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For the first time in four years, Lee University held an event to commemorate campus progress. On September 19 hundreds gathered for Celebration 2014, where benefactors were recognized and the Communication Arts Building was dedicated.

—by Cameron Fisher

Making the Trek Back “Home”
Hundreds made the annual pilgrimage to their alma mater on the first weekend in November. If you couldn’t make it, read about who did and some of the honors that were bestowed upon fellow alumni.

—by Jimmy Harper

Global Perspectives: India
For the first time, Lee University sponsored a Global Perspectives tour to the land of India. Follow along the journey with Campus Pastor Jimmy Harper and a group of Lee students eager to learn more about their world.

—by Jimmy Harper

Campus News: Breaking Through to 5,000
For the first time, Lee University enrollment topped 5,000 students. Read about the historic landmark as well as the dedication of Pangle Hall, Lee’s newest performance venue, and the continued development of the south campus.

Athletic Teams Move Into Final Year Before NCAA Eligibility
Beginning fall of 2015, Lee University athletes will officially compete in the NCAA Div. II. Until then, teams will finish this year in “provisional” mode, and against National Christian College Athletic Association opponents.

—by George Starr

Torch Travels

When we think of Christmas, we think of music, lights, food, and reflection on the Christ child. All four are in brilliant display this time of year here at Lee.

Music: Do we ever have music! Today was a chapel with nothing but Christmas music; on Sunday, Conn Center will be packed for the twenty-fifth season of “Classic Christmas” presented by the School of Music. Next week, Voices of Lee will present “Sounds of Christmas” in Pangle Hall, and Chorale offers a beautiful “Lessons and Carols” in our beautiful Chapel.

Lights: They are everywhere around here. Four large Christmas trees decorate our major building, wreaths hang in over a hundred rooms and outside venues.

Food: Lots of Christmas food, too. The students start the season with their annual “Midnight Breakfast,” and there are Christmas cookies, cakes, and special holiday meals everywhere we turn.

Reflection: And for all of us—faculty and students alike—there are so many occasions, this time of year, to reflect on the gift of Jesus. Not just for humankind generally, but for each of us individually, the love of God seems particularly personal when we think of how it was expressed in a little baby so long ago. In all the excitement of such festive music and decorations, such wonderful food and lights, there is above all, on the Lee University campus, the knowledge of God’s personal gift to each of us. It’s what makes Lee Christmas “the most wonderful time of the year.”

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Lee University TORCH
Winter 2014  |  Vol. 56, No. 4

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On the cover: Freshman cheerleader Erica Iannarone of Chattanooga, Tennessee, stands atop the pyramid at the Homecoming tailgate party.

Connect with Lee through social media!

Facebook: facebook.com/leeu
Twitter: twitter.com/leeuniversity
At Celebration 2010, the five-year Press Toward the Mark campaign officially came to a close. At the same event, Lee officials announced the immediate launch of the new Find Us Faithful campaign to build on that success. It began with a goal of raising and investing $25 million in the following set of capital projects:

**Goals**

- **Construction of The Chapel** (dedicated in 2011)
- **Construction of New Hughes Hall, a 126-bed men’s dormitory** (dedicated in 2011)
- **Acquisition and renovation of the former First Baptist Church buildings** (2010)
- **Construction of a Communication Arts Building** (dedicated 2014)
- **Development of the ten-acre South campus area** (in progress)
- **Construction of a School of Nursing building** (TBA)
- **Increasing endowment scholarships by $2 million** (in progress)
- **Completion of numerous small campus upgrades**

Celebration 2014

In the latest installment of ceremonies marking the progress of Lee over the last quarter century, Celebration 2014 was the mid-point of the Find Us Faithful campaign. Take a look at the people honored and events that made September 19, 2014, a day to remember at Lee University.

**LEADING THE WAY**

For more than a quarter century, three couples in particular have shown extreme loyal and generous support in all of the major capital campaigns:

**RICHARD & HELEN DeVOS**

The DeVoses are a Michigan couple whose generous gift was the foundation for the Find Us Faithful campaign and provided the primary investment in the Communication Arts Building. The couple is among America’s leading philanthropists, and their commitment to Lee University began in 1988, when they provided the funds to build a new tennis center as part of President Conn’s first capital campaign—Carry the Torch. Since that beginning, they have become Lee’s leading benefactors, stating recently, “We appreciate the commitment of Lee University to provide an academic program that is socially stimulating and spiritually dynamic for your students.”

Helen DeVos is a former elementary schoolteacher; her continuing interest in teacher education was recognized by Lee University in 1998 with the naming of the Helen DeVos College of Education in her honor. Richard DeVos was cofounder of the Amway Corporation, and is owner of the NBA franchise, Orlando Magic, among many other business interests. Although he and his family decline to discuss the size of their personal fortune, he is listed each year in national rankings of the world’s wealthiest men. The DeVoses have four children and sixteen grandchildren.

**RAYMOND & JOAN CONN**

Raymond Conn and his wife Joan are alumni of Lee who have made a profound impact on their alma mater with their influence, hard work, and financial support. Their gifts, including the lead gift to the Find Us Faithful Campaign, place them first among all Lee alumni in lifetime giving.

Conn is from the Class of 1970 and was a sociology major. After graduation from the University of Tennessee, he worked his way up through the construction industry to become president and owner of C & S Construction, Inc. and Tricon, Inc., commercial contractors, specializing in mid-size institutional and commercial construction. Ray’s wife Joan (Davis) graduated from Lee in 1974. She has been a leader in many civic and charitable organizations in Cincinnati and elsewhere. Currently, she is executive director of Restavek Freedom Foundation, which works to end child slavery in Haiti, where she and Ray maintain a home and direct the foundation’s operations.

**BILL & JANIE HIGGINbothAM**

Bill Higginbotham has served on the Lee University Board of directors longer than any other individual in history. As a young businessman from Oklahoma, he was first appointed to the board in 1972. During a diversified business career, he has owned and managed many enterprises over the years, but his core business is providing services to oil drilling and production companies in and around Oklahoma City.

In addition to his leadership on the Lee board, Mr. Higginbotham and his wife Janie are among Lee’s most consistent and generous financial supporters. He has made major donations to each of Lee’s capital campaigns in the last thirty years and has personally funded one of Lee’s largest endowed scholarship funds. Bill and Janie have once again quietly stepped up to be among the most generous givers to this campaign, and have helped Lee accomplish its goal of completing the Communication Arts Building on a debt-free basis.
Namesakes

During Celebration 2014, individuals and couples who made the Find Us Faithful campaign successful thus far were recognized in a variety of ways:

OATES BLACK BOX THEATER
COMMUNICATION ARTS BUILDING

The late Marvin “Buzz” Oates was a legendary real estate developer in Sacramento, California, who died in December 2013 at the age of 90. Mr. Oates was the founder and driving force behind Buzz Oates Enterprises, a commercial development conglomerate that landed him on the 2005 Forbes magazine list of the nation’s wealthiest Americans. He was a minority owner of the Sacramento Kings, and the Sacramento mayor called him “a true icon” of the city. Two of Buzz Oates’ grandchildren, Katie and Lauren Buntain, attended Lee University, and through the experience of his granddaughters, Mr. Oates became an admirer of the philosophy and style of Lee University. His daughter Judy Buntain Holt arranged for the black box theater in the new Communication Arts Building to be named in his honor, and in July 2013, the Voices of Lee traveled to Sacramento to present this recognition to him personally at his 90th birthday party.

WALKER LECTURE HALL
SCIENCE/MATH COMPLEX

Dr. Paul L. and Carmelita Walker are among the most distinguished alumni in Lee University history. Their paths have been part of the Lee story in many different ways—from student days in the 1940s through his current status as “elder statesman” of the university.

The Curriculum Development Foundation (CDF) began as a venture of the Walkers in the early 1970s. Throughout five decades, Dr. Walker has maintained this foundation in various forms, and during the Find Us Faithful campaign, CDF stepped forward to become a million-dollar donor to the Communication Arts Building. In recognition of their unparalleled leadership in the Lee University experience, the Lee Board of Directors voted to name the beautiful lecture hall in the Science/Math complex in honor of Paul and Carmelita Walker. The official dedication occurred in a special ceremony honoring the Walkers in December.

Paul and Carmelita Walker
Dr. Donald S. Aultman and his wife, Winona, have been leaders among Lee alumni for many decades. He has twice served on the Lee faculty, as vice president and academic dean (1968–1972), and later as a member of the psychology faculty. As a young youth minister in the 1960s, he served as president of the Lee College Alumni Association and many years later, as chancellor of the Church of God Division of Education. In recognition of their engagement with their alma mater over a lifetime, the northeast entrance of the building is being named in their honor.

Dr. Lynn C. Gilbert and her husband Jim Morris, residents of Calhoun County, West Virginia, provided a significant contribution toward the completion of the Find Us Faithful campaign. Lynn is a dentist who graduated from Lee in 1984. She is now dental director at Minnie Hamilton Health Services in West Virginia.

Jim is a successful businessman and president of Creston Oil Company, as well as owner of Calhoun Realty, Inc. He is a trustee of Alderson-Broaddus University, a private liberal arts school and a colleague institution with Lee University in the Appalachian College Association.
Forrest Preston has been one of Lee University’s best friends and most generous supporters of the Find Us Faithful campaign, after being a key donor to previous campaigns and throughout the last decade. Mr. Preston is founder and chairman of Life Care Centers of America, which operates over 200 facilities in 28 states from Massachusetts to Hawaii. The development of Lee’s newly emerging “south campus” has long been a vision of Mr. Preston, and the beautiful conversion of this area between Sixth Street and Central Avenue would not be a reality without his persistent enthusiasm for it. For the past ten years, he has urged the university to find ways to connect the main campus to the downtown area, and has helped in that regard.

Allan Jones is a creative businessman who since 1993 has built his company, Check Into Cash, into a nationwide enterprise with over 1,100 locations. Growing up in his father’s credit bureau business, he developed a strong work ethic, an energetic business leadership style, and a love for his hometown that has kept him engaged in Cleveland. During the early days of their courtship, Allan called his wife Janie by her maiden name, Pangle. In appreciation for his financial support in developing our new “south campus” connecting the Lee campus with downtown Cleveland, the university has given the name “Pangle Hall” to the retrofitted performance venue which occupied the old sanctuary of the former First Baptist Church. This space will offer Lee and Cleveland a new place for musical events, a 650-seat hall, which retains the traditional elegance of the old sanctuary while adding the high-tech features and concert-style seating of a versatile performance hall. It was dedicated and officially opened with a special concert on October 28 (see article in Campus News).

Few business leaders have made as big an impact on any town as Bobby Taylor has made on Cleveland, Tennessee. Returning from the Second World War as a decorated veteran in 1945, he began a banking career which continued until his death in 2010. He was the founding president of Bank of Cleveland, which continues to operate on the courthouse square under the leadership of Scott, Bobby’s son. Mr. Taylor was a fierce advocate for the advantages to Cleveland of a vibrant downtown community. Mr. Taylor and his wife Nancy also became staunch supporters of Lee University. As a way of honoring the Taylors, and remembering their love for downtown Cleveland and Lee University, it is fitting that the Ocoee Street entrance to the building, which connects the university to the downtown area, be named in their memory.
Attendees at the President’s Circle luncheon during Homecoming were some of the first to see the proposal for the complete renovation of the former First Baptist Church educational wing into a new home for the Department of Business.

Currently under construction, the plan calls for an entirely new two-story entrance (center) into the former educational wing. To the right is the newly-christened Pangle Hall, the former sanctuary of First Baptist. A retaining wall has been built around the structure’s current first level and tons of earth have been bulldozed against the wall creating an entirely new level of sight. With the raising of levels, the new entrances will be on the current second levels of the educational building, including into the Early Learning Center (left). The result will be a dramatic change from the current structure (right).

Torch will be following the changes, both inside and out, in future issues until the project is completed next year.
On the first weekend in November, alumni return to their alma mater to rekindle old friendships, remember fond memories, and revisit places that have changed for the better. Take a pictorial tour of the highlights of this year’s event...

Cyndi Howell Joiner was named the 2014 Lee University Distinguished Alumna, the highest honor awarded by the university. A 1982 communications graduate of Lee, Joiner is the daughter of two Lee alums, Jerry Howell and Cherie Yother. Cindy’s husband, Randy, and son, Blake, are also Lee graduates. While at Lee, Joiner was president of Delta Zeta Tau and a little sister for Alpha Gamma Chi. This year, she chaired the fundraising campaign for DZT’s 50th Anniversary.

After graduating from Lee, Joiner went on to earn a master’s of business administration from Pfeiffer University and completed Harvard Law School’s Program on Negotiation. Over the past 25 years, she has worked for companies and clients to drastically reduce third-party spending. She has written articles on cost reduction strategies and managing outsourcing relationships for American Banker, Purchasing Magazine, Harvard Business Review, and Spend Matters.

Joiner is currently a managing director and member of the executive committee with Alvarez and Marsal’s Performance Improvement practice, where she specializes in procurement transformation, cost take out, organization design, and third-party risk management. Alvarez and Marsal, headquartered in New York, is the global leader in restructuring, turnaround, and corporate performance improvement.

Since joining the firm in 2008, Joiner has worked with companies such as Staples, Best Buy, Family Dollar, Morgan Stanley, Coca-Cola, BB&T, Regions, Cole Haan, American Cancer Society, American Red Cross, and AARP to systematically change methods and processes for reducing supplier spending.

“Cyndi has combined those two qualities that colleges most like to see in their alumni: professional achievement and commitment to their alma mater,” said Lee president Dr. Paul Conn in presenting the award. He said Joiner represents “all those alumni who are now reaching the full maturity of their promise as undergraduates. We are proud of her and believe that alumni like her hold the key to the future of our university,” Conn said.
TAILGATE PARTY

An enthusiastic pep rally for the Flames and Lady Flames.

Volley for a Cure

A new tradition to kick off the weekend, raising money and awareness for breast cancer.

Lady Flames vs. Bryan College

The women massacred the neighboring Lady Lions, 78-52.

Music Festival Extraordinaire

This weekend favorite featured the parade of music groups, including the Evangelistic Singers that “brought the house down.”

Crowning the Queen

No homecoming would be complete without a queen and this year it was Carolina Campbell, a senior accounting major from Huntsville, Alabama. Her escort was Mr. Nathan Bivens.

Reunion Legacy

The “granddaddy” of the class reunions, especially for those alums of 1964 and earlier.

Flames vs. Martin Methodist

The men lost a heartbreaker in overtime, 79-71.

All My Sons

A “dramatic” choice of the many entertainment options available.

Volleyball for a Cure

A new tradition to kick off the weekend, raising money and awareness for breast cancer.
BERNHARDT NAMED HONORARY ALUMNUS OF THE YEAR

Lee University has named its 2014 Honorary Alumnus of the Year, Robert Bernhardt. The award was first announced at Homecoming, but was formally presented on November 21, when the Lee University Symphony presented a fall pops concert in Conn Center at 7:30 p.m.

Bernhardt joined Lee’s School of Music in the fall of 2011 as an artist-in-residence and conductor of the Lee Symphony Orchestra. Bernhardt also serves as Music Director Emeritus of the Chattanooga Symphony and Opera (CSO) and Principal Pops Conductor of the Louisville Orchestra. He was formerly the music director and conductor for 19 seasons with the CSO and is the first to hold the title Emeritus.

Bernhardt made his Carnegie Hall debut in 1978 and has recorded for Vanguard, First Edition, Carlton Classics and RPO record labels. Bernhardt has a love for all genres of music, making him equally at home in symphonic, operatic, pops and educational performances.

Since 1999, Bernhardt has served as the artistic director of the Sewanee Music Festival, the artistic director and principal conductor of the Rochester Philharmonic Orchestra, the artistic director and conductor of the Lake Placid Sinfonietta, the principal guest conductor of the Kentucky Opera, and music director of the Amarillo Symphony Orchestra.

Bernhardt has a continuing relationship with the Edmonton Symphony conducting there several times each season, and has returned as guest conductor with the Detroit Symphony, Seattle Symphony, Tucson Symphony and the Boston Pops. With the latter, he has been a frequent guest for twenty two years, making his debut there in 1992. He has also conducted the Opera Companies of Nashville and Birmingham as well as the Louisville Ballet, the North Carolina Ballet, the Jacksons Ballet, and the Lonestar Ballet.

BUSINESS:
GLENDA PETERS WEINERT

Weinert is a consultant specializing in cost savings analysis for childcare providers. Weinert has been appointed by the governor of North Carolina to serve on the state’s Early Childhood Advisory Council and by the speaker of the house as chair of the North Carolina Children’s Care Commission. She is an adjunct faculty member at Asheville-Buncombe Technical Community College and previously, Weinert grew a family-owned company from one to five locations throughout Buncombe County with over 700 children served.

COMMUNICATION ARTS:
JESSICA HAYES

Jessica Hayes serves as District Director for U.S. Congressman Dr. Paul Broun, who represents Georgia’s 10th Congressional District. She helped Congressman Broun win three reelections while serving as press secretary in both the Congressional and campaign offices from 2007 to 2012. Jessica began her career in broadcasting, becoming the North Georgia bureau reporter for WTVC News Channel 9, the ABC affiliate in Chattanooga, Tennessee. She was eventually promoted to weekend anchor of the 6 and 11 p.m. newcasts.

LANGUAGES AND LITERATURE:
RUTH CRAWFORD LINDSEY

In 1960, Lindsey embarked on a mission trip to Brazil where she evangelized and taught in a Bible school she helped to found. For 13 years, she developed curriculum, produced textbooks, and taught nearly every course the school offered. Today, the school has developed into the Evangelical Seminary of the Church of God. She joined the Lee faculty in 1975 and taught there until 2002.

BEHAVIORAL AND SOCIAL SCIENCES:
MARK WILLIAMS

Williams currently serves as general overseer, the highest leadership position in the Church of God, where he guides and manages the activities of over seven million church members in 180 nations around the world. He has also served as a pastor, evangelist, and state administrative bishop in the denomination, as well as numerous boards and leadership bodies, both within and outside the Church of God.

NATURAL SCIENCE AND MATHEMATICS:
MARTIN WILLIAMS

Williams is a career missionary who spearheaded the establishment of the Dyer Rural Hospital in the mountains of Honduras. This hospital serves as the basis of a transferrable model of how to dovetail non-profit organizations and government-run medical facilities to improve health outcomes in the general population. For the past six years he has hosted a Lee University study abroad program where students interested in health care can serve in a cross-cultural setting.

HISTORY AND POLITICAL SCIENCE:
LAURA PADDITT

Padgitt works alongside other members of the Cardinal Health government relations team to track and monitor legislation in all 50 states and Puerto Rico. She is also responsible for managing the Cardinal Health Political Action Committee and the voter education programs for Cardinal Health employees. Previously, Padgitt ran a campaign for a member of the Ohio Legislature, worked as an aide in the Ohio Senate, and worked on the government relations team at the Ohio State Medical Association.

SCHOOL OF MUSIC:
GLORIA SCOTT-RICHMOND

Scott-Richmond teaches general music to students at Blythe-Boyer Elementary School in Cleveland, Tennessee, which includes vocal and instrumental music, as well as music appreciation, exploration, history, and basic analysis. In 2013, she was among the top three nominees for the Tennessee Teacher of the Year. She is also part-time faculty at Lee, serving as conductor of the Evangelistic Singers.

SCHOOL OF RELIGION:
BILL GEORGE

George has held pastoral and educational positions in Alabama, Florida, Texas, Tennessee, Mexico, Dominican Republic, and the Bahamas, as well as various leadership positions within the Church of God denomination, including Editor-in-Chief of publications. He is a former associate professor in the School of Religion, earning the Excellence in Teaching award. He has published nine books and is currently on the board of directors for numerous nonprofit and religious organizations.

Business:
Glenda Peters Weinert

In 1961, Bilbo became part of the faculty of Lee Academy, Lee’s on-campus high school, to teach American History. In 1968 he became chair of Lee’s education department and was instrumental in its foundation and initial relations with Tennessee’s Department of Education and was essential in the leadership as Lee expanded its mission into the liberal arts. Bilbo led the department for 35 years.

Language and Literature:
Ruth Crawford Lindsey

In 1961, Bilbo became part of the faculty of Lee Academy, Lee’s on-campus high school, to teach American History. In 1968 he became chair of Lee’s education department and was instrumental in its foundation and initial relations with Tennessee’s Department of Education and was essential in the leadership as Lee expanded its mission into the liberal arts. Bilbo led the department for 35 years.
I was privileged to travel with this group where the first stop was the capital city of New Delhi. We visited the Presidential Palace and Parliament House and saw a War Memorial opposite the main political center of town. We visited the Taj Mahal in Agra—one of the most visited spots in India. Later in Mumbai, the city formerly known as Bombay, we saw the Gateway to India and other important sites.

Most of our time in India was spent at the El Shaddai Home for Children in Igatpuri. The first day we attended church and listened to pastors who helped us understand more about two of the prominent religions in India—Hinduism and Islam. Later in the week, we helped with various projects around the home and spent lots of quality time with the boys.

Two events really captured our group during our visit. First, this was a brand new location for the boys at El Shaddai. We were able to be in Igatpuri on the first day the boys arrived at their new home. Our group was excited to see the students arrive on the compound, and we waited with anticipation as they drove through the gate and stepped out of the vehicle. We knew immediately that our time at El Shaddai would produce fond memories.

It wasn’t long before our group and the new arrivals were heavily engaged in fun and fellowship. Looking back over our time together, we quickly became family. We didn’t always speak the same language, but love and care from our group poured out over these young men! When our time came to leave Igatpuri, we shared lots of hugs and shed lots of tears. The boys and our group had quickly become tightly knit together by the love of God and our love for each other.

Our second meaningful experience took place shortly before we left El Shaddai. Two mothers accompanied their sons to Igatpuri so they could see their new home. Unfortunately, they had to place them there because they could not care for them. The moms were part of the lowest caste in India. The caste system is officially disbanded as normal, public policy; however, privately, most of the population in India continues to live by this historic, political, and economic system. Being part of the lowest caste, the moms could not find jobs, because they were categorized as “untouchables.” The only hope for their boys was to place them at El Shaddai so they would have access to food, education, and the future hope of a job.

As the mothers left us to return to their homes hundreds of miles away, they hugged their sons and all the young ladies in our group hugged them. The mothers, who were not accustomed to such love and concern, began to cry, so we began to cry. It was a scene that will play over and over again in our minds—two moms who loved their sons enough to give them away to provide a hope and future for them. What we experienced that day will forever change the way we view life. According to Jeremiah, even if we don’t understand, God knows the plans He has for each of us, “plans to prosper [us] and not to harm [us], plans to give [us] hope and a future” (29:11 NIV).

After our trip to India, our prayer is that God would continue to bless and care for the children and staff at El Shaddai and that He would reveal Himself to the people of India!
Lee’s newest performance venue, Pangle Hall, was dedicated with a special “music showcase” event on October 28, featuring musical highlights from Lee’s past, present, and future.

Pangle Hall is the repurposed space formerly used as the main sanctuary for First Baptist Church of Cleveland. The new music venue is being named Pangle Hall in honor of Janie Pangle Jones, wife of Cleveland business leader Allan Jones (see article in this issue). First Baptist vacated the property in 2010 to occupy a new campus on the north side of town. Lee purchased the six acres, which adjoined their campus, and is developing what has been designated as the “south campus.”

Guests from Lee and the community packed the 650-seat hall and enjoyed appearances from Phil Stacey of American Idol, season six; the international champion barbershop quartet, Four Voices; and Voices of Lee, with special return of two members of the NBC Sing-Off group of 2009. Lee President Dr. Paul Conn and his wife Darlia welcomed the guests saying, “Starting tonight, Pangle Hall has a wonderful future, not as a house of worship, but as a performance venue.” President Conn later offered a dedicatory prayer.

A smaller eighty-voice version of the Lee Festival Choir sang selections from the 2013 Presidential Inauguration repertoire. The program also included music from a faculty jazz group led by Alan Wyatt; piano music by Lee’s chamber music star and faculty member, Gloria Chien; and a song by popular vocalist and faculty member, Andrea Dismukes. A dessert reception for everyone attending followed in the Communication Arts atrium lobby.

Cole Strong, who has supervised the transformation of the hall, said: “People who remember this as the old First Baptist sanctuary will feel right at home here. We wanted to retain the traditional feeling and elegant interior design of the old sanctuary, while still updating and reshaping it for musical performance.”

Construction, Renovation Continues on South Campus

After a frantic push this past summer to finish the new Communication Arts Building, the pace has slowed only slightly on the surrounding grounds and the neighboring former First Baptist Church. One portion of the church is finished, the sanctuary, and was formally christened Pangle Hall with a dedicatory concert in the 650-seat performance venue on October 28 (see article opposite page).

The master plan for the former church property calls for the education wing to become the new home of the Business Department. It is now in the midst of that transformation, both inside and out. During the summer, mounds of earth were hauled in to cover the former parking lot and create a “quad” which will tie in the rest of the campus with the south side. Retaining walls have been poured around the educational wing to hold the raised earth and will lead to the new main entrance of the building on the current second floor.

In the meantime, the community and Lee are enjoying the new refurbished Church Street “boulevard,” complete with a landscaped median to not only add beauty, but also to calm traffic in an area where pedestrian traffic has increased dramatically.

Preliminary plans call for a new School of Nursing Building to be located in the Quad. More to come in future issues of Torch.
New Enrollment Record Tops 5,000

In 1987, Lee University began a trend of upward enrollment that went unabated for more than two decades. This feat of consecutive record enrollments defied national statistics and was observed and admired by institutions across the nation.

In October, Lee officials released the enrollment profile for the 2014–2015 school year with more than 5,000 students registered. Official fall enrollment is 5,104—an all-time record and the first time Lee has registered more than 5,000 students.

Phil Cook, vice president for enrollment, announced the numbers, but added “actually, there are not more students in Cleveland for our traditional residential campus. The official number includes, for the first time, more than 100 students who are taking classes in three international sites—Germany, Ecuador, and Guatemala.” Cook went on to say that approximately 79 percent of last year’s freshmen returned this year as sophomores to continue their degree programs. The figure reflects a 3 percent increase over last year.

In past years, Lee has reported enrollment figures reflecting students actually enrolled in classes on the Cleveland, Tennessee, campus. Correspondence students—those not living on campus or in Cleveland—were traditionally not counted in the totals, such as those enrolled in the former Continuing Education or External Studies programs of years past.

Today, the Division of Adult Learning (DAL)—the evolution of the previous correspondence programs—has more than 700 students who are taking online and onsite classes. DAL courses are tailored for nontraditional students seeking to expand their education. The enrollment number also includes 351 graduate students studying in areas of business, counseling, education, music, and religion.

“The shape of the student population is shifting,” Cook said, with fewer full-time students taking traditional on-campus classes, and more part-time and special populations in programs such as dual enrollment (high school) and Encore for senior learners.

SACS has also modified the methodology for how students are counted. Lee University has been partnered with seminaries in Germany, Ecuador, and Guatemala to provide graduates from those schools with a joint diploma, and SACS will now be including these institutions in Lee’s enrollment numbers and accreditation analysis.

“This official number looks like an enrollment record,” said President Conn, “and technically, that’s true, but the group of students coming to Cleveland to study on our campus isn’t really any larger.”

Dorm Wars 2014 Benefits Service Organizations

More than 1,500 staff, faculty, students, and community friends filled Walker Arena on October 13 for the annual “Dorm Wars” competition, raising $2,000 total for local service organizations. From the men’s dorms, Bowdle-O’Bannon took first place, Medlin came in second, and New Hughes was third. From the women’s dorms, Atkins-Ellis won first place, followed by Storms-Brinsfield second, and Sharp-Davis, third. As in previous years, each winning dorm received a cash prize to be donated to an organization of their choosing. Bowdle-O’Bannon competed in support of Impact Cleveland, an initiative of Bradley County United Way that works to “see disadvantaged communities of Cleveland be transformed through economic, physical, social, and spiritual revitalization.” Atkins-Ellis competed in support of the New Hope Pregnancy Center in Cleveland, a faith-based organization that offers help, hope and information to those facing unplanned pregnancy. Medlin supported the Boys and Girls Club, and New Hughes supported Haven Place. Storms-Brinsfield supported Wellington Place, and Sharp-Davis supported the H.O.P.E. Children’s Advocacy Center. Pictured are the residents of Bowdle-O’Bannon and Atkins-Ellis celebrating their victories.

The men of New Hughes Hall demonstrate the high-spirited emotion that comes with representing your residence hall in Dorm Wars.
Ariana Kim Crowned 52nd Miss Parade of Favorites

By Ariana Kim

If F. Scott Fitzgerald himself could have attended this year’s Gatsby-themed Parade of Favorites, I imagine he would have written something along the lines of “Great show, old sport!”

The scholarship pageant was back for its fifty-second year on Saturday, Nov. 1, in the Conn Center. Omega Alpha Phi’s Ariana Kim was crowned Miss Parade of Favorites 2014.

The show—titled, “Guys in Ties and Girls in Pearls”—featured 12 female contestants and their male escorts. The couples represented a diversity of clubs and organizations at Lee: nine different Greek clubs, Student Leadership Council, World African Student Association, and “Leetinos,” all wearing their respective ties and pearls, mind you.

Participants are scored in six categories: academics and involvement, time and attendance, interview, talent, evening wear, and impromptu questions that the top five contestants answer onstage.

Director Chelsea Miller, a senior public relations major, looked to the pageant’s past for inspiration. “My desire was to bring POF back to its roots of formality and drama—to make it special again,” she said. Miller collaborated with choreographer James Vassell to put a new spin on an old tradition. “I told him I wanted to bring in the classiness of the early 1900s, but make it current and entertaining at the same time; and I definitely feel like he did that.”

Practices began in August, and things really kicked into gear as October rolled around. The week before the show, the girls and their escorts practiced every evening, three to four hours each night.

By Ariana Kim

Student Leadership Council, said of the experience, “I love serving the community, and it really made me feel like I was making a difference. The POF wasn’t so much about the pageant and the talent show, rather, it was about what we helped do for the community and how it can better the lives of those who don’t have what we have.”

There’s something special about girls and guys from different walks of college coming together to support the same cause, practicing late nights in the Conn Center, and learning to become impromptu seamstresses backstage with only a few safety pins.

It’s the kind of experience that bonds a group and creates a family, not to mention a spectacular show for the books—Parade of Favorites 2014.
Lee Professor Assumes Presidency of National Board

A professor of Education Dr. Ashley Smith Jr. became president of the Association for Middle Level Education (AMLE) on October 11. He previously served from 2007-2013 as the South Regional Trustee and was elected president-elect by the membership of AMLE last year.

One of several significant professional development activities sponsored by AMLE is the annual conference held November 6-8, 2014, in Nashville. Since AMLE is an international association with 38,000 plus members from across the United States and 15 countries, the conference attracted middle-grade teachers, administrators, professors, and state education officials from a broad geographical area. Smith was only the second president in the 41-year history of the organization to preside at the annual conference in his/her home state.

"It is a great honor to lead AMLE during this time of educational reform," stated Smith. "I believe that implementing middle-level philosophy is the most effective way of educating students aged 50 to 15. If students in the middle grades are not challenged with a relevant curriculum that is integrative, some students will 'drop out mentally' before entering high school. Preparing teachers to effectively teach middle-grade students is essential."

Smith provided leadership in developing the middle-grades licensure program at Lee University in 2007. He pioneered middle-level education in Bradley County and Cleveland City as principal of Cleveland Middle School for 18 years. He implemented the middle-school philosophy, which resulted in changes in the delivery of the curriculum and teaching styles.

Dr. Smith has served on the Board of Trustees of the Tennessee Association of Middle Schools for 19 years, the last seven as liaison between TAMS and AMLE.

Profs Present Research in Vienna

Three Lee faculty members recently presented research in Vienna, Austria. Dr. William Simmons, professor of New Testament studies and Greek, presented a paper at the International Meeting of the Society of Biblical Literature. The conference took place July 6-11 and was held at the University of Vienna. Meanwhile, Drs. Jo Ann Higginbotham and Trish McClung presented a collaborative three-year longitudinal study at the Diversity in Organizations, Communities 6 Nations (DOCN) Conference in Vienna.

Higginbotham and McClung collaborated with two additional Lee professors, Dr. Mike Iosia and Dr. Eric Moyen, along with a local middle school teacher, Dr. Julie Mitchell on their study.

The three-year project studied the attitudes and perceptions of Lee University students before and after student teaching experiences in Ghana and Thailand.

Cawood Wins Hollywood Post Alliance Award

U. Cawood, assistant professor of communication, received a Hollywood Post Alliance (HPA) Award in the category of “Outstanding Sound—Television.” He was nominated for his work on Pixar Animation Studios’ “Toy Story OF TERROR!” The ceremony took place on Nov. 6 in Los Angeles.

Cawood's work “Toy Story of Terror!” is a 21-minute Halloween television special that premiered in October 2013. The events are set shortly after the ending of “Toy Story 3” and the program features most of the original cast's voices.

Lee Adds TESOL Major

Beginning this fall, Lee University’s Department of Language and Literature began two new tracks in its TESOL (Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages) program. Previously offered as a minor only, students can now opt between a B.A. or BA in TESOL.

Sixteen students have already been accepted as majors.

"There is an increasing demand for teachers who can teach English as a second language, and Lee is responding to that need," said program director Dr. Chris Blake, assistant professor of TESOL and linguistics. English learners constitute the fastest growing segment of the school-age population. According to the U.S. Department of Education, one in nine public school students in K-12 comes from a home where a language other than English is spoken. In 1990, the figure was only one in 20. By 2025, it will be one in four.

The bachelor of arts degree in TESOL with teacher certification (BAT) prepares students for a career in teaching English as a second language in grades PK-12. The B.A. prepares students for a career in teaching English as a second or foreign language in a context outside U.S. public schools.

One of the factors that distinguishes Lee’s TESOL program from others is the strong preparation in linguistics. Another is the hands-on experience students acquire working with ELL in the community through the university’s English Language Center. Students graduate with up to two years of experience—often only found in master’s level programs—and will also have the opportunity to teach overseas as part of their cross-cultural experience.

Woolfitt Receives Award, Scholarship

r. William Woolfitt, assistant professor of English, recently won the Appalachian Heritage Platter Program in Fiction for his short story “Daughter With a Star on Her Brow.”

According to Woolfitt, “Daughter” takes place in the coal mining town of Monongah, W.Va., shortly before the 1907 explosion that has been called the worst mining disaster in American history. It examines the lives of two immigrant families whose stories are sometimes obscured by the historical record.

Woolfitt was also awarded the Howard Nemerov Scholarship in Poetry to attend the 2014 Sewanee Writers Conference, hosted by the University of the South. The conference provided 11 days of workshops, readings, craft lectures, and editor presentations.

Woolfitt joined Lee’s Department of Language and Literature in Fall 2012, where he teaches creative writing and American literature.

Receive Award, Scholarship

Dr. David Brusco joined the faculty this fall as an associate professor of TESOL and Linguistics. He joins Dr. Chris Blake in the discipline.

FACULTY FACTS

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McGirt Named Director of Charlotte Center

Mr. Jeffery McGirt has been named the new director of Lee’s Charlotte Center in Charlotte, N.C. The campus operates under Lee’s Division of Adult Learning (DAL) and offers undergraduate degrees for both traditional and adult students.

“We are excited for the passion and ministry experience that Dr. Jeff McGirt brings to the Lee University Charlotte Center,” DAL executive director, Dr. Joshua Black said. “[McGirt’s] heart resonates with training disciples of Christ and future leaders. The ministerial training programs that Lee offers in Charlotte exemplify this.”

McGirt comes to Charlotte after pastoring for over 20 years at East Laurinburg Church of God. He has served on both the State Council and Evangelism and Home Missions Board during his tenure as pastor.

“I’m excited about the opportunity to coach and mentor future leaders for both the Church of God and the community at large,” McGirt said.

The Charlotte Center is located on the grounds of the Western North Carolina Church of God state offices. The partnership between the state and Lee began in 1999 after the state closed the former East Coast Bible College. As a satellite campus, students can earn fully accredited undergraduate degrees in courses designed for flexibility and an accelerated pace. Class sessions begin every eight weeks and offer several options for both traditional students and adult professionals to complete a degree.

Black Elected President of National Organization

Mr. Joshua Black, executive director of Lee University’s Division of Adult Learning, was recently elected president of the Christian Adult Higher Education Association (CAHEA)—the nation’s largest organization dedicated to Christian nontraditional higher education.

The election took place in August during CAHEA’s annual convention in Indianapolis. Black, also an associate professor of educational leadership in adult learning at Lee, will serve on the organization’s leadership council for the next three years.

“CAHEA was founded in 1995 and has 96 member institutions. “I am excited, in this time of higher-ed transition,” Black said, “to work with other Christian institutions to network best practices and build up the kingdom of Christ across the United States.”

Additionally, Black announced that Lee University will be cohosting, along with Belhaven University, the 2016 CAHEA Annual Convention in Chattanooga.

“[Black’s] selection as president of CAHEA is indicative of his commitment to adult higher education, “Lee University Vice President Jayson VanHoo k said. “I think this also demonstrates that Lee University is now seen as a national leader in Christian online education.”

Lady Flames Soccer Claims “Unofficial” Championship

Due to Lee athletic programs having to complete the 2014–2015 season before being granted full NCAA Division II and Gulf South Conference (GSC) membership, Coach Matt Yetlon and his women’s soccer team can only claim the unofficial regular-season championship of the GSC.

The Lady Flames finished the season with a 10-1 record, losing only to West Florida 2-1 on Oct. 3. They defeated North Alabama—a team that won the official GSC regular-season title—one Sept. 21 and also downed Valdosta State—the GSC tournament winner. Yetlon’s squad was 11-4-1 overall. The team opened the year in Florida with a pair of 2-1 defeats to a pair of NCAA D2 powers—Lynn and Barry Universities. The other loss was at the hands of Ohio Dominican, and the tie was a scoreless battle with one of the stronger teams in D2—Columbus State (Ga.).

After the loss to West Florida, the young squad exploded with confidence and claimed seven straight wins, six by way of shutouts. The defense was outstanding, giving up just 10 goals over 16 games and only three to GSC opponents.

“From the start of preseason, we talked about defending well and that we needed to be very good defensively this year to have success,” remarked Yetlon. “This team has been one of the best I’ve had with their defending. Giving up only three goals in this league has been quite an achievement.”

The coach singled out the overall play of sophomore Kinsey Cichowitz and the defensive efforts displayed by Alison Braun, Sam Pewitt, and Michelle Spangler. In goals, senior Marbel Egwuenu was a key component, allowing just eight goals.

Freshman Nicole Blanchard joined Cichowitz as the club’s leading goal scorers (six each). Sophomore Kaela Leskowar followed with four. Spangler and freshman Sarah Standley added two for Lee’s final total of 25. Cichowitz was the assist leader (five) and Blanchard countered with three. Kathryn Healy was always a solid force.

Yetlon reached another milestone in his coaching career, getting his 300th victory in a 1-0 on Oct. 26 at Shorter University.

Nicole Blanchard moves full speed ahead in Lady Flames action against the University of Findlay.

Coach Matt Yetlon

UofL 3 Shorter 0

Nicole Blanchard scored four goals in the UofL’s 3-0 win over Shorter University. Meanwhile, goalkeeper Kaela Leskowar recorded her 10th consecutive shutout. “This was a very well-executed game,” Coach Matt Yetlon said. “Nicole has demonstrated her commitment to the program and the team every game.”
Alexander Garners Top NCCAA Award

Lee University golfer Madison Alexander received the NCCAA Women’s Golf Game Plan 4 Life Award at the annual NCCAA National Tournament banquet. “I am ecstatic that the NCCAA selected Madison as the winner,” said Lee golf coach John Maupin. “She has been an integral part of our team over the last four years and has represented our program and university in a first-class way.”

In the classroom, Alexander carries a perfect 4.0 GPA and will graduate with a business-accounting degree. She is a two-time NCCAA Scholar and WGCA Academic All-American. She is a member of the Delta Mu Delta, a club for top business students. On the golf course, she is the team captain and was a (2012) NAIA honorable mention All-American and named Southern States Athletic All-Conference. She was selected as a (2014) NCCAA National Player of the Week and won medalist honors in 2013 and 2014 tournaments. She was a leader on last year’s NCCAA National Championship team.

“I cannot begin to describe how honored I feel to receive such an award,” said Alexander. “This award means so much because it isn’t just about your athletic accomplishments, but it’s also about your character outside of sports.”

Golfers Complete Successful Fall Season

Coach John Maupin’s men’s golf team enjoyed a record-setting fall season, winning three straight tournaments, including a pair that was dominated by top-notch NCAA Division II clubs.

The Flames began their run by placing second in the Montevallo (University) Invitational. A string of three consecutive team wins began at the Cougar Invitational—a tournament hosted by Columbus State University (Ga.). Next, came a 50-stroke victory in the NCCAA Region, followed by another impressive victory at the TVA Credit Union Invitational, conducted by North Alabama University. The Flames settled for fourth-place in the NCCAA National Championship.

Junior Taylor Davis led the Flames. He was joined by junior teammate Peyton Sliger in being named to the NCCAA All-American team. Corey Sheppard played his talents by claiming the medalist title in the NCCAA Region tournament victory.

“Coach Maupin praised the overall effort of his club. “These guys accomplished a lot of good things this fall. We are a young team, playing without two great golfers from last year’s squad. We are certainly looking forward to the spring season.”

Davis went two medalist honors in tournaments this fall.

Lady Flames Looking to Reload for 2014–2015 Season

After going 89–13 over the past three seasons with players like All-American Hollie German, Myriah Iles, Karley Miller, and Rachel Lockhart, Coach Marty Rowe will begin his eleventh season at Lee with mainly a fresh crop of green, but excited athletes.

Last year’s team finished 25–6 and gained the Gulf South Conference (GSC) championship (18–2 record) in its very first year against league opponents. He says the key is having the returnees, led by senior Madison Lee. She will be joined by senior guard Alex Swope, junior guards Jordan Neuharth, Kayla Beavers, and senior forward Christina Johnson as the only players returning from last season. Sophomore guard Caroline Smith is returning from a red-shirt season. Ready to step in and help out are red-shirt freshman Shelby Brown, and true freshmen Carrie Cheeks, guard Erin Walsh, and Emiliegh Swafford, a guard/forward.

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Men’s Soccer Finishes 8-8-2

Lee’s men’s soccer team finished the regular season with an 8–8-2 record and was 2–6-1 in the rugged Gulf South Conference (GSC).

Hampered by injuries for much of the season and by the loss of All-American candidate Tom Hall during the 13 games, the Flames refused to fold.

Lee posted wins over Palm Beach Atlantic, Campbellsville, Shawnee State, Spring Hill, Delta State, and Union University, and they closed out the regular season with a 1-0 win at Emmanuel College. They battled to ties with West Florida and Bryan College.

The Flames lost in Florida to Lynn University, NCAA Division II national champions two years ago. Furey’s squad lost by a goal to West Alabama—a team that won the GSC tournament title—and to a very strong Alabama-Huntsville unit.

A pair of promising sophomores, David Perez and Quade Marinell carried much of the goal-scoring load. Perez finished with six goals and three assists while Marinell tallied five goals and dished off a team-leading six assists. Sophomore Gar- rison stepped up with four goals and tallied the game-winner at Emmanuel.

Coach Marty Rowe will call on seniors Alex Swope and Madison Lee to direct his Lady Flames into the 2014–2015 season.
Brown Excited About Current Club

Coach Tommy Brown will be counting on seniors Chad Lee (42) to lead the charge as the Flames enter the 2014-2015 hoop season.

Men’s Basketball Coach Tommy Brown begins his tenth season as the man in charge of the Flames. “We have a much deeper, more athletic, and bigger team than last year’s squad,” he said. “This team has some versatile pieces and works very hard. We are excited about the upcoming season.”

Brown lost only two seniors from last season’s squad—Brice Sharp and Muniru Bawa.

Five players return for Lee that actually started at different times for Coach Brown during the 2013-2014 rebuilding campaign. Senior forward Chad Lee will begin his fourth season. Junior Cory Billingsley paced Lee in scoring in 2013-2014. Senior Tyquan Roberts has proven to be unstoppable when he gets possession inside. Add four sophomores to the mix, and you can see why Brown is excited about his team. They include Stedmon Ford, Jamal Worthington, Bryce Copeland, and Jervon Johnson.

At least five new recruits could hold the key to the outcome of the 2014-2015 and 2015-2016 seasons. Brown recruited three junior college players, including Elgrin Wilson, Lavontay Evans, and Cody Farley.

The Lee staff is also high on two freshmen recruits—Lew Woods and Isaac Merrian.

Coach Brown and the Lee men’s basketball team will be seeking to rebound from last season’s 10-16 record.

Five New Hall of Fame Inductees

Five new members were inducted into the 2014 Lee Athletic Hall of Fame on Friday, Nov. 7.

Nominated by Lee alumni, coaches, and fans, those inducted were:

- Ken Walston (basketball player—1965–1969; women’s coach—1978–1979) Ken was a former Lee Viking basketball player and coach a successful Lady Vikings basketball team. He was a member of the 1967-1968 NCAA National Championship team and coached the Lee women to a top eight finish in the AIAW National Tournament.

- Dr. Bratcher Knight (team doctor and associate professor) Dr. Bratcher helped direct the Lee men to their first NAIA National Tournament appearance. He scored a school-record 101 goals during his career. The first-team All-American was the first and only Lee player to be drafted by Major League Soccer (Columbus Crew, second round).

- Dr. John Bratcher (men’s soccer coach—1989–2001; general years ago and became an associate professor of athletic training in 2005. He has played a vital role in the success of the overall athletic program and was presented the Meritorious Award at the annual banquet.

The Lee volleyball team closed out a great day for a wonderful cause on Nov. 7 with a 3-0 victory over a Christian Brothers University team that had beaten the Lady Flames earlier in the season.

Playing before a giant crowd to benefit Volley for a Cure, the win, capped with a regular season-ending victory the following evening (3-0 over Union University), completed a remarkable turnaround for Coach Andrea Hudson’s young and often injured team. The squad regrouped after an Oct. 21 loss at North Alabama and won six of their last seven matches, all against conference opponents. The only defeat in that time frame came at the top club in the league—Shorter University.

The winning surge allowed the Lady Flames to complete their second season against Gulf South Conference opponents with an even .500 mark (10-10) and finish the regular season at 13-17. “I just loved the effort this team put forth all season,” explained the veteran Lee coach. “They never gave up in the tough times, and they learned how to deal with adversity and overcome it. I’m very proud of all of them.”

Lee was paced by the play of Academic Scholar Lauren Williams. The senior middle blocker set a school record with a .541 attack percentage (16 of 17 kills) in a 3-0 over Mississippi College on Oct. 24. A pair of Williams’ senior teammates, Latrice Johnson and Patty Orozco followed in the kill department with 219 and 190 respectively. Other contributors to the team efforts all season were Erin Hill, Brooke Wilsman, Haley Foote, Sadie Johnson, Catherine Conley, Libero Stephanie Hernandez, and Sarah Davis.
Cross Country Men Claim NCCAA National Title

The Lee University men’s cross country team overcame near freezing temperatures and snow flurries in Houghton, N.Y. to claim the 2014 National Christian College Athletic Association (NCCAA) Division I National Championship, while the Lady Flames will carry home a fourth-place plaque.

More than 50 teams and 375 competitors from both NCCAA divisions took part in the men’s 8K and women’s 5K races contested on the Houghton College Field of Dreams cross country course.

Five Lee runners (Seth Eagleson, Harold Smith, Tyler Boone, Jessica Childers and Elizabeth Sillcocks) earned recognition as NCCAA All-Americans by finishing among the top 15 runners from NCCAA Division I to record a score of 60. Oklahoma Christian was second (83), Emmanuel College placed third and Spring Arbor (Mich.) finished fourth (121).

Eagleson was the first to cross the finish line for Lee. The freshman recorded a time of 23:11.9 for third place. Smith was right behind Eagleson in fourth with a mark of 23:14.1 and Boone finished 12th overall (25:11.9). Camden Perez was 19th (26:09.4) and Joseph Crook was Lee’s final scoring runner at 26:20.0 (24th overall).

The Lady Flames put three runners among the top 15 Division I competitors on their way to scoring 121 points. Childers continued to lead the way for Lee with a time of 18:19.0. The junior’s time was good for fifth place.
Mike Stigile ’82 and Marcia Cornell Stigile ’85 reside in Tifton, Ga., where they serve as the South Georgia State Youth and Discipleship directors for the Church of God. They have two sons, Mike Stigile Jr. ’11 and Matthew Stigile, currently a junior at Lee. The Stigiles recently traveled to Lusaka, Zambia, and Nairobi, Kenya, to visit locations built with missions funds. They took Torch on a safari in the Masai Mara in Kenya.

Samuel “Perk” Evans ’87 passed away on September 13, 2014. He lived in Cleveland, Tenn., where he was a community advocate and father to Hannah Evans. He lived by the philosophy, “To thine own self be true, / And it must follow, as the night the day, / Thou canst not then be false to any man.”

Steven M. Johnson ’91 teaches history at Limestone College and Riverside High School in Greer, S.C. He has traveled to Cambodia several times, interviewing subjects, including a monk (pictured), for an eventual book which has now been published titled, Unknown Wars of Asia, Africa, and the America’s That Changed History. The book is on Amazon and in select bookstores.

Jerry Durham ’94 and his wife Kim live in Northport, N.Y. and have been married 18 years. Jerry is serving in the U.S. Navy as a chaplain, currently assigned as the command chaplain for the United States Merchant Marine Academy.

Jessica Juarez ’94 and her husband, Marco, recently finalized the adoption of their fifth child, Evan Justice Juarez, on August 22, 2014. They also have three biological boys. Jessica is in her final year at Texas A&M School of Law and has plans to practice law in the public sector in Fort Worth, Tex. Jessica says, “I have always said, I ‘grew up’ at Lee . . . it helped shaped my identity and passion to serve others. The friendships I built at Lee will last a lifetime.”

Brian Campbell ’95 is working as a night auditor at Howard Johnson of Aiken, S.C. He attends South Aiken Church of God.

Teresa Ost ’95 is thrilled to announce her adoption of Nathaniel Micaiah. They have been together since his birth this past January. They live in Mexico City where Teresa is a translator and an activist with North Korea Freedom Coalition. She’s lived in England, Morocco, and Barbados, and she is happy to now reside back in her country of birth. Teresa says, “I cherish my days at Lee, especially friendships made.”

Kristel Haynes Finns ’99 and her husband, Jason, recently coauthored a book about money and Kingdom principles. The book is titled, Doing Money God’s Way. Kristel teaches second grade at University Model School. They have two children and live in Charlotte, N.C.

Adam ’01 and Rachel Tyson ’00 recently visited Hobbiton, The Shire, in Middle Earth, New Zealand, taking Torch with them. When not overseas, they live in Villanova, Pa., where they have four sons. Adam is a physician, while Rachel is a homemaker.

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WHO’S WHERE

Janelle Hartman Rhodes ’09 completed four years of pharmacy school at Ohio State University, and recently completed a postgraduate pharmacy residency at Mount Carmel West Hospital in Columbus, Ohio. She now works as a clinical hospital pharmacist in Columbus. She married David Rhodes Jr. on July 26, 2014, in Delaware, Ohio. Janelle says, “We were blessed to have many Lee friends at the wedding. And, my two brothers, Jason Hartman ’12 and Ryan Hartman ’14 were two of the groomsmen.”

William ’10 and Stefanie Alexandrou Bodkin ’11 live in Altadena, Calif. Stefanie graduated with an MFA degree in acting for film in 2014 and founded a production company, Bodkin Pictures, where she is producing several projects.

Jacob Lepard ’10 and his wife Morgan Lepard ’13 live in the Birmingham, Ala., area where Jacob is in a neurosurgery residency at University of Alabama at Birmingham.

April Richards ’10 lives in Cleveland, Tenn., where she is head softball coach at Ocoee Middle School, and a wellness teacher and assistant softball coach at Walker Valley High School.

Leah Wilson ’13 was working in Chattanooga, Tenn., coaching soccer, but recently moved to Hobbs, N.M., where she is assistant soccer coach for women’s soccer at the University of the Southwest. Leah says, “I loved my time at Lee so much and discovered my passion for ministry and sports while there, and because of that, I am pursuing a career in coaching.”

Don Lines ’00 is currently deployed to Kandahar, Afghanistan, as an OH-58D Kiowa Warrior helicopter pilot with the Tennessee Army National Guard. He is a chief warrant officer three (CW3), and is in his third deployment (two in Iraq, one in Afghanistan). He is working toward a master’s degree in aeronautics, specializing in safety with Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University. He and his wife reside in Arrington, Tenn., and have four daughters.
Lee University is a special place, but not a magical one. Support is what makes Lee possible. Your help today will make the Lee experience a reality for many more students.

www.leeuniversity.edu/give