Over 500 Students Now Preparing for Ministry

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Thinking Beyond Tomorrow: Leaders for the Long Haul

As a pastor I held an early morning Bible study in a nearby restaurant. Each week I would pass a hand-printed sign by the cash register that read “All Meals Free Tomorrow.” Of course, anyone expecting a free meal the following day would learn that “tomorrow” on Thursday still meant “tomorrow” on Friday. Or, as the saying goes, “Tomorrow never comes.”

I believe anxious denominational leaders today are missing their greatest resource. During times of transition and change, there is an unhelpful desire to point fingers and think only about tomorrow. What we need are not dashboards, seminars, or better marketing campaigns. What is needed is to focus on the gifts already assembled. We need to value and celebrate the witness of persons like Terry, Gene, and Gordon. How will our young learn of these faithful role models who stand in a long heritage of leaders who looked and lived beyond tomorrow? Carl Sandburg wrote of those who “can’t be bought” and of the long-term value of people who love and serve others over the years (The People Live On, 1936). As he put it, “This old anvil laughs at many broken hammers.”

I can still remember the day in our early morning Bible study when our group considered Psalm 30. We laughed about the “free meals tomorrow” sign and reveled in a God whose love was everlasting. We smiled and read Psalm 30:5 over and over: For his anger is but for a moment, his favour is for a lifetime. Weeping may linger for a night, but joy comes in the morning.

Too many in our society chase after the mirage of something free tomorrow—some program or strategy or simple solution—tomorrow. Bill George, Harvard Business School professor and former head of Medtronic, wrote of the tendency of leaders to point fingers at one another during times of economic or political stress. He said that rather than seeking long-term structural or cultural direction, there is inevitably the flawed effort to find short-term fixes. George said the root cause of our stagnation and finger-pointing is leaders practicing short-termism. (“Leadership’s Lost Decade: Will It Breed Better Leaders?” Wall Street Journal, February 3, 2010.)

In recent weeks Garrett-Evangelical has seen the passing of three distinguished alums: Terry Gladstone, Gene Hancock, and Gordon Sorensen. Each of these remarkable persons gave longtime service as clergy leaders. Terry was the epitome of the very best of The United Methodist Church’s Order of Deacon as she sought to serve others. Gene and Gordon were extraordinary preachers and congregational leaders. Each lived with an eye and a heart beyond tomorrow. They were prophetic and pastoral, wise and imaginative, serious yet joyful. They gave of themselves for the sake of a deeper and wider vision of the world and the church. To become such a witness takes a lifetime, and the breadth of such decades-long ministry can never be adequately measured.

What we need are not dashboards, seminars, or better marketing campaigns. What is needed is to focus on the gifts already assembled.
Several years ago at a meeting with a Board of Ordained Ministry, a small group was interviewing a candidate for ordination who had recently graduated from seminary. One member asked the young man what he had learned in his field education experience that most surprised him. He answered, “I learned that ministry is primarily about relationships.” In a similar vein, I have heard graduates return to Garrett-Evangelical and indicate they wished they had taken more pastoral care or Christian education courses. They appreciate the depth of the work they did in theology, Bible, and Church history as it grounds and enlivens their day to day ministry. At the same time, many graduates have come to a greater appreciation of relationships with people as the heart of ministry.

The local parish is one of the very few places in our society where there is the opportunity for people to be heard in ways that can be transforming. Pastors and congregations work together to maintain, direct, and administer their life together. Pastors and congregations relate to individuals and families at points of deepest need as they navigate normal stages of life from birth to death. Pastors and congregations are present for the difficult experiences of job loss, severe illness, still birth, suicide, family alienation, divorce, and the effects of violence. Pastors and congregations in their life together also provide the spaces to deepen expressions of celebration, praise, joy, and thanksgiving. In all these moments, who we are in relationship, how we relate, and most importantly, how we listen to each other provide an opportunity for us to be more fully human and recognize the presence of God in each other.

However, listening is a rather difficult skill and one not even particularly valued in much of today’s United States society. People appear to be more focused on getting their point across than truly listening to each other. Conversation becomes competitive, as if communication is a sport of winners and losers rather than a means to deepen relationship. Too often a person seeking help is dismissed with advice rather than empathic listening that opens possibilities within the person and between them.

In congregations there can be a particularly difficult barrier to listening in depth to others. We are too often overly concerned with avoiding the difficult conversation. We tend to put this reluctance in the language of “caring.” We sincerely want to make things “better,” to be “supportive,” to keep everything “nice.” The language of caring with the goal of not upsetting anyone is used to cover a myriad of ways to deny, deflect, or ignore conflict, pain, disagreements, anger, sadness, shame. The concept of empathy has been misused in this pursuit.

Empathy is misunderstood as being sympathetic, kind, always nice, never confrontational, without any negative affect acknowledged or expressed. Empathy, however, as defined by analyst Heinz Kohut is “the capacity to think and feel oneself into the inner life of another person.” One of the most important aspects of empathy is the ability to suspend any agenda in listening to another person. Our agendas can include our value system, our preferred approach to an issue, our feelings about the other person or the situation, what others have done in the situation, and how we want this issue to be resolved. To listen in this way is to privilege the other’s experiences, feelings, thoughts, and options. Hearing in this way is too rarely available to most people in this society.

Most of us need others to hear us empathically in ways that affirm our humanity, increase our capacity to cope with reality, remind us of our limits, invite us into truth telling, and guide us back into community. In the fellowship of the congregation, we have the privilege to help each other practice empathic listening in ways that sustain, energize, promote honest communication, and deepen relationships.

Listening empathically means embracing the negative, the difficult, the conflicted in the other. Listening empathically means naming the anger, shame, confusion that we hear, sense, and feel from the other. Listening empathically means tolerating our own discomfort, vulnerability, anxiety, and inability to fix situations for others. Listening empathically means inviting others to be heard in ways that give voice to their deepest yearnings, feelings, and needs. Empathic listening builds relationships within the love of God.

Pamela Holliman
Cutting Edges: Listening Empathically
Pamela Holliman, Professor of Pastoral Theology and Psychotherapy
Kyle and Alice Spitzer Share Their Blessings with Others

Aware invited Kyle and Alice Spitzer to share why they have included the seminary in their estate planning. Alice is a trustee of Garrett-Evangelical, and both Kyle and Alice are active lay leaders in their church and community. They are committed to living out their faith through their actions. Here is their story.

Our relationship with Garrett-Evangelical began four years ago when we were asked to serve on the Council of Laity as representatives from our church, First United Methodist Church of Peoria, Illinois. We had known about Garrett-Evangelical for many years because some of our pastors were Garrett-Evangelical graduates. But other than knowing that it was a United Methodist seminary, our information was limited.

We attended Council of Laity meetings and held an informational gathering in our home in 2009, which helped us understand and appreciate the vital place Garrett-Evangelical has in The United Methodist Church in the Midwest. The more we learned, the more we wanted to be part of helping Garrett-Evangelical fulfill its mission.

Every time we hear from the faculty and student body, we are more impressed. There are students from varied backgrounds, as well as a wide range in ages, and each has made a sincere commitment to strengthening The United Methodist Church or the denominations with which they are affiliated. We believe the education of this diverse student body and those students who follow them will fulfill the seminary’s purpose of forming bold new Christian leaders, and we want to help with this vision through our financial commitment.

In 2010, Alice was invited to join the board of trustees. Once she accepted this position, we became convinced that a significant gift to the seminary would be necessary and appropriate to her new role as a board member. We also hoped that we could, by example, encourage others to support the seminary. With gratitude to parents who led by example and bequeathed monetarily to us we have been able to make a major unrestricted gift to the seminary in the form of a life insurance policy.

In 2011, we celebrated our 50th wedding anniversary. We were married in the Lago Community Church on the island of Aruba in the Caribbean where we were raised and attended school through high school graduation. Both of our fathers were employed by a subsidiary of Exxon/Mobil in a refinery on Aruba. We graduated together from Florida State University, and Kyle completed law school at the University of Texas. We moved to Peoria in 1967 after two years at Fort Carson, Colorado, where Kyle fulfilled his military commitment. Peoria has been our home except for four years in Waukesha, Wisconsin, where we were transferred by Kyle’s employer, Caterpillar, Inc. Our church membership has been at First United Methodist Church in Peoria, except for our time in Wisconsin when we were members of Salem United Methodist Church in Waukesha.

We are blessed to have two sons and four grandchildren. One family lives in Fort Wayne, Indiana, and the other in Singapore. When our boys were young, we taught Sunday school and then moved on to working with our church youth group until our youngest son left for college. We have served on church trustees, missions, staff parish, finance, education, building committees, taught some adult education classes, served as delegates to Annual Conference, and worked on specific outreach ministries through an inner city school, Habitat for Humanity and an HIV/AIDS ministry. Our church has maintained its presence in downtown Peoria specifically to minister to those in the inner city, and we feel this commitment will help us as we strive to live out the Gospel in Peoria.

Each day we give thanks for the multitude of blessings life has brought us, and we are also grateful for the opportunities we have found to extend this blessing through gifts to others.

If you share the Spitzers’ commitment to strengthening the church, we invite your participation in the seminary’s Forging our Future: Phase Three campaign. Outright gifts, pledges, and planned gift commitments are all welcome. For more information contact David Heetland, vice president for development, at 847.866.3970.
Garrett-Evangelical Welcomes Over 500 Students

This year, Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary welcomed over 500 students! These students demonstrate a wide range of past experience and future plans. Garrett-Evangelical is very proud of the diversity of its student body and the commitment of its students to follow their call to serve God, the Church, and their communities.

Here are the stories of six promising students who are beginning their studies at Garrett-Evangelical this year. To read even more student stories, go to www.garrett.edu/studentstories.

**Nick Grove**

**Hometown:** Grimes, Iowa

**Home church:** Grimes United Methodist Church, Grimes, Iowa

**Degree program:** Master of divinity

**Other degrees:** B.A., religious studies and English

**Formative experiences:** I spent five summers working as a co-counselor for 5- to 12-year olds at Camp Wesley Wood in Indianola, Iowa. It was at times quite challenging and at times easygoing. I learned about who I am on the inside. I found that I am a natural leader and have grown in my ability to make Bible studies relevant.

**Personal information:** I grew up in a United Methodist church in which my parents were charter members. The early church met in houses; then in the junior high school (where I was baptized as an infant); and then to the current church building. I was heavily involved with youth group and sports. I enjoyed track in college, and I am still involved with the sport as I try to train and compete with the Northwestern Track Club on campus. I thoroughly enjoy music and spend time writing both prose and poetry. Although born and raised in Iowa, I also enjoy rooting for my favorite team, the Nebraska Cornhuskers.

**Experiences at Garrett-Evangelical:** I chose Garrett-Evangelical because I wanted to be challenged academically and spiritually. I also think Garrett-Evangelical offers an opportunity to meet diverse people from all spectrums of life and all over the world. It is fascinating to see how people communicate in a diverse environment. Through my conversations with people who have had very different life experiences, I have learned to be attentive to what I am saying, to what I mean, and to how others will hear my words from their own unique perspectives. This is a lesson not only for my years at Garrett-Evangelical, but for my ministry as well.

**Calling:** I look forward to working in the local church. I want to build a gospel-centered community that seeks the glorification of God. I hope to allow God to work through me in reaching out to a community wherever God calls me.

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**Pam Keyes**

**Hometown:** Peekskill, New York

**Home church:** Mt. Olivet Baptist Church, Peekskill, New York

**Degree program:** Master of divinity

**Other degrees:** B.A., psychology and M.S.W., social work

**Formative experiences:** God blessed me with my pastor, Dr. Adulphous C. Lacey, and evangelism ministry leader, Dr. Brenda Davis, as mentors at Mt. Olivet Baptist Church. They encouraged me to consider ministry, but I resisted the call until 2010, when Dr. Davis invited me to do some mission work in South Africa. I agreed and soon realized that God was at work, as I was surrounded by discussions about the call to ministry and attending seminary. In addition, every sermon preached during that trip dealt with being obedient to God. I remember thinking, “Really God? You had to send me across the Atlantic Ocean on a 17-hour flight (I loathe flying) to tell me to go to seminary?”
**Personal information:** I was raised by two parents who advocated for me to be myself, have integrity, and who engrained in me the importance of building good character. Having gone to church with my mom since a child, Christian values were instilled in me. I have been actively involved in church ministries and community since early 2000, first at the Brooklyn Tabernacle Church in Brooklyn, New York, and later at Mt. Olivet Baptist Church. In the rare free time that I have, I like to read, exercise (Zumba for life!), get together with friends for dinner, and learn about new cultures.

**Experiences at Garrett-Evangelical:** I value diversity and enjoy being in a community that reflects it. One example is evident in my Vocational Formation and Church Leadership (VFCL) class. There is diversity in age, vocation, ethnicity, occupation, and personality. Our work as colleagues in VFCL reflects the kind of interaction across differences that I believe God would be proud of.

**Calling:** I envision myself in a pastoral counseling role in a clinical setting such as a hospital, government agency, or even opening my own practice or agency. I am eager to work with diverse, oppressed, and disenfranchised populations in order to offer hope and inspiration during acute crisis.

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**Michael Jarboe**

**Hometown:** Irving, Texas

**Home church:** St. Luke United Methodist Church, Bryan, Texas

**Degree program:** Master of divinity

**Other degrees:** B.A., communications

**Formative experiences:** One person who had a significant influence on my call to ministry was Katie McKay Simpson (G-ETS 2007), an associate pastor at First United Methodist Church in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. After a coffee conversation filled with laughter, tears, and prayer, I was thankful that Katie recognized gifts within me that she thought would benefit the church.

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**Personal information:** I was introduced to the church and to performing when I was five years old and a neighbor invited me to join the children’s choir at First United Methodist Church in Irving. During high school I found myself enrolled in choir and theater, always auditioning and performing for anyone who would watch. At Centenary College, I was involved in the choir, the United Methodist Student Movement, and Canterbury House ministries. I also had a radio show on KSCL 91.3 and was active in the Centenary Musical Theater Group. My greatest accomplishments were being voted by my college peers to be the class speaker at commencement and asking my high school sweetheart, Lesley Jones, to be my wife.

**Experiences at Garrett-Evangelical:** During two visits to campus prior to admission, I was struck by the culturally diverse student body and the large number of ordained professors who had served both in local congregations and in the classroom. The sense of community was intoxicating from the moment I came to campus. Community Meal on Wednesday night is like a big family gathering.

**Calling:** I feel called back to the local church in an urban Texas setting as an ordained elder in The United Methodist Church. I hope to be a voice that helps alleviate tension between the intersection of church and society by helping people find outlets to express their faith through film, blogging, tweeting, art, and the creative process. The church is the vehicle in which God is bringing the kingdom into the world. If I can help people grasp the reality of that statement then I believe we can make a difference and be people of example in our communities.

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2011-2012 Student Body

Garrett-Evangelical is United Methodist affiliated and ecumenically minded, with over 36 faith traditions represented in our student body.

Our students come from 32 states and 12 countries outside of the United States. Our diverse student body includes:

- 44% Caucasian
- 20% African American
- 20% Asian
- 16% Other Ethnic
Katherine Bartholomew

Hometown: Broadview Heights, Ohio

Home church: Brecksville United Methodist Church, Brecksville, Ohio

Degree program: Master of theological studies

Other degrees: B.A, religion with minor in communication disorders

Formative experiences: In the midst of constantly changing majors in college, my former youth director provided me with an internship under her direction. Based on our previous relationship, I was provided a glimpse into the entirety of a ministry position. Her openness about the struggles involved in her ministry was more than supplemental to the experiences I had within the internship. It was the perfect push I needed to start searching for a career within ministry.

Personal information: I grew up just outside of Cleveland, Ohio, the city that rocks! I graduated from Baldwin-Wallace College in Berea, Ohio. I spent the end of my college career interning with the youth director of a United Methodist church and volunteering as a patient service ambassador at the Cleveland Clinic. Outside of school, I love exploring the outdoors (even in arctic temperatures), baking, and a good book.

Experiences at Garrett-Evangelical: I chose Garrett-Evangelical based on the rich diversity present within the community and the curriculum. I have been pleasantly surprised by the students I have met and their genuine desire to see their peers succeed.

Calling: I have always been drawn to youth ministry, particularly based on the plethora of questions youth are oftentimes not afraid to ask. That passion led me to seminary; I wanted to be best prepared to equip youth with the tools they need to effectively answer (or sometimes not!) their questions. I have also started to consider the possibility of teaching in an academic setting. My love for studying the Old Testament has developed into an additional desire to teach about the rich history of the text in order to portray its relevance for modern faith seekers.

Thomas Yang

Hometown: Glenview, Illinois

Home church: Trinity United Methodist Church, Wilmette, Illinois

Degree program: Master of divinity

Other degrees: B.A., biology and religion

Formative experiences: My youth pastor taught me to respect and uphold the importance of the Bible as the foundation that informs and shapes our theology. As a result, there is a correlation between our theology and our actions—theology dictates our lifestyle. His wisdom has profoundly and repeatedly renewed my mind as I’ve meditated on this concept and, thus, my interest in religion, Bible, and church life has never ceased.

Personal information: I attended Illinois Wesleyan University and graduated in 2010. I love to run, bicycle, and play volleyball. I currently work as a children’s pastor at a Presbyterian church and an “adjunct” youth director at a non-denominational church.

Experiences at Garrett-Evangelical: The community fosters an environment friendly to diversity in theology and in culture. In each of my classes at Garrett-Evangelical, I am encouraged to think and learn about Christianity from an ecumenical perspective. In this way, I am able to see beyond the differences among denominations and focus on the commonalities that unite all of us as Christians. This contributes to productive and encouraging conversations with faculty and fellow students.

Calling: I hope to unite Christians across cultures and backgrounds in order to help all of us see not only our common humanity, but also our kinship to God.
I strongly believe that in no way, shape, or form should Christians reject or fear diversity, but we should wholly embrace and learn from our differences. In addition, I hope to establish a community that encourages questions and through its resources (pastoral and lay alike) guides and informs members of the congregation to the best of their abilities. Thus, I hope that my ministry will encourage congregational members to actively attempt to rectify injustices they experience or witness in their lives as witness to God’s glory.

**Shanna Bude**

**Hometown:** Pardeeville, Wisconsin

**Home church:** Pardeeville United Methodist Church, Pardeeville, Wisconsin

**Degree program:** Master of arts in Christian education

**Other degrees:** B.A., foreign languages and history

**Personal Information:** I was born and raised a pastor’s daughter, spent basically my entire childhood in one church building or another, have taught Sunday school from age fifteen on, worked with youth groups, and sung or played violin with church choirs for as long as I can remember. I graduated from Peshtigo High School way up north in Peshtigo, Wisconsin, then from Ripon College, where I received several academic awards including membership in the Phi Beta Kappa national honor society. For fun, I do pen-and-ink drawings or calligraphy, play the violin, and write fiction.

**My Experiences at Garrett-Evangelical:** I chose Garrett-Evangelical for a number of reasons including proximity to Chicago, a diverse environment, and financial aid opportunities. On a personal note, however, Garrett-Evangelical has always been special to me because it is the seminary that my father attended.

Looking back on the past semester, I believe that Garrett-Evangelical has most impressed me by its subtle, almost unconscious, integration of old and new. Just as modern technologies are integrated into the class experience alongside the beautiful, old architecture of Garrett-Evangelical’s buildings, so my classes and other school activities have demonstrated a desire to learn from the wisdom of the past without falling out of step with the rest of the world.

**Calling:** The education of young people in the church has been of great importance to me since I was a teenager myself. More importantly, in a world that seems to offer children less certainty every day, I feel called to help young people in whatever way I can to explore their own faith, to understand the history behind it, and to find a meaning in their lives beyond the sensationalism so often thrust upon them.

**Stead Matching Gift Challenge**

These students are just six of the 506 reasons to support Garrett-Evangelical this year. Our mission is to prepare bold Christian leaders for the church and the world, and your help is needed. Make your gift to the 2011-2012 Annual Fund now and your gift will be matched, dollar for dollar, by Jerre and Mary Joy Stead. Recognizing the challenges that face Garrett-Evangelical in this volatile economy, the Steads invite others to join them in strengthening the seminary so that it remains a vibrant center for the preparation of Christian leaders.

Here is how their challenge will work. The Steads will match dollar for dollar any gift made to the unrestricted Annual Fund between January 1, 2012 and June 30, 2012—up to $400,000! This is a wonderful opportunity to double your giving power to continue Garrett-Evangelical’s 157 year history of preparing passionate and articulate church leaders.

There are three ways to make your matching gift today:

- Online at www.garrett.edu/giving
- Call the development office at 847.866.3927
- Mail your gift to the development office, Garrett-Evangelical, 2121 Sheridan Road, Evanston, IL 60201
As a young man, H. Eugene Chamberlain developed a passion for education. His vocation as a minister of education in the Baptist Church was lived out in congregations in Texas and then as curriculum editor at the Baptist Sunday School Board. He knew that educated lay and clergy leaders would be vital for the health of the church and the world. As a young man, he dreamed of being a teacher in South America. His degrees in Spanish, education, and theology would have prepared him well to live out this dream. Although he did not have the opportunity to make his dream a reality, his daughter Marigene was able to be a missionary in Chile for the Baptist Church and has worked with Hispanic ministries in The United Methodist Church through the Board of Discipleship, the National Plan for Hispanic Ministries, and Escuela Curso de Estudio (Spanish Language Course of Study).

Chamberlain’s whole life was devoted to creating spaces for people of all ages to learn about, think about, and practice the Christian faith. When he died in January 2011, his wife and daughter wanted to continue his legacy of supporting an educated clergy. The H. Eugene Chamberlain Endowed Scholarship was established at Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary by Dorothy F. Chamberlain and Marigene Chamberlain on October 31, 2011.

The purpose of the H. Eugene Chamberlain Endowed Scholarship is to provide financial assistance to persons who have enrolled at Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary and are planning a vocation in ministry through the Escuela Curso de Estudios (basic and advanced programs). The Chamberlains hope that scholarship awards from this fund will encourage students to maintain academic excellence in their studies. Students at the half-way point of their basic ECE courses are eligible to apply for scholarship assistance to continue and complete the basic course. Students graduating from the Basic Escuela Curso de Estudio can apply for assistance to continue with the advanced course, Cursos Avanzados. Through this educational process students can become eligible for ordination in The United Methodist Church.

According to Marigene, “Momma and I established the H. Eugene Chamberlain Scholarship in memory and love of a man whose guiding principles included the idea that God has been generous with us and so we are called to be generous with others (2 Corinthians 9:8-12). We also wanted to recognize his commitment to Spanish-speaking peoples and ministries and to theological education for all. At the heart of the scholarship fund is encouragement (Philippians 2:1); it is to encourage students enrolled in the Spanish Language Course of Study at Garrett-Evangelical to do good work and to continue their studies as long as possible. We chose Garrett-Evangelical because of my ties to the school as a basic graduate theological studies student, as a teacher in the ECE for about 10 years, and now as academic director.”

The generosity of this family’s gift will encourage and support many pastors who would not have the opportunity to continue their theological education.

The Course of Study School at Garrett-Evangelical offers licensed local pastors the opportunity to fulfill The United Methodist Church’s educational requirements for local pastors through a five-year program of theological study that promotes biblical knowledge and pastoral leadership.

A high quality education is offered in three languages: English, Spanish, and Hmong, giving students opportunities for learning in a community with multicultural presence and activities to help clergy shape their practice of ministry in an increasingly diverse context.

For more information about Course of Study, please visit our website at www.garrett.edu/COS.
Some call it ministering on the edge; others call it ministering at the center. Both understandings are accurate for Garrett-Evangelical alums who engage in campus ministry, college chaplaincy, or college ministry.

It is a ministry on the edges, for the campus is not the central focus of the organized church and congregations. It is a ministry at the center, engaging with students and faculty as they consider great and challenging ideas, ethical quandaries, and vocational options.

Laura Kirkpatrick McMasters (G-ETS 2002) is in her seventh year as chaplain at United Methodist-related Martin Methodist College in Pulaski, Tenn. She reflects that, while discerning her call to campus ministry, “the story of Philip and the Ethiopian (Acts 8) kept resurfacing—‘Do you understand what you are reading?’ The Ethiopian replied, ‘How can I, unless someone guides me?’” She says that the mantra for her calling became “walking alongside others as they name, claim, and respond to Emmanuel, God with us. What better place to walk alongside than campus ministry! There is a dynamic of being in ministry with young people that is unlike the local church.”

Jeremiah Gibbs (G-ETS 2007), a Ph.D. candidate at the seminary, began his collegiate ministry at United Methodist-related University of Indianapolis in August 2009 as he was working on candidacy for his Ph.D. “I struggled for some time to figure out how God would use my intense love for theology and academic work with how I understood God had called me to pastoral ministry. By working as a chaplain and being part of the university faculty, I have the opportunity to bridge those two callings in exciting ways.

“The college years,” says Gibbs, “are volatile times for students religiously and vocationally. I did not feel called to the age group for these reasons; I just know that God has called me to shepherd souls.”

David Glenn-Burns (G-ETS 1985) began campus ministry at the University of Northern Iowa eighteen years ago partly because of the influence of a pastor who had been a campus minister. “I love observing and being involved in students’ transition from freshmen to graduating seniors and all the accompanying developmental experiences. I love seeing the light bulbs go on,” states the veteran campus minister. “I love listening as students learn the language of their disciplines and their own faith expressions.”

A campus minister for five-and-one-half years at the Illinois State Wesley Foundation, Jennie Edwards Bertrand (G-ETS 1998) was encouraged to enter this ministry by her former campus minister. Jennie states “I love my churched kids who come to college with a desire to get involved in a campus ministry and a willingness to serve and lead right away. My greatest joy is building a relationship with college students who have little or no faith background. It is a courageous act for them to walk in the door; it is humbling for me offer guidance in the midst of spiritual seeking.”

Glen Robyne (G-ETS 1992 and 1993), who shares Purdue’s Wesley Foundation leadership with his spouse Lana (G-ETS), was motivated to enter campus ministry because of “the great experience I had as a student in campus ministry and a feeling I could effectively reach this age group.” As with his colleagues, the joy is “seeing young adults grow into their own distinct way of knowing God. . . . We take seriously the transformation of the world as we grow as disciples of Jesus.”

Current students Emily Lutz and Cory Young are doing field education internships and doctoral student Daniel Smith is volunteering at United Campus Ministry at Northwestern University.

Garrett-Evangelical celebrates the remarkable ministries of these alums, along with Paul Shultz (G-ETS 1988) at University of Iowa; Jim Shirbroun (G-ETS 1985) at Iowa State University; Lynn Pries (ETS 1971) at North Central College; Daniel Hembree (G-ETS 1996 and 2003) at Claflin University; Jennifer Long (G-ETS 1997) at Eastern Illinois University; Greg Lawton (G-ETS 2000) at Grand Valley State University; William Chu (G-ETS 2003) at Michigan State University; Kelli Beard (G-ETS 2008) at Northern Illinois University; and Betsy Eaves (G-ETS 2010) at Centenary College of Louisiana.
Intersection, A New Continuing Education Program

The new year brings new opportunities for continuing education and enrichment—even credit—for religious professionals and interested lay persons.

Intersection is an innovative continuing education opportunity for individuals to engage in focused, short-term study and reflection on contemporary issues of life and ministry. The program is designed to be a creative intersection between academic studies and the concerns of practical ministry. Topics include theology, biblical interpretation, church history, pastoral care, ethics, and church in society.

Each study unit includes three components: watching an online video presentation by a Garrett-Evangelical faculty member; completing readings and a reflection paper related to the topic and how insights gathered enhance one’s understanding of the church and one’s ministry; and receiving comments and reflections from a seminary faculty member who has reviewed the submitted paper.

Individuals may enroll in one or several of the units, receiving the appropriate continuing education credit. Intersection is designed so individuals can complete the units without traveling to campus.

The first six Intersection studies are available now. They are:

Brain Matters: Toward a Practical Theology of Human Connectedness, David Hogue: an examination of recent developments in the neurosciences and their implications for a practical theology of human relationality, including human capacities for empathy and love, provocative hints about what goes wrong in relationships, and hopeful signs for their restoration.

Dead Reckoning: Eschatology and Ethics, Brent Waters: a consideration of the trajectory for the Christian moral life between “the poles of anticipatory remembrance and imaginative restlessness.”

Theology and the Unimaginable, Stephen Ray: an exploration of how the Church can in a theologically responsible way conceive of forgiveness in the face of genocide, particularly when it unfolds in the midst of Christian communities and is facilitated by the actions of the faithful.


The Ambiguity of God and Humans, James Poling: an exploration of the concept of ambiguity as a helpful concept for human religious life, and how in Jesus’ life the cross and nonviolence are signs that show the connections between human ambiguity and God’s ambiguity.

The Ministry of Vincent Van Gogh, Ken Vaux: an exploration of the frustrations and fulfillments faced in Van Gogh’s quest to become a preacher/evangelist and then a painter/pastor with particular focus on his unfolding ethical theology.

Additional studies will be available this spring. Registration information is available at www.garrett.edu/intersection.

Distinguished Alum Award Nominations for 2013

Each year, one award 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 a graduate of Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary or one of its parent bodies (Garrett, Evangelical, or Chicago Training School).

Nominations must be received by June 30, 2012. 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...Resources for Alumni/ae. Or contact Betty Campbell at Elizabeth.Campbell@garrett.edu or 847.866.3971.
In the movie *I Robot*, a Twentieth Century Fox production which premiered in 2004, Will Smith, the main character, hotly disavows Luddite tendencies when he snappishly tells another character that he is not going to be one of the protestors who wish to banish the Internet in order to bring back libraries. In the seven years since the movie aired, there have been many technological breakthroughs relating to books and the Internet. On airplanes these days, one sees just about as many Nooks, Kindles, and iPads as one does physical books.

Still, libraries as repositories of “books” are not going anywhere. Certainly, the books may move from shelves to servers as formats change, but academic institutions are still going to be collecting resources for their patrons.

For theological libraries, two things have become clear: (1) most current, cutting edge electronic books are not free and, on the contrary, theological eBooks are terribly dear; and (2) many religion publishers do not have the technology to create eBook versions suitable for loaning out for library use because they have difficulty converting footnotes for ebook readers and even, in some cases, Hebrew, Greek, and Arabic fonts. This means that, yes, libraries are still buying physical books; we are still storing them; and we are still loaning them – at a rate of 23,000 checkouts per year.

Even when the United Library purchases eBooks, which indeed will be the standard stock of libraries within 20 years, they are extraordinarily expensive.

A typical theological “library version” of a quality academic eBook that may be loaned to many students at once or embedded in an electronic classroom typically costs half again as much as a paper version of a book. For instance, Lester Grabbe and Philip Davies’ excellent book, *The Historian and the Bible*, published in 2010 by Continuum, is destined to be a modern classic, and the library licensed eBook version sells for $210.00. Yes, that is correct—a few hundred dollars for a single eBook. And that is not a bad price. The library e-version of Arie van der Kooij’s edited work *Isaiah in Context* which was released by Brill in 2010 currently sells for a hefty $325.00.

The Internet may be here and eBooks may be the future, but we have discovered that books out there on the Internet that have been published since Vatican II, or since the discovery of the Dead Sea Scrolls, or since the War on Terrorism are neither free, nor cheap. Also, not every book is published in e-version, so we need to continue to supply our students with physical copies of some titles.

How are libraries responding? The key to a solid, well stocked library with both electronic and physical books is a respectable endowment for the collection. Proceeds from an endowment allow a library a perpetual source of funding to purchase materials for its collection—whether in eBook format or physical.

The library has been extremely fortunate to receive a $200,000 matching grant from the Arthur Vining Davis Foundations to begin endowing the library collection and to provide for future purchases of both physical and electronic books. To date, we have received $59,110 toward matching that grant.

I give annually to support the library endowment, and I hope you will too. Every gift designated for the library endowment will be matched by the Davis Foundations. If you would like to support the United Library, please send your gift to the development office, 2121 Sheridan Road, Evanston, IL 60201 or go to www.garrett.edu/giving and note that your gift is for the library endowment.

For more information about the United Library at Garrett-Evangelical go to www.garrett.edu/library.
December 2011 marked not only the end of the fall semester at Garrett-Evangelical, but also the retirement of two remarkable professors, Kenneth Vaux and James Poling.

Vaux joined the seminary in 1993 and for the ensuing 18 years served as professor of theological ethics. Vaux reflects that he will miss the stimulation of the students and “the thrill of having the chance to be in a class with them. That has been one of my greatest joys.”

His retirement was marked by a lecture on November 5 in the Chapel of the Unnamed Faithful to an audience of students, alumni, colleagues, church members, and family. His lecture was entitled “The Ministry of Vincent Van Gogh,” which explored the frustrations and fulfillments Van Gogh faced in his quest to become a preacher/evangelist and then a painter/pastor with particular focus on his unfolding ethical theology.

In his retirement, Vaux is considering traveling through Europe, where he will continue his studies and writing on interfaith hermeneutics. He is also thinking of traveling along President Barack Obama’s campaign trail as he did four years ago. He would offer seminars on citizenship at colleges, high schools, and churches in Pennsylvania and Ohio. Most importantly Vaux reports, “I have been offered one job in retirement: that’s from my three year old grandson who wants someone to play with him!”

Poling joined the faculty in 1996 as professor of pastoral care, counseling, and theology. Though he formally retired in 2008, he continued to teach on a part-time basis. He will continue to advise several students through the completion of their degrees.

On October 26, Poling delivered a lecture, “The Ambiguity of God and Humans,” which explored the concept of ambiguity as a helpful concept for human religious life, and how in Jesus’ life the cross and nonviolence are signs that show the connections between human ambiguity and God’s ambiguity.

Poling is planning to spend time with his six grandchildren in retirement. He will continue coordinating the sexual ethics for the North Carolina Presbytery; serving on the domestic violence committee for the Black Mountain Presbyterian Church; and teaching a class on domestic violence at the local women’s prison. He hopes to give more attention to his three main hobbies: bird watching, environmental ethics, and nature photography.

In honor of Poling’s retirement friends and colleagues are establishing the James and Nancy Poling Endowed Scholarship. You can make a gift to this endowed fund online at www.garrett.edu/giving, or send your gift to the development office, Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary, 2121 Sheridan Road, Evanston, IL 60201.

In Memoriam: Edward Spytek, Musican and Bell Choir Director

Edward J. Spytek, director of Garrett-Evangelical’s handbell choir, affiliate faculty member, and husband of Academic Dean Lallene Rector, passed away suddenly on January 1. A memorial service will be held at Garrett-Evangelical on Saturday, February 11, in the Chapel of the Unnamed Faithful.

A native of Massachusetts, Spytek held a master’s degree in sacred music from Boston University. He served several United Methodist churches in the area as organist and music director, most recently at Evanston’s Hemenway United Methodist Church. A member of the American Guild of Organists, Spytek served as consultant in the selection of the new Casavant organ during the seminary chapel’s renovation in the early 1990s. Last spring he presented an organ concert for the seminary community.

Messages of condolence may be sent to Dean Rector at academic.affairs@garrett.edu. The Edward J. Spytek Endowed Music Fund is being established in his memory to enhance the musical life of the seminary.
In Memoriam

Jeanette Chumbley Buys (G-ETS), life trustee of Garrett-Evangelical, has recently published a book, Delia (Dorrance Publishing Company, 2011). The book is about family values and the passage of Christian faith through five generations.

Bishop Rueben Job (ETS 1957) has published a book, Three Simple Questions (Abingdon Press, 2011). In this book, Bishop Job challenges the rampant division and hatefulness that is found both in the world and in the Church.

Earl Lindsay (GBI 1958) has been awarded the title of Pastor Emeritus of First United Methodist Church in West Allis, Wisconsin. This award was granted in honor of his esteemed professional ministry and lifelong witness to the Gospel.


James Mason (G-ETS 1996), recently earned a Ph.D. in Sociology from Oklahoma State University. He is now a lecturer at the Spears School of Business (at Oklahoma State).

Lyn (G-ETS 2007) and Kevin Frazier and their son, Matt, mourn the loss of their daughter, Sarah Ellene Frazier, 30, who died on October 1, 2011, at their home in Midland, Michigan.

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

### 1940s

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Year</th>
<th>School</th>
<th>City, State</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Survivors</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ralph Aubrey Edwards</td>
<td>1947</td>
<td>GBI</td>
<td>Chelsea, Michigan</td>
<td>July 1, 2010</td>
<td>four children</td>
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### 1950s

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
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<th>City, State</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Survivors</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Shirley Jean Wirt</td>
<td>1950</td>
<td>GBI</td>
<td>Greensboro, Vermont</td>
<td>November 30, 2011</td>
<td>three children</td>
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<tr>
<td>Robert A. Dennert</td>
<td>1951</td>
<td>ETS</td>
<td>Cedar Rapids, Iowa</td>
<td>September 6, 2011</td>
<td>Juanita</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eugene H. Hancock</td>
<td>1951</td>
<td>GBI</td>
<td>Independence, Iowa</td>
<td>November 26, 2011</td>
<td>Marna</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dorothy Taylor Crow</td>
<td>1952</td>
<td>GBI</td>
<td>Northbrook, IL</td>
<td>June 15, 2011</td>
<td>Robert</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gaynell Strader</td>
<td>1953</td>
<td>GBI</td>
<td>St. Petersburg, Florida</td>
<td>September 15, 2011</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Charles Greer Cecil</td>
<td>1954</td>
<td>GBI</td>
<td>Loveland, Ohio</td>
<td>October 2, 2010</td>
<td>Patricia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>1950</td>
<td>GBI</td>
<td>Greensboro, Vermont</td>
<td>November 30, 2011</td>
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<th>Date</th>
<th>Survivors</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Donald Lloyd Ruhl</td>
<td>1961</td>
<td>ETS</td>
<td>Winona Lake, Michigan</td>
<td>October 1, 2011</td>
<td>wife, Sylvia</td>
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<tr>
<td>Donald Dougal McLellan</td>
<td>1964</td>
<td>GTS</td>
<td>Harrisville, Michigan</td>
<td>December 22, 2010</td>
<td>wife, Virginia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kenneth Yocum</td>
<td>1964</td>
<td>ETS</td>
<td>Peoria, Illinois</td>
<td>September 14, 2010</td>
<td>children and grandchildren</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John William Cummins</td>
<td>1965</td>
<td>GTS</td>
<td>Cocoa, Florida</td>
<td>October 17, 2011</td>
<td>wife, Delice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lavern L. Johnson</td>
<td>1968</td>
<td>ETS</td>
<td>Battle Lake, Minnesota</td>
<td>November 6, 2011</td>
<td>wife, Sharon</td>
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### 1970s

<table>
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<tr>
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<th>School</th>
<th>City, State</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Survivors</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Marion W. Myles</td>
<td>1977</td>
<td>G-ETS</td>
<td>Tylertown, Mississippi</td>
<td>November 6, 2011</td>
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### 1990s

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<tr>
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<th>City, State</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Survivors</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Terry Kay Gladstone</td>
<td>1993</td>
<td>G-ETS</td>
<td>Port Huron, Michigan</td>
<td>November 6, 2011</td>
<td>husband, David</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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Alum News

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Calendar of Events

(Academic year lectures are Wednesday, 4:00 p.m., room 205 unless otherwise noted)

Wednesday, February 8
**Sabbatical Lecture**: Anne Joh, professor of systematic theology, “Still Present Pasts of War and Immigration: Imagining the Horizons of Korean American Theology”
Contact Krista McNeil at 847.866.3903 or krista.mcneil@garrett.edu

Tuesday, February 14
**Featured Preacher**: Otis Moss, senior pastor of Trinity United Church of Christ in Chicago, Illinois
11:15 a.m., Chapel of the Unnamed Faithful

Wednesday, February 29
**Sabbatical Lecture**: Beth Sheppard, professor of theological bibliography and the director of the United Library, “Then and Now: Histography and New Testament Interpretation”
Contact Krista McNeil at 847.866.3903 or krista.mcneil@garrett.edu

Tuesday, March 6
**Featured Preacher**: Lillian Daniel, senior minister of First Congregational Church of Glen Ellyn, Illinois
11:15 a.m., Chapel of the Unnamed Faithful

Wednesday, March 7
**Promotion Lecture**: Ron Anderson, Ernest and Bernice Styberg Professor of Worship, “Apotaxis and Ethics: The Baptismal Renunciations and Christian Discipleship”
4:00 p.m., Chapel of the Unnamed Faithful
Contact Krista McNeil at 847.866.3903 or krista.mcneil@garrett.edu

Wednesday, March 21
**Promotion Lecture**: Cheryl Anderson, professor of Old Testament, “Standing at the Edge of the Mississippi: Reflections on a Different Paradigm for Theological Education”
4:00 p.m., Chapel of the Unnamed Faithful
Contact Krista McNeil at 847.866.3903 or krista.mcneil@garrett.edu

Thursday, March 22
**Featured Preacher**: Sara Wenger Shenk (G-ETS 1986) president of Associated Mennonite Biblical Seminary (AMBS)
11:15 a.m., Chapel of the Unnamed Faithful

Tuesday, April 4
**Featured Preacher**: Brett A. Todd (G-ETS 1996) senior pastor of Trinity United Methodist Church in Wilmette, Illinois
6:15 p.m., Chapel of the Unnamed Faithful

For a full calendar of events, visit us at www.garrett.edu