

CORD MAGAZINE

SUMMER 2017 | NEWS FROM UNION COLLEGE

Be Our Guest

Students play a key role in welcoming guests to campus—and gain life lessons along the way.



UNION
COLLEGE

MAKING A DIFFERENCE |



photo: Scott Cushman/Union College



When Dr. Ricky Little and a group of choral students were run off the road by a semi on the way back from a spring break music tour, God's grace and modern safety features protected them from serious injury. Read more about the story at www.ucollege.edu/wyoming-crash

Traveling safely

It's easy to take transportation for granted. But moving athletic teams and music performance groups to their multi-state appointments in a safe and timely manner can be anything but routine. To help make it easier, Union employs a coach bus and a fleet of 12-passenger vans—including a 2017 Ford Transit high-roof van made possible by a generous donor.

When touring groups have to spend many hours traveling hundreds of miles, extra cargo space and legroom make a big difference. When the donor originally gave Union a 2016 Ford Transit high-roof van, the extra space it provided

made the vehicle instantly popular with students.

But modern safety features proved to be even more valuable when a choral group was hit by a semi truck last March while returning from the West Coast. While the van was totaled, side curtain airbags throughout the passenger area prevented any life-threatening injuries.

This awesome new replacement has now joined the fleet. Thanks to supporters like you, Union College students can travel to represent their school in comfort and safety.

STAFF

LuAnn Wolfe Davis '82
Vice President for
Advancement/Publisher

Ryan Teller '98
Executive Director of
Integrated Marketing
Communications/Editor

Steve Nazario
Director of Visual
Communications/Designer

Scott Cushman '03
Director of Digital
Communication

**Kenna Lee Austin
Carlson '73**
Class News Editor

**Linda Deibel
Skinner '71**
Copy Editor

REGULARS

4 PERSPECTIVES
Marcia Nordmeyer

**6 CAMPUS
NEWS**

**8 WHAT'S
ONLINE**

**10 ALUMNI
NEWS**

**27 KEEP IN
TOUCH**
Updates from classmates

30 IN MEMORY

**35 THE LAST
WORD**
from President Sauder



FEATURES

12 "Wherever I am"
International Rescue and Relief students learn that
changing the world can start right here on campus.

14 Previewing life at Union
Student ambassadors are the key to recruiting new
students during Union's five preview weekends.

18 Hospitality and Home
Ortner Center workers learn valuable lessons about
hospitality and hard work.

20 The Adventist Amazon
AdventSource provides resources for North American
Adventists and great jobs for students.

24 Peanut Hill
Union's story has been a vital part of Lincoln's history.



Photo: Ryan Teller/Union College

ALUMNI BOARD

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ABOUT THE COVER

Union College couldn't run without the help of dedicated student workers, including the students who run the Ortner Center and Union Market such as Naifou Meafou, Daisy Muga, Maddie Temple, Stefani Leeper and Celinda Mansilla. Photo by Scott Cushman.

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CORD Magazine
Union College
3800 South 48th Street
Lincoln, NE 68506
or alumni@ucollege.edu

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Learning through hospitality by Marcia Nordmeyer '03?

There are labs across Union College's campus, from scientific research to writing, design, health care and education. Every student is provided with facilities and opportunities to explore their field in a hands-on setting. I count the Ortner Center among those laboratories—but rather than target any specific major, Union's Guest Services trains students in hands-on hospitality. That's a skill sorely needed in any career.

Making guests, friends and colleagues feel comfortable, welcome and appreciated goes far beyond a pleasant greeting (though that's sometimes the hardest to teach). It's hard work. Scrubbing. Troubleshooting technology. Anticipating needs. Learning to care about the details. And all with a smile.

Students are integral to every part of operating the Ortner Center, and our team philosophy is that everyone gets to do everything. There are no housekeepers. No front desk agents. Everyone cleans guest rooms. Everyone cleans bathrooms. Everyone knows how to direct inqui-

ries and make reservations. Everyone learns from, and ultimately corrects, their own mistakes.

One key skill my students develop is communication. The campus visit program provides a steady year-round flow of prospective students and their parents to our guest rooms. Upon meeting an Enrollment Services guest, our hospitality specialists immediately become spokespersons for their academic division. I've often witnessed my workers convince visitors to not only choose Union College, but to consider an academic field similar to their own. Not that they're biased or anything.

Occasionally we host prospective college employees for a multi-day interview. They always appreciate the very short commute from their guest room to the conference center down the hall. My potential colleagues ask the student workers about nearby neighborhoods, restaurants, shopping, health care providers, and whether or not they enjoy living in Lincoln. I have seen some particularly special bonds form when a new faculty member winds up teaching the hospitality specialist who assisted them when they first arrived on our campus. Believe me when I say you never know the fruits of a good first impression.

Because our guest rooms and conference center are available to the public, we host many groups who do not have any ties to our campus or Adventism. They typically find us by searching Google or a recommendation from the local Convention and Visitors Bureau. These guests often comment on how welcome they feel and how *different* our campus is. The only good explanation we've come up with for our differentness is, "God is here."

As my predecessor, Sharon Russell, frequently said, "God is in the hotel business." We see firsthand the transformative power of a good experience in the Ortner Center, and the way a helping hand can play a part in small miracles, both for guests and students.

It is my privilege to watch my student coworkers learn, serve and lead. When they have demonstrated their proficiency in the other labs across campus, it is the cleaning, communicating, organizing, solving and smiling-through-it-all done in the Ortner Center and other campus service jobs that gives them an edge above simple competence. Our hospitality lab makes them the sort of person you want on your team, whether as your doctor, accountant, teacher, manager, pastor or wherever God's calling leads. **A**



photo: Scott Cushman/Union College

Marcia Nordmeyer manages Union College's Ortner Center guest rooms and conference center—with the help of a crew of student workers.

Cash isn't the only gift that makes a difference by Scot Coppock

Ron Biloff ('62) knows firsthand what it means to "work his way through school." That's why after years of running his successful business, Lincoln Laminating, Ron and his wife, Vicki, love to find ways to help ease the financial burden on Union students so they can focus on succeeding academically.

As a student, Ron worked two or three jobs and was often unable to keep up with his studies. At the suggestion of his friend, Calvin Krueger ('55), Ron left college in 1962 to open Lincoln Laminating, Inc. "There were no profits in the first few years," Ron remembered. "We were only able to survive because we had no debt." But Ron worked hard, often well past midnight six days a week, and eventually the company grew and started turning a profit.

Ron and Vicki began giving gifts to Union College that were awarded to help two or three students a year with tuition. Often, when the couple was able to get to know these students, they became like their own children. They bought clothing, helped buy a computer, and even purchased a car for different students. "The Lord has been good to us and we like to share," Ron explained.

"Giving these students an education makes a positive impact on their lives, which is so important," Vicki added.

The Biloffs haven't limited their giving to student scholarships, and have supported the Krueger Center for Science and Mathematics, new windows in the dorms, medical mission trips, international rescue and relief disaster response and most recently a nursing simulation center expansion project and a social space outside the new bouldering cave. Additionally, they have hosted pool parties for students in the physician assistant program to help build a sense of camaraderie among the classmates and to get to know the students better.

Ron and Vicki spend many hours praying over each decision to support student scholarships and the school. "If the Lord hadn't made it possible with all the breaks through the years, we wouldn't be able to do this," Ron said.

Throughout the years, the couple has given in a variety of ways—gifts of stock, gifts from their IRA, and even laminate materials from their business. "There are times when we don't have enough cash to give the size of gift we want to give," Ron explained. "But we can give an asset and accomplish the same thing."



photo courtesy Vicki Biloff

Ron and Vicki Biloff have found that supporting students outside of school can be just as important as funding scholarships.

Contribution of an asset such as stock, real estate or life insurance may also provide some ancillary benefits such as avoiding paying capital gains tax, diversifying a stock portfolio, or liquidating an asset that is diminishing in value. "To me, it is the perfect way to give a gift," Ron said.

"We enjoy helping people," Ron stated. "It is a lot of fun to see a smile appear on a student's face and the excitement in their eyes when they meet us and learn we have helped them. Even when we never meet those we are helping, there is great joy in knowing we are making an impact on someone's life."

If you would like to learn more about how you can help support the mission of Union College, please call LuAnn Davis, vice president for Advancement, at 402.486.2503 or luann.davis@ucollege.edu. LuAnn would love to help you get connected and feel more a part of the Union College family. **A**

Scot Coppock served as director of leadership giving at Union College until November 2016. He is now Associate Director of Planned Giving and Trust Services at the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists.

Guarantee a spot in Union's nursing program

Esther Pervis sat alongside the road, waiting for the police to arrive. It wasn't her accident, but she was here—offering kind words, keeping the dazed driver calm and checking scrapes for warning signs of a more dangerous injury. This was the third accident in the last year that she'd pulled over to help. After all, Pervis is one of the lucky ones who have some medical training to offer—she's a junior in Union College's nursing program.

An excellent high school student, Pervis was among the first batch of students Union accepted as freshmen with a guaranteed spot in the nursing program in what was then known as the Early Admission Track. That was 2015. Now Union has reintroduced the program as Guaranteed Nursing Admission, which opens the door for even more incoming freshmen to be eligible.


"Most nursing schools won't consider an application until a student has completed the required prerequisite college courses—usually three semesters," said Dr. Nicole Orian, chair of Union College's Division of Nursing. "If, for some reason, a student doesn't get into nursing school, they have to wait and apply again the next semester. At Union, a high-performing

freshman can guarantee a spot and know they'll go straight into our program—a top nursing program."

While some nursing programs have two-year wait lists, Union specializes in getting students prepared and working in their field quickly. And the results show.

For the past two years, Union College nursing graduates have posted the highest NCLEX-RN first-time pass rate in Nebraska—96.07 percent in 2016. That's 10 percent higher than the average on the national licensure examination that all graduates must take to become a registered nurse.

"I always wanted to come to Union," said Pervis, who liked the friendly atmosphere and close proximity to home. "But knowing I had a spot in the nursing program took away the guesswork. I didn't have to worry about whether I had made the right decision."

If you know a high school student who is inspired to make a difference in the world through nursing, has a GPA of 3.5 or above and a 24 ACT or higher (or 1650 on the SAT), encourage them to check out Union College's Guaranteed Nursing Admission program at www.uccollege.edu/nursing/guaranteedadmission 

New online offerings make it easier for students to take summer courses

For most Union College students, summer is hardly a vacation. Whether on the family farm or in a high-tech internship, students work for their tuition. Because of this, Union has resisted the trend to offer a jumpstart program which would take precious weeks out of the summer for new students. This year, the college is using technology to create better balance for new and current students who need to work and desire to earn college credit. Two online classes are proving you can earn college credit and keep your summer job, too.


"We want to make it easier for students to take summer courses at Union College," said Michelle Mesnard, associate vice president for academic initiatives. "Staying on campus isn't possible for many students. Providing classes in a more flexible online format makes them accessible to a lot more students."

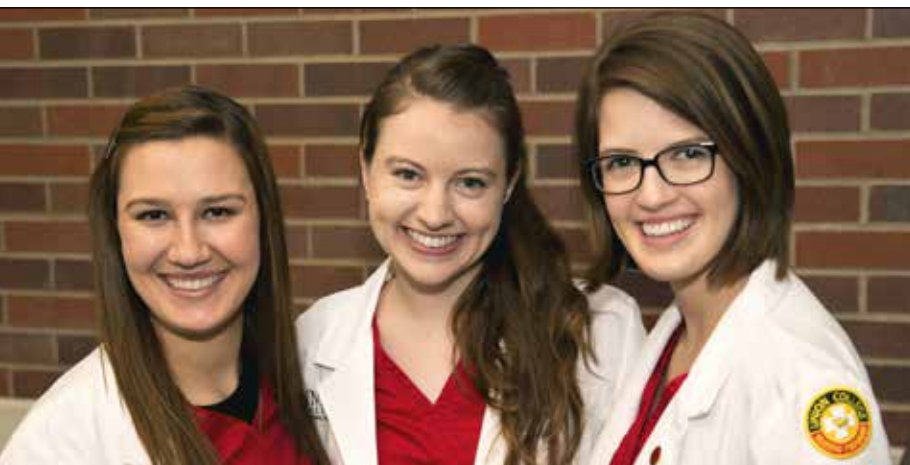
HIST 157, more commonly known as West and the World, is a general education requirement for most bachelor's degrees at Union College. Dr. Ben Tyner, associate professor of history, taught the six-week course, which focused on the contributions of major cultures in shaping the modern world.

Mike Mennard, an adjunct professor of English, taught Ancient Western Literature, a chronological look at major works of literature that influenced Western culture.

Both courses combine synchronous and asynchronous teaching styles "to provide a wider variety of tools for an instructor to connect with students," explained Ms. Mesnard. The teachers combined a regular online meeting time twice a week in Google Hangouts with a variety of resources students can access on their own time.

"Our goal is to take the best from our instructors face-to-face teaching and add to that the benefits that come with the discussion boards and other online resources," she explained.

Mesnard says these courses will start a trend to offer more online courses, adding more flexibility for students. "We are testing the waters with two classes this summer," she said. "Our plan is to add more online classes next summer." 



Courtney Fast, Sarah Pope and Esther Pervis were the first students to join the nursing program through Union's Guaranteed Admission Track (formerly Early Admission).

New associate's degree focuses on video and photographic arts

The fact you're reading this is likely because of the photos or other visual elements on this page, not the words. Humans are visual creatures, and whether or not a picture is truly worth a thousand words, few people today will read even ten words unless a visual element first grabs their attention.

With six out of 10 Americans identifying social media as a primary source of news, the power of visual communication is clearer than ever before. Posts with a compelling image have 94 percent more interaction than plain text, a fact today's communicators—from marketers to pastors and journalists—can't afford to ignore.

Union is answering this 21st century challenge with a new minor and associate's degree in video and photographic arts.

"We believe this new program will help our communication, marketing and graphic arts students be even more competitive in a visually driven world," said Bruce Forbes, chair of the Division of Fine Arts.

The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics predicts a significant growth rate for photographers and videographers—as much as 18 percent for film and video editors. "However, as the cost of photographic and video equipment falls, competition in these fields continues to heat up," said Forbes. "We believe multitasking communicators who have related skills like photography, graphic design, video editing and writing will be much better positioned to succeed."

The two-year associate's degree combines photography and photo editing courses with script writing, videography and basic graphic arts classes, but Forbes believes the program is at its best as a minor combined with a four-year degree in a related field such as graphic design or communication.

"We all walk around with the ability to take photos and videos in our pockets," he said. "In order to stand out, today's communicators have to be better trained than ever. This program will teach students to create high-quality photos and video while using affordable and available equipment. It's a necessity for today's creative professionals."

To learn more about Union's new associate's degree and minor in photo and video imaging, visit www.ucollege.edu/photography 



Student artwork for digital photography class by Aldwyn Montague (top), Nicholas Morrison (middle), and Zack Posthumus (bottom).

WHAT'S ONLINE |

Facebook



Graduation

On May 7, Union College presented 224 degrees to 213 students who completed their graduation requirements in December 2016, May 2017 or August 2017—including 30 students who graduated with a master's in physician assistant studies.

Check out the Facebook photo albums!



Homecoming

April 7–9 was Homecoming weekend. In addition to reuniting with former classmates, alumni gathered to celebrate Union's 125th anniversary. You can enjoy photos from the weekend on Facebook.

www.ucollege.edu/homecoming

ucollege.edu

Read the latest news and keep up with events on Union's website.



Chris Blake retires

After 24 years of teaching at Union College, beloved English professor Chris Blake has decided to retire. Read the full story at

www.ucollege.edu/blakeretires



Jim McClelland retires after 43 years

Mr. Mac made a lasting impression on campus with his art and in the multiple generations of Union students he taught over the past 43 years. Read more at

www.ucollege.edu/mcclellandretires

Youtube



Parents see value in Union education

Scott and Rebecca Boone struggled with the idea of sending their daughter halfway across the country for nursing school. But when they saw the difference Union College made in her education, they knew it was all worth it.

Watch at youtu.be/VWDdUxvBzC4

WHAT'S ONLINE



Instagram

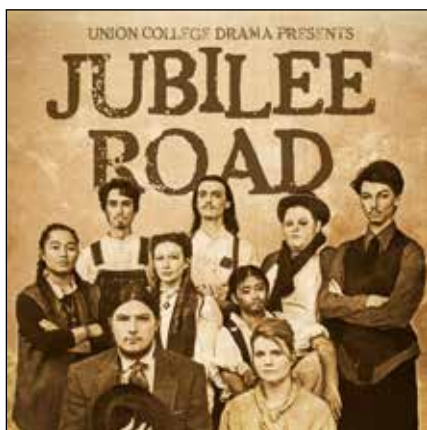
T-Shirt Contest — #ucollegefreshskills

Throughout the summer, incoming freshmen and transfer students had the opportunity to win \$250 by posting videos or pictures of themselves demonstrating a specific skill. We received dozens of entries, and picked two winners each week. Check out the entries at

#ucollegefreshskills

#UnionWorldWide

Each Wednesday we try to feature a student who is abroad either as an student missionary or in the Adventist Colleges Abroad program. This post is of Alisha Mechalka, who spent this past year volunteering in Honduras at Hogar de Niños.



UCLive

Spring Concert

In March, the Division of Fine Arts held their annual Spring Concert in College View church. Watch their talented performance here:

livestream.com/ucrive/events/7222606

"Jubilee Road"

This past April, the Union College Drama team presented "Jubilee Road." Although the play was performed over Easter weekend, it wasn't your typical Easter story. While still the Gospel story, the play was set in the Deep South. Watch the story unfold at

livestream.com/ucrive/jubileeroad



Union student government sets the stage for health care leadership

By Autumn Mott '19

Union College provides a myriad of leadership learning opportunities for students like last year's student government president, David Kabanje.



For Andrew Morgan '13, learning to effectively manage finances and people began when he first became a student government officer as a sophomore at Union College. He built those skills into a career that in just three years has led him to the role of assistant vice president of finance at Florida Hospital Tampa.

Morgan started his career as a finance resident for the West Florida Division. It was a new market that Adventist Health System had acquired, consisting of nine hospitals. "It was a huge educational experience," he said. "I had the opportunity to spend a little bit of time in each of the departments that would ultimately report to the CFO of the hospital." He was a finance resident for a year and a half.

From there, Morgan was promoted to a finance manager position at Florida Hospital Tampa, which is the largest facility in the West Florida Division with 529 beds. "That role was primarily focused on working with leaders to help manage their expenses," said Morgan. "I also led the overall annual budget process."

In summer 2016, Morgan became financial director, and then in March 2017 he was promoted to assistant vice president of finance at Florida Hospital Tampa.

When asked why he pursued a degree in finance, his reply was simple, "I have always been good at math, so I figured finance was a good emphasis with a business degree." During his time at Union, Morgan worked as financial vice president for Associated Student Body (ASB), Union's student government, and as treasurer for his class.

Morgan appreciates the involvement that Union encouraged. "At Union I had the opportunity to be involved in quite a few things within the Division of Business and Computer Science, as well as in ASB and clubs," he said. "I believe the biggest benefit of my time on ASB was learning how to effectively work in a cross-functional team environment. One of the great things about ASB is that it brings together folks from a variety of different majors and backgrounds to collaborate on a specific goal of carrying out an awesome event or producing an insightful *Clocktower* issue. Those teamwork elements were highly transferable into my current role as I work with team members from many different disciplines (clinical, operational, development, etc.) to create solutions and better meet the needs of our patients." **A**

Autumn Mott is a junior communications major from Massachusetts.



photo: Scott Culman/Union College

Professor's advice leads to international relations career

By Autumn Mott '19

“Every morning I read the *Wall Street Journal* and thank Barry Forbes.”

Laine Milburn, 2016 business administration graduate, is a development assistant at the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, an international relations think tank in Washington, DC. The oldest in the United States, Carnegie's mission is to bring about global peace through research and collaboration with government officials and businesses.

After graduation, Milburn didn't have a job lined up, so she went to her network. “Barry Forbes and Jon Turk always stressed the importance of building your network,” said Milburn. “I met with several people, told them I was looking for internships, and landed a post at Population Council. They created a position for me as a business development intern.” The Population Council researches critical health and development issues around the world. For two months Milburn worked with the business development team drafting proposals, creating and editing supporting documents such as capability statements, past performances, and knowledge management material.

Soon after, Milburn became an intern in the development office and president's office at the Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS). “It was honestly the best internship I ever had,” she said. CSIS is a nonprofit research organization that provides strategic insights and policy solutions to decisionmakers around the world. “It was really interesting to see how a nonprofit is run: the internal operations as well as the external face of the organization,” recalled Milburn. “Working with the development staff to support current partnerships and prospect new partnerships gave me opportunities to attend and coordinate logistics for high level meetings.”

By the time her internship at CSIS ended, Milburn knew she wanted to continue working in the foreign policy universe. “I met with quite a few people from my network and gained an idea of where to strategically apply during this time of funding being cut at different organizations,” she said. “I applied at Carnegie, got an interview, and the next day I was

offered the job. It helps to have great recommendations.”

Looking back on her time at Union, Milburn spoke fondly of her classes in the business division. “Business Policies with Barry [Forbes] was my all-time favorite class,” she said. “Every morning he'd have us do this *Wall Street Journal* thing, and we didn't know who he would choose, so we had to read the *WSJ* and pick an article that we would then present to the class in 30 seconds. It really taught me to pay attention to what's going on in the world. It's helped me a lot where I am now; I still do it every morning.” **A**

Autumn Mott is a junior communications major from Massachusetts.



photo: Ryan Teller/Union College

“Wherever I am”

Union’s International Rescue and Relief Program creates opportunities for service on campus and around the world

By Stefani Leeper '17

It’s a devastating moment: watching your home burn, seeing smoke billow from a house filled with your possessions and memories. While the firefighters extinguish the flames, Union College students rekindle hope. At all hours of the day and night, students respond to calls to help with food, clothing, shelter and other necessities. Sometimes their greatest duty is to simply remind someone in the midst of trauma that they aren’t alone.

Begun by the international rescue and relief program (IRR), Union College’s Red Cross Club includes students majoring in many different fields who work with the American Red Cross to provide disaster response, prevention and training in Lincoln. During the school year, the students are on call one week out of every month.

“We might be called to do something as simple as offering hot chocolate, water, or coffee to the firefighters,” said Rick Young, IRR program director and club sponsor. “We might also be called to help displaced clients, getting them a place to stay, taking care

of their pets—whatever is needed for that family to get through the crisis. We have also opened Red Cross shelters to house the displaced, and we conduct damage assessment.”

The Red Cross Club keeps its members busy during those on-call weeks. Young estimated the club averages four calls per week, but has responded to as many as 12 emergencies in a week.

An especially memorable call for Young involved a house fire. The family of six had nowhere to go. The club members tended to them, offering blankets and stuffed animals, filling out paperwork, and finding them a hotel to stay in for the next several days. On another occasion, he and the students opened a shelter for 76 victims of a tornado. “The thanks we get from the children and families when we’re there to support them is very rewarding,” Young said.

Jessica Santee, a 2017 graduate, recalled another instance in which the club responded to a local fire. “In just one day, we set up a mock shelter and aid station for some potential sponsors, then

afterwards, we received a call to a fire in an apartment complex. We checked the residents to see if they were okay, chatted with them, and even made some of the elderly residents smile."

The Red Cross Club is just one of the ways the IRR Program puts students to work in the community. The program has also made Union's campus available as a venue for training simulations. Local professionals such as doctors, nurses, and physician assistants can renew their CPR training or federal emergency management agency (FEMA) training through the IRR Program. Other opportunities on campus include training in flood water management, special event and evacuation training exercises, all-hazard preparedness, and public information management.

IRR also works closely with the Lincoln fire and police departments, practicing skills in disaster response. In annual on-campus drills, students and first responders face simulations such as a collapsed roof or active shooter. Additionally, IRR's EMT program works with disaster managers from Lancaster County, and canine search and rescue provide demonstrations for the students.

The bonds forged between IRR and local professionals have opened up internship and career opportunities for students at Lincoln Fire and Rescue, Lincoln Police Department, Red Cross, Lancaster County Disaster Management and Nebraska Emergency Management.

Mission History

In the beginning, the purpose of the IRR program was to build missionaries. Initially led by Dr. Michael Duehrssen and Doug Tallman, the program launched in 2004 with a curriculum designed to direct students' spirit of adventure into serving others using rescue, survival and aid techniques.

Six years ago, Young—who previously spent 32 years in law enforcement—took over the program leadership with a goal of incorporating more career opportunities to help students find paths to the jobs of their choice. A unique aspect to the major is that it's designed to incorporate anything the student finds of interest, and it can match their passion with minors and emphases.

"When I learned about IRR and all the emphases it offered, I saw my opportunity to get the best of both worlds, as well as a unique skill set," said Gabby Vizcarra, a senior IRR major. "I plan on going to graduate school to study medicine. My main goal is to use the skills I learned and the connections I make as a student to find more opportunities working internationally. With the skills I learn in IRR, I know I'll be better able to help people physically, mentally and ultimately, spiritually."

Jonatan Rojas, an IRR program alumnus, is currently finishing his second year as a medical school student at Loma Linda University. He said, "I chose IRR

because of the hands-on experience I would get in patient care and international development. There have already been countless situations where I have been able to draw on something I learned or experienced with IRR to deal with a question or problem that's come up in medical school."

One such moment happened during his semester abroad in Nicaragua in 2014. A mother brought Rojas her severely dehydrated three-year-old. He is certain that if his team had not been there, the child would have died.

"We were hands-on with the people every day," said Santee of her own experience last spring in Nicaragua. "We made connections with people who needed some love and attention. That experience solidified for me my desire to serve hands-on in the local community wherever I am. The IRR program gave me those opportunities in so many ways." **A**

Stefani Leeper graduated in May 2017 with a degree in communication.

International rescue and relief students connect with the community in many ways—including installing smoke detectors in homes around Lincoln as Brandon Peters and Dmitri Mankarios did with Union's Red Cross Club (facing page) and by bringing local public safety officers to campus for training, drills and demonstrations (below).

photo: Steve Nazario/Union College





photo: Steve Nazario/Union College

PREVIEWING LIFE AT UNION

by Autumn Mott

"When I was a prospective student I went to Preview Days, and that is what truly solidified my decision to attend Union College," said Meredith Nichols, a 2017 international rescue and relief graduate. "I had a hands-down awesome time learning about Union and getting a small glimpse into the life of a Union College student. If I hadn't attended Preview Days I don't think I would have attended Union College."

Campus visits have proven to be the most effective way to recruit new students to Union. In fact, one of every three students who visits will enroll. And nobody is more important to a successful campus visit than the student ambassadors.

"I remember the first time I came to preview Union," said Daniel Ikpeama, a 2017 music performance graduate. "At the time, it never really clicked for me—all that influence the ambassadors had—until I myself was an ambassador."

Student ambassadors are the first faces prospective students see when they arrive on campus for Preview Days. Daniel Ikpeama and Meredith Nichols both worked as student ambassadors.

For the past seven years, Union has hosted five Preview Days events each school year. During Preview Days, high school juniors and seniors get to live with students in the residence halls, attend and interact in classes, talk with their future professors, participate in student body events, and explore the wonderful city of Lincoln.

"We've given a lot of thought as to why we do each thing, and what we hope to accomplish," said Rachael Boyd, who is the campus visit coordinator for Union College and directs the student ambassador program.

The ambassadors are students recruited each semester from a variety of academic programs. They are trained on how to give campus tours, they become familiar with all aspects of the college, and they learn how to evaluate prospective students. At the biannual training there's special emphasis on diplomacy and sensitivity to others.

"It was fun to hang out with the ambassadors when I visited campus," said Ikpeama. "It was super fun to not only check out the

campus, but also to go downtown Lincoln and see all the different things one could do."

On Friday afternoons, Preview Days students explore downtown Lincoln. Along with the essential tour of the capitol building, students also visit a local ice cream shop in the iconic Haymarket, and see other places that Union students frequent.

"We want to show them that, no, Union isn't in the middle of a cornfield. There are fun things to do," said Boyd.

Although many Preview Days students are from academies in the Mid-America Union, there are visiting students from all across the country and around the world.

"Some of the people I met during Preview Days were major influences in my decision to come to Union," recalled Ikpeama, "Of course I had friends who planned to attend and friends who were already here, but the ambassadors really solidified the decision."

Ambassadors have an opportunity to share the reasons why they love Union. "It's their job to help prospective students see what their own life is like at Union," said Boyd. "They don't sugarcoat things, but they help them see the best."

The program comprises 12–15 ambassadors at any given time. Many students love the job enough to return, but Boyd hires five to seven new ambassadors every semester.

"As a student I was able to work as an ambassador for three semesters," said Nichols. "Being able to meet new people and share my love of Union with them was a great opportunity. As an ambassador I learned about all the different programs on campus and saw the great variety of degrees Union offers to its student body."

Each Preview Days event brings between 50–75 prospective students to campus, which



allows the ambassadors quality one-on-one time with every student.

"I think my favorite part of being a student ambassador was talking to prospective students and their parents who were not Adventist," recalled Nichols. "I was able to talk to them and give them my perspective as a student who comes from a different faith tradition."

"I've built relationships with people, become friends with students I wouldn't have otherwise, and I enjoyed representing the school," said Ikpeama. "It gives you a really great opportunity to influence people, and when you see those people you told, 'Hey, you should come here for this,' and they do come here you realize, 'Oh, I definitely had a hand in that decision!'"

During Preview Days, students often ask ambassadors about their favorite thing about Union. Oftentimes this question reveals reasons the ambassadors hadn't thought about before. For Ikpeama, putting his answer into words changed his whole outlook on Union, "One of the biggest reasons I love Union is

that pretty much everything, everywhere on campus is student led," he explained. "And your professors will help you pursue your goals and give you all the resources to do so. You only need to ask. It makes a big difference in your experience when you realize you can do that."

Ikpeama plans to pursue a master's in choral conducting at the University of Nebraska—Lincoln. "Anything I've tried to do, the faculty backed me 100 percent," he said. "It's helped me figure out job opportunities, and helped me find good experience! They've helped prepare me for the next step in my education—all because of that question while I was an ambassador."

Nichols is completing an internship with the emergency manager in Custer County, Neb., and plans to pursue a master's in global health. "Being a recent graduate, I look back on my time at Union, and a lot of joy-filled memories are when I was an ambassador." **A**

Autumn Mott is a junior communications major from Massachusetts.



Photos: Steve Nason/Union College

Union College hosts five Preview Days events each year where hundreds of high school students from around the country experience a taste of college life and Lincoln—all for free.



Photo: Dev Halam/Union College

Preview Days invitation

There are five Preview Days weekends throughout the school year. If you are an out of state visitor, you could qualify for a \$250 travel reimbursement. In order to receive the reimbursement, the prospective student needs to apply to Union, send in their transcripts 10 days prior to visiting, and have a 2.5+ GPA. You can learn more and register at www.ucollege.edu/visit.

SMALLER CAN BE BETTER

by Natalie Barahona Bruzon '16

When Debbie Pinto Campos '17 arrived at Union College to study elementary education, she knew only about public schools. From first through twelfth grade, Campos attended local public schools and couldn't imagine what a classroom with God in it looked like.

But being at Union and then student teaching at George Stone Elementary School changed all that. Union's unique, on-campus elementary school brings students from the Lincoln community into a multigrade classroom that allows student teachers like Campos to experience life in a small Christian school.

"I've learned that I can't imagine teaching without God in the picture," Campos said. "Teaching can come with its challenges, but when you can openly talk about God with the kids, it opens a door to a special relationship with your kids. You're no longer only a teacher to them but a child of God, just like them—ultimately we're all trying to get through life and to heaven. It's crazy!"

Before her George Stone experience, Campos couldn't see the value in a small school. "Because I was raised in public school, I saw small academies as a hindrance to one's education," she explained. "Teaching at George Stone demonstrated to me the benefits of not only a small classroom but also a multigrade classroom."

Education majors begin observing in the George Stone classroom their freshman year, and then teach a variety of classes to students in grades one through eight throughout their curriculum. "We really benefit from George Stone," Campos emphasized. "As early as the sophomore year, education students have the opportunity to teach children at George Stone. They become familiar with classroom routines, child development and teaching responsibilities early in the program. Lead teachers Jackie Simpson and Jeannie

Kriegelstein are incredibly experienced mentors."

For Campos, George Stone provided an opportunity for her to grow—and sometimes fail—all in a safe environment.

"Because it's a teaching laboratory, we have a personal space where we can build our confidence. It sounds funny, but we learn to fail well," said Campos. "Education majors have the chance to become accustomed to all age groups and learn how to develop trusting relationships with their students. It's a safe zone where the lead teachers are intentional about mentoring college students and we can practice all of our creative ideas."

The opportunity to become familiar with a God-centered classroom structure changed Campos' career path from an aspiring public school teacher to an Adventist school advocate. The experiences she had at George Stone shaped her into the teacher she is today. Some of her favorite memories are the times she could point her students to Jesus.

"I had a student who was having a hard time staying focused and because it was one of my first teaching experiences I felt a bit discouraged," Campos remembered. She felt like a failure because she couldn't hold the child's interest. "Then one day during a reading project, I started asking him about his life. Soon we were exchanging funny stories and I could tell he was beginning to trust me," she remembered.

At a pause in the conversation, Campos could tell the boy wanted to asked a question, but hesitated. "What's up?" she asked.

"Mrs. Debbie," he asked. "Do you think my grandpa will be in heaven?"



photo: Steve Naranjo/Union College

Debbie Pinto Campos learned the value of Adventist education through teaching kids from the community in Union's on-campus elementary school.

"If your grandpa loved Jesus, then He [Jesus] will want your grandpa in heaven," she replied.

The boy smiled. "Do you think I will be in heaven?"

"Do you love Jesus?"

The boy nodded.

"Then I know you'll be in heaven," she answered.

"I can't wait to see you there!" the boy said with a broad smile.

Now Campos will use the skills she learned from those George Stone students to teach in her own classroom at Buena Vista Academy in Auburn, Wash.

"If I've taken anything from George Stone, it's confidence," she said. "I have a better understanding of who I am as a teacher and what I want my vision and goals to be. Of course we'll always be learning and growing but I feel I was given a launching pad that taught me not only to be an elementary teacher but a holistic and spiritual elementary teacher." **A**

Natalie Baharona Bruzon '16 works at on the staff of a family magazine in California.

CONNECTING ON A PERSONAL LEVEL THROUGH CUSTOMIZED FITNESS

Health and human performance majors learn life lessons by teaching the Lincoln community about fitness and wellness.

by Natalie Barahona Bruzon '16

The pool and weight rooms at Larson Lifestyle Center provide a place for students to take a break from studies or get serious about fitness. Union's fitness center also provides a significant connection to the community by providing swimming lessons to more than 3,000 kids and water fitness classes to more than 500 community residents each year.

For health and human performance graduate Spencer Curtis, the many community residents who use Larson Lifestyle Center provided an excellent opportunity to gain practical experience by helping clients learn to be physically fit.

Curtis, who worked as a personal trainer until he graduated in May 2015, said that one of the most important lessons he learned while working at Larson Lifestyle Center was how to treat each person who walked in the door as a valued individual.

"A professional skill I believe is very valuable was getting to know the community members on a first-name basis—showing them that

you remember their name, talking to them and learning something about their life," said Curtis. "Building rapport with people in any setting goes such a long way, and for some can be the difference between choosing to go to one facility over another. What stands out most is the look of surprise on peoples' faces when you remember their name out of the hundreds of people who come through the center."

Like Curtis, Devin Alexander, senior Fitness and Health studies major, said that connecting with people at Larson as a personal trainer and receptionist has been one of the highlights of his time studying at Union.

Alexander said the skills he has learned while working at Larson have played an invaluable role in helping him decide his career path.

"I learned to be appreciative of the time I

have together with people," Alexander said. "I try to be a friend to all who come into the building. I sometimes join the water aerobics class to have more time talking with them while exercising."

Alexander's zeal for fitness reaches beyond exercise science—he has developed a passion for the people he works with every day. During the time he has worked at Larson, Alexander has grown as a personal trainer, learning to love his clients and reach out to them in a personalized way.

"My time as a personal trainer at Larson has taught me that when I perform exercises alongside my clients, they know I'm not only telling them how things should be done, but I am willing to be on the same level," Alexander said. "As a leader, no matter what field I go into, it is important for me to be right there along with everyone else so that they know I care."

For both Curtis and Alexander, working at Larson helped shape them into professionals.

Following his graduation, Curtis became a personal trainer at a local YMCA.

"After I graduated, I worked at the Cooper YMCA in Lincoln for a few months before moving back to my hometown in Montana," said Curtis. "I worked there as a personal trainer, so all of the practical skills I learned as a Union student came into play—programming workouts, performing health assessments, teaching classes, stretching and providing wellness tips."

Alexander will graduate in May 2018 and hopes to study pediatric occupational therapy.

"One of the most important things I have learned from working at Larson is to always have fun in everything you do," he said. "Larson has meant more to me than I can put into words and I am grateful for the support that I have. It continues to motivate me to become the best I can be." **A**

While working as a personal trainer, Spencer Curtis learned the value of treating each person as an individual.

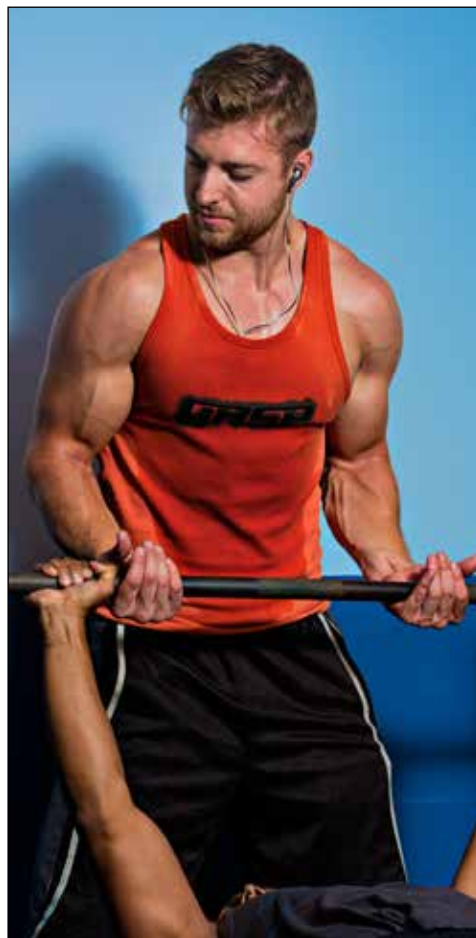


photo: Scott Gushman/Union College

An Oasis of Hospitality and Home:

The Ortner Center Brings the Community to Campus

by Lauren Bongard Schwarz '04

Union may be the center of the universe for those who live and work there, but it isn't always on the radar of people living in and visiting Lincoln. The Ortner Center, which opened on Union's campus in 2004, has changed that for many individuals and groups.



Photo: Steve Nazzari/Union College

Union has a history of taking itself into the community, but the Ortner Center's 14 guest rooms, conference facilities, and 24-hour welcome center have created an avenue to bring the community to campus.

Groups including the Nebraska LEAD Program, Vibrational Sound Association, The Mandt System, and Nebraska Association of Service Providers hold regular meetings on campus. Nebraska State Senator Kate Bolz, who represents Union's district in the state legislature, hosts town hall meetings in the Ortner Center.

While some groups were meeting on campus before the Ortner Center opened, once the college had a conference center and hotel space, the new facilities changed the face of on-campus hospitality. "The Ortner Center has helped introduce people from all over to our campus," said LuAnn Davis, vice president for Advancement. "They may not have known Union College existed or the mission we represent, but they come here for meetings and enjoy their time here. We're educating them about Union one person at a time."

Along with guests for Union-centered events such as Parents Weekend, Homecoming and graduation, the Ortner Center regularly hosts individuals who are in town for family reunions, weddings, and funerals. Professionals attending satellite summer classes hosted by other Adventist colleges on Union's campus, parents of students attending other local colleges, and even out-of-towners traveling through Lincoln and looking for a quiet place to stay the night have found Union's campus to be an oasis.

"We hear a lot of positive comments about our students," Davis said. "Because the Ortner

Center is such a public space, it really helps create the Union College brand. The students who work there and the service orientation of the Ortner Center are part of that brand."

College View residents have also felt the difference. At the first open houses for the Ortner Center, Sharon Russell, former guest services director, said community members told her they felt welcome on campus in a way they hadn't before. "From the early days, there was no central place for meetings or community gatherings. Now, there is a place where the community feels welcomed and accepted." She tells of a neighborhood resident who rents rooms in the Ortner Center for extended family every Thanksgiving. "It's good for the community and good for campus. It gives us the opportunity to show what Union College is all about."

A Home Away From Home

Before the Ortner Center, prospective students and their parents often stayed in hotels across town. Large school groups were hosted in the dorms, and sponsors often found themselves sleeping on dorm floors or bunking with students. But those days are long gone.

"The Ortner Center is a huge part of the campus visit program, which has grown over the years. Students can stay in the dorms, and parents stay in the Ortner Center," said Davis.

"That helps create a campus experience for parents and sponsors who are here with prospective students."



photo: Steve Nazario/Union College

Campus visit coordinator Rachael Boyd confirms that. "Having the Ortner Center facilities available elevates the professionalism of our visit program," she says. The front desk at Ortner is a great help for visitors. Before, parents and sponsors might have had to go to a hotel—a place that doesn't have the Union spirit—and they were separated from their kids. It's a big win for us to have the Ortner Center for parents and sponsors. They can be close to their kids yet still give them privacy and freedom."

Benefits to Students

Employment opportunities at Ortner are also a benefit to Union's students. The facility employs approximately 13 students during the school year and seven full-time students during summers.

"The students who work here are hospitality specialists," said guest services director Marcia Nordmeyer '07. She joined the Union College staff in November 2014, and now, she says, she has her dream job, helping visitors feel at home and helping students hone their hospitality skills. "They get hands-on experience with service and learn to expect the unexpected. This job gives them a chance to exercise their communication muscles. The most practical learning is how to treat people well, communicate directions, find information

A team of students—such as Perla Suarez, a May 2017 graduate—help create a positive experience for guests as they handle the daily operations of the Ortner Center, Union's hotel and conference center.

when someone has questions you can't answer, and above all, look for ways to help people."

Because the Ortner Center functions as a hotel, Nordmeyer was able to join the Lincoln Lodging Association and create one more tie between Union and the larger community.

Seasoned Ortner Center student employee Stefani Leeper graduated in May 2017 with a B.A. in communication with emphases in emerging media and journalism. Working at the Ortner Center taught her valuable lessons she says she can apply to her professional goals. "As a small hotel, we deal with customers on a daily basis," she said. "That's taught me patience and interpersonal skills." Training new employees, delegating tasks, taking initiative, and staying busy are other skills she's strengthened. She added, "Hospitality applies to everything in our daily interactions."

Lacey Rodriguez, psychology major and current Ortner Center employee, adds, "The Ortner Center has provided me with real-world job experience. We deal with people of different backgrounds; talking with them is a unique experience. I've built my communication skills and learned to humble myself to bring hospitality to people who visit campus."

Sharon Russell, who served as the center's first guest services director from 2004-2014, says that during her tenure she often heard from guests how special Union College students are. She shares that when Alvin Ortner first approached the school about giving a gift, his hope was that the school could use the funds to create a building that would open up the campus to the community so the community could see the kind of students who attended Union. "We are stewards of that gift and the gifts of so many of our alumni," she said. "The Bible talks a lot about hospitality and how we are to be God's hands and feet, participating in taking care of others. The Ortner Center is just one more way Union College meets that mission." **A**

Lauren Bongard Schwarz '04 is a freelance writer in Bozeman, Mont.



The Adv



"To do meaningful work you have to remember you are doing it for Him."

The right college job goes beyond having money for bills, a date or a fun weekend. It also means more than a few lines of "relevant experience" on your resume.

As Union College students who have worked at AdventSource can tell you, finding a great job as a student can be an amazing compliment to a fulfilling college experience and can help catapult them to future career success.

Located on Union's campus for 30 years, AdventSource has served as the official supplier of Adventist ministry resources for Pathfinders and a range of other church ministries.

Former student worker and Union alumnus Jamie Roberts '15 described AdventSource as "the premier provider of ministry-based services and products that touch many parts of the world. Your Pathfinder honors? AdventSource. Your church QuickStart guides? AdventSource. Your school and church websites? AdventSource."

Adventist Amazon

Or, as Martha Hornung '07 said, it's like "Adventist Amazon."

AdventSource serves Adventists in North America and employs more than 25 full-time employees and nearly 30 college students to create, print and ship resources, act as customer service reps, run an event management service and operate the Adventist church's official church and school website provider.

For Monica Pervis, who graduated from Union in May 2016 with a computing degree, AdventSource meant so much more than simply a job.

Union student Marveen Gentillon helps produce resources—including shrink wrapping books and DVDs.

photos: Steve Nuccio/Union College

AdventSource: The Student-Friendly Amazon

supplies students with meaningful work and life lessons

by Bjorn Karlman

"Good mentors make a world of difference," she said. "I had people at AdventSource I could go to for advice for both my career and life in general. They were invaluable to me as I navigated my way through college and into the 'real world.'"

Pervis worked as an IT intern and said the network she built, along with her job experience, ultimately enabled her to find the occupation she is in now. She is a PC technician at Shawnee Mission Medical Center in the Kansas City area.

At its core, AdventSource is valuable to students who work there because it makes for meaningful and useful work.

"AdventSource is a great place for student development. Unlike many internships (where coffee making is implied in the job description), AdventSource provides projects and responsibilities that make a tangible impact—an impact that truly touches the world," said Roberts, now a senior financial analyst for Florida Hospital Central Region.

Hornung worked as a production and order technician while at AdventSource. She said she learned the value of teamwork by assisting with printing resources, assembling products and packing and shipping merchandise to clients.

She is now a benefits specialist at Nebraska-based Bryan Health. Asked if there was a principle, job tip or other nugget of wisdom she had learned at AdventSource that she still uses today, Hornung responded, "Service, service, service!"

She explained that it meant "making sure the person next to me (whether a coworker or client) is served first and well. This principle learned is a mirror example of what Jesus said: 'Take care of my sheep.'"

Student initiative also thrives there. Steve Creitz, a senior illustrator at Justinen Creative Group in Caldwell, Idaho, worked for the organization 30 years ago airbrushing Sabbath School felts.

"I was working doing piece work and figured I could do it MUCH faster if I talked my roommate into screen printing the designs onto mat board, which I was then able to cut out to make stencils and quickly blow through my stack of felts," Creitz recalled. "Soon all the others wanted me to make stencils for them as well."

Lelis Jiminez Guardado graduated from Union in May 2017 and now works full-time in the communication department at AdventSource.

photo: Steve Nazario/Union College



Top: AdventSource accountant Bradley Senecal '06 oversees Union College student Sunwoo Jang's work in the financial office.

Middle: Pickers like Union student Beshoy Fakhry pull items from the shelves to fill orders.

Bottom: Union student Jenna Griffith packs orders and prepares them for shipment.



The organization also helps students gain a broader perspective. Take Nate Johnson '07 and '12 graduate, who was hired by AdventSource as a sophomore in high school.

His first duties involved screen-printing scarves and shirts for Eager Beaver, Adventurer and Pathfinder uniforms.

"It was time for my first performance review and my supervisor, Mike Luke, asked me how I thought I contributed to the company. I started out saying 'Well, I'm just a screen-printer,' and he stopped me there, pointing out that I wasn't just a screen-printer but I was part of something much bigger," said Johnson. "I was part of AdventSource."

All work and no play?

Of course, time spent there is not all work and no play.

"Anyone who knew me during my time there knew that I LOVED the movie 'Top Gun,'" said Johnson, who now works as a computer systems coordinator at Olsson Associates, an engineering firm in Lincoln, Neb. "So when it came time for me to leave AdventSource in 2007 they made me a cake and printed a picture of Tom Cruise from the movie. Everyone there signed it and that was very special to me."

Pervis recalled a time when she and her co-worker celebrated their birthdays during one of the international Pathfinder Camporees in Oshkosh, Wis. "Another co-worker brought a 'Happy Birthday' banner so we could have a birthday celebration every night at supper; half the week for each birthday," she said. "Last I knew the birthday banner was still being passed around."




Other things keep making the rounds

Jason Burke '15 remembered a practical joke that ran between the IT and accounting departments. The prank involved a picture of a surprised man's face that was hidden in various places and bounced back and forth between IT and accounting.

Burke, who now works for BNSF Railway, also enjoyed persistent efforts by one staff member to "find soulmates for single interns."

Even if staff missions to help you find the love of your life are unsuccessful, working at AdventSource will still leave you with something special. A common thread arose in student recollections of their time at AdventSource: Working there had spiritual significance.

Roberts said the main lesson he learned at AdventSource was:

"To do meaningful work you have to remember you are doing it for Him." 

Bjorn Karlman is a blogger and freelance writer for a variety of Adventist publications.



photos: Steve Nazario/Union College



Share a Piece of History with Future Generations

Join us for a dedication service for Union College's new front entrance at the corner of 48th and Prescott Streets—the final event in Union's 125 birthday celebration.

This new entrance will provide a front door to campus—a welcoming point for visitors to enter and will increase the visibility of our college to fellow Lincolmites who pass by our campus every day.

During the dedication service, we will bury a time capsule near the new entrance which will contain messages from Union College students, employees, alumni and friends.

Would you like to share a piece of history with the future? Fill out and send in the postage paid card or visit **www.ucollege.edu/timecapsule**

We (and future generations) look forward to hearing from you.

September 30, 2017 at 4:00 p.m.

What should you share? Whatever you want. Here are some ideas:

- What made you decide to come to Union?
- What happened in your life today?
- What are your greatest concerns for 2017 or 2018?
- Tell stories of your life at Union.
- Share a recipe.
- Describe a favorite teacher, class or project.
- How did you first hear about Union?
- Who was your first college crush?

Prescott Street between the College View Church and Carnegie Building.

MORE THAN A HILL OF PEANUTS

How a small plot of land in Nebraska
has touched an entire state

by Mike Mennard

It was cold. Snow hid the muck of the dirt roads as a small committee of dreamers plodded south in horse-drawn sleighs, burdened with a sense of urgency. They were in search of land for a new college. Having just arrived in Lincoln, Neb., by train, they boarded the sleighs and headed out into the country toward a promising plot.

January hardly seemed the ideal month to assess a plot of land in Nebraska, especially in 1890. And yet, proponents of a “western school” had managed a huge victory in persuading the church to start another school in the Midwest, along with Battle Creek College in Michigan.

Initially, church leaders opposed the idea. Professor William W. Prescott, one of the leading educators in the early church, feared there weren’t enough quality teachers to support another school. Even Ellen White, usually an enthusiastic supporter of educational expansion, worried a bit about the church’s financial resources being spread too thin between two schools. She argued initially for “one well-equipped and properly managed” school instead.

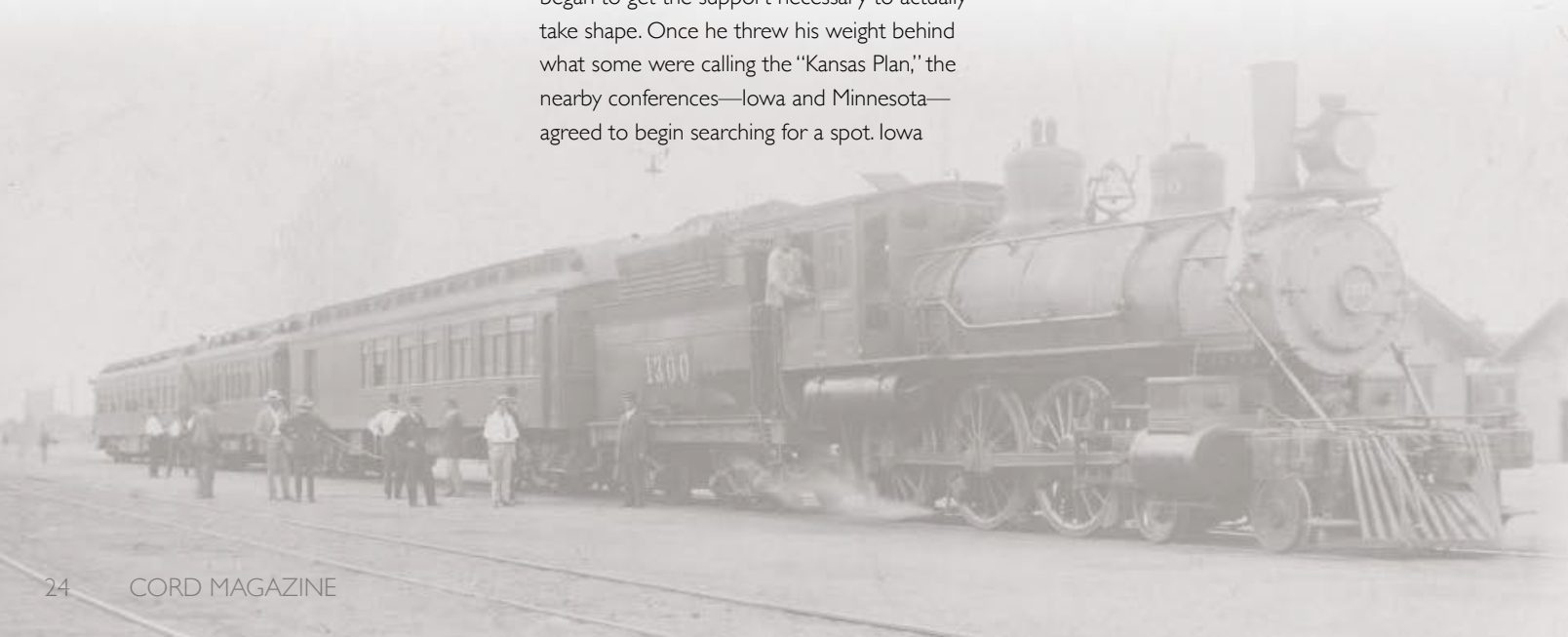
But it wasn’t until Professor Prescott at last caught fire of the western school idea, arguing that Battle Creek College could not accommodate everyone who wanted an Adventist education, that the idea of a Midwest school began to get the support necessary to actually take shape. Once he threw his weight behind what some were calling the “Kansas Plan,” the nearby conferences—Iowa and Minnesota—agreed to begin searching for a spot. Iowa

Conference in particular seemed enthusiastic, as it wanted the school to land in their state.

The urgency of that sleigh-riding committee lay in its fear that interest in a second school might wane. The initial mandate from church leaders to start another school seemed half-hearted at best. They needed to move fast.

Few remember today that Union College almost took root in Des Moines, Iowa. Des Moines—and its realtors—made a passionate plea to the young church, offering a developing region far superior to other Western states. However, another resourceful band of realtors from Lincoln discovered choice land located outside of the city, and not far from the railroad.

The Lincoln plot of land sat on a hill, the highest point in the surrounding area. At the top of the hill, the committee could look in all directions for miles. There were almost no trees, except for a few small locust trees and cottonwoods.





Elder L.A. Hoopes, chair of the committee, instantly fell in love with the spot. He was so excited, he announced with the heel of his boot the precise location of the College Building—with almost prophetic accuracy.

Though the property sat outside of Lincoln, the *Daily Nebraska State Journal* all but guaranteed the committee would adore the spot. Its editors, pleading with the committee to at least visit the site, said if they didn't like it, they could "carry away the dome of the state house" as an ornament.

The committee loved the spot, and the capitol dome remains.

The final vote among the eight voting members of the committee went for Lincoln over Des Moines—5 to 2, with one vote abstaining. As a side note, the Iowa Conference took the news disappointingly. It had, after all, worked hard for the school to be established in its state and paid out a whopping \$1,314.86 for the selection process, only to have the school land in its neighboring state Nebraska.

What Lincoln locals foresaw—perhaps better than the Adventists themselves—is the boon a new college would be for everyone in the region. Indeed, they couldn't imagine the impact.

The Entrepreneurial Peanut

With the creation of the Nebraska Sanitarium on Union College's campus in 1895, Lincoln's Adventists had better access to the health foods John Harvey Kellogg and other Adventist doctors were promoting at the time, including granola, lentils, imitation meat products and peanut butter. From letters sent by early students, we know these products were not uniformly appreciated in the dining hall, but peanuts—a novelty outside of the South—left a lasting impression.

David Weiss, one of those early students, created a peanut wholesale shop in College View around the turn of the century.

Freighting peanuts from the South via train, Weiss supplied the legumes roasted, raw or made into peanut butter not only to Lincoln, but throughout Nebraska.

The peanut health craze not only fed the campus, it employed it, tapping into an entrepreneurial spirit. Often on Sunday afternoons, Lincoln locals would ride into the College View railroad station, take the trolley up 48th, and picnic on the hill. The campus was beautiful, like a park, with the grounds kept up by students. As families picnicked, resourceful young boys sold bags of peanuts.

The business venture spread. By 1900 at the nearby Lincoln baseball park, only a trolley ride away, boys could be heard shouting "Candy to eat! Gum to chew! And roasted peanuts from College View!" as they walked the grandstands.

About the only peanuts left today on Peanut Hill are those sold in either the Campus Store or Union Market. It seems fitting the men's residence hall sits atop the peak of Peanut Hill. Importantly, the enterprising legacy of the little legume survives to this day.

The view from College View

It's a curious thing that no one seems to know when or where the name Union College came about. No minutes survive of a vote or even of a discussion on the topic. Dr. Everett Dick, longtime school historian, believed the name came about organically during the search process, and that none thought to question it at the founding.

The first official statement of the name came from Professor Prescott, who would serve as the school's first president. He matter-of-factly announced the name to residents of Lincoln at a meeting of local realtors called the Real Estate Exchange. But it was at this same meeting that Prescott first announced the college's more intentional plan to call the small village around it College View. He assured the locals that the





College View Lumber and Coal Company opening day.



Union College broom shop (1899-1973)



International Publishing Association, Prescott Ave. (1898 -1985)



Union College furniture factory (1940-1981)

new college would not be isolated, but would be a friendly partner in the local economy. Many of the new shops in the small main street called Prescott Avenue were started by those associated with the college.

Prescott's promise to the locals has certainly proven true in the school's 125-year history. Union has never isolated itself, but has been an active member of the community.

As the college grew, so too, did College View. For nearly four decades, the little town operated with its own elected mayor and town council—all Adventists and associated with the college. The residents were mostly connected to the school in some way. The growing little town's trickiest issue, however, was always access to water. Many residents of the time recall water shortages and rationing, in spite of the large water tower. That is, until the City of Lincoln annexed the town in 1929, and subsequently tore down College View's water tower, building a pipeline to fresh water.

Some believe the timing of annexation was God-sent, as College View's water pipeline was completed in time for the coming Depression.

A worthy investment

In the earliest days of locating land for the new college, some landowners hiked prices as high as \$126 a plot—an outrageous sum. If the prospect of a new school had been kept more secret, the going rate of land was about \$65 a plot.

However, some local farmers, businessmen, and town folk generously sold land for less than the going rate around what would become the new college. Some even gave land away. This was, by no means, entirely altruistic. Farmers and businesspeople recognized the potential economic windfall from a thriving college. Incoming students meant consumers of crops, as well as prospective customers and employees. Students would become teachers, shopkeepers, tradesmen and builders. Locals saw the gifts as an investment. What's more, educated students might be enticed to stay, raise families, and contribute to the culture of the area.

This is an investment that has proven itself valuable a thousand times over to this day. Each year, according to a 2006 Creighton University study, Union College contributes approximately \$40 million to the state economy—a number that has, no doubt, risen. Perhaps even more significant, Union brings brain power to the state. The vast majority of students (more than 81 percent) come from out-of-state—or country—and yet an extraordinarily high percentage remain in the state to raise families and work.

A friend to Lincoln and beyond

Today, though Union College is small when compared to large corporations and universities in and around Lincoln, it's almost impossible to imagine the city without it. Lincoln grew up fast, and Union contributed to that. It still does.

But what started on a little hill of peanuts is not only vital to students, but a blessing to the city and the state it calls home. **A**

Acknowledgements:

Special thanks to the Union College Heritage Room. Much of this history comes from Everett Dick's unpublished lecture notes, his wonderful book Union: College of the Golden Cords, J. Sterling Morton's out-of-print History of Nebraska from 1918, and unpublished interviews from alumni.

Mike Mennard is a musician, writer and adjunct professor of English and history at Union College.

CORD MAGAZINE

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('67) denotes last year attended or preferred class year

1940s

William Elder ('44) spent his 100th birthday doing what he loves—talking to the congregation at the Banning Seventh-day Adventist Church on Sabbath, January 14. He said, "Well, it's humbling, very humbling to think that God would give me an extension of life." Born on a farm in Salina, Kan., to William and Una Elder; he was one of eight children. At about age 16, he decided he wanted to be a pastor but didn't have money to go to school. He worked as a cashier in a grocery store for two years and drove a taxi for a year to earn money for college. He spent two years at Southwestern Junior College in Keene, Texas, and then attended Union College. He graduated from Pacific Union College and pastored in Louisiana, Arkansas, Colorado and Nebraska as well as held administrative positions in several conference offices.

Ken Burden '48 celebrated his 90th birthday on Nov. 20, 2016, at the Chehalis, Wash., church. He was born in the old Resthaven Sanitarium on Vancouver Island, British Columbia, Canada, where his dad was a physician. The family moved to Colorado, and he graduated from Campion Academy and Union College in 1948. He met **Clarita Kaufman ('48)** while in college and they were married soon after completing their schooling there. After Ken graduated with a degree in medicine from Loma Linda University, the couple began a 12-year term of mission service in Puerto Rico. Since retiring he has done short-term mission stints in Jamaica and Taiwan as well as 13 Maranatha trips. Since Clarita passed away, Ken has remained very

active, walking three miles a day and driving about 15,000 miles a year while eagerly awaiting Jesus' soon coming.

1970s

Rita Weisz '73 retired in October 2014 to allow her father to remain in his home as he battles with Alzheimer's. She was regional supervisor of child welfare services for an eleven-county region for the last 25 years. She received the North Dakota Children and Family Based Association Award for services to children and families, the Charles Hall Youth Services "Living the Message" Award, and the Ruth Meiers Award for service to Children and Services in North Dakota.

1990s

Terry Forde '93, president and CEO of Adventist HealthCare was selected by the editors of *The Daily Record* to receive the 2017 Influential Marylander Award. Terry replied, "While I am honored to be recognized for this distinguished award, it is important to remember that all of the employees and physicians at Adventist HealthCare play a vital role in fulfilling our mission to extend God's care through the ministry of physical, mental and spiritual healing."

2000s

Kristina Beenken Johnson '05 recently joined Southern Utah University's center for Counseling and Psychological Services as a new dedicated psychologist and sexual violence prevention coordinator. She earned a Ph.D.

in counseling psychology from Andrews University and started her college counseling career while in graduate school at Andrews University's counseling center. She completed her pre-doctoral internship at Southern Utah University Counseling and Psychological Services and her post-doctoral internship at University of Wisconsin at La Crosse.



Kristina Beenken Johnson '05

2010s

Emily Carlson '10 is the newly appointed director of Undergraduate Leadership Development at Andrews University.



Emily Carlson '10

Publication policy

Personal submissions for publication from college alumni and friends will be printed at Union College's sole discretion. The college may choose not to publish any information that will conflict with the values of Union College and the Seventh-day Adventist Church.

BIRTHS |



*Children's children are
a crown to the aged, and
parents are the pride of their children.*

Proverbs 17:6 (NIV)



Aldrin Lee Ruckle was born July 6, 2016, to **Brian Ruckle '97** and Yuehong Li in Indianapolis, Ind. He joins sister, Elena, at home.



Don and **Christine Pfeiffer Allison '02** adopted Emma Joy on May 12, 2017 (born Feb. 10, 2014). She joined Hannah and Wesley at home in southwest Washington.



Michael '04 and **Amanda Sauder Maggard '04** and brother, Griffin, age 3, welcomed Landry Michael on November 2, 2016. The family lives in Apopka, Fla.



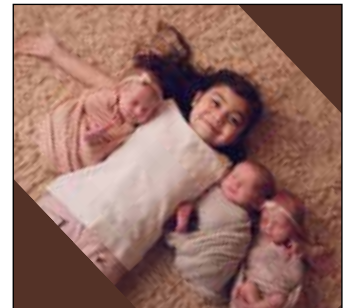
Ayden Will was born March 15, 2017, to **Shelly Wolfe Reding '06** and her husband Corey. He joined Ryder, seven, and Kylie, four, at home in Joplin, Mo.



Alex '07 and **Circle Lau Daubert '11** welcomed Evelyn Cawood on May 19, 2017. The family lives in Lincoln, Neb.



Brittini Brady Martin '08 and her husband, Will, welcomed Luke Christopher, born Jan. 8, 2017. They live in Sacramento, Calif.



Kyle '08 and **Brittanie Ladig Lehman '09** welcomed triplets Feb. 7, 2017—Adeline Mae, Lincoln Prescott and Claire Emeline. They join big sister Ellie, five, at home in Omaha, Neb.



Elliot John Shaw was born to **Esther Shields Shaw '08** and her husband, Tyson, on March 14, 2016. He joined big sister, Abigail, at home in Overland Park, Kan.



Dylan Wren '08 and his wife, **Brittany (current employee)**, welcomed Oliver James on Feb. 20, 2017. The family lives in Lincoln, Neb.



Matthew '10 and **Neisha Schumacher Emerson '10** welcomed Aveline Mia on April 27, 2017. She joins sister, Armani, two, at home in Dayton, Ohio.



Amelia Kay was born Dec. 21, 2016, to **Kay Sterndale Clark '14** and her husband, Jesse. The family lives in Wahoo, Neb.

| WEDDINGS



Alan Petersen '11 and **Hannah Scofield** were married March 19, 2017. They live in Grand Blanc, Mich., where he teaches math, science, P.E., Bible, technology and personal finance to grades 6-10 at Adelpia Junior Academy. They are spending the summer at Camp Winnekeag in Ashburnham, Mass., before Hannah begins her nursing career.



After a small ceremony with immediate family in 2016, **Devon Kittleson '14** and **Amber Alas '16** celebrated the wedding of their dreams on March 26, 2017. They live in Loma Linda, Calif., where Amber is a nurse in the neonatal intensive care unit at Loma Linda Children's Hospital. Devon earned a master of science degree in orthotics and prosthetics from Loma Linda University and is a resident at Johnson's Orthopedic.



Abner Campos '17 and **Debbie Pinto '17** were married May 21, 2017. Abner is an associate pastor at the Auburn City Adventist Church, and Debbie is a preschool teacher at Buena Vista Adventist School in Auburn, Wash.

IN MEMORY |



Union College was built on the strength and the sacrifice of those who have gone before. We thank God for the blessed hope that we will see them again soon.

Death dates and/or obituaries have been received for the following individuals.

1930s

George Greet ('36), Ten Sleep, Wyo., died Feb. 5, 2017, at age 102. He was born March 7, 1914, in Rochester, Minn., to Frand and Edna Pyle Greet. He graduated from Campion Academy before attending Union College. George met **Geneva Frimmel ('35)**, a teacher at the Ten Sleep Seventh-day Adventist School, at a church function. They married on May 18, 1938. He is survived by daughter, Bonita Drake; son, Tom; brother,



George Greet

photo: Steve Nazario/Union College

John; sister, Mary Egbert; seven grandchildren, 14 great-grandchildren and one great-great-grandchild.

Alice Crabtree Gregory ('37), Tucson, Ariz., died Feb. 18, 2017, at age 102. She was born on Nov. 20, 1914, the oldest of four children. She obtained a teaching certificate after completing high school and taught in several one-room country schools. While teaching school, Alice met Rich Gregory, and they were married April 25, 1939. After raising five children on the family farm near St. Francis, Kan., she completed her college education and taught for many years. When Rich and Alice retired from farm life, they moved to Tucson, Ariz. Survivors include her children: **Leah Brewer ('65)**, **Leone Carlson ('64)**, **Sherri ('67)**, Dick, and Eunice Richard.

1940s

Anna Litvin Krassin ('40), Breckenridge, Minn., died Feb. 22, 2016, at age 95. She was born Dec. 10, 1920, to Daniel and Jenny (Klocho) Litvin. After graduating from Sheyenne River Academy in 1938, she attended Union College where she met **Charles Krassin. '42**. The couple married on Aug. 9, 1940, and returned to the Litvin farm in Killdeer, where they remained due to the unexpected draft of Charles for service in World War II. While in Killdeer, Anna earned a North Dakota teaching certificate and taught at a nearby country school for a few years. Near the end of World War II, Ann and Charles moved to Chicago, Ill., where Charles entered the Illinois College of Optometry, graduating in 1948. They moved to Breckenridge, Minn., in 1949 and raised their two children there. She is survived by her son, **Don '71**; daughter Margie Heath; five grandchildren, two great-grandsons, and one step-great-grandson.

Gordon Franklin ('41), Northome, Minn., died in a tragic house fire Feb. 21, 2017, at age 95. He was born July 11, 1921, in Blue Earth County, Minnesota, to Horace and Bida Osborn Franklin. He graduated from Maplewood Academy, served in the military during World War II and later graduated from Loma Linda University with a doctor of medicine degree. He was married to **Marjorie Kaldahl Franklin ('45)**. For many decades he served Northome and surrounding community. He is survived

by his children: **Marcia '73**, **Paul ('79)**, and Kent; and one granddaughter.

Edwin Rivinius ('41), Aurora, Colo., died Feb. 28, 2017, at age 96. He was born July 30, 1920, in North Dakota. Survivors include his wife, **Ruth ('41)**; son, **Jerry '70**, daughter, **Sheryl Page '73**; four siblings; five grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren.

Leroy Leiske '43, Keene, Texas, died Dec. 22, 2016, at age 96. He was born July 27, 1920, in Bentley, Alberta, Canada, to George and Amelia Unterseher Leiske and married **Sylvia Lockett ('43)** on June 1, 1943. Much of his career he worked in administration for the Seventh-day Adventist church as president of various conferences and president of Southwestern Adventist University. He is survived by his daughters, Nanci Slease and Sandra Underhill; three grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

Marjorie Kaldahl Franklin ('45), Northome, Minn., died in a tragic house fire Feb. 21, 2017, at age 92. She was born Feb. 14, 1925, in Pope County, Minnesota, to Clarence and Jessie Forney Kaldahl, the oldest in a family of four. After graduating from Maplewood Academy, she earned a bachelor's degree in nursing, which complemented her husband, **Gordon Franklin's ('41)**, skills as a physician. They were instrumental in starting the Northome Nursing Home. She is survived by her children: **Marcia '73**, **Paul ('79)**, and Kent; and one granddaughter.

Julius Korgan '45, Claremore, Okla., died Feb. 2, 2017, at age 93. Born Aug. 22, 1923, in Council Bluffs, Iowa, to Albert and Louise Korgan. While at Union College, he met **Evelyn Beebe ('45)**, and they were married in 1946. They served in Rhodesia, Jamaica, Nigeria and Canada. During his career, Julius was a teacher, principal, department chair, academic dean and president of several Seventh-day Adventist colleges and universities. When he retired in 1980 to Lacey's Spring, Ala., he became a real estate developer. After Evelyn died, he married **Joada Marsh McGehee ('53)**, who passed away in 2013. He is survived by his children: Dwight, Heather and Barbara; four grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

Eileen Mayberry Lantry '45, Glendale, Calif., died Jan. 10, 2017, at age 93. Born in Denver, Colo., on Dec. 4, 1923, she graduated from Campion Academy, Union College with a

bachelor's degree in English and University of Colorado-Boulder with a master's degree in library media. In addition to being a mother and homemaker, she was a dean of women, kindergarten teacher, college professor, Bible worker and also catalogued the libraries of virtually every school in the Central California Conference. She authored 21 books, primarily on nature and missionary themes. She and her husband, **Jay Lantry '48** served overseas for 18 years. She is survived by her husband, Jay; sons, Kimber and Kevin; four grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

Donald Prowant ('46), Lincoln, Neb., died Jan. 20, 2017, at age 94. He was born April 11, 1922, in Lebanon, Kan., to Leslie and Golda Morton Prowant and married Dorothy Wright on Feb. 1, 1942. Donald was a retired painting contractor and WW II U.S. Army veteran. He was a member of Piedmont Park Adventist Church and the V.F.W. He is survived by his sons: **Richard ('69)** and Ronald; daughter, **Judy Rick ('63)**; seven grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren; and sister, **Elvena Herbel '57**.

Elda Krause Van Dyke ('46), Owensville, Mo., died March 3, 2017, at age 90. She was born Nov. 6, 1926, to Andrew and Ida Munch Krause. She graduated from Enterprise Academy before attending Union College. Survivors include daughter, Jan; son, Don and one grandson.

Myrtle Lusk Blecha '48, Grand Junction, Colo., died Oct. 24, 2016, at age 90. She was born July 27, 1926, in Los Angeles, Calif., to Wallace and Maudie Lodge Lusk. After earning a bachelor's degree in nursing in 1948, she married **Byron Blecha '48** in 1949, and worked beside him as pastor's wife for 40 years. Myrtle was an active member of the Palisade Adventist Church and a faithful volunteer at the Community Service Center. She loved to cook for her family and the many guests hosted in her home, play the piano and sew. She is survived by her sister, **Lee Fink ('49)**; daughters, **Arlene Hagensicker ('73)** and Marilyn Emery; son, **Edmund Blecha ('78)**; six grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

Ruth Bergstrom Jones ('49), Lancaster, Calif., died Jan. 20, 2017, at age 89. She was born in Oklahoma City, Okla., on Dec. 18, 1927, to Roy and Olive Bergstrom. Ruth met **Edmund Jones '47** while attending boarding school in Keene, Texas, and they married in 1948. After a short time in Alaska, the family moved to Montana where Edmund began his career as an Adventist minister. After serving in Arizona and California, they retired in 1992. Survivors include her husband, Edmund; daughters: Anita Horner, Teresa Maupin and Pamela Bender; son, Stephen; six grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

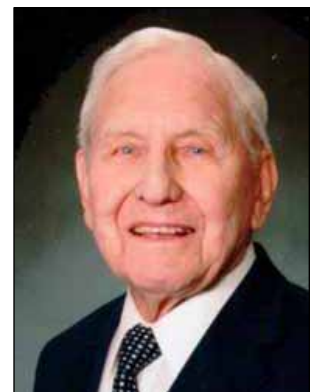
1950s

Barbara Coddington Hansen '50, Walla Walla, Wash., died Sept. 16, 2016, at age 86. She was born Oct. 24, 1929, in Buffalo, N.Y., and married **William Hansen ('49)** on Oct. 7, 1950. She was a teacher's aide at a church school and worked in the cafeteria at Pacific Union College. Survivors include her husband, Bill; daughter, Debbie Bullock; son, Terry; three grandchildren and one great-grandson.

Carol Fesler Wills ('50), Kelchi, Kan., died Jan. 12, 2017, at age 87. She is survived by her husband, **John Wills '54**; sons: **Randy ('76)** and Rob; three grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

Betty Pingenot Thacker '51, Boulder, Colo., died April 8, 2017, at age 88. She was born Feb. 14, 1929, in Rocky Ford, Colo., to Elmer and Elizabeth Pingenot. After graduating from Battle Creek Academy, she studied nursing at Union College. Betty completed clinical training at Boulder Sanitarium and Hospital, where she worked for many years. While in Colorado, she married **John Thacker ('48)**. She was a faithful member of the Boulder Seventh-day Adventist Church for 64 years. She is survived by her four children: Jon, Gary, Karon Rott and Beth; and six grandchildren.

William Voss '51, Columbus, N.C., died April 7, 2017, at age 95. He was born in Homestead, Okla., on Nov. 1, 1921, to Carl and Anna Schlotthauer Voss.

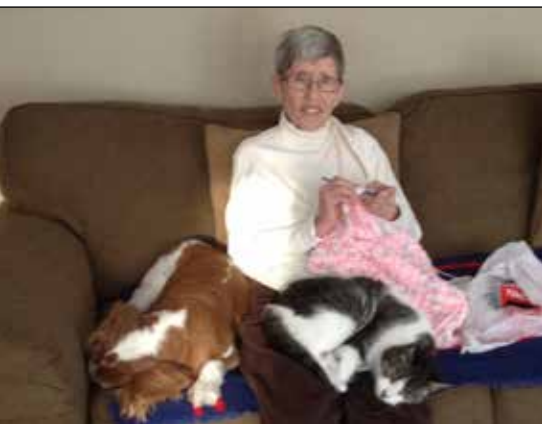


William Voss

IN MEMORY |

After serving in World War II, he earned a business degree from Union College. He worked as a teacher and business manager at academies in Texas, Arkansas, Minnesota and Georgia. He then served as assistant treasurer for the Arkansas-Louisiana Conference, where he was also ordained to the ministry and pastored two churches. He is survived by his wife, Fay McMullin Voss, whom he married 70 years ago this July; daughters: Linda Herman and **Shirley Rumsey (former employee)**, six grandchildren and 15 great-grandchildren.

Bonnie Roark Johnson '52, Medina, Minn., died Jan. 1, 2017, at age 86. She taught in a one-room elementary school in Kansas before attending college. She and her husband, Glenn Johnson '52 spent their careers teaching at Sheyenne River Academy, Indiana Academy, Mountain View Academy, Broadview Academy, College View Academy and Canadian Union College. After retirement, Bonnie was an active member of Minnetonka Adventist Church in Minnesota, leading out in several ministries. She is survived by daughters: **Sherri Chaffee '84** and **Beverley Johnson Wong '81**; son, **Gerry Johnson '85**; six grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.



Bonnie Johnson

Norman Mock ('52), Ardmore, Okla., died Dec. 2, 2016, at age 87. He was born June 12, 1929, in Byers, Colo., and graduated from Byers High School in 1947 before attending Union College. Norman had a passion for flying and earned his private pilot license in 1980. He was supervisor of the transportation division at the Orange Unified School District in Orange, Calif., for 55 years. He married Donna Hagerman in 1967. In

1999 the couple moved to Ardmore, where Norman worked for the Plainview school system as a bus driver until 2012. Survivors include son, Steven; daughter, Michele Cross; and brother, Roger.

Darrell Beyer '53, Cleburne, Texas, died March 24, 2017, at age 86. He was born Jan. 26, 1931, in Madison, S.D., to Erick and Christine Knutson Beyer. He married **Marvella Anderson '53** on Nov. 27, 1972, in Littleton, Colo. Darrell was a retired associate superintendent of education at the Texas Conference. He is survived by his wife of 44 years, Marvella; sons, Douglas and Allan; five grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

Arthur Huff '54, Lee's Summit, Mo., died May 1, 2017, at age 100. Born Nov. 26, 1916, to Adolf and Mathilda Pepple Huff in Stutsman County, N.D.. He married **Myrna Wiltse '48** on Dec. 15, 1956, in Lincoln, Neb. Survivors include daughter, Janet Gully; sons, Victor, **Daryl '83** and Alan; six grandchildren and several great-grandchildren.

Genive Byer King '54, Prole, Iowa, died Aug. 30, 2016, at age 89. She was born in Chicago, Ill., to John and Rosa Byer and married **George King '53** in 1948 in Red Wing, Minn. Together they were a pastoral team until George retired in 1989. They loved working in the church's food distribution ministry, van ministry and taught ESL classes whenever they

had the opportunity. She is survived by her sisters, **Dolores Byer '75** and Ruth Jones.

Albert Wick '54, Littleton, Colo., died Feb. 4, 2017, at age 87. He was born in Watford City, N.D., June 21, 1929, to Theodore and Martha Jacobson Wick. After Al graduated from Campion Academy in Colorado and Union College, he continued his studies at the College of Medical Evangelists (now Loma Linda University) and earned a doctor of medicine degree in 1958. After completing a medical internship at Porter Sanitarium and Hospital in Denver, Colo., and a residency in anesthesiology at White Memorial Hospital in Los Angeles, Calif., he returned to Colorado to practice anesthesiology at Porter Adventist and Swedish hospitals. He is survived by his wife, **Donnis Krietzky Wick ('50)**; brother, **Palmer Wick '52**; children: **Sharon Wick ('73)**, **Kenneth Wick ('83)**, Joan Fleischacker and Dennis; and three grandchildren.

Betty Sherman Brackett '55, Berrien Springs, Mich., died Nov. 21, 2016, at age 87. She was born in Alva, Okla., on Sept. 4, 1929, to Harold and Constance Jackson Sherman. Having earned a nursing degree, she was an operating room supervisor at Fletcher Hospital in North Carolina for over 20 years. Betty enjoyed reading and was an avid skier in her earlier years. After retirement, she relocated to be near her son and his family.

Survivors include her son, David; two grandsons; and sister, **Nilda Johnson '61**.

Violet Clark Cruz '56, Asun, Guam, died Sept. 15, 2016, at age 82. She moved to Guam in 1957 to help open the Adventist Guam Clinic as the first Seventh-day Adventist missionary nurse. In 1983 she became a nurse practitioner and served many patients for 15 years before retiring to care for her ailing husband. Survivors include her daughters: Noreen Whittington, Janet Cruz and Sharon Schmidt; and two grandchildren.

Glenn Wheeler '56, Crawford, Neb., died Oct. 19, 2016, at age 85. He was born July 24, 1931, in Crawford, Neb., to Merrill and Alice Wheeler. He graduated from Platte Valley Academy in 1949, from Union College in 1956, from University of Nebraska with a master's degree in music, and completed coursework for a Ph.D. in music from University of Iowa. Glenn served in the Korean War. His entire career was teaching in the Adventist school system, including Kingsway College, Maplewood Academy, Campion Academy, Broadview Academy, Tualatin Valley Academy and Wisconsin Academy. In 1992 he retired to the family farm where he enjoyed gardening and construction projects. He is survived by his son, Gregory; daughters: Debra Chadbourne, Desiree Wheeler-Hissong, Rochelle Lain and Marcella Myers; 10 grandchildren and three great-grandchildren; brother, **Karl Wheeler '51**; sisters: **Merilyn Rainbolt '58** and **Mary Alice Goree '61**.



Glenn Wheeler

LaVerna Hopkins Woods ('57), Fergus Falls, Minn., died April 1, 2017, at age 84. She was born April 2, 1932, in Butler Country, Kan., to John and Cora Edmunds Hopkins. On Dec. 28, 1965, she married **Ralph Woods ('46)** in Nevada, Mo. They made their home on the north shore of Cliterall Lake, near Battle Lake, Minn. Ralph was a beekeeper, and LaVerna enjoyed the country life to raise their children. She is survived by her two sons, **David ('88)** and **Daniel '94**.

Fred Morris ('57), Hillsboro, Ore., died Sept. 17, 2016, at age 80. Fred attended Boulder Junior Academy, Campion Academy and Union College. He met Muylrene Blehm at a music festival at Union College in 1954 and they married and moved to Oregon where he worked prior to retirement. Survivors include his wife, Muylrene, son, Danny; daughter, Francie Brock; sister, Treva Marshal; and three grandchildren.

Gweneth Anderson Huffer '58, Montrose, Colo., died Aug. 12, 2016, at age 80. She is survived by her husband, **Bob Huffer '58**.

1960s

Jane Ruffing Hickok '60, College Place, Wash., died Dec. 17, 2016, at age 77. She was born Dec. 28, 1928, in Crawford, Neb., the second child of John J. Ruffing, Sr. and Jennie Wilton Ruffing. After graduating from Union College with a nursing degree, she worked at Porter Hospital in Denver, Colo. On March 28, 1963, she married Robert Gorton. After his death, she married Gaylen Hickok on July 9, 2000. Survivors include brothers, **John '56** and **James ('65)**; stepchildren, John Gorton and **Barbara Gorton Allen ('76)**.

Warren Welch ('60), Lincoln, Neb., died March 18, 2017, at age 78. He was born Feb. 12, 1939, in Winfield, Kan., to Clifford and Lillian Hartley Welch. He was a retired drywall. Survivors include his wife **Ramona Peterson Welch ('60)** and family.

Harold Buck '61, Brighton, Colo., died Oct. 29, 2016, at age 79. He was born in 1937 to Ira and Elsie Buck and grew up in the small town of Nevada, Iowa. He met his wife, Denise Rochholz, at Oak Park Academy, and the two married in 1954. After graduating from Union College, he earned a master's degree from the University of Nebraska Lincoln. Hired as an accountant at Porter Adventist Hospital in Denver, Colo., he also served as head of the accounting department and assistant administrator before serving as president and CEO of Platte Valley Medical Center for 17 years. He is survived by his wife, Denise; brother, Earl; children, Craig, **Mike '83** and Cheri Buck-Perry; and four grandchildren.

Don Houghton '61, Cleburne, Texas, died Feb. 24, 2017, at age 83. He was born Jan. 19, 1934, in Caddo, Texas, to Oscar and Viola Anderson Houghton, and married Mary Lee Sharpe in Breckenridge, Texas, on June 5, 1954. Don attended Southwestern Junior College in Keene, Texas, Union College and Andrews University in Berrien Springs, Mich. He began his ministry as a literature evangelist and publishing associate director. He taught school for two years before transitioning into pastoral ministry. He pastored 21 churches before becoming ministerial director for several years. Survivors include his wife, Mary Lee; children: Daniel,

Robin, Barry, Susan James, Lisa Manzano, Bonnie Knaubert, Patrick and Scott; 34 grandchildren and 14 great-grandchildren.

Dan Jaramio ('63), Bloomington, Ind., died Dec. 9, 2016, at age 80. He was born Oct. 15, 1936, in Denver, Colo., to Cruz and Nettie Jaramio. Dan graduated from Campion Academy and attended Emmanuel Missionary College (now Andrews University) and Union College. From 1960 to 1962, he served in the U.S. Army, stationed at Walter Reed Medical Center in Washington, D.C. He retired from the Veterans Administration Hospital system in 1996 after 30 years of service and from Walmart in 2008. He is survived by **Ann Thomas Jaramio '60**; daughters: Stephanie Young and Patricia Treft; 11 grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

Jerry McManus '63, White Bird, Idaho, died July 4, 2016, at age 79. He was born Feb. 2, 1937, to John and Mildred Pankey McManus and grew up in Dixon, Wyo. He graduated from Campion Academy and earned a bachelor's degree in chemistry from Union. One highlight from his time at Union, while assistant editor of the *ClockTower*, was an interview he had with Eleanor Roosevelt. Graduating from Loma Linda University in 1967, he also completed a specialty in orthopedic surgery in 1972. As an orthopedic surgeon, he worked on

stroke rehabilitation therapies at Long Beach Naval Station, started stroke rehabilitation service at Loma Linda Medical Center and had an orthopedic practice with an emphasis in sports medicine. In 1988 the family relocated to Idaho where he was a flying doctor, adding orthopedic services to small hospitals in the area. After retiring in 2003, he built a home on the Salmon River in White Bird, Idaho. He is survived by his wife, Julie; sister, Cathy; sons: Mark and Tony; and six grandchildren.

Eldo Harr '64, Deer Lodge, Tenn., died May 27, 2016, at age 76. He was born to Emmanuel and Carolyn Lachenmeier Harr in Napoleon, N.D., on Dec. 3, 1939. He is survived by his wife of 20 years, **Claudia Layman Harr '61**; sons, Jamie and Jeff; stepchildren, Michael and Michelle; 14 grandchildren and step-grandchildren; and sisters, **Marilyn Bradley ('58)**, **Betty Janes '54**, and **Bonnie Gnadt '64**.

Gary Shearer '65, Battlefield, Mo., died Dec. 6, 2016, at age 75. He was born Feb. 9, 1941, the first born son of David and Norma Fortner Shearer. As a teenager, he read his way into Adventism and loved learning all his life. He attended Andrews University and spent his final two years at Union College, graduating with a double major in history and religion. He met his wife, Lanis Simmons, at church in Springfield, Mo. After earning a master's degree in librarianship, they moved to California where he was reference librarian at La Sierra University. After 14 years, he joined the faculty at Pacific Union College, first as reference librarian and later as Adventist studies librarian and chairman of the special collections department, which included the Pitcairn Islands research collection. He was also guest lecturer for history, religion, and English classes and conducted astronomy labs for the physics department. After retirement he was awarded librarian emeritus status by the college. In 2008 they retired in Missouri. Survivors include his wife of 50 years, Lanis; three children: Lisa Kemp, Erik and Rhonda Dustin; six grandchildren and one great-grandson; his mother, Norma; and four siblings: Jeanne, Kay, Peggy and Darrell.

Rita Walraven Bush '67, College Place, Wash., died April 8, 2017, at age 71. She was born Nov. 8, 1945, in Great Bend, Kan. She graduated from Union College with a bachelor of social work degree and earned a master of social

IN MEMORY |

work degree at Walla Walla University before establishing a private counseling practice. Rita ministered alongside her husband for 20 years during his tenure as pastor. She is survived by her husband, **Don '68**; children **Katrina Dean '93**, Trisha LeFore, Theresa Bush-Dryden and **Donny '00**; seven grandchildren; and sisters: Janet Walraven and Ramona Sue Evans.

Robert Beck '68, Berrien Springs, Mich., died Oct. 24, 2016, at age 71. Bob was born Feb. 12, 1945, in Jamestown, N.D., to Edward and Martha Beck and was a medical technologist for Berrien General Hospital and Lakeland Medical Center. He enjoyed photography, birdwatching and gardening. Survivors include his wife, **Elaine Thomas Beck ('68)**; daughters, Laurie and Jody Murmu; and sister, **Karen Nazareus ('68)**.

Mary Beth Becker Wehling '68, Rose Hill, Kan., died Jan. 16, 2017, at age 71. She was born Oct. 8, 1945, in Shattuck, Okla. On July 6, 1969, she married Gale Wehling. The couple moved to Washington, Kan., in 1972, where she taught fifth grade for 28 years. Survivors include her husband, Gale; daughters, **Renae Johnson '98** and **Cheri Johnson '00**; son **Brent Wehling ('00)**; seven grandchildren; and sisters: Lynn Sikes and **Joan Davis '68**.

Anna Marie Carrick Schultz ('69), Sedalia, Colo., died Dec. 16, 2016, at age 68. She is survived by her husband **Jän Schultz '68**.

1970s

Linda Hill Aalborg ('71), Willis, Texas, died Jan. 8, 2017, at age 66. She was born April 6, 1950, in

Denver, Colo., to Melvin and Doris Hill. She is survived by her husband, **Bruce Aalborg '72**.

1980s

Danial Bousa ('81), Rapid City, S.D., died Jan. 31, 2017, at age 64. He was born Dec. 19, 1952, and was a member of the Buffalo Church. Survivors include sister, Connie; and brothers, Delbert, Darrell and Charles.

1990s

Kristi Palmer Carner '92, Cedar Rapids, Iowa, died Feb. 4, 2017, at age 47. She was born Feb. 9, 1969, to Terry and Marene Metzger Palmer in Cedar Rapids, Iowa. She attended Sunnydale Academy and graduated from Union College with a bachelor's degree in elementary education. She married **Michael Carner '92** on July 26, 1992. Kristi enjoyed making crafts, decorating and singing. Survivors include her husband, Michael; sons, Christian and Zachary; parents, Terry and Marene Palmer; sister, **Tami Walker ('93)**; and brother, Bryon Palmer.

Passing of a legacy and a prospector of the character of God



Ward Hill (Former Employee), Lincoln, Neb., died April 20, 2017, at age 88. He was born Aug. 31, 1928, in Richmond, Va., to Joseph and Emma Trevey Hill. In July 1971 he joined the faculty at Union College as assistant professor of religion. After earning a doctorate in 1977, he was chair of the Division of Religion and the Division of Humanities before becoming vice-president for Academic Administration. After his retirement in 1991, he briefly served as interim president of Union College. He is survived by his wife, Eloise; daughter, Virginia Hildebrand; son John; and two grandsons.

Calling all medical professionals

Pastor Rich Carlson is looking for medical professionals to take a mission trip to the Amazon River in June 2018. Each summer he recruits volunteers to spend 10 days helping Union physician assistant students—many of whom are not part of the Adventist faith community—learn critical thinking skills and discover the joy of service while providing medical treatment to the people of Peru.

If you are physician, dentist, nurse, PA, optometrist, or other medical professional and are interested in a summer adventure, contact Pastor Rich at **402.570.0496** or rich.carlson@ucollege.edu

THE LAST WORD

The Peanut Hill SPIRIT

Union events

August 13-20 - New Student Orientation

New students come to campus to get acquainted discover everything Union has to offer and get prepare for a great school year.

August 21 - Classes begin

Pray for God's blessing as we begin the 2017-18 school year.

September 14-17 - Preview Days

High school students, visit Union for free! Experience classes, meet professors and find out how Union may be the perfect fit for you. Learn more at www.ucollege.edu/visit

Sept. 29-Oct. 1 - Parents Weekend

Parents, come visit your students and help us wrap up Union's 125th birthday celebration. Visit www.ucollege.edu/parentsweekend

September 30 - Entrance grand opening

Help us dedicate the new front entrance to Union College located at the corner of 48th and Prescott. The service will be held at 4:00 p.m. Learn more on page 23.

October 19-21 - Volleyball and soccer tournament

Cheer on volleyball and soccer teams from Adventist academies across the country or watch many of them on UCLive. Learn more at www.ucollege.edu/volleyballtournament2017

November 9-12 - Preview Days

High school students, visit Union for free! Experience classes, meet professors and find out how Union may be the perfect fit for you. Learn more at www.ucollege.edu/visit

In this issue of CORD Magazine, you have seen how our students learn to lead and serve by working hand-in-hand with our local and church communities. At some colleges, this is called "town and gown relations." At Union College, I prefer to think of it as the Peanut Hill spirit.

Picture a warm Sunday in the early 1900s. Before Lincoln built its parks, the College View trolley added extra cars on pleasant week-ends, bringing hundreds and, on some days, even a thousand visitors to Union's campus. I can imagine children playing on the Rock Pile while their parents laid out picnics on blankets. Walking through the sea of hats, parasols and baskets, enterprising boys sold peanuts. Everyone in Lincoln knew about Peanut Hill, and Union College opened its arms to neighbors from far and wide.


Things changed over time. Both cars and parks became more common. The trolley service halted in 1945. Few but Lincoln's oldest residents remember the days of Peanut Hill picnics. But Union College's legacy of embracing its community continues.

You can still see signs of the Peanut Hill spirit all around campus. Children racing to swimming lessons at Larson Lifestyle Center. Local professionals exclaiming, "I can't believe it's vegetarian!" at a catered lunch in the Ortner Center. Parents waiting to pick up their kids from George Stone School. Volunteers scanning marriage records at the Lincoln-Lancaster Genealogical Society's office in the library. First responders coordinating training exercises in our facilities. Law enforcement officers visiting in the police substation on campus. Retired seniors enjoying their golden years in the college's independent living housing. Citizens practicing environmental conservation at the college's public recycling center.

The campus services provided to our visitors demonstrate the commitment to the Peanut Hill spirit of our students, faculty and staff. This important legacy will continue, emphasizing our underlying belief that there is strength and value in community and that servant leadership to local communities is important. It is what Jesus would do.



Vinita Sauder
Vinita Sauder, President



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www.ucollege.edu/seventimes

Data taken from the CollegelImpact Study 2014 created by the Andrews University Center for Educational Research. Learn more at the link above.



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