ON THE RISE: A New School of Religion Building Takes Shape

BIG PROMOTION: An Elementary School Becomes a College

‘DR. BOB’ RETIRES: Robert O'Bannon Steps Aside after 45 years
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Since 1928 a school building on Magnolia Ave. next to the Lee campus was an elementary school. Between semesters it became part of the Lee campus.

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OPENING THOUGHTS
From President Paul Conn

New Life for Mayfield

Lee University has bought the Mayfield School property. As you will read in this issue, the old elementary school, built in 1928, has moved to a shiny new building several blocks away, so the old facility was up for grabs, and we grabbed it.

Primarily, the acquisition gives us three acres adjacent to our campus, a deal we couldn’t afford not to make. In the long term, we will probably use bulldoze the old school and use that acreage to build a new building, or provide parking lots or playing fields.

But for the next few years, we plan to spiff up the old building and use it for some of the programs which are badly in need of space. As many new buildings as we have added at Lee in the last fifteen years, it would seem we would finally be set for space. But it’s not working out that way. It seems that the more we build, the more crowded we are, as our enrollment grows and our programs proliferate.

So we are splashing on some paint, rolling out some new carpet, redoing some bathrooms, and generally cleaning up the old Mayfield. Already this semester, Lee students are converting the old building into an active part of their campus map. They are making ceramics in art studios (once the cafeteria), studying environmental science in classrooms where kindergarten once met, and playing intramural basketball in an old gym that reminds them of the film "Hoosiers," but otherwise is a terrific place to play ball.

In short, we are improvising! We haven’t figured out all the uses we might make of Mayfield. It’s a solid old building; all its fire alarm and sprinkler systems are up to date; the various inspectors have been all over it and proclaimed it safe and “up to code” in every respect. So in the next few months, we will be using more and more of the space, and by fall semester, it will be a busy place for students in drama, music, education, science/math, and who know what?

In the meantime, we are in the process of building 100,000 square feet of new construction underway. The sciences and religious studies will have new homes, Lord willing, within the next two years, and as they move into new facilities, the space they leave behind will be available to the departments of business and languages.

If you haven’t visited campus lately, this is a good time to come see us! You’ll enjoy seeing the campus reshaped as we move through the most aggressive capital campaign in our history.
Mayfield Annex Offers Options

The recently acquired school campus comes at a strategic time

The first phase of turning a former elementary school building into an extension of the Lee University campus took place over the Christmas holidays.

When students returned for the spring 2008 semester in January the interior of the 79-year-old building had undergone some cosmetic changes, including new paint and restroom renovations. By the time classes began, some locations previously marked “TBA” on class schedules had been changed to the new Mayfield Annex.

In the winter 2007 issue of Torch it was reported that Lee University had purchased neighboring Mayfield School. The acquisition of the old school came at the desire of the Cleveland City School System to sell the property to assist in paying for a new Mayfield which had been constructed four blocks north. With the smack of an auctioneer’s gavel, Lee increased its campus by 3.1 acres, adding 46,000 square feet of classroom, faculty and meeting space, as well as a cafeteria and gymnasium.

An immediate beneficiary of the space is the art program which now has several large, open areas for such crafts as pottery and sketching. On Mondays and Wednesdays nearly two dozen students can be found molding clay in the former dining room of Mayfield, while a class of budding artists is upstairs sketching their latest creations. For the last several years, two ‘art houses’ operated as studios/classrooms on the south side of campus. They were razed early last semester to make way for the new School of Religion now under construction. The art houses’ contents were moved to two smaller houses (one the former

Lee students have more space to hone their artistic skills, both for pottery and painting; Biology 110 students (above) learn in what was once a first-grade classroom at Mayfield

Campus News
location of health services) as temporary locations. The acquisition of Mayfield on November 1 offered a perfect alternative.

“This (Mayfield) couldn’t have come at a better time,” stated Gary Ray, vice president for administration at Lee. “With two major capital expansion projects expanding into art house territory, the move to Mayfield not only creates more space, but better space.” The latter two art houses are also slated for demolition later this year as construction is set to begin on a new science building.

With construction expected to take at least 18 months, in the short run the science program stands to benefit from the Mayfield space as well. Having long outgrown the Beach Science Building, some science faculty have been operating out of the Beach Building Annex, a small house located on 15th Street. Its pending demolition has forced the division of at least one Beach Building classroom into faculty offices. Mayfield will provide the university with flexible classroom space to accommodate the construction phase of the new science building. Already this semester, two science classes have been relocated there preceding the planning and pre-construction process.

Other plans for the Mayfield campus are utilization of the full size gymnasium for intramurals (renovations to restroom/locker rooms are nearly complete) and conversion of much of the schoolyard on the north side to additional parking to replace parking to be lost during the science building construction.

Construction is well underway on a $5 million academic building which will become the new home of the School of Religion. The project is part of Lee’s capital drive called the Press Toward the Mark campaign, which has a goal of raising $25 million to fund a major set of campus construction plans.

The building, which will face the intersection of Parker and Eighth St., will include classroom space for 620 students and offices for 32 faculty members. The two-story structure will continue the red-brick, neo-Georgian design that has been the architectural theme of new construction on the Lee campus in recent years. Lee President Dr. Paul Conn stated “We expect this new building to be one of the busiest and more important buildings on our campus.”

As reported in the winter 2007 edition of Torch, in addition to classroom and office space, the new structure will include a large reading/library room and a student computer center. The most prominent of the nine classrooms will be a 200-seat lecture hall, which, along with all other teaching spaces, will be “technology enhanced classrooms,” sharing a quarter-million-dollar technology proposal for the building which has been developed by the university staff.

The front of the building will feature a 12-sided entrance hall. It will double as a student/faculty lounge, and will be capped by a circular dome and cupola similar to earlier campus structures, including the Deacon Jones Dining Hall and most recently, the Paul Dana Walker Arena. According to President Conn, the new building will also incorporate underground utilities for the project, along Parker St. and Eighth St., as it has for all previous capital projects of the last two decades.

So far, results of the Press Toward the Mark campaign have included a $2 million upgrade of the school’s computer infrastructure, an enlarged and improved Walker Arena field-house and a new two-story health clinic and Leonard Center for service learning.
Moore Named New Director of Health Services

David “Mickey” Moore was recently named the new director of Health Services for Lee university. Moore was chosen by a search committee comprised of clinic staff and university administration.

According to Dr. Walt Mauldin, vice president for Student Life, “Mr. Moore was chosen for the position based on his knowledge in the field of medicine and his years of service as a capable supervisor. Everyone knew him well and knew what he could bring to the clinic.”

Moore is a Lee graduate, receiving a bachelor of science and graduating cum laude in 1973. He went on to complete a registered nursing program in Charlotte, N.C. Moore has worked previously at Lee, assisting at the clinic on a part-time basis. He has worked in the Cleveland, Tenn., hospital system since 1978, where he has been assistant director of nursing (1989-2003), emergency services administrative director (1978-1989 and 2003-2005), and administrative house supervisor (2005-2008).

The university’s Health Clinic is housed in the new Leonard Center building and was led by Mrs. Twyla Green who resigned last November to accept a post in nearby Chattanooga.
Lee University recently received two grants from the Tennessee Higher Education Commission through the Improving Teacher Quality grant program. The grants were awarded for projects directed by Dr. Kimberly Moffett, assistant professor of education, and Dr. Steven Lay, professor of mathematics.

Moffett received a grant for $59,750 which will fund the Team- ing and Instruction for Practical Strategies (TIPS) project, which will provide content knowledge on behavioral and emotional disorders, training for teachers to apply that knowledge in the classroom, and coaching for teachers as they implement the strategies with their students. Dr. Trevor Milliron, associate professor of psychology, will assist Moffett with the project. Lee University will partner with five school systems for the TIPS project. Forty K-12 teachers will participate, comprised of ten school-based teams of special education and general education teachers.

Lay received the second grant of $68,500 which will fund continuing work with the Improving Numeracy and Algebraic Thinking (INAT) program by allowing him to expand the project from Bradley and other surrounding counties to a new area. This program was first offered to teachers from six nearby counties in summer 2007. The enthusiastic response encouraged Lay to expand the INAT summer institute to more school systems in the southeast Tennessee region.

Through the project teachers are introduced to Lay’s “Prelude to Algebra” program which illustrates a new way of understanding and modeling the basic arithmetic operations. The teachers are then given classroom materials necessary to implement this approach in their classes.

Lee University recently named Beth Thompson as the new director of the Global Perspectives office. She replaces Dr. Suzanne Hamid who resigned last semester after her recent marriage and relocation to Egypt.

“Over the past four years, I have witnessed first-hand hundreds of students' lives being changed through their cross-cultural experiences,” Thompson said upon accepting the appointment. “It is my hope this already established standard of excellence will continue for many years to come.”

A native of Tallahassee, Fla., Thompson came to Lee as a non-traditional student in 2001. She graduated in 2004 with a BA in political science and has served as the assistant director of Global Perspectives since that time.

The Lee University drama production of *The Chairs*, directed by Christine Williams, assistant professor of drama, was recently entered as a Participating Production in Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival (KCACTF). Lee University is part of Region IV of KCACTF which includes Virginia, West Virginia, Kentucky, Tennessee, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Mississippi, Alabama, Florida, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands.

Judges noted that Director Williams “did an excellent job of creating an important experience for the students involved in this project. The energy and understanding of this difficult conceptual script was excellent.”

The following students received nominations for their work on the show: Linsey Retcofsky, Tyler Steele, and Joshua Hatfield received Irene Ryan Acting Nominations. Joshua Hatfield was also nominated for Sound Design. Stage Manager Elizabeth Bloodworth was also nominated.

A second Lee production, *Two Rooms*, was also entered as a Participating Production in the KCACTF. The university’s production team received several nominations for their work by the festival. In addition to the individuals nominated, the entire production was recommended for consideration to be performed at the KCACTF Region IV Festival in Clemson, S.C., in February.

The following students received nominations for their work in Two Rooms: John D. Moore—Irene Ryan Nominee for Acting; Sarah Shealy—Irene Ryan Nominee for Acting; Anna Cook—Irene Ryan Nominee for Acting; Derrick Vannmeter—Barbizon Scene Design Nominee; Lauren Hayes—National Stage Management Nominee.

The following faculty members received nominations for their work: Dr. Mark Burnette, Faculty Director Nominee; Ms. Catherine Bradley, Faculty Designer Nominee (lighting).
Historically, the Behavioral and Social Sciences (BSS) department included the diverse disciplines of psychology, sociology, anthropology, history, political science, and graduate programs in mental health counseling and school counseling. In 2004, coinciding with the completion of the Devos Center for the Humanities, the BSS Department was split into two departments. Anthropology, history, humanities and political science became the Department of History and Political Science while psychology, sociology and the graduate programs remained as the Department of Behavioral and Social Sciences.

Even after the split, the Behavioral and Social Sciences Department continues to be one of the largest departments on campus with approximately 350 undergraduate students majoring in psychology and sociology and 85 graduate students. Despite the popularity of our programs, students still get the individual attention and personal connection with faculty that is foundational to the Lee University experience.

BSS faculty often involve students in research projects and encourage students to conduct and present their own research findings. For example, Dr. John Gulledge took a small group of students to visit the Primate Laboratory at Georgia State University where he did his graduate work to show them how psychological research on chimpanzees is conducted. Last fall, nine undergraduate psychology students presented research at the Tennessee Psychological Association Conference in Nashville.

This spring we have three sociology students presenting research at the SouthEastern Undergraduate Sociology Symposium co-hosted by Emory University and Morehouse College in February. We also have students attending the Faith and International Development Conference at Calvin College this spring to learn about ways to use their sociology training after graduation to promote international development.

In addition to striving for excellence in the classroom, many of our faculty members maintain active research and scholarly agendas. Dr. Kim Eckert completed her book: Stronger Than You Think: Becoming Whole Without Having to Be Perfect. A Woman’s Guide (InterVarsity Press Books, 2007) and has already begun developing another book idea. Within the last two years, Dr. John Gulledge has published or presented 14 research articles and chapters and has collaborated with undergraduate students on some of these projects. Last spring, Dr. Susan Carter and Dr. Eddie Stone both presented research papers with some of their students at the American Counseling Association’s national meeting.
The department established a Play Therapy Center in 2003 where graduate students and upper-level undergraduate students have the opportunity for training in play therapy with children. Our site has been licensed by the state of Tennessee and has been a real service to the community. Thanks to a proposal written by Dr. Kim Eckert and Dr. Trevor Milliron (directors of the Play Therapy Center), the Center received $95,000 in Federal grant money from the Safe Schools/Healthy Students Initiative to fund play therapy and play attention training in local elementary schools. This has greatly expanded our reach into the community and has been mutually beneficial to our students, the local schools, and children in the community. Besides his work with the Play Therapy Center, Dr. Trevor Milliron was recently elected president of the Tennessee Psychological Association. This interest group is involved in public policy related to mental health and advocacy efforts in the state.

Our graduate programs are continuing to be improved through the addition of future courses in the area of marriage and family counseling and exploring ways to better prepare our students for effective ministry in churches in addition to preparing them to be state-licensed counselors. We are seeking additional accreditation through national accrediting bodies such as The Council for Accreditation of Counseling and Related Educational Programs (CACREP) so that our graduates will have more opportunities. Demand for the graduate programs is continuing to increase and we are attracting many students who did not have a prior connection with Lee University.

The department is reaching beyond the U.S. borders. This spring the BSS will begin cooperating with the faculty of the European Theological Seminary in Freudenstadt-Kniebis, Germany, to offer a master of science degree in counseling psychology. Faculty from Lee will travel to Germany a few times each year to offer intensive courses and qualified instructors in Germany will offer additional courses.

The Behavioral and Social Sciences department has had a global perspectives trip each summer since 2003 and this trip has typically been to London and surrounding areas. Last summer Dr. Robert Fisher and Dr. Jeff Sargent took students to Geneva, Salzburg and Vienna with stops in Switzerland, France, Germany, and Austria. They visited Sigmund Freud's famous offices in Vienna and the Viktor Frankl Center, where the students enjoyed a lecture from Frankl’s grandson. The group also visited palaces, cathedrals and many other historic sites, including a trip to Hitler’s Eagles Nest high in the Austrian Alps. The European trip will be repeated this summer and a future trip to Japan is in the works.

There has never been a more exciting time to be a student in the Department of Behavioral and Social Sciences. The quality of the educational experience and the breadth of opportunity are unparalleled. We continue to expand on our solid foundation of undergraduate education and while providing new opportunities for our students. The Behavioral and Social Sciences department provides an excellent academic experience to students and is engaging students in research, service, and cross-cultural experiences around the world.
have consisted of the details of specimens in formaldehyde and field trips to the local slaughterhouse where severed cow heads serve as teaching aids.

“Sometimes students will take tokens home from these trips,” O’Bannon joked. “I like to have fun teaching and I have been accused of being an easy grader, so that draws a big crowd.”

A self-proclaimed “die-hard creationist,” O’Bannon’s reputation includes his staunch commitment to traditional views of the origin of the universe and the sanctity of life. His emphatic views on often-controversial subjects is just part of his legacy, however. More importantly, his students remember him as a teacher who was always available to them on a personal basis. The lore of Lee students over the past forty years—science majors and others alike—includes hundreds of stories of “Dr. Bob” extending kindness to them in small practical ways.

“People think of Dr. O’Bannon as a man of strong views,” one former student says, “but whether students agreed with him or not, he befriended us and went out of his way to help us.”

O’Bannon’s farm in Bradley County was the site of the Upsilon Xi Sadies Hawkins autumn event for decades, and his home was often open to students of all types.

Although Dr. O’Bannon officially retires this fall, he was granted a sab-
batical for this semester to finish a book he is writing on science and the Bible, of which he has completed 15 chapters. The reduced schedule will also allow him time with his wife, Nancy, who he met at Lee and married in 1958. She has been battling a number of medical conditions for years, most notably kidney failure which has rendered her dependant on dialysis. She continues to be active, including serving as the organist every Sunday at Westmore Church of God.

Bob O’Bannon was honored in 2002 for his years of service, along with his faculty colleague, Dr. Don Bowdle, when a new dual residence hall was dedicated with a side each being named in their honors. O’Bannon and Bowdle Halls are joined with a common lobby and are the prime choices of male students living on campus. He has also been the recipient of the two top faculty awards including Excellence in Teaching (1980) and Excellence in Scholarship (1989).

Dr. O’Bannon concluded his comments by saying, “The bible tells us the truth will make you free (John 8:32). I have always stressed to my students the importance of seeking truth. Truth naturally leads to belief in creation, sanctity of life, etc. The evidence just keeps pointing to intelligent design or a creator. When a student grasps that truth, it is very rewarding.”

Lisa Long, assistant professor of Christian education at Lee University, recently received the Ph.D. in educational studies from the Talbot School of Theology at Biola University in La Mirada, California. The focus of her dissertation was the connection between Holy Communion and Christian education, specifically in the Wesleyan Pentecostal faith tradition.

Long joined the Department of Christian Ministries in the fall of 2006. She received her master’s degree from the Church of God Theological Seminary after graduating from Lee in 2000 with a bachelor’s degree in Christian education.

Lee Professor Completes Doctorate

Eight Faculty Awarded Tenure

DR. KEVIN BROWN, Assistant professor of English
DR. GEORGE NERREN Professor of education
DR. STEPHEN SWINDLE Associate professor of political science
DR. JASON WARD Assistant professor of history
DR. PATRICIA MCLUNG Assistant professor in special education
DR. PATTY SILVERMAN Assistant professor of public relations
DR. LINDA THOMPSON Assistant professor of music education
DR. DOUG WARNER Assistant professor of music
2007 Campaign Sets New Record and Exceeds Goal

LEE UNIVERSITY alumni and friends contributed $396,748 to the 2007 Annual Alumni Fund setting a new record and exceeding the campaign goal of $375,000. The 2007 fund marks an increase of $39,731 above 2006 giving. The university is setting a goal of $400,000 for the 2008 campaign.

“Lee alumni gave generously and from the heart in support of the 2007 Annual Alumni Fund and the Press Toward the Mark capital campaign,” according to Anita Ray, Director of Alumni Relations. “Over 4,000 appreciative students join me in saying thank you for continuing to care!”

LEGACY 1918–1960

Kathryn and Emerson Abbott
Wanda Abbott
William Abbott
Dezdon Alford
Carl Allen
Douglas Allen
Horace Allen
Jett Allen
Lee Allen
Paul Alumbaugh
Jo and Malcolm Amerson
Don Amison
Wilma Amison
JT Anderson
Frances Arrington
French Arrington
Don Autman
George Ayers
Elizabeth Ball
Joanne Ball
Winston N. Ball
Sallie Bannister
Dorothy Bearden
David Beatty
Joan Beatty
Jeanne Beavers
Dina Beerman
David Biggs
Loraine Bile
Jimmy Billo
David Bishop
Paul Bishop
Virginia Bivens
Hubert Black
John Black
Morris Blackwell
Ruth Blackwell
Garold Boatwright
Joyce Boatwright
Donald Bowdle
Ruth Bowden
Betty Bowens
Jean Boyd
Fred Brannon
Truel Braswell
Jack Bridges
Sylvia Brit
Eddie Brooks
Kathleen Brown
Irvin Burris
Cyne Buxton
James Byrd
Rayleen Callis
Royd Carey
James Carroll
Patricia Carroll
Robert Cato
Paul Caulli
Alva Joan Chesser
Bobbie Clarke
John Cody
Gerry Cotter
Helen Combs
Wilmetta Copus
Tom and Freda Coursin
Mary Coward
Johnny and Phyllis Crabtree
John Crank
Joanna Daniel
John Daniel
Barbara Daniels
Pat Daugherty
Bob Daugherty
Norma Sue Davis
Paul and Leannah Dehner
Grace Delatour
Russ Delatour
Clifford Dennison
Joseph Devore
Kenneth Dismukes
Martha Dismukes
Bert Dorson
Juanita Donovan
Clark Dowdy
William Driggers
Lucille Elliott
Winston Elliott
Marie Fargo-Sork
Wayne Faust
Susanne Faust
Margaret Gaines
Irene Goins
Dorothy Graham
Celel Gilis
Joyce Gilis
James Guyrn
John Haddock
Daniel Hall
E.C. and Jerry Hall
Jenny Hall
Daphne Joan and Jesse Hamilton
Hugo Hammond
Letha Hammond
B.G. Hamon
Esther Hanon
Holley Hance
Pauline Harding
Verdie Hawkins
Bonnie Harmon
Vernon Harmon
Delton Harne
Mildred Harne
Carl Hart
Eula Hart
Levoy and Bonnie Hattcock
Bruce Hedrick
Robert Herrin
Ronald Ralph Herring
Kenneth Hickman
Lois Hodo
Myrna Holland
Patricia Holland
Ruth Holts
Morris Holloway
Novella Hopkins
Annis and Watson Home
Wills Horton
Willa Horton
Harvey and Beatrice Hudson
Norma Hughes
Carrie Humbertson
Ramona Hyberger
Lillie Hyrns
Bob Johnson
Hollie Johnson
Mary Johnson
Vetrie Jones
James Justice
Donna Killman
Russell King
Lloyd Koster
Dorothy Kriner
Glen Kramer
Betty Lanier
David Lanier
Mary Larson
Ravious Lee
Glenna Lee
Ollie Lee
Eva Mae LeFevere
Betty Lemons
Devery Lemons
Ruth Lindsey
Bobbie Linton
Lavrena Lowe
Shirley Lynes
George Lytle
Johnnie Lyte
Jean Martin
Joyce Martin
N.D. Martin
Mildred Maupin
Terrell McBrayer
O.C. McCane
Ruth McCane
Betty McGinn
Bernice McKelvey
Carolyn Medlin
Jane Medlen
Kate Medlin
Royd Medlin
Margaret Miller
Wanda Minks
Marrie Mitchell
Chris Moree
Sarah Moree
Opal Morgan
James Morris
Joy Morris
Max Morris
Betty Munn
Elise and Ralph Murphy
Myrtle and Harry Mushegan
Betty Neely
Cherly Neely
Joyce Nester
Charlotte Nicely
Don Nicely
James O’Bannon
Bob O’Bannon
Betty Ogle
Norma Orcutt
Earl Outten
Helen Owens
Lawrence Owens
Patty Owens
Bob Pace
Mary Painter
Mary Pangle
Russell Parson
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Elton Patridge
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Eva Peterson
Alvin Peterson
Lillian Peterson
Jo Pettry
Ronald Pitts
Jack Pope
Lacy Powell
Sue Powell
Norma Pucek
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Bud Rawlings
Jim Ray
Maudlin and Janet Ray
Marlyn Rayburn
Helen Reeter
Esther Reynolds
Betty Rice
Gene Rice
Mickey Rice
Mildred Richardson
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Lester Robbins
Julius Roberts
James Rogers
Berl Rose
Kathryn Samples
Charles Sargent
Bethel Scarborough
Peter Shaia
Joseph Sharp
Bill Sheeks
Eleanor Sheeks
Elena Shirley
Edward Snogue
Betty Simms
Fay Skinner
Clara Smith
Dorothy Smith
Henry and Betty Smith
Oneta Smith
Wendell Smith
Duane Smook
Harold Snyder
Sue Snyder
Vera Sprank
JoAnn Squires
Bernard Stanisky
James Stephens
Chloe Stewart
Christine Stewart
Helen Stockton
Ivy and Blanche Stone
Don Stovall
Mary Stovall
Martha Stover
George Summers
Alois Swiger
Harry Swilley
Jim Swilley
Joyce Swilley
William and Alp Tappey
Al Taylor
Joe Taylor
Alice Thomas
Francis Eugene Thomas
John Thomas
Josh and Anne Thomas
Lucille Thomas
Larry and Janice Timmerman
Marlene Townsend
Betty Turner
Margaret Turner
Ray Turner
Vivan Turpin
Myra Vaughan
William Vaughan
Rona Viles
Carmelita Walker
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Donald Walker
Jackie Walker
Lucille Walker
Ruthaline Webb
Fred Whisman
Margaret Whitson
Edna Williams
Jack Williams
Nina Williams
Deowy and Louise Wilson
Dan Winters
Jim and Alene Winters
Lavon Wight
Berric Woodard
Patty Worbing
Hilger Wyrkoop
Mary Wynne
Elizabeth Ziegler
1961–1970

Carolyn Abbott
Darcy Abbott
Pat Abbott
Myrna Aford
Darleen Allen

President’s Circle Silver
President’s Circle Gold
President’s Circle Platinum
Save These Dates!

LEE UNIVERSITY GENERAL ASSEMBLY ALUMNI RECEPTION
August 7, 2008 9:00 pm at the brand new Grand Hyatt, Lone Star Ballroom, San Antonio, Texas
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2008 Alumni Fund Goal: $400,000

The largest Annual Alumni Fund goal in Lee history!

2008 GIVING LEVELS:

- **Honor Roll**
- **Fair Share**
- **President’s Circle**
- **President’s Circle Silver**
- **President’s Circle Gold**
- **President’s Circle Platinum**

**Honor Roll**
- $1 - $299

**Fair Share**
- $300 - $499

**President's Circle**
- $500 - $999

**President's Circle Silver**
- $1,000 - $1,999

**President's Circle Gold**
- $2,000 - $4,999

**President’s Circle Platinum**
- $5,000

As an expression of our gratitude, 2008 Alumni Fund donors will receive the following gifts from the Office of Alumni Relations:

- **Alumni calendar**
  - $20 donation

- **Alumni t-shirt**
  - $50 donation

- **“Together for a Purpose” CD**
  - $100 donation

- **Alumni mug**
  - $250 donation

- **Two Homecoming weekend passes**
  - $500 donation

- **Alumni stadium blanket**
  - $1,000 donation

- **Four Homecoming weekend passes**
  - $1,000 donation

- **Unlimited Homecoming weekend passes**
  - $5,000 donation

Please mail your 2008 Alumni Fund gifts to Lee University, Alumni Relations, P.O. Box 3450, Cleveland, TN 37320-3450 or donate securely online at http://alumni.leeuniversity.edu/

**2001–2000**

- Ty Abner-Thomson
- Darren Ahearn
- Evan Albertyn
- Brian Alderman
- Monica Alderman
- Steve Allen
- Jason Anderson
- Susan Anderson
- Dorothy Arnold
- Jessica Ashe
- Roosevelt Ashley
- Robbin Taylor
- Stephanie Taylor
- Ken Curric
- Myra Sumner
- Morgan Taylor
- Tami Tatum
- Randy Tatum
- Mavera
- Darrell Quist
- Debby Sawyer
- Steve Sawyer
- Alan Schacht
- Pamela Schacht
- Andrew Schiltz
- Allison Schone
- Dena Schrade
- Mark Schrade
- Barbara Sevce
- Tammy Simmons
- Hulet Smith
- lanithia Smith

- Mike Smith
- Marty Smith
- Rhonda Smith
- Willa Smith
- Darrell Spell
- Kim Spooner
- Linda Stansbury
- Rosa Stansbury
- Randy Steele
- Kevn Stewart
- Sonya Stone
- Tammy Stone
- Tim Stone
- Tena Stone
- Vince Stone
- Gregg Stout
- Myra Sumner
- T. David Sturza
- Janese Swift
- Timothy Tate
- Mavera
- Robbin Taylor
- Stephanie Taylor
- Ken Turpin
- Lisa Virostek
- Audrey Waaggoner
- Paul Waaggoner
- John Walker
- Roby Walker
- Tanira Walker
- Thomas Walker
- Timothy Walker

- Mary Walkins
- David Ward
- Clint Weirert
- Kista Wilson
- Rosalynn Wilson
- Julie Wilkerson
- Keith Wilson
- Tammy Wilson
- John Youngblood

**1991–2000**

- Ty Abner-Thomson
- Darren Ahearn
- Evan Albertyn
- Brian Alderman
- Monica Alderman
- Steve Allen
- Jason Anderson
- Susan Anderson
- Dorothy Arnold
- Jessica Ashe
- Roosevelt Ashley
- Robbin Taylor
- Stephanie Taylor
- Ken Curric
- Myra Sumner
- Morgan Taylor
- Tami Tatum
- Randy Tatum
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- Debby Sawyer
- Steve Sawyer
- Alan Schacht
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- Andrew Schiltz
- Allison Schone
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- David Ward
- Clint Weirert
- Kista Wilson
- Rosalynn Wilson
- Julie Wilkerson
- Keith Wilson
- Tammy Wilson
- John Youngblood
Calling All Runners!

If you are running the 2008 Country Music Marathon or Half Marathon in Nashville we hope you’ll join us for a time of great food (our treat) and fellowship before the big run on Saturday. Lee University alumni will gather Friday evening, April 25 for a “pasta pig-out,” 6:30 pm at Buca di Beppo in Franklin, TN. Buca di Beppo (www.bucadibeppo.com) is located in the Cool Springs area, 1722 Galleria Boulevard in Franklin, Tennessee.

People for Care and Learning are sponsoring the 2008 CMM pasta pig-out and runner’s shirts. PCL’s mission is to “Give the Poor a working chance.” PCL is a non-profit humanitarian non-government organization working primarily in SE Asia (Cambodia, Thailand, Myanmar, Bhutan, Sri Lanka).

We will also arrange a group photo in Centennial Park before the race begins on Saturday morning. Please let us know if you will be running the CMM and joining us for dinner. E-mail alumni@leeuniversity.edu or call 1-800-LEE-9930. Spouses are welcome.
Tucker Blackmon
Tara Breed
Tara Briscoe
Tara Bridges
Tara Brown
Tara Ellett
Tara Fagg
Tara Fekete
Tara Toohey
Tara Wagner
Tara Wright
Tara Young
Tara Zeller
Tate Willard
Tiffanie Ballew
Tiffanie金沙
Tiffanie Campbell
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Since Coach Marty Rowe arrived at Lee University almost four years ago and took over the Lady Flames’ basketball program, he’s worked overtime to develop his ball club into one of the NAIA’s top five programs. If you rely strictly on data that is recorded daily on the NAIA, Southern States Athletic Conference and Lee athletic Web pages, Rowe and his talented group of young women have reached that goal.

The Lady Flames are breaking record after record as they head down the stretch of the SSAC regular season and look forward to playing in the conference tournament and the NAIA National Tournament in Jackson, Tenn., for the third straight year.

As of Feb. 28, the surging Lee team had won a school record 20 straight games. The talented team has not lost since way back on Nov. 17 when they were beaten by Freed-Hardeman University in the Jackson Rotary Classic. The only other loss came on Nov. 15 to No. 1 ranked Union University. Currently ranked No. 2 in the NAIA poll, Lee has not lost in conference action since December 2006. No wonder most Lee and SSAC fans would agree that the Lady Flames have arrived.

Paced by a veteran group of seniors, one freshman and one sophomore, Rowe will not be satisfied unless his current team advances far into national tournament play and has a shot at giving Lee its first NAIA National Championship trophy. The Lady Flames have traveled to Jackson for the past three years and each time they were eliminated in the opening round. All-American’s Jessica Still and Jan Dodson have other ideas this time.

Men’s Basketball in the Middle of Record-Breaking Season

The 2007-08 edition of the Lee men’s basketball team ran off a record 20 straight victories before finally having the streak stop on Feb. 7 at Auburn University Montgomery. No Lee team had ever started the season at 20-0 and the Flames came within one win of tying the record for most consecutive victories (21 by the 1973-74 Vikings of coach Dale Hughes). The 73-74 group lost the first game of the season, and then won 21 straight before losing the final game of the year.

The Flames rebounded from the Auburn Montgomery defeat and posted an impressive 72-64 win over Faulkner University. Lee has climbed as high as third in the NAIA national poll. Coach Tommy Brown has his club pointing toward regular-season and tournament titles in the Southern States Athletic Conference. With over 20 victories, the Flames are almost assured of a third straight trip to the NAIA National Tournament in Kansas City in March.

Lee is piling up remarkable accomplishments on the playing floor. On Dec. 29, the Flames traveled to Greenville, N.C., to challenge NCAA Division I opponent East Carolina University. Lee stunned the nation when senior guard Ricky Harper scored on a lay-up in the final seconds to give the Flames the 77-75 win. A month later at Tennessee Temple University, the fired-up Flames presented Coach Brown with his 200th college coaching win, a 98-44 thrashing of the rival Crusaders. In three seasons at Lee, Brown has registered 72 wins (as of Feb. 27) against just 21 defeats. He coached at Bluefield College before accepting the Lee post.

Balance and depth have been the keys for the 2007-08 team. Four Flames

around. They are making a fourth and final trip to Jackson and want to walk away holding their heads high. Still is leading the SSAC in scoring and is considered one of the best 3-point shooters in the nation. Dodson scores, rebounds and dishes the ball off to open teammates. Fallen Lee is the type of player who not only runs the Lee offense, but can step outside and score.

Sophomore Katie Nelson gives Lee inside scoring and rebounding, while Brooke McKinnon is considered one of the top freshmen players in the NAIA. Senior Aaron Richmond has developed into a role of playmaker and is one of the club’s best defenders. The Lady Flames have also gotten valuable mileage from reserves Morgan McConico-Lewis and vastly improved Kayce Addison.

All the tools are in place. This team has been a work in progress for the past four years. Rowe has directed his Lady Flames to 103 victories over the last four years, but he’d trade all those for a top-notch showing in the upcoming national tournament.

Baseball Reloads for 2008 Season

After losing 10 seniors from the 2007 Flames baseball squad that finished 51-15, claimed Region XII and Super Region titles, plus winning the school’s first NAIA College World Series game, most coaches would expect a rebuilding season. However, Lee second-year head coach Mark Brew and his staff expects the Flames to be back in the mix for another deep post season run in 2008. As of Feb. 27, they were 17-1 and ranked third in the nation.

“We had a special group of guys in 2007 and they helped propel our program to new heights, but this team is equally talented” said Brew. “We lost the bulk of our offense and some key pitching rotation guys, but we feel confident we have recruited well and have a chance to be very good offensively as well as deeper on the mound than we were in 2007.”

Replacing key members from the 2007 team will be a challenge. The list is headed by four-year starters Andrew Shaver (.367, 8 HR, 46 RBI) and pitcher Gabe Seten (8-5, 2.08). Add second-team NAIA All-American and fourth-round draft pick Lance Zawadzki (.461, 9 HR, 71 RBI) and you can see why the staff had to work extra hard at recruiting replacements. Also missing will be two-way star Nick Utley (4-1, 3.72, .331, 12 HR, 40 RBI), team MVP Aaron Simmons (410, 6 HR, 73 RBI), and 26th-round draft pick Mike Valadez (.325, 3 HR, 34 RBI). Brew said his coaching staff worked relentlessly to replace such a talented group and the result is a class of 24 new players.

“This is by far the biggest incoming class of recruits in my 12 years at Lee,” the head coach pointed out. “A lot of the credit has to go to coach (Travis) Watson. Though all the coaches had a hand in everything, Coach Watson spent numerous hours on the phone cultivating relationships with most of the players we brought in.”

Based on the 24-player recruiting-class and 12 returning players, the Flames were recently voted No. 5 in the pre-season NAIA poll and picked to win the SSAC. “The pre-season poll is usually a reflection of the health of your program and how you did the previous year” said Brew.

Brew hopes to gain valuable leadership from returnees Jeremy Hutslar (OF), Edgar Mercado (INF), Joel Matthews (P), Dallas Sims (P), Ben Wilson (P), Josh Brundige (P), Phillip Johnson (1B), Brian Landru (C), Kyle Lymeropoulos (P) and Josh Dunn (C). Elvis Sosa (C, DH) is recovering from an injury and will not play this season. Newcomers who have been impressive are: Kevin Wyman (OF); Clint Harrelson (OF); Brad Griffiths (C); Dave Mason (P); and Pablo Lopez (P).
Coach Matt Yelton and his 2008 Lee women’s soccer team wrapped up another great season by posting a 22-2 record and finishing in the top four of the NAIA National Tournament in Daytona Beach, Fla. The Lady Flames bowed out of the NAIA National Championship after losing to Martin Methodist College in the semi-final round. The defeat ended a 17 game winning streak by the Lady Flames who had not lost since Sept. 15, when Azusa Pacific University whipped Lee in the Lindsey Wilson College Invitational.

“I told the girls that I was proud of them for everything they had accomplished this season and one game doesn’t change that,” said Yelton who had his Lee club ranked No. 1 in the country for the final six weeks of the NAIA national rankings. “We had an incredible season and wouldn’t have changed a single thing about this group. I am so proud and honored to have had the privilege to coach them.”

Lee University senior forward Janaina Novaes was named a first-team National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA) All-American selection for the third straight year. Junior defender Kristina Chase also earned a spot on the elite first team. Novaes leaves the Lee program with a large number of team and individual honors. She helped the Lady Flames post an amazing record of 82-14-2 over the past four years, claiming four straight conference titles and three consecutive region crowns. Novaes played a key role in leading Lee to runner-up and semi-final finishes in four trips to the NAIA National Tournament. This past season she tallied 36 goals and completed her four-year career with 118 scores. She also dished off 57 career assists. All these marks will place Novaes high in the NAIA national statistics.

Kristina Chase stepped up huge for Yelton’s club this season and was singled out over and over for her defense and ball-control play. Her never-say-die attitude was a major factor in Lee’s defense only giving up 13 goals in 24 games. Lee sophomore midfielder Jenna Achten and junior forward Tiffany Cox were selected second-team NAIA All-Americans, while goalkeeper Kristi Koudelka and midfielders Julie Donnestad and Samantha Hare were honorable mention All-Americans.

Yelton was named the Southeast Regional Coach of the Year by the National Soccer Coaches Association of America (NSCAA). He was earlier named the NAIA Region XIII Coach of the Year. He traveled to Baltimore on Jan. 16 where he was presented his award at the annual NSCAA Convention.

Women's Soccer Makes It to Final Four

Coach Matt Yelton with NAIA First-Team NAIA All-Americans Janaina Novaes and Kristina Chase

The honors continue to pour in for former Lee University baseball coach Dr. David Altopp. In late January he was inducted into the Tennessee Baseball Coaches Association Hall of Fame at the annual clinic in Franklin, Tenn. An even larger tribute will be bestowed on Altopp when he is inducted into the American Baseball Coaches Association (ABCA) Hall of Fame at the annual convention next January (2009) in San Diego, Calif.

Altopp coached college baseball for 35 years and retired from his Lee baseball coaching position after the 2006 season. He was hired to reinstate Lee baseball in 1982 and directed the Flames to 40 or more wins for the final five years of his reign. He took the first Lee baseball club to the NAIA World Series in 2005 and led the Flames to conference and region titles. Altopp left college coaching with over 800 wins and in 2005 his team claimed a school-record 55 wins. He is currently the director of the Fellowship of Christian Athletes baseball branch.

Altopp is already a member of the NAIA and Lee Athletic Halls of Fame.

Altopp Inducted Into Hall of Fame
Two Lee Soccer Players Drafted by Pros

Ricardo Pierre-Louis is living a dream and his teammate, Stanley Nyazamba, is not far behind. After being named the NAIA Men’s Soccer Player of the Year, Pierre-Louis was taken by the Columbus Crew in the second round (22nd pick overall) in the Major League Soccer SuperDraft. “It was a great day for not only our soccer program, but for Lee University,” said Coach Henry Moyo, seconds after his prize forward had been selected. “We expected Ricardo would be picked in the first or second round.”

The drafting of Pierre-Louis came after a strong showing by the NAIA All-American forward in last week’s MLS Player Combine. “My international playing experience is what helped me the most,” he pointed out. “I thought I was the best striker in the combine.” Pierre-Louis, who will graduate from Lee in May, has been playing soccer and waiting for this day since the age of six. A three-time NAIA All-American, he holds almost every season and career-scoring record at Lee. “I want to play on the highest level as possible. This weekend proved that you can attend a great NAIA school like Lee and still reach your goals. This is good for me, Lee and my people in Haiti.”

Meanwhile, Lee’s midfielder Stanley Nyazamba was drafted by the Detroit Ignition in the second round of the 2008 Major Indoor Soccer League College Draft by the Detroit Ignition. He holds most of Lee’s assist records. Nyazamba and Pierre-Louis were NAIA All-Americans and helped direct the Flames to 53 victories and two NAIA National Tournament appearances over the past three years. Both were First-Team NAIA All-Americans.

“This is obviously very special for us to have two players go into the professional leagues,” said Lee coach Henry Moyo. “We are gaining attention from all over and this is good for our university and our soccer program. Stanley will do very well anywhere. I am proud that he is getting this great opportunity to play at a high level with the chance of being exposed to the MLS. This is what the MLS coaches had been hoping for him as well.”

Lee Tennis Teams Rank With Nation’s Best

The Lee men’s tennis team has already established one record and the Lady Flames are drawing a great deal of attention. In the NAIA Preseason Coaches’ Poll, the Flames are No. 5 in the nation, the highest any Lee tennis team has ever been listed. Lee’s women are at No. 20 in the first coaches’ poll.

The Flames enter the 2008 campaign with high expectations. Coach Tony Cavett returns the top five players from a lineup that advanced to the Elite Eight of the NAIA National Tournament last season and garnered a then program record No. 9 ranking.

Lee is led by All-Region XIII players Dimitar Pamukchiyan and Sidney Victoratto at the top of the lineup. Pamukchiyan was 10-6 at the No. 1 slot, and teamed up with Caio Borges in No. 1 doubles for a 12-7 record. Victoratto earned a reputation as a clutch player, losing only one match in conference play and defeating several ranked foes. Also back is Christian Thobo-Carlsen (17-1). After losing his first match of the season against top-ranked University of Auburn-Montgomery, Thobo-Carlsen did not lose again in 2007. He also teamed with Juan Saa to form a No. 3 doubles combination that finished the year at 15-5.

Last year, Lee’s women peaked at No. 13, a program record, and finished the year at 13-6. The team returns six of seven players, including the top three in singles. The team is led by senior Erin Schanke, who will play No. 4 this year after compiling a 16-2 mark at the fifth spot in 2007. Also returning are Ann Claire Butler and Courtney Hirth, both of whom impressed in their freshman seasons. Butler was named to the All-Southern States Athletic Conference team with a 12-1 record in singles and teaming with Schanke for a 10-1 mark in doubles. She will move up to No. 5 in the lineup. Hirth was 13-6 in singles and 11-8 in doubles play at No. 3.

The Lady Flames will have to once again survive a brutal Southern States Athletic Conference schedule. The SSAC features the No. 1 team in the nation (University of Auburn-Montgomery) and No. 7 (Berry College). Add matches with No. 10 (California Baptist University) and No. 25 Xavier University to the schedule and the Lee women will have their work cut out for them.

Seniors Christian Thobo-Carlsen, Erin Schanke and Sidney Victoratto
Who's Where

J. Stephen Conn ’67 is living in Loveland, OH, with his wife, Karen. He recently published his sixth book, this one titled, *The Devil Called Collect: The Exorcism of Jessica Leek*, a true story of demonic possession and deliverance. The book is available on Amazon.com and at other online book-sellers. For more information visit the Web site at www.TheDevilCalledCollect.com.

Randolph ’70 and Dianne Channell Dillingham ’70 live in Newberry, SC and have one daughter and three grandchildren. Randolph is the director of Anderson County Alternative School in Anderson, SC.

Dwight Guthrie ’77 lives in Gibsonia, PA where he is a professional photographer and owns Guthrie Gallery (www.guthriegallery.com). He is married to Laura and they have four children. They lead short-term medical mission teams to West Africa each year. He is an active outdoorsman and enjoys hunting, fishing, camping, and the Pittsburgh Steelers.

Dan ’78 and Judith Nichols Moore ’78 have been mar-

Phil Stacey ’02 Signs with Label, Releases Single

*American Idol* finalist recalls a whirlwind year

For the last seven years, millions of American televisions have been tuned to the wildly popular *American Idol* talent search. Last year, Lee alum Phil Stacey ended up in sixth place, a finish which gave him weeks of international exposure to more than 30 million viewers each week. His popularity gave him a ticket to a 55-city nationwide tour last summer with the Top 10 finalists.

Phil recalled the grueling, yet exhilarating tour which began last July 7 at his hometown of Jacksonville, Fla. Two weeks of intense rehearsals preceded the tour which included days filled with photo sessions, rehearsals, publicity stops, press conferences, sound checks and performances; all to be repeated the next day after an all-night drive to the next destination.

Over the course of the past year Phil appeared as a guest on several talk shows including *The Tonight Show, Live with Regis and Kelly, The Today Show* and *Larry King Live*.

The tour ended on September 24, after which Phil proceeded to complete his four-year commitment to the U.S. Navy. Transferred to active reserve on October 1, Phil and his wife, Kendra, and their two daughters, loaded a U-Haul and headed for their new home in Nashville. Later that month, Phil was part of a benefit concert with the U.S. Navy Band where he performed for the entire fleet.

Phil’s latest accomplishments come in the form of signing a contract with Lyric Street Records, part of Disney Music Group,
ried for 32 years and they have two grown children, including John D. who is a student at Lee. Judith is executive director of the Church of God’s International Ministries to Widows, the Iris B. Vest Widows Ministry Center in Sevierville, TN. She also develops widows’ ministries on a national and international level. In addition, Judith is president of a company called Dedicated Glass Haulers, affiliated with her husband’s corporation, Moore Freight Services, Inc. Judith says, “The formative years at Lee were probably some of the best times of my life. I have all of you to thank for that.”

Debra Calhoun Hurst ’84 has lived in Cocoa, FL, for 18 years with her husband, Bill, and their four sons. In 2007 the Hursts became grandparents. Debra is a stay-at-home mom, is a Black Belt in Okinawa Kenpo Karate, and she teaches children’s and junior-level karate.

Donna Sue Lewis Middleton ’84 has lived in Lake-land, FL, with her husband, Ken, for 21 years. She currently works as an R.N. in a cardiologists’ office.

The recorded music and music publishing arm of the Walt Disney Studios. His debut single, “If You Didn’t Love Me” was released to country radio on January 7. The track is the lead single from Phil’s upcoming debut CD, scheduled for release on April 29, 2008. He sang some of those songs at a special concert during chapel at Lee on February 21.

“I’m so excited to have found this song as my first single,” says Phil. “The lyrics of the song mean a lot to me because it’s a great love song that everyone can relate to and I feel like it tells the story of my marriage. I’ve been blessed with an amazingly supportive wife [Kendra] and with all the things we’ve been through together—whether it was in college, the military or even on American Idol—having her there made everything so much easier and put joy into everything we went through. I don’t know where I’d be today without her.”

Commenting on his relationship with Lyric Street, Phil said, “They have been so generous to give me creative control; if I don’t feel comfortable about a song, I don’t record it. I have several songs I am working on about my family and my faith and I also have some of the best writers and producers working with me. I am looking forward to its release!”

Lyric Street Records is also the label for the group Rascal Flatts, which includes another Lee alum, Jay DeMarcus ’93.

Stephen LaMagna ’03 and Rachael DiGiulio ’03 insisted they take Torch along on a romantic gondola ride on the Grand Canal in Venice, Italy, the day the couple became engaged (note Rachael’s ring)!

Students Sherill Jervey, Lacy Morris, Breanna Dillon, alumna Sarah Norton ’06, and Lee professor Dr. Rolando Cuellar “hang out” with Torch in Cambodia where the students completed a 10-week Intercultural Studies Program Internship volunteering at an orphanage and teaching English.
Who's Where

Aaron Brown '85 has been married for 21 years to Deborah and they have two sons ages 17 and 19. Aaron is senior vice president and a commercial bank officer and the family lives in Macclenny, FL.

Pam Miller Watson '87, and her husband, Robert, own a plumbing company in Charlottesville, VA. They have a son and two daughters. Pam would love to hear from former classmates via e-mail at pmwatson1983@aol.com.

Derek Knoke '02 Releases Book

When asked the great need of today, many people respond, "real relationships." Loneliness plagues our society. While technological progress has succeeded in networking our world, our ability to connect relationally has not kept pace. God in MySpace looks at systemic spiritual, psychological and social barriers to forming real relationships. Recognizing that the technology is here to stay, parents, youth workers and youth themselves will find in this book a solid center from which youth (and adults) can build meaningful relationships.

“This book is an outgrowth of my personal engagement in youth culture as a youth pastor at my local church,” Derek says. “In the summer of 2006, I preached a series of messages titled, God in MySpace. Upon sharing some of my notes with a friend, he suggested that I share the curriculum with others.” Derek stated that the work is the rationale that would guide our messages around the theme of social networking. And while it began as another “talk” or message for parents, a book is what it became.

The first two sections (“Relationships” and “Covenant and Vulnerability”) provide the Biblical, philosophical basis for forming Christian community in today’s culture. The third section (“Youth Talks”) is a practical section for youth pastors as we speak into the lives of young people. It could be used for youth services or small groups. The final section (“Being Present”) is a practical section for parents as they attempt to monitor and nurture their children into godly men and women.

To order God In MySpace, visit www.derekknoke.com.
Katrina. Ruth Anne is a hospital chaplain at EJGH and is training for pastoral care supervisor and clinical pastoral education supervisor.

Jason Drew Forbus '93 and Beth Barker Forbus '90 have one daughter and they live in Baton Rouge, LA where Jason is vice-president and co-owner of Family Financial Services. Beth is the Founder of Sarah's Laughter-Christian Support for Infertility and Child Loss, and is the director of the Sarah's Laughter Infertility and Miscarriage Support Center in Baton Rouge. She has also authored two books. Beth would love to hear from Lee friends at Beth@Sarahs-Laughter.com.

Thomas Adams '94 is now living in Jackson, TN where he decided to re-enter the classroom following his wife's death in October 2006. He teaches Special Education English and biology at North Side High School in Jackson. Friends can e-mail Tom at tadalafil@msn.com. Tom says, “Thanks to all my professors and friends at Lee that have stood beside me this past year and helped me to be a survivor.”

Catina Murray Diggs '94 has been married for 15 years to her husband, Patrick. They have two sons and live in Trussville, AL. Catina is an administrative assistant at the University of Alabama at Birmingham in the Department of Radiation Oncology. Patrick is the college and career/young adult pastor at The Healing Place Church in Trussville.
Heidi Koutz Kellems ’94 and her husband, Larry, have been licensed foster parents for over a year. Along with their four biological children, they have adopted five others. They also own their own business which has also become a ministry.

Andrew Smith ’94 and his wife, Christie, live in Charleston, TN and have two children. Andrew has worked with the Bradley County Sheriff’s Dept. for 14 years as a traffic officer and recently went to work for the Tennessee Highway Patrol.

Cara Ready Rogers ’94 is living in Cleveland, TN with her husband, Jason (a current Lee student), and their daughter. Cara is a 4th grade teacher at Michigan Avenue Elementary.

Marva Parker Comstock ’95 has been married to Rodney Comstock for 12 years ago and they have one son. The family lives in Woodward, OK where Marva is a stay-at-home mother.

Mike ’95 and Lisa Mitchell Potter ’92 live in Nicholson, GA, with their 2-year-old son. Lisa works as a dialysis nurse and the family attends New Covenant Worship Center in Athens, GA.

Andrew West ’95 and his wife, Rochelle, reside in Montgomery, AL. Andrew is a licensed professional counselor, speech language pathologist, program manager at a mental health agency and has a private practice. They have four children and would love to hear from friends at andrew@freshwatercounseling.com.

Jill Sluss ’96 recently married Johnny Gilreath and they are living in Anderson, SC. Jill is a fifth-grade teacher at Midway Elementary School and recently received National Board certification.

Nathan Bradfield ’99 attended the Values Voter Summit sponsored by the Family Research Council and Focus on the Family in October 2007. While there he met up with Lee alum, Jon Rogers ’96. The two witnessed several presidential candidates speaking at the Summit. Nathan was recently elected the chair-

Chyela Stewart Rowe ’96 packed Torch with the family belongings on a trip to her mother-in-law’s house in Derbyshire, England, for Christmas 2007. Reading Torch is daughter Avalon, with Oliver (in carrier), husband David and Angela Rowe (Mum).

Steve McCullar ’77 (left), Dr. Ernie Varner ’88, Angeleea Wright Varner ’86, and Bob Johnson ’78 invited piranha and anacondas to read Torch with them near the Amazon River in the jungles of Brazil.

Who’s Where

Three new tracks for aspiring vocalists, instrumentalists and pianists:
Jazz, Music Lovers, and College Prep

Contact information:
E-mail: wholsinger@leeuniversity.edu • Phone: 423-614-8263
man of communications for the Capitol City Young Republicans in Montgomery, AL, and he is the varsity boys basketball coach for Eastwood Christian School. Nathan and his wife, Stephanie, are certified foster parents in the state of Alabama.

Ryan ’99 and Andrea Simmons Kramer ’99 have been married for nine years and they have three children. Ryan and Andrea both work at Riverhills Church of God in Tampa, FL. Andrea is the music pastor, while Ryan is communications director.

Tammie Cox Vega ’99 is living in Morristown, TN, with her new husband, Hector, who she married on October 13, 2007. Tammie is the associate pastor at the Morristown Church of God. Hector is a physician’s assistant and has recently opened his own clinic.

Aaron ’00 and Jen Gruber ’00 are living in Bensalem, PA. Aaron is children’s pastor at Christian Life Center, while Jen previously taught math at Bordentown Regional High School and coached color guard and the girls track team. She now stays home with their two children and works with Aaron at the church. Jen says, “We love reading Torch magazine and hearing about what our classmates are up to!”

Jaime Farrell Alderman ’01 is a realtor working at Award Realty in Cleveland, TN. She and her husband, Ken, a residential contractor, have two children. Jaime says, “It would be great to hear from old friends. E-mail us at aldermanhomes@gmail.com or www.aldermanhomes.com.

Amanda Finley Cate ’01 lives in West Monroe, LA, with her two children. Amanda occupies her day with “playdates,” visiting grandparents, gardening, and volunteering at Elanor’s Montessori School. She also teaches parenting classes at Head Start. Amanda says, “My love for psychology has only grown, and I plan to use my skills gained from Lee to open a Montessori school in the future. I would love to hear from any old classmates at myspace.com/amandafcate.”

Charissa Whitt UpChurch ’01, and her husband, John, recently welcomed their first child, Kaelan Sue, on November 11, 2007. Charissa taught elementary school for seven years and recently finished a master’s degree in educational technology. She will be staying at home with Kaelan. John is a Web content developer for Answers in Genesis.
Cristal Hicks Miller '02 is married to Bruce and they have a son and two daughters. She previously worked as a manager for a major retail chain, but became a stay-at-home Mom for three years before returning to the work place. Cristal now works in administration at a local company, and is children’s pastor at their church in Golden MS.

Carmen Daniel Merritt '03 is married to Bryan Merritt. Bryan is music minister at Rincon Church of God, while Carmen works for the Georgia Department of Labor as a certified vocational counselor. Carmen

“Circuit Rider’s Wife” Earns Recognition

An original musical written and composed by Lee Professor of Music Dr. Jim Burns and his wife, Doris, was recently chosen as one of six new works from almost 100 submissions to be read at the Appalachian Festival of Plays and Playwrights in Abingdon, Va. Premiering in 2002, The Circuit Rider’s Wife . . . The Musical is what the Burnses call a “Christian-Broadway-style” production. The script, written by Doris Dennison Burns, is based on the book, The Circuit Rider’s Wife, by Cora Harris. Dr. Burns, lyricist, composer and veteran Lee professor, wrote 14 original songs for the musical.

Set around the turn of the 20th century, the musical centers on Mary, a city girl from the “prayer-cloth-knitting” Edens, who falls in love with a country circuit-riding preacher from the “hell-fire and brimstone-preaching” Thompsons. The musical was presented at the 35th annual American College Theater Festival Regional IV in 2003. The festival showcases the best musical theater works in the 10 South-eastern states, Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands. All the colleges and universities within the region were eligible to apply, but only three were chosen. Representing Lee University, a portion of The Circuit Rider’s Wife was presented in a featured workshop. Three professional panelists and a live audience gave invaluable feedback that inspired the Burns to continue refining the show. Over the last five years the production has grown from six original songs to 14 with extensive character and scene development.

Dr. Jim Burns (far right) and the cast of The Circuit Rider’s Wife
also graduated from Lee with a masters in professional counseling in 2006.

Krista Slicker ’03 married Stacy Scranton on July 7, 2007. Krista taught for three years and spent one-and-a-half years in mission work in Paraguay and Guatemala. The newlyweds have moved to the Houston area where Krista is working for a non-profit organization called Faith in Practice which sends surgical, medical and dental teams to Guatemala. Stacy works in marketing and sales for a chemical company.

Christopher Unthank ’03 is living in Murfreesboro, TN where he heads the 501(c) non-profit organization SSE Group, Inc. that assists gospel artists in the areas of publicity and Internet promotions. Christopher is proud to say, “The company has over 40 artists on its roster that we assist daily.”

Eric McConnell ’04, who lives in Atlanta, GA, recently accepted a promotion to assistant vice-president for the southeast region at FSC Securities Corporation, an independent broker/dealer and financial planning firm affiliated with AIG.

Rachel Wielfaert ’04 married Michael Frazier on November 3, 2007, in Knoxville, TN. Rachel is a history teacher and girl’s basketball coach at Lenoir City (TN) High School. Michael teaches seventh grade geography and coaches at Lenoir City Middle School.

Patricia Shaffer Joiner ’05 graduated with a master of music-vocal performance degree from Georgia State University in Atlanta, GA, in December 2007.

Brittany Gillum ’05 married Jay Hagy on March 24, 2007. The newlyweds work together at The Crossing Church in Tampa, FL where they are student ministries worship pastors.

Chrstal Cannon McDuffie ’05 has been teaching in Polk County, FL for the past two years. She was recently hired by the Florida Department of Transportation in the Public Information office.

Jacklyn Red ’05 is currently working on a degree at South Texas College of Law.

Eric Phillips ’07 is working for a non-profit organization called GreaterWorks, where he ministers to a community for one year. Eric was placed in Monessen, PA, near Pittsburgh. Eric says, “God has been working wonders in the community of Monessen, and I am excited to be apart of it. If you’re interested in hearing about what God is doing you can visit my blog at www.greaterworks.us.”
Join the thousands of Lee alumni who have connected with old friends through InCircle and rediscovered what it is that makes our Lee experience so special

- More than 2,600 members so far
- Over 300 specialty groups
- Contact lost friends
- Create albums and share photos
- Announce events
- Network with alumni around the world
- Create your own profile

To become a part of the InCircle Community, log on to www.leeuniversity.edu and click on “Alumni and Friends.” See you in the Circle!

MEMBER COMMENTS:

“What a great idea! Over the last couple of days, I have spent a lot of time reminiscing about my time at Lee. I have already caught up with folks I haven’t seen or talked to in years. Thanks!”

“Greatest thing to happen to Lee alumni since the mug madness.”

“You’re giving people the tools to create their own stories, memories and experiences! Way to go!”

“A great way to find those folks you have lost contact with, it’s going to be a real blessing to many of us.”

“This is going to be BIG in Lee alum history. We can’t wait to re-connect with people who have provided some of the warmest memories of our lifetimes.”

“Excellent! MySpace for Lee alumni.”

“Lee was one of the best experiences of my life. Hopefully this will help us meet up with those old friends and make some new ones.”

“I love InCircle. There are tons of people I’d love to hear from, but don’t know how to find them. Come on, old friends, log on!”