literature and linguistics from Indiana University, and a doctorate in applied linguistics and foreign language education from the University of Texas at Austin. Her doctoral work led to her being named a fellow of the Graduate School and a consultant to the [U.S.] President’s Commission on Foreign Languages and International Studies. Inman is a frequent speaker at professional meetings and preaches regularly at local United Methodist churches.

Robert K. Phillips was born and raised in Indiana and is the son of a United Methodist minister and Garrett graduate. After graduation from the Boston University School of Theology, Robert served numerous parishes in Indiana.

Robert now practices law in San Francisco. He is a veteran of over 100 jury trials. The trials have involved allegations of wrongful death, product liability, construction defect, negligent security, insurance bad faith, breach of contract (employment, real estate, transactional), premises liability, trade secret infringement, real estate fraud, wrongful eviction, professional errors and omissions, rent control violations, and food borne illness. He has also served as national coordinating counsel in Proposition 65 litigation and successfully prosecuted claims of patent and trademark infringement.

Robert received his juris doctorate degree from the University of Notre Dame in 1985 and his master of law degree from the London School of Economics and Political Science in 1986. In addition, he received a bachelor of arts degree from the University of Arizona and a master’s degree in theology from Boston University. Robert was associate professor of business law and political science at the American College of London for two years.

In recognition of his litigation experience, Robert has received commendation from the United States Department of Justice and has been a guest on the nationally syndicated program, “Legal Incite.” He has frequently lectured at local universities and presently serves as arbitrator and mediator for both the San Francisco County Superior and Municipal Courts. He also serves as a Marin County Commissioner.

Robert resides in Mill Valley, California with his wife Caron and daughters Emily and Olivia. The family enjoys frequent visits with Robert’s father Sam, who although retired from the ministry, remains quite active as a member of Glide Memorial United Methodist Church in San Francisco, through exciting travels, and as chief finance officer for Robert’s law firm.
Sherman Apartments are in Need of Renovation

Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary’s primary mission is to prepare leaders to live and proclaim the Gospel. In order to do that, not only must our teaching settings be conducive to learning; living areas must also allow students to study and concentrate in a positive and non-stressful environment.

Attractive and convenient housing options are also critical in attracting prospective students. Appealing housing options demonstrate to potential students that the seminary is a welcoming and caring community. Garrett-Evangelical is therefore proposing a major renovation project for student housing at its Sherman Apartments and invites the support of alums, friends, churches, and foundations.

The Sherman Apartments were built in 1931. There are 36 apartments, 12 two-bedroom and 24 one-bedroom. It has a beautiful park next door where the children can play and is only blocks from campus.

In 2005, the seminary refurbished student housing at the Noyes/Maple Apartment building. At the time, funds were available for only the most critical structural needs at the Sherman Apartments. Apartment interiors there are now in a critical state of disrepair, and the seminary has resolved to address these sub-standard living conditions in order to provide adequate housing for seminary students and their families.

The most crucial needs are: 1) to replace deteriorated pipes that are leaking in the walls, 2) to pull out and replace bathrooms, and 3) to remodel badly outdated kitchens.

Please join us in providing affordable and comfortable living for Garrett-Evangelical students. Gifts of all sizes are welcome. Simply note that your gift is for the Sherman apartment renovations.

Naming opportunities are also available:
A gift of $25,000 can name a new kitchen or bathroom.
A gift of $100,000 can name an entire apartment.
A gift of $300,000 can name a tier of three apartments.
A gift of $5 million can rename the entire building.

Gifts can be sent to the development office, 2121 Sheridan Road, Evanston, IL 60201. If you prefer, you can make your gift online at www.garrett.edu/giving. For more information contact David Heetland at david.heetland@garrett.edu or 847.866.3970.

IRA Charitable Rollover Scheduled to End on December 31

The Emergency Economic Stabilization Act provides that in 2013 an owner of a traditional or Roth IRA who is 70.5 or older may instruct the trustee of the IRA to distribute up to $100,000 to a qualified charity without the distribution being included in taxable income, and that the distribution will count toward the IRA owner’s mandatory withdrawal amount. This opportunity is scheduled to end on December 31 of this year.

Certain rules must be followed in order to take advantage of this tax break, including:
1. The IRA distribution must go directly to the charity
2. Private foundations and donor-advised funds are not eligible for the tax free IRA distributions.
3. The maximum tax-free distribution you can make is $100,000 a year.
4. No benefits (such as annuity income) can be received as a result of the gift.
5. Charitable gifts must be made from a traditional or Roth IRA. Funds in a 401(k), 403(b), or other type of retirement account do not qualify.

If you are interested in taking advantage of this opportunity in 2013, you are encouraged to consult with your financial advisor as soon as possible or contact David Heetland, vice president for development, at 847.866.3970 for more information.
Alum News

In Memoriam

Our Christian sympathy is extended to the family and friends of the following alums who have died in Christ.

1940s

Edward T. Ehresman, ETS 1947, Asheville, North Carolina, died on June 5, 2013. He is survived by his children, Mary, Patricia, Carol, Ruth, David, and Hope.

Richard Holden, GBI 1946, Delavan, Wisconsin, died on June 10, 2013. He is survived by his children, Beth, Kathryn, Lee, and Lowell.

Walter F. Mason, GBI 1944, Bozeman, Montana, died on May 3, 2013. He is survived by his wife, Allagene, and children, David, Kathy, Paul, and Tim.

Charles A. Walls, GBI 1947, Indianapolis, Indiana, died on July 24, 2013.


1950s

Kenneth S. Cook, GBI 1955, Herrin, Illinois, died on May 9, 2013.

Paul D. Foster, GBI 1955, Sweet Home, Oregon, died on June 25, 2013. He is survived by his son, Scott.

1960s

Ronald H. Dixon, GTS 1964, South Bend, Indiana, died on June 26, 2013. He is survived by his wife, Barbara, and children, Michael, and Kevin.

1980s

Thomas P. Morgan, G-ETS 1983, Ripon, Wisconsin, died on July 28, 2013. He is survived by his wife, Kim, and children, Sarah and James.

Other Deaths

James A. Nickles, CSS, Frankfort, Indiana, died on June 10, 2013. He is survived by his wife, Ella, and children, Tim, Amber, and Elizabeth.

John Paul Eddy (GBI 1959) was recently featured in an article in the Denton (Texas) Record-Chronicle about his part in the “March on Washington” in 1963. Eddy is director of a television program, “Discover Denton.”

Timothy Hume Behrendt (GTS 1963) has just authored a book of modern day proverbs, With A Village Church: Meditations on Life.

Harry T. Cook (GTS 1964) has published his eighth book, What a Friend They Had in Jesus: The Theological Visions of Nineteenth and Twentieth Century Hymns Writers.

Anthony Kelley (G-ETS 1980) has authored a book published by Townsend Press, titled How Shall They Hear?

Sue Ott-Holland (G-ETS 1981) is the new director of spiritual care at Aurora Healthcare in Milwaukee.

Erica Robinson-Johnson (G-ETS 1995) has been appointed as the director of connectional ministries/ assistant to the Bishop of the New England Annual Conference effective September 1, 2013.

Laurence L. Garrett, GBI 1957, Burlington, Iowa, died on July 21, 2013. He is survived by his sons, Alan, Joel, and Tobin.

Allen B. Rice II, GBI 1951, Peoria, Arizona, died on June 16, 2013. He is survived by his wife, Shan.

Harlan A. Stenberg, ETS 1954, Clear Lake, Iowa, died on June 5, 2013. He is survived by his wife, Jean, and children, Karen and Andrew.

E. Lee Wilhelm, GBI 1950, Laguna Hills, California, died in March 2013. He is survived by his son, Mark.

Robert D. Williams, GBI 1954, Indianola, Iowa, died on July 29, 2013. He is survived by his wife, Kathryn, and children, Rodney, Rebecca, Jane, and Mark.

Allan H. Zagray, ETS 1957, Sebring, Ohio, died on April 29, 2013. He is survived by his wife, Roberta, children, Kristine, Julie, and Laura; and stepchildren, John, Kathryn, James, and Joseph.

Robert E. Hansen, GTS 1962, Fort Wayne, Indiana, died on June 22, 2013. He is survived by his wife, Bonnie, children, Time, Chris, Jeff, Andrew, and Susan; and stepchildren, Dona and Rob.

Donald F. Maple, GTS 1968, Houston, Texas, died on May 13, 2013. He is survived by his wife, Bonnie, and children, Howard, Lisa, Christopher, and Leslie.

Raymond Howard Kirk, GBI 1960, Melbourne, Florida, died on April 30, 2013. He is survived by his wife, Nancy.

Richard A. Seiber, GBI 1960, University Place, Washington, died on June 19, 2013. He is survived by his wife, Wilma, and sons, Bruce, Roger, Dale, and Michael.
On Wednesday, January 15, 2014, Garrett-Evangelical will sponsor a telephone forum with newly appointed President Lallene Rector. In this 60-minute live presentation, participants will hear President Rector’s vision for Garrett-Evangelical and have an opportunity to ask questions. This telephone forum will begin at 12:00 p.m. (CST), and we encourage you to save the date. Details on how you can be a part of this exciting conversation will be made available beginning January 2, 2014.

I believe that, if Garrett-Evangelical understands itself, first and foremost, as servant to the church and to the world, then we will not stray far from God’s purpose for us. The church and the world are more desperate than ever for bold, spiritual leaders. My own personal call to service, along with my experience in the seminary for the last 27 years, have well prepared me to become that next president, who knows in her heart, that God does indeed have a purpose for our school. The question we must now answer is, “How can we best serve today’s church and today’s world?”

-President-Elect Lallene Rector