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Torch Magazine

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CONTENTS

More Southside Development
The latest unveiling is of an upcoming new campus landmark, The Forum, set to dominate the Lee University and downtown Cleveland skyline over the next 18 months. The Forum is just part of the continuing expansion of that area.

Cheerleading Team Breaks into 'NCAA Mode'

With other sports teams making the move to NCAA Div. II, it is an opportune time for other teams to step up the game. Read how the cheering squad has already made their mark on a national level.

Global Perspectives: Honduras
Torch continues the ongoing series with a focus
for the first time on a Central American nation.
Lee students learn about and from the people
of Honduras, by participating in ministry, projects, and programs.

-by Kinsley Willman

Soccer Teams Win Nationals
Before becoming eligible for postseason
play in the NCAA Div. II next year, both the
men's and women's soccer teams played
their swan song in style, winning the national championships in the National
Christian College Athletic Association.

Dr. Lois Beach was perhaps one of Lee's most iconic professors, serving in the Science Department for 44 years. Her passing at age 91 brought an outpouring of tributes on social media from her former students. Read a moving tribute from one of her former students.

—by Keith Jeffords

DEPARTMENTS

4 Campus News

23 Sports

29 Who's Where and Torch Travels

OPENING THOUGHTS from PRESIDENT PAUL CONN





twitter.com/paulconn

Temple, Sweet Briar, and Us

I'm reluctant to use this small space in the Torch to discuss a somewhat negative topic, but have you heard about the sudden closing of Tennessee Temple University and Sweet Briar College? Both these schools announced, within the past week, that they will quit operating at the end of this spring semester. Their two press releases sounded eerily similar: "Our enrollment is declining; with so few students, our budget won't work; the resulting financial pressure means we can't continue to operate." So, two once-robust colleges are now shutting their doors forever. Most Lee alumni are acquainted with Tennessee Temple; fewer, perhaps, know much about Sweet Briar. The two schools are very different from one another. Sweet Briar is a women's college in Virginia known for its high academic quality and beautiful campus; its enrollment this year is 750 students. Temple is a Bible college in urban Chattanooga which is known for its conservative religious positions and deep Baptist roots. Lee alums from the 1970s and '80s will remember the fierce basketball rivalry we had with Temple. At that time, over 4000 students attended TTU-compared to about 1000 here at Lee-and it was a dynamic, growing presence in the southeastern region. Temple is 70 years old. No one has ever doubted how sincerely committed the school has been to its religious mission and convictions. It simply seems that there are no longer enough students who are choosing this kind of college experience; their enrollment has dropped to about 330 students.

Sweet Briar College is over 100 years old, and has won virtually every recognition for academic quality that a college can achieve. It has certainly been successful by every standard that might be applied except this: It can no longer attract enough students, of the kind it wants, to remain financially viable.

The demise of two once-successful colleges in our region is sad and rather stunning. It is also a cautionary tale for us at Lee University and hundreds of other private, mission-driven schools. It reminds us that in today's economic environment, it's more and more important for us to get our message out, and that we depend so much on our alumni to help us do that. I am often asked by alums, "what can I do to help Lee?" My answer is this: tell other people about us; tell them how Lee helped shape your life in positive ways; Tell them that the Lee experience is worth the money, and worth the effort.

You are Lee. Those of us who work here never forget that. You are our best advertisement, and you are so important in sending bright young students our way. Thanks for telling the Lee story!

Southern

Landscape

Dominate the

new structure will soon be added to the Lee University skyline when "The Forum" is erected within the next 18 months.

The project has been in the planning stages for several years, culminating when an architect's rendering was first displayed at Homecoming last November. The structure, when completed, will be a dominating feature of the south campus, which is under continual development.

The Forum is a combined fund-raising effort of several Greek letter clubs, most notably Delta Zeta Tau and Alpha Gamma C in recognition of their 50th anniversaries. Both clubs have committed to raising an amount from their membership and alumni. Other clubs may come on board as well.

The Forum is designed to be a collegial gathering place, much like similar structures on other college campuses. It will become a central hub of activity, staging outdoor meetings and attracting various campus events.

The location of The Forum will act as a courtyard marker between the new Communication Arts Building, which opened last fall, the new Business Department home, under construction in the former First Baptist Church educational wing, and a future School of Nursing building.

An architect's rendering of The Forum depicts it as a future campus landmark.



Lee Named to President's Service

CHE PRESIDEA

Honor Roll Again

he Corporation for National and Community Service recently announced that Lee University has been named to the President's Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll, once again receiving recognition for its commitment to bettering the community through service.

"Receiving this honor indicates that our students and faculty are engaging in transformative service with our community partners according to service-learning experts around the country," said Dr. Mike Hayes, vice president for Lee's Student Development. "This is an exciting part of achieving the Lee mission in Cleveland and around the world."

Service learning at Lee University is guided by the Leonard Center and is designed to prepare students for Christian citizenship through reflective community interactions that encourage a commitment to the ideals of service, benevolence, civic virtue, and social justice.

EST CATION COMMUNICATION COMPUNICATION COMPU According to Hayes, Lee students have committed more than 74,500 hours of service this year, developing and managing innovative programs that resulted from the combined efforts of the faculty and more than 3,500 students.

"Since 2006, Lee has been listed among the President's Higher Education Honor Roll recipients," said William Lamb, director of Lee's Leonard Center. "While this award identifies the good work of students and faculty, our celebration includes community partners. Lee students are able to impact the community and the world because of our relationship with hundreds of education and nonprofit organizations.

Without these partnerships, our community outreach would be limited."

The President's Higher Education Service Honor Roll, launched in 2006, annually highlights the role colleges and universities play in solving community problems and placing more students on a lifelong path of civic engagement, recognizing institutions that achieve meaningful, measureable outcomes in the communities they serve

Lee was one of only 91 colleges and universities honored with the General Community Service Award with distinction, which "recognizes the quality of, quantity of,

initiatives at a college or university." Schools may be listed on the Honor Roll in four categories: general community service, early childhood education, promise neighborhoods, and summer learning.

and commitment to community service

Lee Makes List of 'Christian Colleges

Graduating Students With Lowest Debt Burden'

leading Christian higher education resource, Christian Universities Online, has published a ranking of the Christian colleges with the lowest debt burden. Lee placed on the list of 50 schools from across the nation.

Michael Templeton, senior editor for Christian Universities Online, said the purpose of the ranking was to help "parents and students who are seeking to make the most informed decision possible when

choosing a Christian institution of higher education. We understand the long-term effects of excessive student loan debt and produced this ranking in order to highlight schools that are excelling in keeping the debt burden of their graduates as low as possible," Temple-

For more information and a complete list, visit www.christianuniversitiesonline.org.



r. Walter Mauldin, a former senior member of the Lee University administrative team, returned to deliver the address at Lee's winter commencement ceremony on Saturday, December 13, 2014, in the Conn Center. Mauldin served as a vice president at Lee until resigning last year to accept an appointment as program director of the Church of God Smoky Mountain Children's Home located in Sevierville, Tennessee.

Mauldin served at Lee University for 25 years, where he held the titles of vice president for administration, vice president for student life, dean of the School of Music, director of the Lee Singers, director of graduate studies in music, and professor of music. He founded the Lee University Honor Choir, Summer Music Camp, Honor Band, and Chapel Choir. He also established the Lee Singers Scholarship and the Penny

Mauldin Memorial Scholarship.

Lee's winter commencement is one of three graduation ceremonies held each year at the university. The winter ceremony combines the music and decorations of the Christmas season with traditional commencement activities. Over 200 graduates received degrees in the Saturday morning ceremony.

The night prior to the Saturday commencement, a commissioning ceremony was held, also in the Conn Center. The commissioning service is a special occasion for students and their families to reflect on their experiences at the university. During the event, six student speakers shared brief stories about their time at Lee and each graduate is presented with a personalized Bible. A hooding ceremony for recipients of the master's and education specialist's degrees took place earlier that day in the Lee University Chapel.



Ladies of Lee Planning 50th Reunion at Homecoming

he 1960s at Lee was a decade that sprouted new student programs, clubs, and musical groups that have stood the test of time. The Ladies of Lee, another of those '60s-era groups, will be celebrating their 50th anniversary at Homecoming 2015 this November 7 and 8.

Highlights of the weekend will include a reception hosted on Friday night and will feature highlights of tours, directors, photos, and videos. The culmination of the weekend will be a presentation at the Homecoming Music Festival on Saturday evening.

To help promote the event and keep up with the latest news and updates, former Ladies of Lee members are asked to "like" the page on Facebook—Ladies of Lee 50th Anniversary. In addition, photos and other memorabilia are being sought to be submitted to ladiesoflee@leeuniversity.edu. Former members may also submit contact information to the same email address.

Ladies of Lee has had many memorable directors, starting with the founding director, Mary Morris. Since then, directors have included, Sue McGee, Roosevelt Miller, Lonnie McAlister, Andrea Dismukes, Sanford Garren, Donald Leroy, Angela Lawson, Amanda Hyberger, Martha Boutwell, and current director, Loralee Songer.

Lee Establishes Grant for

Young Alumni

he Office of Alumni Relations at Lee recently established the Young Alumni Professional Development (YAPD) grant, awarded to young professionals in the early stages of their career to support alumni development in the early years following graduation.

The annual award is meant to continue the momentum of a Lee education while encouraging alumni to participate in initiatives, events, trainings, and projects that advance them toward their calling. The grant is open to all Lee University alumni, regardless of academic major or professional experience, so long as the individual is within ten years of graduating from a Lee undergraduate program and is currently employed.

"We believe a Lee University education is not simply the transference of information from professor to student," said Dr. Jerome Hammond, vice president for University Relations. "Lee graduates have learned to solve problems, wherever they are, for however long they are here. In this way, a Lee education is a lifelong

commitment to learn and serve, and this grant will aid in doing just that."

The university recently named the inaugural recipients, which included Anna Carmichael of Cleveland, Tennessee; Leah Carroll of Chattanooga, Tennessee; Danielle Cogan of Dorchester, Massachusetts; Abigail Fletcher of Cleveland, Tennessee; Alexandria Garrett of Cleveland, Tennessee; Kelly Martin of Belle, West Virginia; David Tahere of Lookout Mountain, Georgia; and Alexander Urevick of Louisville, Kentucky.

"This year's winners are working in areas such as nonprofit, music performance, and elementary education," said Patti Cawood, director of Alumni Relations at Lee. "They are a diverse group, doing very interesting work in their fields, and we are proud to support them in their endeavors."

For more information or to apply, contact Cawood at pcawood@leeuniversity.edu or (423) 614-8316.

—Jacqueline Campbell

Three Faculty Granted Tenure

t their meeting in December, the Lee University Board of Directors granted tenure to three faculty members: while approving contracts for three others, effective with the spring 2015 semester:



Carmen Guerrero

Assistant Professor
of Spanish



John Hisey
Assistant Professor
of Biology

Three Present at Joint Math Meeting

ee University faculty, Drs. Laura Singletary and Debra Mimbs, along with junior math major Jeremy Newton, recently presented at the annual Joint Math Meeting (JMM) in San Antonio, Texas. The JMM is the largest mathematics conference in the United States, as the American Mathematical Society, the Mathematical Association of America, and the Society of Industrial and Applied Mathematics, which all come together to present.

Singletary presented two talks, both based on her own research, to conference attendees. The first was titled, "Using a Dynamic Software Program to Develop Geometrical Theorems," followed by "Teachers' Beliefs about the Connected Nature of Mathematics." Mimbs' presentation was titled, "Assessing Mentoring Undergraduate Students in Research through Journaling." Newton, along with research mentor Mimbs, presented a project titled, "Counting the Unit Polyhedron Volumes in a Tetrahedral Construction."

"It's always a rewarding experience to attend the JMM and present, but it makes the experience extra special when I am able to attend with my colleague and my student," said Mimbs. "Jeremy has worked hard, and mentoring him has been a highlight of the last two years. It is nice to see his hard work appreciated by other professionals in our field."

-Karen Chambless



Chris Blake
Assistant Professor of TESOL
and Linguistics



Newton, Mimbs, and Singletary.

Effler Publishes New Counseling Book

r. Bill Effler's latest book, Out From the Shadows: Biblical Counseling Revealed in the Story of Creation, was recently released through WestBow Press.

Shadows, for Effler, showcases a biblical and practical eight-step process whereby counselors empower their clients to break free from chronic and debilitating lifestyle choices.

Shadows is Effler's third book. His other works include: Turning the Church Inside Out and The Mission of the Church: Essays on Practical Theology for the 21st Century, for which he was a contributor and general editor. It is available for purchase at the campus bookstore and through Westbow Publishing.

DAL SPOTLIGHT:

Coyle Reaches Graduate Goal

15 Years Later

efore last December, if you asked Tiffany (Hines) Coyle about her time at Lee University, you might have heard: "I came to Lee and got my M. R. S. degree and left."

Ask her today, and she will proudly show you her framed Lee University degree after graduating in December. Coyle finished her degree completely online through Lee University's online Bachelor in Liberal Studies program.

Coyle's story is similar to countless others who left school before one or both of the couple had graduated to take ministry positions or employment. Coyle and her husband John, '98, were married shortly after his graduation, despite the fact she was four semesters shy of her degree in history. Instead of finishing, the couple took a job as youth pastors in Ohio in early 1999.

"I wanted to finish at some point," Coyle said. "I really wanted to be able to say, 'I have my degree.'"

As the years passed, it seemed less and less likely that Coyle would ever complete her degree. The couple transitioned to pastoring in 2008, most recently being appointed pastors at Hillsboro (Ohio) Church of God in August 2014. Tiffany also works full time as office support coordinator for American Mercy Homecare in Cincinnati.

"We have been so busy, I just knew I could not go through the process of going back to school," Coyle said. "I did not have two years of my life to give to that." To further complicate matters, doctors found a "short circuit" in Coyle's heart in 2001—atrial fibrillation with an accessory pathway—that eventually led to a heart attack and open-heart surgery in 2013.



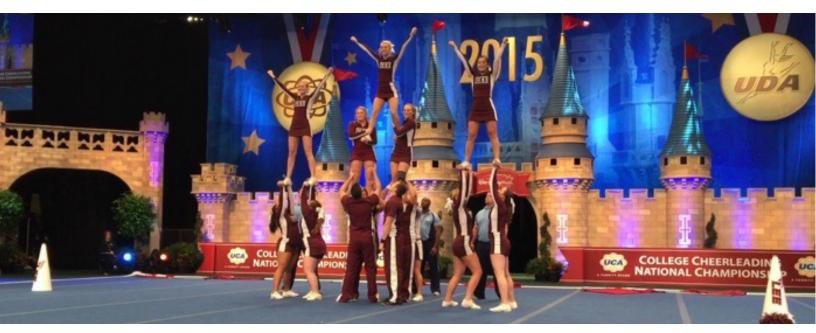
John Coyle congratulates his wife Tiffany on graduation day.

"I should never have lived through the [heart attack]," Coyle said. "God showed up and healed me. After that surgery, God fixed my heart. No more surgeries. No more medication."

Last June, Coyle was attending Ohio camp meeting when she spoke with a representative from Lee University Online. After learning about the Liberal Studies program, Coyle learned she could finish her degree completely online. Even better, she was lacking only two classes. "I was in shock that this was even happening. I had no idea I was that close to graduating," Coyle said. "I think I even cried I was so excited. I was going to finish my degree 20 years after I started it."

According to Dr. Joshua Black, executive director of the Division of Adult Learning, stories like Coyle's are becoming more prevalent: "Over and over I hear from Lee University Online students that our online programs have helped them to realize their educational dreams. The Liberal Studies program changes lives for the better by not only helping adult students to complete their degrees, but also it allows them to refocus their Christian faith and apply it through a liberal arts education."

For more information, contact: Dennis Purvis, director of Enrollment Services, Lee University Division of Adult Learning. 423-614-8370. dal@leeuniversity.edu.



Cheerleading Squad

Competing at New Level

s Lee University athletic teams prepare for full transition to NCAA Div. II this fall, the switch will affect athletic teams at all levels. For the Lee University cheerleading team, the move up is serving as the spark to take the squad to places it has not gone before.

Jessica Rigsby Frazier is the one taking on the challenge to build a championship-contending team.

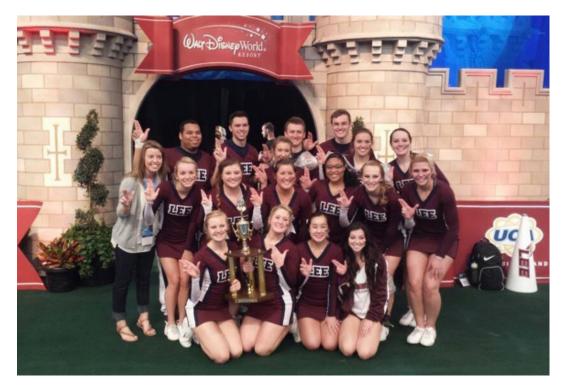
"I came to Lee in the fall of '06. I made the team and was ready to start my journey as a collegiate cheerleader," Frazier said. "Little did I know that six years later I would be the head coach and taking my team to the next level."

According to Frazier, for many years, Lee University cheering was more of an afterthought, and many were not aware that Lee had a cheer team.

"I fell in love with Lee as a student and more in love with the spirit and tradition of Lee as a university," Frazier, who is an elementary school counselor, continued. "I wanted to impact this tradition and bring awareness to the school I loved so much."

In the fall of 2012, Athletic Director Larry Carpenter offered Frazier the opportunity to lead the team. "I was very excited and very nervous for the chance of coaching at the university level," she said. "However, I already knew the first thing that I wanted to change.





I wanted LU cheer to be a competitive program. Our focus would remain on supporting our teams throughout the year, but for one weekend, I wanted to give the team the chance to shine above other teams."

For the first four years, the cheer team competed in smaller competitions put on by NAIA organizations and the Christian Cheerleaders of America (CCA) Company. Within these competitions, Lee competed against teams such as Shorter College and Liberty University, of which both programs have highly recognizable and experienced competitive programs.

"At first, we didn't win, but that did not stop us from trying our hardest and giving everything we had," Frazier continued. "Eventually, we started to shrink the gap and ended up on top last year in our division at CCA Nationals. The smaller competitions were not where we wanted to stay. Once the Lee Athletic Department made the transition into NCAA, this gave us an opportunity to also make a transition."

The transition led Lee's cheer team into two major first-time opportunities. They attended UCA camp at the University of Tennessee and UCA College National Championships in Orlando, Florida, at the ESPN Wide World of Sports.

"We were paired up with Eastern Kentucky University and took first place over them in four of five categories," Frazier stated. "These categories included cheer, chant, sideline, fight song, and overall performance. We left with a better understanding of the fundamentals of leading a crowd and how important traditions and game days are."

"Once camp was over, it was time to prepare for

UCA Nationals—one of the largest college cheerleading championships in the country. With over 100 teams/universities in nine divisions, it was an opportunity worth fighting for."

With the Lee Athletic Department on board, the team began fundraising for the national competition. Last December a UCA staff member helped the team create a routine of stunts, tumbling, cheers, and pyramids to make them stand out.

On January 15, 2015, the team headed out to "write a page in Lee University history," according to the cheer coach. "All we had accom-

plished all year led up to this one weekend. You get one chance, two, if you're lucky, to perform a 2:30-minute routine and that is it. We worked all year for this one routine, and then they told us where we ranked in the nation." For our division, there were less than 20 teams, so we had only one shot to prove ourselves."

Following a 10-minute practice prior to the competition, which Frazier characterized as "really bad," one of the cheerleaders said: "I felt a peace and a silence I had never felt before on a cheerleading mat." When the music began and the team went to work, they "hit the routine better than they ever had before. It was such an amazing feeling to see everything we had worked for pay off in 2:30 minutes. I could tell my team had something different about them . . . it was like the peace of God had settled on them and they were performing just for Him."

"We wanted to place at least in the top five," Frazier noted. "As they came closer to that number and our name had not been called yet, the more exciting it got. As they reached the fifth place spot and we heard our name, we were very happy with our results. For a team that had never competed at the UCA level before and had only gone to camp once, placing fifth at Nationals is incredible. We could not have accomplished all of this without our God and Savior, Lee University, our sponsors, and a wonderful collection of very talented cheerleaders from across the country. We are thrilled to see how far we have come and excited to see how much farther we can go."

To assist in sponsoring Lee University Cheerleading, contact Jessica Frazier at jessicalrfrazier@gmail.com.



Learns Biblical Servanthood Through Service

By Kinsley Willman

One of the most important features of Lee University's course curriculum is its requirement that each student complete a global perspectives trip. The purpose of these trips is to give the students a taste of another culture and to help the students get out of their comfort zones and see the world through another's eyes. Those students who chose the Honduras trip chose it because of its missions emphasis, and each one of the students and staff members who journeyed with me to Honduras displayed a heart for service and ministry.

Our trip to Roatán, Honduras, allowed each student to live out his or her faith in service and worship as outlined in James 2:14-17. And so, we left on December 13, 2014, for Roatán, to serve the needs of the people of Honduras.

Upon arriving at our hotel in French Harbour on the island of Roatán, we unloaded our baggage, changed our clothes, and jumped into the ocean for a swim. Given the hot car ride and Roatán's humidity, the cool salt water was a refreshing experience, foreshadowing our week to come. Little did we know that one week in Roatán would give all of us a new perspective on life, worship, and service.

Living in conditions where electricity and water are in limited supply was a stark contrast to life in the United States. We learned to adjust to our new living conditions—taking cold showers, showering with a trickle of water, and learning that things like electricity and wa-

ter are a precious commodity.

My favorite moments were waking up each morning for group devotions and ending each day with a reflection of that day.



Because our trip was based on missions, our acts of service to others were crucial. Every minute of our time was spent in service, which included serving in a school and church environment, orphanage, and in a local neighborhood. Our service also included using our free time to spend with the children, and serving one another. Every student on this trip bonded with each other through these experiences.

On the third day, we traveled to the Kingdom Bilingual Educational Center and participated in various activities. Some of the group painted the bathrooms, some assisted in classrooms, and others played soccer with the kids during recess. It was a full, fun day at the school where every moment of our time consisted of serving other people. On another day, we served at Paul Dyar's church (a Lee alum) by helping set up and take down chairs for their church Christmas program, assisting in keeping the children organized, and directing them onto the stage and back to their seats.

On the fourth day, we visited the Sandy Bay Lighthouse Ministries orphanage run by a Christian family. It is designed to feel like a home rather than a prison, as is typical of the public orphanages. The family who runs the orphanage has framed a photo of each orphan on the wall in the house, as well as their own biological children, to give the building a feeling of family. Here, we played with the kids, whether it was a game of soccer or of tickle, and spent time talking to them.

The various forms of worship while we served in Roatán were found in our words, actions, and spiritual walk with the Lord. Worship starts on the inside with our individual walk and is then expressed through our words and actions to others. Whether we were having group devotions, playing with the

children, or giving a message or testimony to the Honduran people, we were worshiping God.

Here in the states, we are overwhelmed with material wealth, and God seems to get lost in the noise and entertainment. After coming home, our hearts were opened and our eyes awakened. When asked what it meant to Paul Dyar to have students from his alma mater partnering with his ministry, he said, "Lee not only prepares and invests in its students, but continues to partner in their lives and ministries. It also gives me the op-

portunity to give back by investing in the lives of its students. It is a blessing to serve those who are

preparing themselves to serve others."

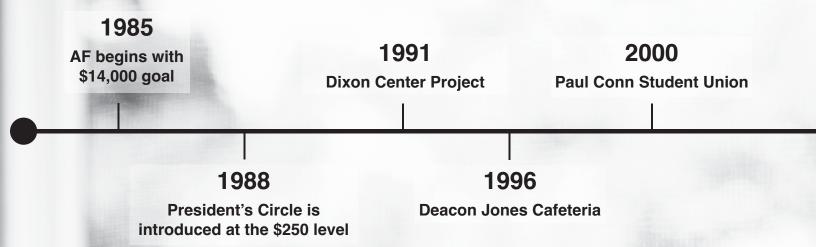
For His purpose, God opened our eyes to see, our ears to hear, and our hearts to feel His passion for people. My prayer was that God would break our hearts for what breaks His, and my prayer was answered through this trip.

Kinsley Willman is a junior from Acworth, Georgia, majoring in communications with an emphasis in advertising.









Ordinary Things

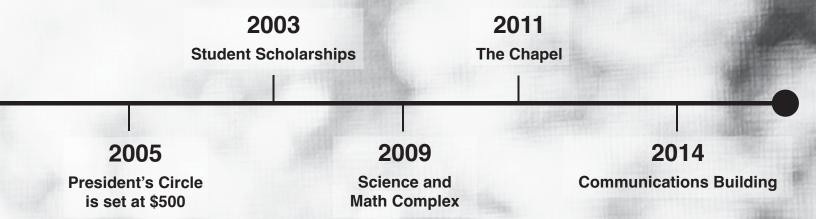
Lee people seem to believe that ordinary things can be transformed into noble things. It's a type of institutional alchemy. The process of earning a college degree, for example, is a fairly predictable process. But at Lee, when the process is over, we see ignorance transformed into self-awareness; indifferent observers become engaged participants; consumers become producers; the hurting become healers; and individuals decide to be citizens. It's a terribly exciting outcome.

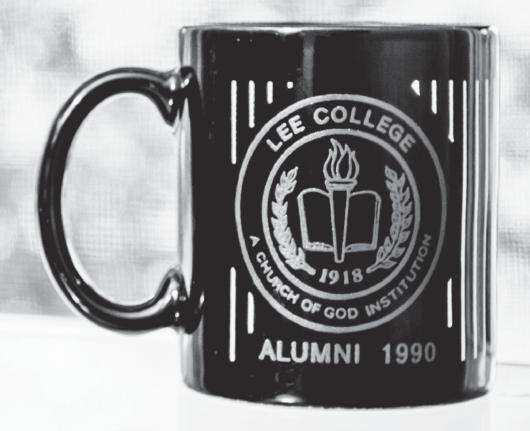
The conversion also happens in the routine behaviors like preparing lesson plans and filing administrative reports. Somehow, completing financial aid forms, mowing grass, laying bricks, painting bicycle racks and filling napkin holders add up to graduation day, when families embrace with relief at the fulfillment of a long-awaited dream.

There is another place we see this transformation and that's in alumni support. In 1985, the Vice President for Institutional Advancement, Paul Conn, introduced a very ordinary idea: the Annual Alumni Fund. Alumni were asked to contribute \$14,000 to help offset the cost of operating the Alumni Office and they did.

It doesn't exactly give you goose bumps, right? But guess what, over the last quarter century the routine act of giving to the Alumni Fund has helped to build and sustain the "laboratory" where tens of thousands of ordinary things were transformed into noble things. And while no one is likely to write an ode to alumni giving, the indisputable fact is that an extraordinary place like Lee happens \$100 at a time.

Jerome Hammond '91
 Vice President for
 University Relations





- * denotes deceased † Annual Alumni Fund donor

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Did you know that a number literally changed the world? It's true. The simple, humble zero changed everything.

Although it first appeared in Babylonian writings around 1700 BC, not until the 7th century AD did mathematicians in India recognize the potential of the concept "zero." It took another thousand years to reach the West, but when it did, zero paved the way for advances in mathematics, physics, logic, rocket science, and computer languages. It's a small number, but it changed the world.

There is another number that can change the world for Lee students - 834. It's what we're asking alumni to give in support of Lee. It may be hard to believe that a simple gift of \$8.34 a month could amount to much, but the fact is that \$8.34 a month from Lee alumni would generate millions in annual support! Now that will change the world.

Thank you for your generous giving in 2014. Your support is making the Lee experience possible for many students. See you at Homecoming.

Richard Morehead

Jerome Hammond '91

Vice President For University Relations

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NCAA SPOTLIGHT:

Delegation Attends National Convention

oving a step closer to completing the three-year transition period required by NCAA Division II, a group representing Lee University recently attended the 2015 NCAA National Convention, held at the Gaylord Resort in National Harbor, Maryland. The delegation included President Paul Conn, Director of Athletics Larry Carpenter, Assistant Director of Athletics and Senior Woman Administrator Andrea Hudson, Dr. Mark Wickam, who serves as faculty athletics representative, Paul Cretton, director of compliance, and Jessica McIntyre, coordinator of compliance.

The annual event brings members from Division I, II, and III to discuss and ultimately vote on legislative issues and proposals that affect their respective division. As in the past two years, the Lee administrative team was required to attend this meeting as part of the membership process. Members of the NCAA staff and Division II Membership Committee presided over the meeting, which is intended to instruct and guide schools in transition.

"This year the NCAA added roundtable discussions, allowing presidents, athletic directors, and compliance officers an opportunity to share concerns and insights with their counterparts," stated Carpenter.

Lee administrators were asked to meet with the year two schools to share ideas that worked for the university last year. President Conn and Carpenter addressed the group, speaking specifically about how to utilize the NCAA staff and what they could expect from their year two visit that takes place in the spring.

"We received a lot of positive feedback from the schools and members of the NCAA and Membership Committee," said Carpenter. "We considered this an honor, and it showed our commitment to the process and that has been recognized by the NCAA."

"The convention also provided President Conn an opportunity to sit down and meet with Matt Wilson, the new commissioner of the Gulf South Conference," added Carpenter. "Dr. Conn, along with Mississippi College president, Dr. Lee G. Royce, was able to share some ideas about our role in the conference and our views on the future of our institutions."

Each delegate attended sessions to gain more knowledge in the areas of compliance, faculty involvement, SAAC initiatives, and leadership in the Athletic Department. In addition, receptions were held for the various professional groups, allowing delegates to engage with other professionals in their field of expertise.

The business session took place on the last day in which delegates were given the opportunity to vote on new legislation. "Although we were not eligible to vote, we did review the legislation with our staff and SAAC prior to the convention and were asked our opinions during the GSC meeting," concluded Carpenter. "The meeting proved to be spirited at times, especially during discussion of the controversial legislation, and several votes were very close. We look forward to next year's convention and hope at that time to be full members with an official voice and vote."



The delegation attending the NCAA Convention included, l-r, Paul Cretton, Jessica McIntyre, Larry Carpenter, Andrea Hudson, Mark Wickam, and Paul Conn.

Women's and Men's Soccer Teams Claim

National Championships

MEN'S:

he Lee men captured their first National Christian College Athletic Association (NCCAA) National Soccer Championship, coming from behind in the second half to defeat Bethel College (Ind.) 2-1 in the championship game.

"Our guys can really take pride in doing something special, and I think they will remember this for a long time," said Coach Paul Furey after the championship victory. "The competition was very good, and we had to work hard in each of the matches."

Sophomore forward David Perez was named the Most Valuable Player of the National Tournament. Sophomore Quade Marinell was selected the tourney's top offensive player. Senior goalkeeper Joey Hinshaw and junior Jonathan Finlay were also named All-Tournament Performers.

Three members of the team earned recognition on two different National Soccer Coaches Association of America (NSCAA) lists. Tom Halsall and Gabe Franco were named to the 2014 NSCAA/Continental Tire NCAA Division II Men's All-South Region Second Team.

Halsall was joined by Garrison Adams on the NSCAA/ Continental Tire NCCAA Division I All-America First Team.

Coach Furey was named the NCCAA Coach of the Year and was honored at the NSCAA Convention in Philadelphia on Jan. 17.

Jonathan Perelman joined Hinshaw as NCCAA Scholars while Franco, Hinshaw, Justin Furey, Hayden Croxall, Perelman, Jake Molony, and Austin Waddell were recognized as members of the Gulf South Conference Honor Roll.

WOMEN'S:

After watching the Lee men's soccer team win its first NCCAA national championship earlier in the day, the Lady Flames decided to make it an all Lee University celebration when they defeated a talented Grace College (Ind.) team 6-5 on penalty kicks to win the title.

With four consecutive NAIA national championships tucked away, winning a first NCCAA title was a bonus as the Lady Flames complete the three-year transition period and begin to compete for official





championships in the Gulf South Conference (GSC) and NCAA Division II titles next season.

Officially, the final season record will show 15-4-1, because soccer rules do not count shootouts as an official victory. However, you can be sure that Yelton and his entire team will declare this a 16-4-1 year.

Kaela Leskovar was selected as the national tournament's most outstanding player. She was joined on the all-tournament team by Kathryn Healy (most outstanding offensive) and Kinsey Cichowitz.

Earlier, the Lady Flames finished the GSC season with a 10-1 record and claimed the unofficial conference crown, but Coach Matt Yelton, his staff, and the Lady Flames will certainly enjoy a year they will long remember.

Four members of the Lee University women's soccer team have earned recognition on two different National Soccer Coaches Association of America (NSCAA) lists.

Defender Michelle Spangler and midfielder Kinsey Cichowitz were placed on the NSCAA/Continental Tire NCCAA All-America First Team, while goalkeeper Marbel Egwuenu and defender Meagan Newman were listed on the Second Team.

Cichowitz and Newman were also honored as part of the NSCAA/Continental Tire NCAA Division II All-South Region Teams, with Cichowitz on the Second Team and Newman on the Third Team. Coach Matt Yelton was named the NCCAA Coach of the Year.

"With three out of our four All-Americans coming from defensive players, I think that speaks to the strength of our team this season, and we certainly put up some very strong numbers to demonstrate the quality of how good we played defensively," said Yelton.

The Lee defense allowed just 11 goals in 21 matches (0.52 per game) and recorded 15 shutouts.

Spangler, Egwuenu, Alison Braun, Molly McLaughlin, and Brianna Prugh earned spots on the NCCAA Scholar team. All totaled, 20 of the Lady Flames were listed on the GSC Honor Roll.

Men's Coach Paul Furey summed it up when he said, "What a thrill to win a national championship and then to share the same experience with our women's team during the same day."

Two Finish Strong at Track Rookie Tennis and Field Championships

drian Martin placed first in two events and Emmanuel Kipchumba added a third as both Lee University track teams earned eighth place finishes at the 2015 NCCAA Indoor Track and Field Championships. The two squads combined for nine mentions on the NCCAA All-American lists by finishing in the top three of their respective events.

The event was held in the Doden Field House on the campus of Cedarville (Ohio) University.

Martin edged Bethel's Avante Newsome-Gunn by 0.02 seconds to win the 55-meter dash with an NCCAA meet record of 7.14 sec-

onds. Martin added her second national championship and second All-American performance with a mark of 25.51 in the 200-meter dash. Once again, the sophomore held off Newsome-Gunn (25.87) for the win.

"Adrian ran two magnificent races," said Lee head coach, Caleb Morgan. "Her ability to come out of the blocks and accelerate to top speed is remarkable. Her improvements throughout this huge in each race."



Adrian Martin, Emmanuel Kipchumba earn first-place medals in the 2015 NCCAA season have been Indoor Track and Field Championships.

Kipchumba garnered his win and All-American status in the 800-meter run. The junior crossed the finish line at 1:58.20, just ahead of Cedarville's Tim De Jong (1:58.30). Adam Gullette was eleventh in the race with a time of 2:04.93.

"Kip ran a beautiful tactical race. He sat in the pack then pulled away with 200 meters remaining," said Morgan. "I am very proud of his accomplishments. Kip did not run track before coming to the United States four years ago and has worked very hard to become the competitive runner he is today."

Coach Gets

First Win

he Lee women's tennis team presented Patric Hynes with his first win as head coach of the Lee tennis teams on February 14 against Martin Methodist College, 5-4 on the DeVos Center courts. The Lady Flames are 4-1 overall, posting four straight victories, as they get deeper into the Gulf South Conference schedule. "We are looking forward to some great challenges in conference play," said Hynes.

The women and men have had three matches cancelled or postponed due to weather conditions.

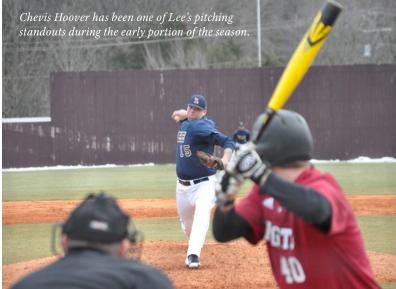
The Lee men claimed their first win on February 28 against Emmanuel.

At press time, the Lee Tennis Flames were in the middle of their regular season.



Hynes





Baseball Starts Hot in the Cold

eginning a baseball season on the first day of February has never been easy, but this year has been extremely tough for the Lee Flames. Coach Mark Brew, his staff, and the players have been forced to practice and play on frigid and even some snowy days.

Outstanding pitching has allowed the Flames to stay hot on most afternoons. Off to an 11-1-1 start and 3-1-1 against rugged Gulf South Conference competition, Lee's one tie (usually never heard of in the baseball world) occurred when a contest against the University of Alabama at Huntsville had to be suspended when heavy snow began falling in the ninth inning with the score tied.

"Pitching and defense have been the name of

the game throughout the first part of our season," remarked Coach Brew. "Our pitchers have performed every time out, even to the point that we haven't been able to see a few guys because the guys who have thrown first have been so solid."

It hasn't taken the Flames long to get noticed in only their second season against NCAA Division II competition. Early rankings have Lee listed as No. 19 by Baseball News and No. 24 by NCBWA (National Collegiate Baseball Writers Association).

"We have some huge games remaining on our schedule, and the Gulf South Conference continues to be a major challenge for our team," concluded Brew. "I am excited to see where this season ends."

Softball Off to Winning Start

he Lee softball team is blessed with several talented newcomers and is off to a 9-6 start despite weather issues that have forced four games to be cancelled and several to be played under very cold conditions.

As a team, Lee is hitting .344 while holding opponents to an impressive .218 mark.

"This team seems to have good chemistry and a strong will to win," said Coach Emily Russell. I feel like we can step up and overcome any obstacles that we have throughout this season. We are very athletic, and the team has gone through a tough fall season with Clint Spencer (weight-training director). They are hard workers, and I think we will be ready to fight our way through the Gulf South Conference schedule."



Amanda Lynn heads for home after receiving instructions from Coach Emily Russell.

Lady Flames Finish at

18-8; Rowe Gets #300

oaded with outstanding freshmen talent, the Lee women's basketball team finished the regular season with an 18-8 record and an impressive 14-8 mark in the Gulf South Conference.

A highlight of the season, Coach Marty Rowe recorded his 300th victory as head coach of the Lady Flames on February 19 at Mississippi College.

Rowe's ladies also defeated Hiwassee in the NCCAA Mid-East Region championship game and are taking part in the NCCAA National Tournament for the second consecutive year.

Freshman Emileigh Swafford scored 406 points before going down with a knee injury. The standout averaged 16.2 points and more than four rebounds per game. All four of Lee's leading scorers were freshmen, including Erin Walsh, Shelby Brown, and Carrie Cheeks.

Junior Christina Johnson and senior Alex Swope played a key role in Lee's successful season. Junior Kayla Beavers hit several key 3-pointers during the year while Caroline Smith and Jordan Neuharth stepped up to help give Coach Rowe a smooth

Emileigh Swafford paced the Lady Flames in scoring, but suffered a knee injury in the final regular-season game against Shorter University.



substitution rotation. Senior Madison Lee was forced to end her playing career early after battling knee problems over the past two seasons.

"I'm very proud of what this group of young ladies has accomplished," said Coach Rowe. "I can say this is one of the best groups I have been fortunate enough to coach, both on and off the playing court."

Basketball Flames Finish Strong

he Lee men's basketball team shifted into high gear during the final six games of the 2014-2015 regular season. Standing at 11-11 after a loss at North Alabama, the Flames appeared to be headed for a losing season. The record would drop to

11-12 after a defeat at powerful West Alabama, but it was in the second half of that game that Coach Tommy Brown believes turned his team's season completely around. Trailing by as much as 18 points, the team ended up losing by only one.

"It was like a light going off in our players' heads," said Coach Brown. "We had lost a lot of close games and had been through a series of long and tough road games. We encountered times when we had trouble scoring."

In the next outing at West Georgia, the Flames exploded again and upset a team that was not only trying to win a Gulf South Conference (GSC) title, but was also ranked with the best NCAA Division II teams in the country. Wins over Mississippi College, Delta State, Hiwassee, and Shorter University would follow. During the five-game winning streak, the Flames averaged 82 points per game and finished the regular season at 16-12, defeating every GSC opponent at least once.

"I'm really proud of this team and especially happy for our seniors, Chad Lee, Tyquan Roberts, and Cory Billingsley," noted Coach Brown as his team began to prepare for NCCAA play. "Chad and Cory have been with me for four years and have worked hard. It is great to see them go out as winners."





Editor's Note: Former Lee Professor Dr. Lois Beach passed away on February 20, 2015, at the age of 91. The following is a representative tribute from Dr. Keith Jeffords, one of the hundreds of students she touched in nearly 50 years on the Lee faculty.

r. Lois Beach was one of the most influential people in my life. I can't think of another teacher that ignited my internal drive to be my best. She did this with hundreds of students, taking us into her heart and preparing us for life.

Dr. Beach was one of the iconic leaders in Lee University history. In the early 1960s, she was already a veteran faculty member, and was assigned to start a Science Department. Accepting the challenge, Dr. Beach recruited distinguished young Ph.Ds. to the Lee campus. These science professors adapted to her vision and committed to a career at Lee.

Life as a Lee science major was different from other academic majors. It was a "family" with Dr. Beach as its matriarch. The standards were high. We were called Mr. or Miss and treated with professionalism. The students who committed were rewarded with extreme support for a lifetime, which included research opportunities, trips, Christmas parties, and often, dinners with Dr. Beach. The students were close, and we felt exceptional.

As a high school senior, I was committed to attend another university; however, my parents insisted I visit Lee. Dr. Beach personally gave me a tour of the Science Building and the Lee campus. I was stricken by her sincerity and desire to give me a superior education. Lee was my new choice.

My freshman year, I joined the Lee Singers. After reviewing my first semester, Dr. Beach told me how

proud she was of my grades and that I would make a great "minister in God's kingdom." I got the message. I withdrew from Singers immediately to commit to my science studies.

Her classes were tough. She expected us to study and learn, and we never wanted to disappoint her. She loved her students equally. As we headed toward graduation, we all wanted Dr. Beach to know of our successes. She had bulletin boards of Lee grads with their careers posted from teaching and industry jobs. Those of us attending graduate schools had an Honor Board with our acceptance letters. Later, Dr. Beach filled the main floor with our photos—a sort of "Science Hall of Fame."

She lived a very rich life. She and her husband, Charles, loved each other very much and we would often see them at restaurants holding hands. Dr. Beach received many awards, including the Church of God Educator of the Year, an honorary doctorate from Lee University, and the naming of her Science Building in her honor. She deserved every recognition.

Every Lee University science graduate who studied under her owes their success to Lois Beach. She set the standard of excellence. Her ministry was nurturing students to achieve at their highest levels. We wanted to achieve, because she believed in us. She is our legacy.

Keith Jeffords, M.D., D.D.S., received his B.S. in Chemistry and Biology from Lee College in 1981. He is now a Board Certified Plastic Surgeon, practicing in Smyrna (Atlanta), Georgia.

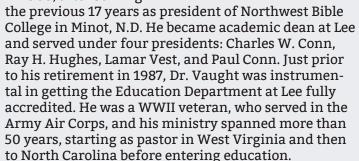




J Ellen Geralda Gunter '47 of Smyrna, Ga., died on January 27, 2015. She was 89. Mrs. Gunter had lived in the Doraville, Ga., area for the past 56 years and was a retired legal secretary. She was always active in her local church as teacher, choir member, and event planner.

Former Academic Dean Dr. Laud O. Vaught passed away in January following a lengthy illness. He was 89.

Dr. Vaught came to Lee in 1980, after serving



He received numerous awards and recognitions over the years, including an honorary degree—doctor of letters—from Lee, doctor of philosophy in education degree from the University of North Dakota, the Distinguished Citizens Award from the city of Minot, N.D., and the Distinguished Educator Award for the Church of God.

Glenna Sheppard Lee '61 a resident of Cleveland, Tenn., died on December 30, 2014, following a sudden illness. In 1956, she enrolled at Lee College where she was active in campus life, receiving many

honors, including being voted Miss Lee College. She and her husband, Ollie Lee, met as freshmen and married in 1961. Glenna served as a director of nursing for seven years and was elected president of District 4 of the Tennessee Nurses Association. She also taught for 22 years at Cleveland State Community College. She earned a number of honors and awards, including Outstanding Faculty Member and Outstanding Nurse of the Year twice.





Daniel Lee McEachin '81, of Tifton, Ga., passed away on February 22, 2015. He was an ordained bishop in the Church of God, an evangelist for ten years, and a pastor for 34 years. At the time of his death, he was the senior pastor at Tift Avenue Church of God. He also pastored in Jeffersonville, Ga., and in Columbus, Ga. Daniel was preceded in death by his first wife, Sandra Kay McEachin, and is survived by his wife, Renee Willetts McEachin, one son and two daughters.

Vaught

PFC Alumni **Gather for Reunion**

or ten weeks in 1964, a Pioneers for Christ (PFC) summer witnessing team invaded the Aloha State with the gospel. Almost 10,000 homes were visited, over 15,000 tracts distributed. 56 services conducted, and three daily Vacation Bible Schools held. Fifty-six people were saved, and 141 new people were gained for the church.

The team consisted of Douglas and Wanda LeRoy, Phyllis Brummett, Margaret Adams, Shirley Simpson, Cameron Smith, and Thomas Tioaquen. They were hosted by State Youth Director Lewis R. McMahan who commented: "The results of their ministry were greater

than expected, having more lasting effect on the lives of the people in Hawaii than any other program we have ever had."

A youth at the time, Aileen Nakashima, stated that, "She had been drawn closer to the Lord. The team has been an inspiration to me, which gave me a desire to live and witness for Christ."

Three of the PFC members met their lifetime mates in Hawaii: Margaret Adams married Navy man Gene Smith; Phillis Brummett married sailor Doug Lancaster; and Thomas Tioaquen married Margaret Maquilling.

Over the past 50 years, the team members have served in various areas of ministry and raised families. The LeRoys spent 32 years as missionaries; the Gene Smiths pastored in Virginia and Florida; the Cameron Smiths pastored in several states and now operate a furniture store in Florida; the Tioaquens pastored in Hawaii and now serve as missionaries



(Above) The Lee PFC delegation after they landed in Hawaii in 1964 (l-r): Shirley Simpson, Phyllis Lancaster (Brummett), Margaret Smith (Adams), Thomas Tioaquen, Cameron Smith (in rear), Douglas LeRoy, and Wanda LeRoy.



in the Philippines; the Lancasters are builders in Tennessee; and Shirley Simpson is retired in South Carolina. The Hawaiian summer was a life-changing experience that impacted the future of these Lee students. In November 2014, the group celebrated the fiftieth anniversary of the trip by meeting together at the South Georgia Church of God campground in Tifton. They ate together, shared stories and pictures, reflected on the experience, and prayed for their families and needs. The group is forever bound through the experiences of a ministering summer.

Dr. Earl M. Tapley, former vice president and one-time interim president of Lee, died on December 23, 2014, at the age of 101.

Dr. Tapley served a unique role at a strategic time in Lee's history. In 2010, the biology laboratory in the new Science and Math Building was named in his honor. A plaque at the laboratory entrance reads: "In honor of Dr. Earl M. Tapley in recognition of his inspirational and strategic leadership as Vice President and Interim President during the earliest years (1946-1953) as an emerging Lee College."

In addition to his service at Lee, Dr. Tapley was an administrator at the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga and dean at the University of Evansville, eventually retiring as dean in 1979, but staying on for several years, traveling extensively as director of International Studies and Travel, to every continent except Antarctica, visiting more than 100 countries.





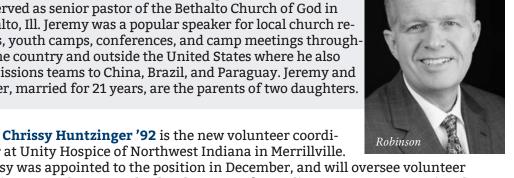
Barry Tharp '84 recently took Torch on a military journey to El Paso Texas (Ft. Bliss), to Kuwait, to Bagram, Afghanistan, then on to Kabul, Afghanistan, and finally to Heart, Afghanistan, where he is working in the Afghan Forensic Mentorship Program for Ideal Innovations, Inc. He is mentoring the Latent Print Section of the Ministry of the Interior Criminal Techniques Laboratory. Barry D. Tharp is married to Hope Phipps Tharp '85, and they have one daughter who is currently attending Lee (Caitlin R. Tharp).



Michelle Bowman '88 was recently promoted to the role of senior vice president, retail branch operations for FSG Bank in Cleveland, Tenn. Michelle has more than 25 years of experience in retail branch operations, and has served in many different roles within retail banking at various financial institutions.



Jeremy B. Robinson '90 died on January 26, 2015. For the past ten years, Jeremy and his wife, Ginger Sanders Robinson '90 served as senior pastor of the Bethalto Church of God in Bethalto, Ill. Jeremy was a popular speaker for local church revivals, youth camps, conferences, and camp meetings throughout the country and outside the United States where he also led missions teams to China, Brazil, and Paraguay. Jeremy and Ginger, married for 21 years, are the parents of two daughters.



nator at Unity Hospice of Northwest Indiana in Merrillville. Chrissy was appointed to the position in December, and will oversee volunteer recruitment and manage the development of complimentary programs aimed at enhancing patients' quality of life. Chrissy says, "I feel like I was created to do this job. I enjoy meeting the needs of our patients, being part of their lives, and knowing I may have made a difference." A mother of seven, Chrissy resides in Chesterton with her husband. Fred.



Jason West '06 and Loren West '05 are the parents of three children and are based out of Texas. Jason is currently serving on active duty in the United States Army as a chaplain, the rank of captain, and deployed to Bagram, Afghanistan. Here, Jason is in front of the "Enduring Faith Chapel" in Bagram reading Torch.

Jonathan "Matthew" Floyd '08,'13M passed away suddenly on November 25, 2014, at the young age of 30. Matthew was a resident of Cleveland, Tenn., and is survived by his wife, Valerie '05, '14M, his parents and sisters, including Kellie Floyd-Smith '12. On October 6, 2012, Matthew and Valerie married in The Chapel on campus. Valerie says, "Matthew was a voice of wisdom, and he was steady and compassionate. He brought endless laughter and joy to our lives. He was loved unconditionally and will be tremendously missed."



Daniel '08 and Mae Adams Shirley '08 were married in October 2014, and now live in Portland, Oregon. Daniel is working at an inpatient facility for children in Portland, while Mae is pursuing a doctorate in psychology from George Fox University in Newberg, Oregon. Mae says, "Both Daniel and I have very fond memories of our time at Lee."



WHO'S WHERE



Diana Schleusz '09 was recently named executive director of Life Care Center of East Ridge, Tenn. Originally from El Salvador, "Diana brings experience, dedication to resident care, and a positive personality that bring value to our region," said Carolyn Freeman, vice president of Life Care Centers of America's Cumberland Region. At Lee, Diana was a member of the Voices of Lee.

Alex Sturgill '08, Duran Ross '10 and Anthony Davis '10 on the set of SportsCenter in Bristol, Conn. All three are telecommunications alumni working for ESPN. Alex works in studio operations, Duran works in network operations (master control), and both are based in Bristol. Anthony is a media operator at the new SEC Network in Charlotte, N.C.





Tiffanie Robinson '10, of Lamp Post

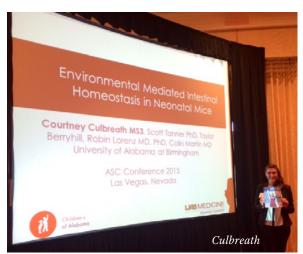
Group, was recently named Young Professional of the Year by the Young Professionals Association of Chattanooga, Tenn. Lamp Post is a venture incubator that provides capital and mentorship to growing start-up businesses. She previously worked with The River City Co.

Joshua Nelson '10, is enrolled in seminary studies at Sewanee—The University of the South—preparing for ordination to the priesthood in the Episcopal Church. Joshua says, "I am very thankful for my spiritual development during my time in Cleveland, especially for St. Luke's Episcopal Church and for my brothers in Phi Mu Alpha. I am particularly thankful for my minor studies in Bible and religion while at Lee."

Reed Uberman '12M lives in Cleveland, Tenn., where he is on staff at North Cleveland Church of God. He also operates the only 4K digital cinema rental company in the area specializing in rentals to students to help them with short films and independent projects.

Courtney Culbreath '12 took *Torch* on a recent presentation of her research at the Academic Surgical Congress in Las Vegas. Courtney is in her third year as a medical student at University of Alabama School of Medicine.

William Corgnell '14 and his wife, Christina, live in Winter Haven, Fla., with their two children. William recently completed his degree in pastoral leadership online in three years.







P.O. BOX 3450 CLEVELAND, TN 37320-3450



Here are some facts that may surprise you.

Did you know that more than half of all Lee alumni have finished in the last 25 years? That means we have a large, young and vibrant alumni base.

Here's another one: If 1/3 of alumni – **like you** – support Lee with \$100 a year, we will generate more than \$1,000,000 annually.

You may not think \$8.34 a month would make a difference, but **together** we can produce serious support for **scholarships**, **classroom equipment**, **professors**, **and programs**.

This is a simple but powerful plan. We can give students the same life-changing experiences we had at Lee, but the plan only works with you.

Is this the moment you say, "I'm In"?

https://leeuniversity.edu/give