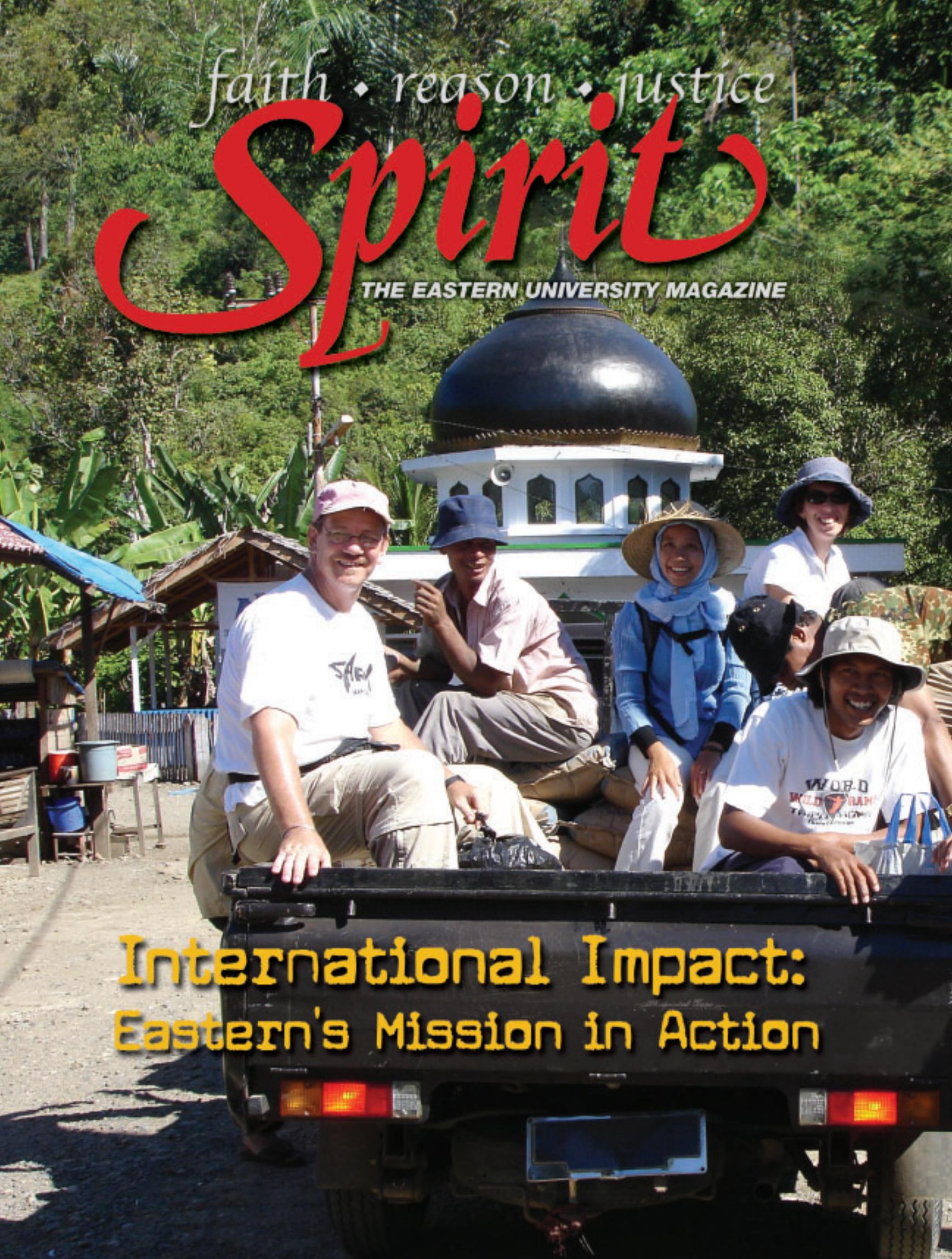


faith • reason • justice

# Spirit

THE EASTERN UNIVERSITY MAGAZINE



**International Impact:  
Eastern's Mission in Action**

Executive Director  
Linda A. Olson (MEd) '96

Senior Graphic Designer/  
Staff Photographer  
Patti Singleton

Web Manager/Graphic Designer  
Quincy Adam

Production Coordinator  
Rebecca Druckenmiller

Contributors  
Sr. Web Manager  
Allison Auclair

Students  
Kate Savo  
Duncan Russell

Student Photographers  
Dave Christianson  
Bryon Calawa

Article suggestions should be sent to:  
Linda A. Olson  
610.341.5930  
e-mail: lolson@eastern.edu

Alumni news should be sent to:  
1.800.600.8057  
www.alumni.eastern.edu

**Mission Statement**  
Spirit supports the mission of Eastern University to provide a Christian higher education for those who will make a difference in the world through careers and personal service rooted in faith applied to academic disciplines. The news magazine serves as a connection between the Eastern University campus community of students, faculty, staff and administration and its alumni, trustees, friends, donors, parents and neighbors.

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## President's Message

Please join me in welcoming my friend and colleague Chris Hall to the newly created position of Chancellor (see next page). This is of particular significance because it entrusts the leadership of Eastern's sacred work of interpretation, formation and scholarship, along with the administrative operations essential to that threefold vocation, into the prayerful hands of a remarkable scholar-teacher. I'm now able to dedicate more of my time to the pursuit of funds for scholarships, several facilities, and our endowment.

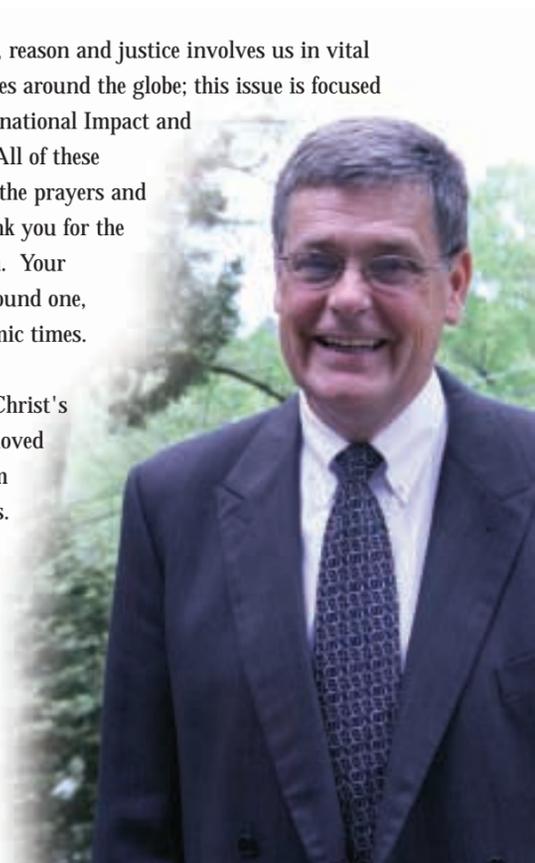
As you know, Eastern's mission of faith, reason and justice involves us in vital work here in the U.S. and far-flung places around the globe; this issue is focused on these inspiring activities in our International Impact and Faith & Practice sections (pages 5-23). All of these Kingdom-building programs depend on the prayers and support of faithful friends like you. Thank you for the generous spirit you have blessed us with. Your investment in Eastern University is a sound one, especially during these turbulent economic times.

And finally, during this holy season of Christ's incarnation, my wish for you and your loved ones is the joy and peace that comes from following Him in all places and all times. You can be sure that all of us at Eastern University will continue to pursue our mission to prepare students for lives of faith, leadership and purpose.

In His Name,



David Black



## Dr. Chris Hall Installed as First Chancellor

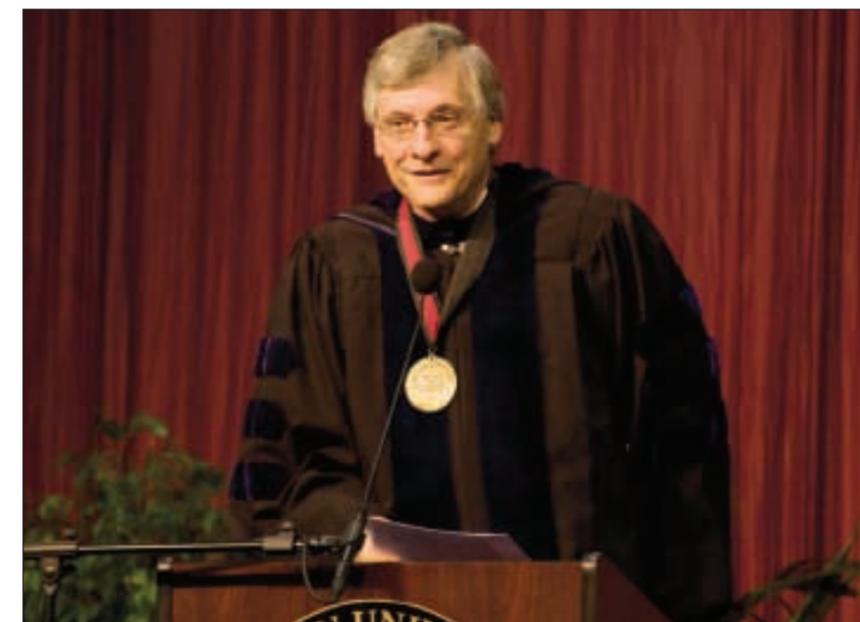
At the Fall Convocation, Eastern University installed its first Chancellor, Dr. Christopher A. Hall, with a charge delivered by theologian Thomas C. Oden. "My expectation is that over time Eastern University will become widely known as a university where spiritual formation and character deepening is taken seriously, in the classroom and out," Dr. Hall said. "This emphasis is already present in a variety of course offerings."

Dr. Hall has served in the pastorate in France and Canada, and as director of pastoral care at a New Jersey psychiatric hospital. He has also ministered in Asia, Africa, South America, the Middle East, and the United States. In addition, he is an associate editor with Thomas C. Oden of the Ancient Christian Commentary on Scripture series (IVP), and has published articles and reviews in Christianity Today, Catalyst, Christian History, inMinistry, Books and Culture, Christian Scholars Review, Modern Theology, and Crux.

Dr. Hall is author and editor of a number of books including Ancient Christian Commentary on Scripture: The Gospel of Mark, with Thomas C. Oden, (InterVarsity Press, June, 1998); Reading the Scripture with the Fathers (InterVarsity Press, September, 1998); Realized Religion: Research on Religion and Health, with Theodore Chamberlain (Templeton

Foundation Press, Fall 2000); Ancient and Postmodern Christianity, with Kenneth Tanner (IVP, 2002); Studying Theology with the Church Fathers (InterVarsity Press, 2002); The Trinity, with Roger Olson (Eerdmans, 2002); Worshiping with the

"One faculty member expressed moderate anxiety to me over the title 'chancellor,'" Dr. Hall said. "The term seemed to connote power, authority, command, control, clout, muscle. So let's be clear from the beginning: I'm here to serve you as



Chancellor Hall at his installation ceremony.

Church Fathers (InterVarsity Press); and Does God Have a Future: A Debate on Divine Providence, with John Sanders (Baker Academic, 2003). He has also authored Making Room for God: Spiritual Formation for Christian Leaders with Dr. David Fraser (The Center for Organizational Excellence, 1997), a modularized audio and print curriculum adopted by the Council of Christian Colleges and Universities.

well as I can by God's grace as I attempt, however brokenly, to shape my actions on the model of service Christ has given to us all. Jesus didn't boss people; He didn't push people around; He refused to exalt Himself above others." Dr. Hall is a member of the Episcopal Church (Anglican). He and his wife, Debbie, have three children, Nathan, Nathalie, and Joshua.

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### ON THE COVER

Prof. Lindy Backues '93 (seated left in truck) with people in Aceh, Indonesia, working to reopen a coffee-growing region after the catastrophic tsunami.



# The Whole Gospel for the Whole World

By Dr. Christopher A. Hall

Mottos are interesting expressions and attempt to capture in a few words the essence of what a business, school, or sports team is all about. Sometimes mottos work and sometimes they don't. For instance, mottos don't ring true if the truth or commitment the motto proclaims is absent in the community proclaiming it. Consider a number of mottos that we use at Eastern. The crest of the Templeton Honors College displays a Latin phrase: *Cum gratia officium* (with gifting comes responsibility). On our University seal you'll find a Greek verb, "matheteusate." What in the world does that mean? "Go and make disciples." On some older University seals we find two words, "Go Ye." Finally, on some University crests, signs, and stationery we discover the overarching motto for the entire University, "The Whole Gospel for the Whole World."

In all of these mottos we can quickly notice key themes: Christ has given Eastern grace-filled gifts and we are responsible for them. The verb "go" is directly stated in two mottos and inherent in "The Whole Gospel for the Whole World." The question, then, is this: how can Eastern embody and express "The Whole Gospel for the Whole World" unless it carries the whole Gospel into the whole world?

Let's take a closer look at "The Whole Gospel for the Whole World."

Eastern as a Christian university declares to those in the wider world that we believe in and desire to proclaim and model "the whole Gospel." We capture this emphasis on the whole Gospel in our commitment to faith, reason, and justice. The Gospel entails faith in Jesus Christ, but this faith is grounded in our willingness to think well and deeply. There should be no disjunction at Eastern, either amongst us individually or corporately, between our faith – sometimes expressed as a commitment of the heart – and our minds, that aspect of our faith that enables us to embrace God's truth wherever it appears. The monastic expression "studying with the mind in the heart" captures the integrated nature of Christian faith well. I can imagine Christ studying mathematics, psychology, physics, biology, history, literature – right across the disciplines – and enjoying them all. The Creator, after all, declared that all of His creation was "good."

"The whole Gospel," though, also includes our commitment to justice, a commitment that surely takes us beyond our community out into the broader world. We are committed to justice in Philadelphia, Camden, and other locales close to us. But we are also committed to "The Whole Gospel for the Whole World," a pledge and obligation that motivates us as a community to ever broaden our perspective and actions to encompass the entire world.

There is no place in the world where people do not need "the whole Gospel." All human beings are made in the image of God, all human beings long to find meaningful work, all human beings have the right to learn about the world God has created and delights in, all human beings have the right to live in peace and freedom from poverty, injustice, oppression, and fear.

Thus, if we at Eastern are to proclaim with integrity, "The Whole Gospel for the Whole World," we must prayerfully keep our eyes open to the opportunities Christ will present to us for concretely embodying our stated commitments, values, and promises. Eastern is already known around the world for its programs in economic development, spiritual formation, and leadership training. We are actively present in Asia, Africa, India, and other key locales. And we should be, for this is our calling. So the questions then become for Eastern: What are the particular opportunities in the wider world that God is presenting to this particular University? Where will we say "yes"? Where will we say "no"? As a community we must continually pray for discernment, wisdom, and courage as we contemplate the various opportunities and challenges we will encounter as we seek to serve Christ in "the whole world." Without doubt, however, we are called to "go," and go we shall.





“My whole life has been war. Why can't there be peace?”

– Auntie Nabiha

## He Emptied Himself for Us: The Servanthood of Christ and Peace in the Holy Land

By Dr. Andrew Bush

The scenario is grim: Israelis going about their daily business on the street, in a café, or standing at a bus stop are murdered by Palestinian militants. Israel's military then strikes Palestinian communities, targeting the militants, but more often than not also killing innocent civilians such as families in their homes and children playing in the street. Militants then launch another vengeful attack against the streets of Tel Aviv or Jerusalem.

And the cycle of violence grinds on. The culture of violence in Israel and Palestine is too toxic to be contained in their death embrace. It seeps into daily life in Israel, dividing Israeli Arabs from their Jewish neighbors. It also undermines the historic neighborliness shared by Palestinian Christians and Muslims, replacing it with hostility and suspicion.

In spite of the lack of success in efforts toward achieving a lasting peace, such efforts cannot be abandoned. The cost of failure is too great. Some Christians with their end times expectations in mind argue that efforts to achieve peace violate God's ultimate purposes. From this perspective a conflagration at Armageddon would be God's will.

To allow the shifting sands of speculative interpretations of biblical prophecy to obscure the clear landmarks of Jesus' ethical teaching

would be tragic. "Blessed are the peacemakers" is our only marker when the sand storms of hate obscure the way out of violence. Those suffering in the cauldron of violence in Israel and Palestine also cry out for peace. Hunkered down with our neighbors in Ramallah during an airstrike on Yasser Arafat's compound, I remember the lament of an elderly Palestinian woman, Auntie Nabiha, "My whole life has been war. Why can't there be peace?"

Surprise is a common reaction of friends who brave their way to our village of Bir Zeit on the West Bank. Surprise: there is a vital Christian community! Surprise: Palestinian Christians still have hope for peace! Surprise: Palestinian Christians are extending radical acts of forgiveness and reconciliation to their Muslim neighbors and Israeli antagonists!

An important idea presently explored by Palestinian Christian

leaders such as Mitri Raheb, a Lutheran pastor in Bethlehem, is that by acknowledging a shared human identity we can create a starting point for reconciliation. In Raheb's view, the fact that both Palestinians and Israelis are created in the image of God can be a basis for mutual respect.

The problem our human identity poses, however, is that it's not formed in a vacuum. In both Palestine and Israel, nationalism molds individual and communal identity. National identity is viewed as critical for securing a legitimate claim to the land and ultimately for ensuring survival. To strengthen their respective claims, Israelis and Palestinians both try to delegitimize their adversary's authentic national identity. For example, ideologically driven Israelis often claim that Palestinians do not exist as a unique ethnicity, but are simply part of the wider Arab culture in the Middle East. So, the argument goes, there is no legitimacy for a state called Palestine. Similarly, the Palestinian media frequently draws attention to the foreign birth place of Israeli leaders, questioning their ethnic integrity and thus their claim to the biblical promise of the land. In this climate of vilification the idea of setting aside their national identity

*continued on page 7*

## International Impact:

“Let your attitude be the same as that of Christ Jesus... who emptied Himself, taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness.” (Philippians 2:5-6).

as Palestinians or as Jewish Israelis in order to focus on a shared human identity is fiercely rejected.

Despite the fact that personal identity is so strongly defined by nationalism in Israel and Palestine, a mutually held respect for a commonly shared human identity still holds promise as a step towards reconciliation. Christ Jesus made a way for our reconciliation with God by sharing our humanity. The apostle Paul referred to Christ's coming in human likeness as a radical pouring out or emptying of Himself: "Let your attitude be the same as that of Christ Jesus... who emptied Himself, taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness" (Philippians 2:5-6). How can Christ's radical emptying - His laying aside of the prerogatives of glory to walk the dusty roads of Judea and Galilee as a servant to the weak, the outcast, the wealthy, and the empowered - speak to nationalism in Israel and Palestine today?

In the blistering Judean desert, Jesus resisted and rebuked the satanic temptation to grasp for blatant triumphal glory - the glory of the 'kingdoms of this world' in which the strong oppress the weak, and national interests are advanced at any cost. By Christ's perfect love and servanthood, He defined Israel's highest national purpose, to do justice to the marginalized and

extend the knowledge of God's justice and mercy to the nations. Jesus prophetically called Israel to love God and love its fellow man.

In Jesus' demonstration of righteous nationalism, He creates a way for a new national and personal identity. The Palestinian need not abandon his national hopes, but rather is called to consider the fears and aspirations of his Israeli neighbor. The Israeli, in turn, is called to do justice to his Palestinian neighbor, being merciful to this community that has lived for centuries in the land.

How can such a radical transformation of nationalism begin? The Palestinian Christian community is a small minority, trying to hold its own between the hostilities of its Muslim compatriots and Israel; if they make the courageous decision to stay in the land, Palestinian Christians could be a prophetic voice showing the way to a transformed nationalism. Even now the servanthood of Christ is inspiring some in the Palestinian Christian community to walk in love and forgiveness as the Spirit of God has quenched the fires of ethnic hatred in their hearts.

Imagine Messianic Jews from Israel and Palestinian Christians praying, praising and laughing together. Labib Madanat has brought together as one team the once separate Messianic Jewish and

Palestinian Christian Bible Society workers. A Jordanian Arab Christian himself, Madanat was raised in the Palestinian community in the Old City of Jerusalem. He says, "As a Christian growing up in East Jerusalem, I had all the prejudices towards Muslims and Israelis. I needed two more conversions - to a love for Muslims and to a love for Jewish Israelis. We are learning that it is not hard to serve together when our focus is on sharing the love of Jesus with those who do not know Him. Our goal is to serve, not to conquer."

The path forward will not be easy. Christ's emptying of Himself culminated in His terrible suffering on the cross. To follow Christ in servanthood will lead His servants to costly love of their enemies, a yielding of hot anger and accusation to the refreshing streams of empathy and forgiveness. Consider the case of Miryam.

The windshield shattered with terrifying force. Glass splinters flew into Miryam's eye. A radical Israeli youth had thrown a rock at her taxi. Miryam is a Palestinian follower of Jesus who was formerly a Muslim. Recently, she met with Messianic Jewish Israelis who asked for her forgiveness. Even though glass splinters still pain her eye, Miryam expresses no bitterness, "We are all just humans. We are the same,

struggling with sin. How can I accuse you?"

The prophet Isaiah spoke of the day in which "the law would go forth from Zion, the word from Jerusalem" (Is. 2:1-3). How strange this word of mercy and servanthood is addressed to peoples striving for dominance, driven by triumphal nationalistic ideologies. The Palestinian Christian community is a prophetic voice as they strive to have the same mind as Christ who emptied Himself and became a servant. In choosing the path of servanthood, Palestinian Christians are providing the hope that Israel and Palestine can embrace a transformed nationalism that enables former enemies to affirm their shared humanity in forgiveness.



Andrew F. Bush is an associate professor in the Missions and Anthropology department at Eastern University. He has also served with the United Bible Society on the West Bank for the last ten years. This article is drawn from a paper entitled 'The Kenosis of Christ and His Redefinition of Nationalism as a Way towards Reconciliation in Israel/Palestine' which was presented at a conference of the International Association for Missions Studies in Hungary this summer. Contact Dr. Bush at 610.225.5064 or abush2@eastern.edu.

## Eastern's Mission in Action

### TRAVEL COURSES

#### PEACE MUST BE CONSTANTLY GUARDED



#### AN EXPERIENCE IN IRELAND

The political situation in Northern Ireland, combined with an understanding of Ireland's history, was the focus of a travel course in Spring 2008. Thirty-three students, alumni, and family members spent nine days in Ireland with Dr. Caroline Cherry, dividing the time between the Republic and the North. Besides the awe-inspiring beauty of the Aran Islands, the Cliffs of Moher, and the Giant's Causeway, the group saw ancient historic sites such as the passage grave at Newgrange and current significant landmarks such as the so-called Peace Wall in Belfast, where we had an opportunity to write our prayers for peace and some of the group were interviewed for Irish television. Through conversation and observation, they were able to appreciate how precious the current equilibrium is, as well as how fresh the troubles of the last 40 years remain. On one occasion, a group of students was refused entry to a restaurant because one was wearing a shirt with a small insignia of the flag of the Republic of Ireland. Experiences such as these reinforced their understanding of how carefully peace must be guarded. Over spring break 2009, Dr. Cherry will lead a trip to Italy with an emphasis on history, art, and architecture in Rome, Florence, Venice, and Assisi.

For information, e-mail [ccherry@eastern.edu](mailto:ccherry@eastern.edu).

#### PILGRIMAGE TO THE HOLY LAND

A Program of Eastern University  
Hosted by Dr. Kenneth H. Maahs  
Egypt and Israel in May 2009  
[www.eastern.edu/holyland](http://www.eastern.edu/holyland) or 610.341.5895



Photos (from left):

Children eating porridge outside school in Zowe.

Students who made the trip to Malawi in 2004.

Melissa Wood Nyoni '05 serving breakfast to the students of Zowe.

Zowe health clinic in progress.

Bethany Hamood '04 working the borehole.

New grinding mill in the village of Zowe, Malawi.

## Students Helping Bring Change to Malawi

By Kate Savo '08

For sociology professor Mike Mtika, a landlocked country in southeastern Africa called Malawi is home. It is also a place of intense need and an opportunity to involve students.

Since coming to the U.S. in 1991, Mtika has been committed to doing something for Zowe, the community he comes from.

Mtika teaches a Poverty, Oppression, and Development in Africa class. They discuss the alternative development strategies communities could follow and they take this knowledge into the field. With 18 people, including 13 students, Mtika went to Zowe in January 2004 to see first hand the struggles of people there. The students were fired up about what they could do.

During a follow-up visit by Mtika and two Eastern students in the sum-

mer of 2004, the Zowe community gave its feedback to the initiatives proposed by the class. These initiatives included building loving relationships; improving healthcare and working to help prevent the spread of AIDS; identifying community business ventures that can generate revenue; developing sustainable agricultural technologies; and introducing sustainable energy sources.

These initiatives became the goal of the Zowe Christian Outreach and Community Development Program. Initially, it was financed through the recycling of cartridges and cell phones.

In the summer of 2005, Mtika and Eastern graduates Christy Acosta '05 and Melissa Wood '05, started by building a health clinic with the \$14,000 they raised. Now medical personnel come once a week to diagnose and treat the sick there.

The program also helped when they had a food shortage. Through U.S. donations, they raised \$3,600 to buy corn and sell it at a subsidized price.

The Zowe Educational Scholarship Trust Fund was created to provide money for any student who is selected to continue education in high school. But before students can continue their education, they need breakfast. In 2007, with help from the Downingtown Methodist Church (Melissa Wood's congregation), money was raised to provide porridge for the school children. Attendance jumped from 360 to 450 because of this breakfast program.

The program also worked to start a Food Processing Unit with the help of Bethany Hamood '04. The program has supported the community in building a bridge and a Presbyterian church. Melissa Wood

said, "We learned a lot from each other, and now they are running things on their own."

Funds raised in the U.S. are channeled through Giving Heart Ministries, Inc., a Christian nonprofit organization in the U.S.

Now Mtika's dream is to focus on Christian outreach in Malawi. All of this began with one man's desire to give back to his home community and share its needs with our students. This is just one example of the life-changing education that is the hallmark of Eastern University. Student Melissa Wood Nyoni lived in Zowe for three years and returned earlier in 2008 with her husband, a native of Malawi. Christy Acosta is still living and working in Zowe.

Contact Dr. Mike Mtika at 610.225.5684 or mmtika@eastern.edu.

## REACHING OUT TO CHILDREN IN AFRICA

By Allison Auclair

Ade Otenaike came to Eastern's master of science in nonprofit management program with a purpose in mind -- to help provide much-needed educational resources for the children of Africa. "One of my goals is to continue to make a difference in the lives of less fortunate children and young adults in the world," Otenaike said. "Another goal is to leave a worthy legacy for my children and family." With Eastern's help, it looks like he's well on his way to accomplishing both.

Ade Otenaike created a nonprofit organization, Wings of the Dawn International Institute for Children, which helps build economically stable and productive societies in African communities by ensuring access to self-sustaining educational centers for its citizens, in partnership with Fort Worth International Center. Wings of the Dawn shipments to Africa have reached a proven 100,000 students between six and 16 years old. Hundreds of teachers have been supplied with the necessary resources for classroom instruction.

"Thanks to Eastern, I developed the organization and brought it to a new level entirely," Otenaike said. "The program has given me the understanding of how to effectively collaborate with local companies and nonprofits that have the same focus that we do. I truly learned how to make those partnerships through Eastern."

Wings of the Dawn also maintains a Web Presence for African Children program which trains students from African schools in basic Web site development. The Back-Pack for African Children program collects and supplies back-packs with educational supplies to the African schools and community. For more information, visit [www.wingsofthedawn.org](http://www.wingsofthedawn.org).

# Making a Difference

College should be more than having fun, making friends, studying hard and earning honors. It should be about making a difference.

Eastern's BA in economic development is designed for students who want to do more with their lives than getting a paycheck and making ends meet. It is for students who want to become ambassadors of hope to a world in desperate need.

Hope is not something to take for granted. Global poverty and affluent apathy are equal opportunity destroyers of hope – afflicting both rich and poor. Hope is not built on wishful thinking and idealistic values; it requires both confidence and competence. It grows from mustard-seed faith into something that is bigger than ourselves, something that builds a foundation and leaves a legacy.

Dr. Lindy Backues '93, a professor in the Economic Development Program, exemplifies the sort of hope that we're about at Eastern. Having studied both psychology and theology, Lindy concluded that proclaiming the Good News of God's Kingdom requires more than understanding oneself and God. It calls for active engagement in the social and economic life of communities.

Living in Indonesia for nearly two decades with his wife, Donna and their two children, Aubrey and Dhika, Lindy became convinced that authentic, transformational development required both economic empowerment and living out the love of God.

He says, "The work we did in Indonesia – whether on the islands of Java and Madura, or in Aceh after

the tragic tsunami in 2004 – was a focus on being holistic. Essentially, we invited Christians and Muslims to work together to help the poor, adopting community-based, participatory intervention techniques to do that – we had significant success with these interventions. As a multi-faith community, we had deep discussions about our different theological approaches and rationales for undertaking those poverty alleviation techniques. As that happened, we who were Christian had many opportunities to speak of our faith in Jesus, with our witness now linked to our incarnational style of development work which was bearing fruit.

"My earlier study at Eastern was the main source for the methods we used in our development efforts. We had programs in microfinance, in handicrafts production, as well as import-export, in primary health care, in after-school education programs, in participatory research empowerment, in agricultural extension and overall community empowerment and advocacy work. Without Eastern, I would not have been as prepared to pioneer such efforts. At Eastern, I gained insight into how to undertake that type of integrated work, with theological depth sustained by practical, tangible business and community development tools. I will always be thankful for my time as a student at Eastern."

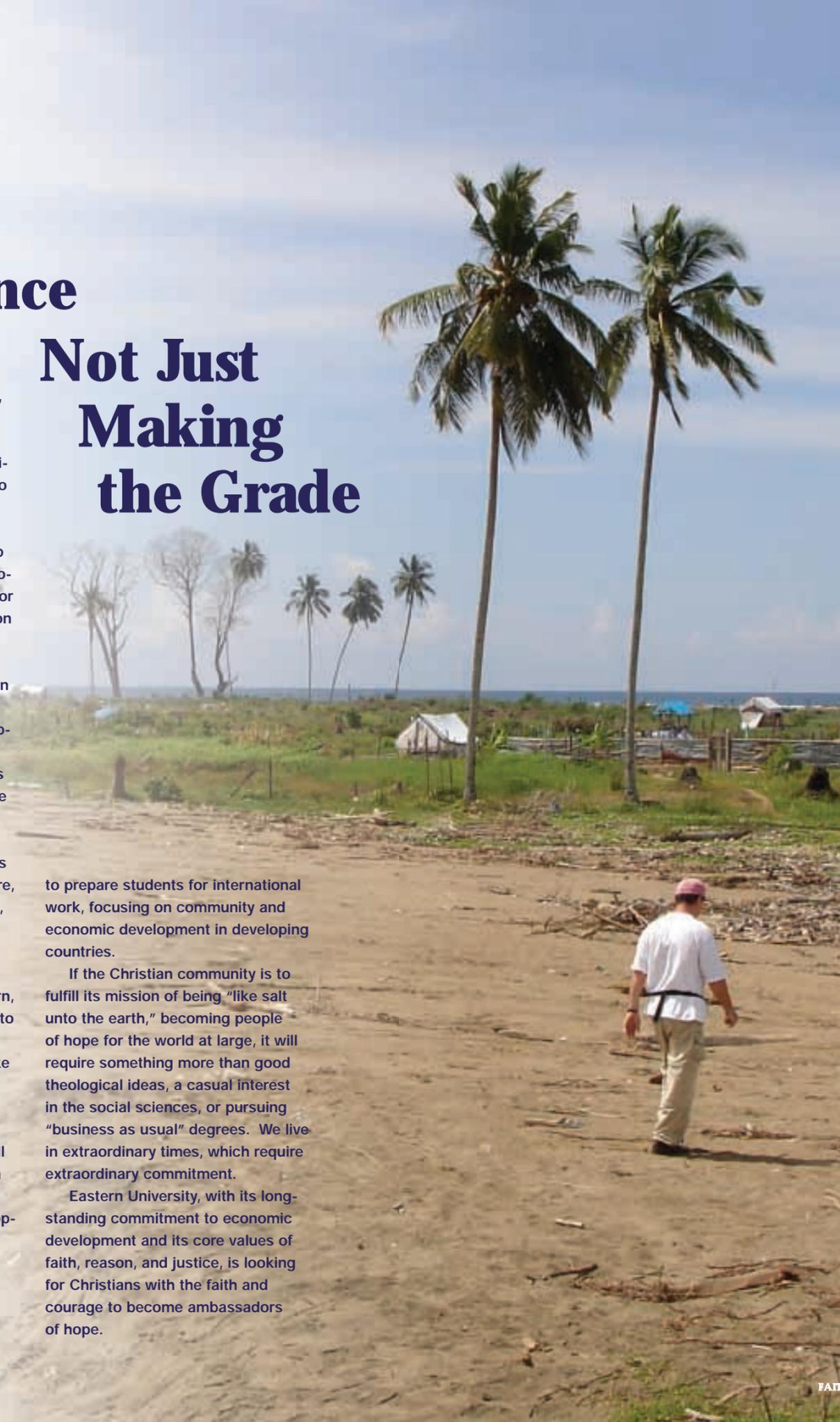
The new BA in economic development builds on the experience that Eastern University faculty have gained in the 25-year history of the graduate Economic Development Program. The program is designed

# Not Just Making the Grade

to prepare students for international work, focusing on community and economic development in developing countries.

If the Christian community is to fulfill its mission of being "like salt unto the earth," becoming people of hope for the world at large, it will require something more than good theological ideas, a casual interest in the social sciences, or pursuing "business as usual" degrees. We live in extraordinary times, which require extraordinary commitment.

Eastern University, with its long-standing commitment to economic development and its core values of faith, reason, and justice, is looking for Christians with the faith and courage to become ambassadors of hope.



## International MBA Program is Perfect Fit for Him

Travel is nothing new to Brad Penner, a first-year student in Eastern University's MBA in Economic Development Program. Penner, who grew up as a missionary child in Kenya, is preparing to spend four months overseas as a part of the international track of the MBA program.

The Economic Development Program is focused on teaching students to serve alongside individuals, churches, and ministries to learn about the multifaceted causes of poverty. Preparing students to be agents of change, the program engages students in research in areas such as microfinance, sustainable development, holistic community development, business development and management.

"I am looking to be more effective in international work and I was drawn to Eastern because of the combination of faith, development and relief work," Penner said. "I plan to work overseas when I'm done, hopefully in the area of microfinance, and I know my Eastern education will get me there."

Penner moved to Langley, B.C. at the age of 18 with his evangelical missionary parents. After earning his BA in business from Trinity Western University, Penner worked for Samaritan's Purse for three years, an international Christian relief organization that provides spiritual and physical aid to victims of war, poverty, natural disaster and disease. He served in a church-building program in South Sudan, Africa, and in an HIV-AIDS livestock group that performed relief work by helping citizens make money by providing them with healthy animals for feeding programs.

The International MBA in Economic Development Program is a perfect fit for Penner. Knowing he has been called to serve impoverished areas, Penner is looking forward to following God's word in empowering citizens in less fortunate areas to be thriving, self-sustainable members of society.

### LIFE-CHANGING PROGRAMS

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## Ethnicity and the Global Church

Dr. Eloise Meneses presented “If You Belong to Christ: Ethnicity and the Global Church” at the International Association of Mission Studies in Hungary, August 2008. In her abstract, she writes, “Ethnicity is a mixed blessing for the church. On the one hand, it provides richness of perspective on the truth. On the other hand, it creates conflict. Anthropologists have demonstrated that, far from a natural phenomenon, ethnicity is

actually socially constructed. Using family as a metaphor, ethnic groups identify themselves in contradistinction to one another with the help of markers such as skin color, language, or dress. They do this in order to compete for scarce resources in a common socio-political arena. In such an environment, it is tempting for churches to organize themselves according to ethnicity. Ethnicity is family writ large, and churches value families. But the New

Testament term, *ekklesia*, refers to an assembly of people of different backgrounds, called out as citizens to make common decisions. So the church must incorporate different families and different ethnicities. What holds members together is their common citizenship in the Kingdom of God. It is only “if you belong to Christ” (Gal. 3:29) that full reconciliation across boundaries is possible.”

## Tizon Releases Transformation after Lausanne

By Allison Auclair

Dr. Al Tizon, assistant professor of holistic ministry at Palmer Theological Seminary, has released *Transformation after Lausanne: Radical Evangelical Mission in Global-Local Perspective* (Regnum Books, 2008).

*Transformation after Lausanne* tracks the holistic ministry journey of “radical evangelicals” since the watershed International Congress on World Evangelization held in Lausanne, Switzerland in 1974. “These ‘radicals’ challenged the evangelical missionary community at Lausanne to see that ministry to, with, and among the world’s poor was part and parcel of the work of the Gospel,” says Tizon. “That was radical at the time because evangelicals were suspicious of social action.”

This integration between evangelism and social action has become what is known as Mission as Transformation. “In many ways, Mission as Transformation has gone beyond Lausanne,” says Tizon. “But as the Lausanne movement goes on (the third international gathering will be held in Cape Town, South Africa in 2010), it has to pay attention to what Transformationists are saying. The future of evangelical mission depends on it.”

Dr. Ronald J. Sider, professor of theology, holistic ministry and public policy at Palmer Theological Seminary, writes in the foreword, “A dramatic change of enormous importance has occurred in evangelical circles in the last 50 years. And this book offers one of the best—if not the best—overviews and analyses of that historic transformation.”

Dr. Tizon is also the director of Word and Deed Network of the Evangelicals for Social Action/Sider Center for Ministry and Public Policy, based at Palmer Seminary. Dr. Tizon holds degrees from Vanguard University of Southern California in Costa Mesa, CA, and the Graduate Theological Union in Berkeley, CA. Dr. Tizon, along with his wife and four children, served as missionaries in his native land of the Philippines for nine years, where he helped to establish LIGHT Ministries, a Filipino community development organization. He is an ordained minister of the Evangelical Covenant Church.

*Transformation after Lausanne: Radical Evangelical Mission in Global-Local Perspective* can be purchased online at [www.wipfandstock.com](http://www.wipfandstock.com).

## Laying His Life at the Feet of Jesus

By Allison Auclair

Tomás Dozier exemplifies what it means to be on an international mission. The MA in International Development student at Eastern University has spent his life traveling from country to country, following the Lord’s calling through mission work. Dozier, a native of Guadalajara, Mexico, has been serving in this capacity with his wife, Chelsea, an instructor in Eastern’s ESLI program. Last year, however, Dozier realized he needed more training to really become an effective agent of change on an international level.

“After working with inner-city ministry, education, and overseas ministry for over 15 years, I enrolled at Eastern because the school offered the most practical skills and training but in a biblical context, which was essential to me,” Dozier said. Once he graduates from Eastern, the 39-year-old father of three will be completely laying his life at the feet of Jesus, and knows that wherever in the world he lands, it will be part of God’s calling.

After obtaining his BA in geophysics from Occidental College in Los Angeles, Dozier worked as a math and science high school teacher in California and Georgia for a short period of time before realizing he was being called in a

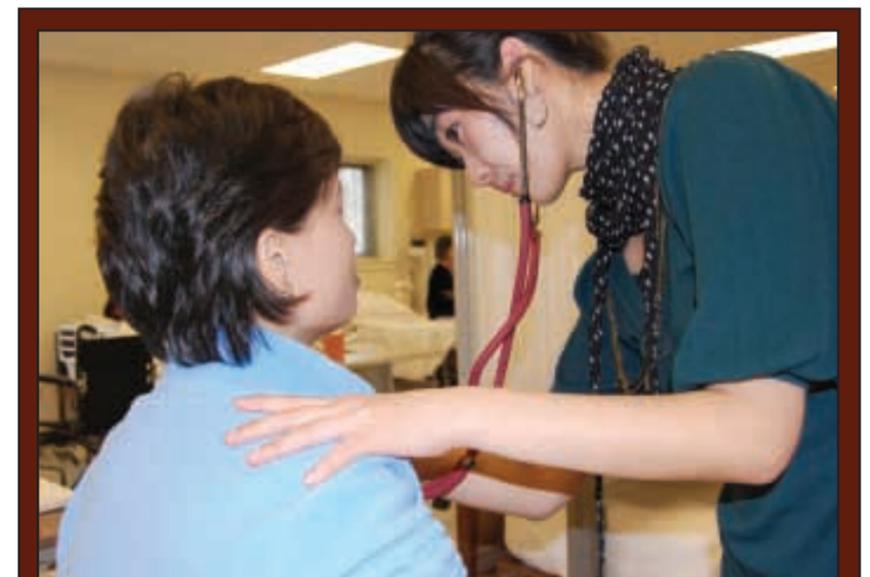
different direction. He then dedicated his life to missionary work with Latin American Mission (LAM).

“We decided to work with LAM because they have a unique perspective on missions and work with countries and leaders through Christ’s love,” Dozier said.

“I know I want to be used by God to make changes in the real world, and I have learned to do it the best way – through the lens and the support of my faith,” Dozier said. “Ministry was leading me to places where I started to feel ill-equipped, and I realized that I needed more education.”

That education is exactly what Dozier is getting at Eastern, where he is learning about holistic intervening, and the underlying economic, social, cultural, political and spiritual challenges in marginalized areas. Microfinance, community development, advocacy, relief, reconstruction, and disaster mitigation are just a few of ways in which Dozier is learning to help.

“This program is exactly what I needed,” Dozier said. “Chelsea and I are blessed to be at Eastern and to be in this community and we are so excited to see where the Lord takes us from here.”



*Eastern’s Korean Nursing Program brings nurses to St. Davids where they study English and learn American nursing practices as they prepare for jobs in U.S. hospitals.*

## JOURNEY FROM ST. DAVIDS TO TANZANIA

By Duncan Russell, sophomore

Last spring, Juli Reger '05 took a big step by joining African Inland Mission (AIM) and committing to spend at least a year teaching fifth graders in De res Salaam, Tanzania. She had just a few weeks of training in Kenya before the start of the school year in August. Juli then began teaching at Haven of Peace Academy (HOPAC), a day school for local missionary and Tanzanian children.

She says, "It has been wonderful being welcomed and taken care of by the Tanzanians. They are kind and loving people." Juli is also quick to point out that the transition has been made easier by the fact that, "My village is right on the ocean and everywhere you look it is beautiful. I have a great view of the coast from my house and school."

Though elementary education is clearly her passion, Juli is glad that her learning in college extended beyond the classroom. The journey that led her to Tanzania started at Eastern, where she says she began to feel the need to truly understand the Bible and how it applied to her life. Juli stresses that forming lasting relationships with supportive, Christian friends was one of the most important outcomes of her time spent at college.

While a student, she served as a leader on a missions trip to Jamaica. This trip led to further volunteer work with the same organization, which eventually helped guide her to her current position in Africa. It was also during this time that she first began working with inner-city students and realized that helping underprivileged children was part

of her calling. She says, "College was a great time to refocus my life and figure out the plan that the Lord desired for me. Overall, I think that my God really used my years at Eastern to mold me more into the person He wanted me to be."

So what's next for Juli? Eventually she plans to return to school for biblical studies and to earn a master's degree in education. But right now she is glad to be in Tanzania and recognizes the significance of her mission there, saying, "There is so much need for children and churches all over Africa." She says she is open to whatever God has in store for her. "My only goal is to keep following the Lord. Praise God that He has revealed the here and now and is providing what I need."



# Faith & Practice

## Sharing God's Love through Soccer and Smiles

By Kate Savo '08

This spring, the Eastern University Women's Soccer team toured South Africa with Ambassadors in Sport (AIS), working with children at churches and other organizations, and competing against high-level soccer teams.

AIS is an international organization that focuses on communicating the good news of Jesus Christ through soccer, which in some of the countries is called football. "We went there to serve and to help those who are working to extend the Gospel in South Africa," Head Coach Dan Mouw said, "and, of course, to play soccer."

The girls led soccer clinics in Pretoria, Cape Town and Mamelodi at grade schools, high schools and parks, mostly with children. Senior Heidi Peachey said, "It was a great chance for us to love the children and to use our love of soccer to share with them about our love for God and our love for them." After the clinics, team members led assemblies where they presented the Gospel message through skits and songs.

Mouw reports that during one of the assemblies they asked the children to sing their national anthem. "It was amazing listening to them sing," he said. "Their anthem consists of four languages and you could hear the shift in singing as each group came to their native tongue."

The girls also participated in match ministry, where they had the opportunity to get to know their competitors, something they were not used to doing in the

U.S. For junior Jill DiRenzo, this was a highlight of her trip; hanging out with the Under 17 South African national team. "We got to see what we all had in common," she said. "We all really opened up."

Their experiences also brought the team closer together. "We spent a lot of time sharing and really became unified on this trip," Peachey said. "We have begun to truly understand each other and a trust and unity has developed among us all."

Several of the girls have shown a desire to return to Africa or other poverty stricken countries. "My eyes are more open now to teaching abroad," said DiRenzo, who is majoring in elementary education.

In South Africa, they played six games and won four. At least one player hopes to return. "I've known for a while that I wanted to live in Africa after I graduate, and this trip only reassured me in that decision," senior Corie Brant said. "I could immediately tell that my heart was in Africa."

For Brant, the best experience had to be when they visited a school in one of the poorer sections in South Africa where they spoke no English. "My heart just broke for them, but at the same time I could not help smiling because of the joy that they passed on," she said. "We communicated through soccer and through smiles."



# A GLOBAL ORDINARY RADICAL

By Allison Auclair

Jamie Moffett '00, has learned how to use his skills in theatre sound design to make an international impact. While the 32-year-old from Palmyra, NJ, founded a Philadelphia-based company in 2005 called Jamie Moffett Media Design & Production, Inc., he has had global influence through the production of a documentary with **Shane Claiborne '97** (sociology and youth ministry) called *The Ordinary Radicals*. The film, released in September 2008, follows Claiborne in his world-wide tour for his book *Jesus for President: Politics for Ordinary Radicals* (co-authored with EU alum **Chris Haw '03**, released by Zondervan). The term "Ordinary Radicals" has become the name of the group of individuals in the film as they travel the world to learn how various cultures use the Bible and

other works of history to debate Jesus, His role, and the relationship that history has to today's state of American politics.

"We traveled thousands of miles to meet folks who feel religion is paramount in society," Moffett said. "It is very easy to take a look at American media and see that there are a lot of negative stereotypes attributed to American Christianity, but through working with Shane, it became clear to me that there are people who truly live to serve God."

Moffett's *The Ordinary Radicals* highlights how religion has played a historical role in elections. With a travel bus painted with the words "Jesus for President" running on 100% used vegetable oil, the Ordinary Radicals were spotted camped out at restaurants along the road on their cross-country journey as they waited for more vegetable oil to fuel their bus.

They could also be spotted in Africa and Germany, learning about how God's word has impacted social justice, racial reconciliation, environmental justice and more.

This movement, which transcends political party affiliation and denominational boundaries, is solely due to ordinary people

of faith who are changing society. Take Mark Weaver, for example. Weaver, a college student who read Claiborne's first book *The Irresistible Revolution - Living as an Ordinary Radical* (Zondervan), was asked to go on *The Price is Right* TV show the day after he finished the book. After winning almost \$60,000 in prizes, Weaver decided that his faith was stronger than money, and he flew to Uganda to work with children in an AIDS orphanage. He gave them all of his newfound money.

"This whole project is about the political imagination of what it means to follow after Jesus," Claiborne said. His speeches emphasize Jesus' work, and the embodiment of His presence in today's society. According to Claiborne, caring for the poor, the sick, and the unfortunate should be at the forefront of all political agendas. He is promoting Jesus for president—or if not Jesus himself, for the candidate who can fully support what is at the heart of Jesus—the poor and the peacemakers.

Moffett said, "The amazing people in the film lead remarkable lives. We truly live in an America that is less divided than we think."

"We are all doing the same thing," Moffett said. "Our desires to further God's kingdom are uniform across the world. It's really not about going to heaven; it's about bringing heaven to the world."

## It All Began at Eastern

Claiborne and Moffett met as students at Eastern University. Together, they founded a New Monastic community called The Simple Way in Philadelphia, PA, which just celebrated its 10th anniversary. The 501c(3) organization, based in Kensington, is devoted to helping the community through housing, school supplies, prayer and donations.

"While Shane and I were in the lunchroom at Eastern we learned about the homeless in Kensington," Moffett said. "We decided to get into the heart of it, and we bought what turned out to be The Simple Way house in 1995 on my credit card. It's a good thing it worked out," he joked.

"There is no way I could live without my time at Eastern," Moffett said. "I feel privileged to have the opportunity to be able to tell these stories that the regular viewing audience can't get to see. It's that sort of guerilla story that is important to tell, and through my time at Eastern my love of being an artist has also transformed into my love for social justice."

It was on the St. Davids campus that Moffett began to meet students, professors and staff members from Kenya, El Salvador, Korea, Guatemala, and other places around the world. It was this exposure that sparked Moffett's desire to make an impact globally.



Jamie Moffett

"We were all the same at Eastern, no matter where we were from," Moffett said. "Christians of all flavors and types, and those of different backgrounds, were all treated equally and we built relationships from there."

Through Eastern, the doors for Moffett's international travel opened. As an Eastern student, Moffett took classes in Havana, Cuba to learn about different photography and video styling that he wouldn't be able to learn elsewhere. Additionally, Moffett traveled to Fiji, Africa, Israel, Central and South America to learn about music, culture and how various communities function.

## What's Ahead?

Sparked by Eastern, Moffett's goal of traveling and telling stories of God has become a reality. In the future, he hopes to continue to tell stories of how God's word has influenced different communities worldwide. Additionally,

Moffett is attempting to dive deeper into helping the Kensington neighborhood.

"The larger the body of home ownership, the lower the crime rate," Moffett said. "I want to give families the opportunity to own and grow personally and socially. By giving these families a helping hand to be homeowners, the doors will open for them in other areas. I want to be an agent of change. That's not too high of a goal, right?"

For a true ordinary radical, someone who has traveled the world, documented how Christ's love has impacted society and has made a tremendous impact on a section of Philadelphia in desperate need, nothing is impossible.

For more information about the *Ordinary Radicals*, or to purchase the DVD, visit [www.theordinary-radicals.com](http://www.theordinary-radicals.com). For more information about Claiborne's newest book, *Jesus for President: Politics for Ordinary Radicals*, visit [www.JesusforPresident.org](http://www.JesusforPresident.org).



Jamie Moffett films Shane Claiborne.

# Facing Rejection

By Allison Auclair

The story of Eastern University graduate Pastor Nohu Ag Infa Yattara '98 (MS in economic and community development) began with a simple desire for a “clicky pen.” Pastor Nohu, a Mali native, is the pastor of the Evangelical Baptist Church of Timbuktu, and the founder of Tahanint N’Massinag E Tinbuktu (TNT), an organization that provides physical, emotional, monetary and material support. When he looks back at his journey, Nohu remembers his yearning for a click-pen as the root of his desire to overcome the unsuppressed cruelty he experienced in his youth and to achieve more for himself and his God.

“In my town, we didn’t have click pens and I really wanted one,” Nohu said. “Islamic purity was done through dipping the pen in ink, and I knew from a young age that this was not something I wanted to do anymore.”

Nohu remembers being kidnapped in 1959 from his resistant nomadic people and being forced by the French to attend school. Some children in his class had click-pens, and Nohu learned that they were gifts from the nearby Evangelical Baptist Mission station

# and Hardships to Follow JESUS

for reciting four Bible verses. Nohu did just that – and obtained his new pen. He continued to attend these weekly sessions and was given many presents for learning more about the Bible. But these gifts were met with severe consequences. Nohu was considered impure by his Islamic town and was beaten by his neighbors and peers, including his Muslim priest, for associating with Christianity.

“When I got the pen, and what I began to discover about christianity, I immediately fell in love with,” Nohu said. “But I was told that Christianity is for white people, Islam is for black people.”

Four years later, Nohu enrolled in a Bible camp outside of Timbuktu. There, he learned that Christianity had many black followers, and that belief in Christ transcends all languages, races and genders. Nohu made his final decision to accept Christ as his Lord and Savior in September of 1967.

“I still remember the day I came to receive Jesus,” Nohu said. “My father was so angry at me for denying Islam. He could have killed me for adopting Jesus over Mohammad, but instead he told me to leave his house and never come back.”

After living a nomadic Christian life, and enduring many beatings and stonings by Muslims, Nohu says his father eventually let him

return home. But Nohu’s mother attempted to poison and kill him, while his father and neighbors shunned Nohu for his newfound Christianity.

“When I graduated from high school, I could not sleep or eat without hearing this voice telling me that I should become a pastor and serve God in a full-time ministry,” Nohu said. “And I finally listened.”

After earning his bachelor’s degree in theology and pastoral studies from the Bible Institute in Côte d’Ivoire, Nohu began serving churches in north Mali in 1975. He worked with his wife, Fati, and the couple had three young boys. In 1997, Nohu and Fati moved to Broomall, PA, where Nohu enrolled in the School of Leadership and Development at Eastern University.

“I knew Eastern was the right place for me to gain a deeper understanding of my life mission,” Nohu said. “We did not know one word in English, and it was very tough. But I would not be where I am today if it weren’t for Eastern.”

TNT is now booming. The children’s center, Elijah House, is now home to 67 orphan children in distress. The Bible study program hosts over 300 children weekly.

“In Timbuktu, less than 20 percent of the people are literate, and 90% are jobless,” Nohu said. “And TNT is the only place people go to

get compassionate help, especially for their children.”

The TNT women’s center has flourished under Nohu as well. Single mothers, often the victims of failed, short-term marriages, struggle to feed themselves and their children. With his Eastern degree and networking skills, Nohu began working with World Vision, which donated over 100 sewing machines and Bibles to TNT.

TNT uses a 7-channel radio program to reach families, especially in Islamic parts of Mali. “The radio penetrates into places I’m scared to visit,” Nohu said.

By using God’s love and his desire to impact his community, Nohu has worked to meet the needs of these hurting individuals, and has provided hope for the future. His own family has expanded also, as Nohu and Fati have adopted seven children, in addition to their three sons.

“In Africa, we often say, ‘An elder sees even sitting far away even what a young man standing high can’t see,’” Nohu said. “That is the way I felt about Eastern. My professors were so knowledgeable and taught me everything I know today.”

To learn more about Nohu’s organization, visit [www.partnersintl.org](http://www.partnersintl.org).



## New Web Site Helps Us Invest for Eternal Dividends

By Allison Auclair

Nate Hoffer knows how to use his entrepreneurial skills for a good cause. The 27-year-old MBA student at Eastern University has developed a Web site devoted to raising funds for Christian causes. His Web site, [www.LoveToGive.net](http://www.LoveToGive.net), has over 100,000 Christian and fair trade products available for purchase. With each order you place, at least 10% (the average being 15%) of your order will go to a cause that you choose. The cause may be a church, local Christian ministry, or any other eligible organization.

"I wanted to create a site designed to be a free and easy fundraising tool for Christian causes by allowing their supporters to donate through purchasing from the Internet," Hoffer said. "Overall, we believe our role as a company is to invest in endeavors that pay eternal dividends. I wanted to start a business where I could invite others to

experience the joy of giving in an easy and convenient manner, with the goal being to provide revenue for the causes."

"Entering the MBA program at Eastern and learning how to start this company is one of the best things that has ever happened to me," Hoffer said. Nate and his wife, Rebekah, who is a co-founder of LoveToGive.net, are both graduates of Eastern Mennonite University. "The program at Eastern is based on Christian values, and I have integrated those teachings and that kind of mentality into my business," Hoffer said. "Eastern University has really been key to the site's success. Social entrepreneurship is crucial, and it's good to be learning at an institution that values the same mentality that I do and that I try to live out."

For more information, call 1.866.951.GIVE or e-mail [nate@lovetogive.net](mailto:nate@lovetogive.net).

### CALLED TO MISSIONS WORK

Alumni Eric '06 and Amy Barlow helped with tsunami relief in Thailand and Indonesia in 2005 and write, "Ever since then the Lord has been stirring our hearts, searching our thoughts and desires, and breaking down and then rebuilding our spirits, finally beckoning us back into the missions field." In the first three months of 2008, they worked in Kolkata, India, one of the poorest cities in the world, volunteering with the Missionaries of Charity. Eric worked in a home for the sick and dying. He spent his days cleaning, talking to, laughing with, and praying for men who were dying. Amy worked at a home for handicapped orphans which taught her the meaning of sacrifice and the obedience it takes to really listen to God. Now they are studying the Bible with Youth With a Mission (YWAM) as they prepare themselves for full-time missions work.

## When Volunteering Comes Full Circle

Eastern University librarian Joy Dlugosz grew up in a nine-member family home and knows first hand the financial hardships and struggles a family can go through. She believes this understanding led to her involvement with a nonprofit organization called FISH.

Pennridge FISH, (Fellowship in Serving Humanity), is a Christian-based, nonprofit organization that was created to serve the needs of low-income families. Since 1975, FISH has been providing families and individuals with emergency

food assistance and financial support as a bridge to becoming fully independent.

She first became involved with FISH through her church 12 years ago and for the last six years she has served as vice president.

FISH involves a large community effort to fund its operations, as most of the financing comes from local businesses, churches and individuals. Pennridge School District and the U.S. Post Office also support the group with food and financial aid. In addition, they receive

food from the USDA Emergency Food Assistance Program and the Pennsylvania State Food Purchase Program.

"The most rewarding part of volunteering with FISH is knowing that the work we do really helps those in need, and they're all just so thankful and appreciative for that little extra bit of help," says Dlugosz. "This is my calling, to come here and help these families." For information about FISH, call 215.257.7616 or e-mail [pennridgefish@comcast.net](mailto:pennridgefish@comcast.net).

## Helping the Poor in Haiti

An Eastern University education is a tool for change. Whether used to help bring social justice or to participate in meaningful service, an Eastern education is the gateway. Gilda Jean-Louis, a 2007 graduate of the Fast-Track M.S. in nonprofit management program, used this gateway to pursue her passion for helping the poor in Haiti. She co-founded with her sister, Marie Rosemonde Joseph, the Elise Joseph Foundation, Inc. named for their mother.

The foundation provides annual health fairs and health clinics for Haitians in the Philadelphia area, increases public awareness of the Haitian culture through its weekly radio program, teaches English as a second language, and provides humanitarian relief for Haitians with partnerships in Haiti.

Jean-Louis also earned her bachelor's degree in organizational

management from Eastern in 2003. The mother of four young adults and grandmother of three has served at Eastern for ten years as the administrative assistant for the Department of Nursing. Jean-Louis had always told her sisters about God's calling on her life to do missions work. However, it wasn't until she enrolled at Eastern that Jean-Louis' vision of founding a nonprofit organization began to develop.

"The program has made me capable of handling multiple objectives in order to meet our strategic goals," Jean-Louis said.

For more information about the Elise Joseph Foundation, e-mail [elisejosephfoundation@hotmail.com](mailto:elisejosephfoundation@hotmail.com).



Tracey Lassiter, BSN Two<sup>2</sup>, is one of a group of Eastern nursing students who volunteered to provide health care services for Haitian immigrants in Philadelphia.

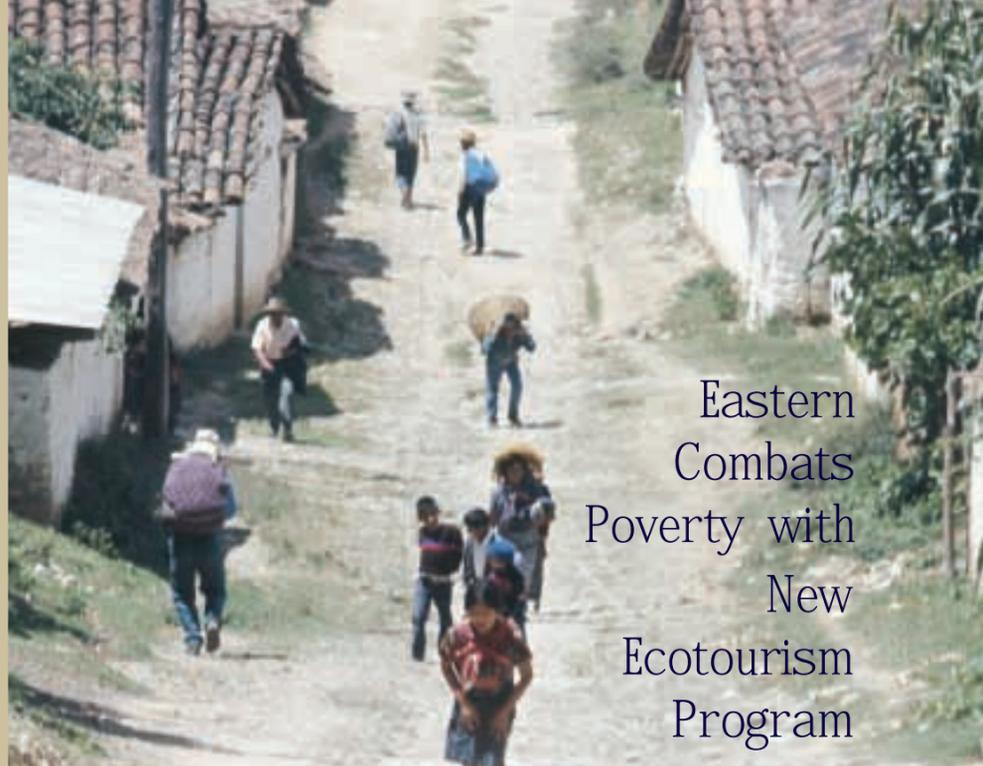
Palmer's Sider and Tizon Release Book *Linking Arms, Linking Lives*

Dr. Ronald J. Sider, professor of theology, holistic ministry and public policy and Dr. Al Tizon, assistant professor of holistic ministry at Palmer Theological Seminary, have recently released *Linking Arms, Linking Lives: How Urban-Suburban Partnerships Can Transform Communities* (Baker, October 2008).

Co-authored with founders of the Christian Community Development Association John M. Perkins and Wayne L. Gordon, *Linking Arms, Linking Lives* discusses the necessity, the challenges, and the rewards of crossing the urban-suburban divide for the sake of transforming communities and enabling Christians to fulfill the biblical call to compassion and justice.

The book investigates the importance of ministry partnerships between urban and suburban believers in helping poor communities through the Gospel. It takes a deeper look into what's necessary for helping the poor, fostering partnerships, and helping society grow in the light of God.

*Linking Arms, Linking Lives: How Urban-Suburban Partnerships Can Transform Communities* can be purchased through Baker Books at [www.bakerbooks.com](http://www.bakerbooks.com).



Eastern Combats Poverty with New Ecotourism Program

By Allison Auclair

Fighting poverty is a core commitment of Eastern's mission of faith, reason and justice. Now Eastern University has developed a community-based ecotourism project, aimed at poverty alleviation through sustainable economic development. The program is led by Rev. Stan LeQuire, an instructional designer and adjunct faculty at Eastern University. Through its School of Leadership and Development, LeQuire works to conserve creation by promoting sensible tourism to these areas, which, in turn, improves the well being of the local community.

LeQuire investigates the viability of ecotourism as a solution in three major problem areas: poverty alleviation through sustainable economic development, environmental preservation, and support of indigenous cultures. The goal is more than a contribution to a field of knowledge, but the interface of knowledge with action.

"We also research the ecotourism practices of faith-based groups with the intention of creating a model

that can be used by other groups in their work with those communities for whom ecotourism is a viable and appropriate means of development," LeQuire said. "This project relates strongly to Eastern's commitment to training students in taking the whole Gospel to the whole world."

While LeQuire's work mostly targets Central America, it is a global project. This summer, LeQuire studied an ecotourism lodge in South Africa which is operated by a Christian business capital group.

Eastern invites you to contact Stan LeQuire if you know of any such community-based ecotourism ventures. These contacts may include organizations that are beginning to think about incorporating this into their vision, companies or missions that already have a business in place, and/or anecdotes of personal travel experiences with ecotourism.

Contact Stan LeQuire at [ecotourism@eastern.edu](mailto:ecotourism@eastern.edu) or [slequire@eastern.edu](mailto:slequire@eastern.edu).

For information about our related academic programs: [www.eastern.edu/sld](http://www.eastern.edu/sld).

Changing Lives Through Business

By Rebecca Druckenmiller

Some students may initially join Students in Free Enterprise (SIFE) to meet new people or develop their resumes, but what all the students at Eastern find is that they will soon have the opportunity to be effective agents of change in the lives of those who need it most. SIFE is an inter-collegiate, global organization that was founded on the values of empowering targeted audiences through the knowledge of free enterprise.

Dr. Albert Socci, Eastern's SIFE advisor, wanted to give his students the opportunity to use their business knowledge and skills to help the community, specifically with middle school children in West Philadelphia, PA. Eastern's SIFE chapter partnered with the West Philadelphia Alliance for Children (WEPAC) in 2004 and for the past three years has spent one day a week teaching 10-15 middle school students entrepreneurial skills. "Our project was focused on teaching the basics of ethics, manufacturing and marketing," said Lisa Soares, former member of SIFE. "The students were grouped together to start assembly lines in which they produced artwork that was sold in front of neighborhood Acme Supermarkets in Wayne. All of the proceeds were then put towards a token of appreciation for their school and is displayed where incoming students can see the value

of what hard work and committed values can bring

to a community." SIFE also runs fundraisers throughout the year and saves the money for a scholarship fund they set up for the students to use when they pursue their undergraduate educations.

WEPAC Executive Director Sue Gibbons explains that Eastern's students do much more for the younger students than they may think. "Many of the children come from homes where they may not receive a lot of support and guidance. By connecting with Eastern's students, they have the opportunity to develop mentoring relationships and interact with students who are going to college, a place where many of them don't ever expect to end up."

SIFE brings the students to Eastern where they can see that when they take advantage of financial aid opportunities, college becomes an attainable goal. "I hope that we can keep up with these children and see them through to college. We can't lose them in the system, they're too important to this world," said Socci. By bringing the students to campus, Dr. Socci can also reach out to them on a spiritual level, which isn't possible to do in their public schools.

Reflecting on the experience, Lisa Soares says, "I think our main goal was to show these children that there is so much more to life than the seven blocks in which they reside and go to school. We know we made a difference in their lives and that is what being a part of SIFE is about and what being an Eastern student is about."

If you are interested in contributing to the SIFE scholarship fund or want information about SIFE and WEPAC, contact Dr. Albert Socci at [asocci@eastern.edu](mailto:asocci@eastern.edu).



## McCartha's Documentaries Shed Light on the Hurting in Philadelphia

By telling the story of individuals who have lost family and friends to the violent streets of Philadelphia, PA, Charmagne McCartha '07 tells the true tale of street life,



McCartha talks with a student after her *Windows on the World* presentation.

while encouraging her audience to be agents of change for the future. If we invest our lives in serving God, we can help to turn this

crisis around by teaching children and teenagers that violence is not the answer.

A 2007 graduate of Eastern University's master's in multicultural education program, she is the founder of 2

Tell the Story, LLC. Frustrated and confused by Philadelphia's killing epidemic, she created the company so that people in difficult situations could tell their stories. She weaves interviews, narratives and statistics together to create a presentation about people in the most dangerous areas of Philadelphia. Each interviewee had one thing in common: their belief that God has enabled them to carry on with their lives after the violent death of a loved one.

"It's our duty as God's people to help others and commit to helping organizations that are working to eliminate gun violence," McCartha said. She has created two documentaries: *The Cries of a Wounded City: An Inside Look at Violent Crime in Philadelphia* (created in 2006 when Philadelphia hit a nine-year-high death toll); and *Defying the Odds: An In-Depth Look at Successful African-American Men in America*.

"I realized that the only way this is going to turn around is if we can help mothers raise these children and young men properly," McCartha said. "We can help guide these children to a lifetime of violence-free success."

For information, visit [www.2tellyourstory.net](http://www.2tellyourstory.net).

## Grad Student Promoted to Director of Nursing at Inglis House



Marjorie Harding, RN, who joined Inglis House as a unit nurse manager nearly eight years ago, has been promoted to director of nursing. She is pursuing an MBA in healthcare administration at Eastern University. Inglis House

is a residential home in Philadelphia, PA, for people with severe physical disabilities.

Born in Jamaica, Harding left her native country, with its economic instability and high crime and

poverty levels, during the 1980s. Having just finished high school, she eagerly pursued a string of educational opportunities in the United States at Presbyterian Medical Center of the University of Pennsylvania, Delaware County Community College, Hahnemann University Hospital and LaSalle University.

Inglis Foundation works with people with physical disabilities to create and provide practical solutions so they can pursue their life goals. Inglis House is a specialty nursing care facility for 297 adults that offers long-term, rehabilitative medical and nursing care; physical, occupational and speech therapies; and social enrichment programs.

For more information about Inglis House, visit [www.inglis.org](http://www.inglis.org).

## Welcome New Faculty

Eastern University is proud to welcome 14 new faculty members for the 2008-2009 academic year. "We are privileged to have such a gifted and diverse group of scholars join the Eastern community, a group for whom the common ground is the integration of faith, reason and justice in their lives and in their work," said Eastern Provost David King. New faculty from left to right, front to back are:

Vickie Blue Lemay (B.A., University of New Hampshire; M.Ed. University of Utah; M.A., Boston College; Ph.D., Indiana University) joins the English department as an assistant professor.

Catherine Neimetz (B.A., Clarion University; M.A., Ph.D., University of Pittsburgh) is in the education department as an assistant professor. Amy Brown (B.S., Lafayette College; Ph.D., State University of New York at Buffalo) joins the chemistry department as a visiting professor.

JoAnn Flett (A.A., Bellevue Community College; B.B.S., Prairie Bible College, Canada; M.B.A., Eastern University; Fuller Theological Seminary) serves as a visiting professor.

Katrina Rutt '05 (B.A., Eastern University; M.A., West Chester University) serves the English department as an affiliate instructor.

Doug Horton '99 (B.S., Eastern University; Rowan University; M.S., Indiana University) joins the biokinetics department.

Monir Atta-alla (B.A., M.A., College of Education at Assiut University in Egypt; Ph.D., Assiut University and Glasgow University of Scotland) joins the department of education/ESL as an associate professor.

Beth Birmingham '00 (B.A., West Chester University; M.B.A., Eastern University; Ph.D., Antioch University) returns to Eastern as an associate professor in the leadership and change department.



Faith Ngunjiri (B.E., Kenyatta University, Nairobi, Kenya; M.A., Nairobi Evangelical Graduate School of Theology; M.A., Ph.D., Bowling Green State University) joins the leadership and development department. Christopher Anderson (B.A., Binghamton University; M.A., Ph.D., University of Albany) joins the psychology department.

Kesha Morant (B.A., West Chester University; M.A., Pennsylvania State University; Ph.D., Howard University) joins the communications studies department.

Mary Anne Peters (B.S.N., Pennsylvania State University; M.S.N., University of Pennsylvania; D.N.Sc., Widener University) re-joins the nursing department as chair and associate professor from her position as director of the graduate nursing program at La Salle University.

Russel Snell (B.S., Liberty University; M.A., Boston College; Ph.D., Marquette University) is an associate professor in the philosophy department.

Lindy Backues '93 (B.E.S., University of Missouri; M.Div., Asbury Theological Seminary; M.S., Eastern University; D.Phil., University of Leeds) joins the economic development department as an assistant professor.

## Dr. Cornel West Enthralls Capacity Crowd at Seminary



Dr. Cornel West (left) and Dr. Wallace Smith, President of Palmer Seminary

The Palmer Theological Seminary of Eastern University hosted Dr. Cornel West on October 9 for a lively discussion of race in the church and American society. Philadelphia Mayor Michael Nutter presented a Proclamation from the City of Philadelphia. The Seminary Chapel was filled to capacity with over 500 invited guests, including local church and civic leaders, along with faculty and students. Dr. West, a dynamic and visionary educator and author, was introduced by Dr. Rosemary Cowan, a professor in Eastern's political science department, who is the author of Cornel West: The Politics of Redemption. Dr. West praised her book as "the best ever written on me" of the six or seven books on his life and work.

Seminary President Dr. Wallace Smith presented questions from the audience and others and Dr. West answered them in a free-ranging style that was both thoughtful and theatrical. With broad gestures and occasional mimicry, Dr. West entertained, enthralled,

chided and challenged "all of us who still call ourselves Christians" to face the injustices in our society.

Throughout the evening, Dr. West invoked the name of civil rights pioneer Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., simply referring to him as "Martin" and saying that leaders like him and Barack Obama, will make the right choices and serve as sorely needed role models, especially for disenfranchised African American youth.

With a style that was alternately humorous and poetic, Dr. West discussed the tensions among various minority groups "going for the same piece of pie" in society, the growing role of black women in leadership, the identity crisis for many black males, and the vast injustices among the poor. Memorable points were made such as, "justice is what love looks like in public."

Urging Americans to bring together truth and unconditional love, Dr. West exhorted his appreciative listeners to tell the truth, but put love at the center of our language. "Don't ask anyone else's permission to what is your calling!" he told his audience. Dr. West received a standing ovation at the end of this inspiring evening.

Endorsers for this event included the Philadelphia Baptist Association, the Pennsylvania Convention of National Baptists, National Ministries of the American Baptist Churches USA, Kingdom Builders Anabaptist Network, Emergent Village, and the Philadelphia Mayor's Office.

### ATTENTION ALUMNI

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Instructions for posting and the current listings are under Job Opportunities.

The Office for Careers and Calling  
[careers@eastern.edu](mailto:careers@eastern.edu)

### David Kim Named Artist in Residence



David Kim, Concertmaster of the Philadelphia Orchestra, has been named Artist in Residence at Eastern University. He has generously given his time in master classes at Eastern over the past few years. Violinist David Kim was named Concertmaster in 1999. He earned his bachelor's and master's degrees from The Juilliard School. A dedicated Christian, Kim is involved with the formation of a seminary in Japan and various charities and missions around the world.

### Eastern Grad Joins the Peace Corps in South Africa

Bridgett Marjorie Cassell '96 has been accepted into the Peace Corps and is off to South Africa where she is assisting teachers in improving their teaching and classroom practices, as well as working with government bodies and educators to strengthen the partnership between schools and communities.

After she earned a bachelor of arts in performance arts, Cassell worked as a pre-school teacher at the Jubilee School in Philadelphia, PA.

Cassell joins the 319 Pennsylvania residents currently serving in the Peace Corps. More than 6,813



Dr. Tony Campolo '56 admires the sculpture of him created by Dr. John Lanzalotti '68 and given to Eastern University in recognition of Dr. Campolo's remarkable Christian service as a professor, speaker, author and minister.

Pennsylvania residents have served in the Peace Corps since 1961. To learn more about the Peace Corps, visit [www.peacecorps.gov](http://www.peacecorps.gov).

### Faculty News



Dr. Joe Modica co-edited with Dr. Scot McKnight, *Who Do My Opponents Say that I Am?* This book explores the accusations made against Jesus by his critics. Dr. Modica contributed the chapter called "Jesus as Glutton and Drunkard."

Dr. Joselli Deans has been named the Alumni Fellow for the Department of Dance, Boyer College of Music and Dance, Temple University. Her alumni research presentation, "Black Ballerinas Dancing on the Edge," was featured at Temple University this fall.



Dr. Phil Cary has written a commentary on the book of Jonah, which was published this fall by Brazos Press. His lecture course on the history of Christian theology is being published by The Teaching Company.

Scott Robinson's "Kitta's Karsilamas," a composition inspired by Greco-Turkish dance music, has been included in the New York City public schools' Citi Global Encounters curriculum of the Weill Institute (the educational arm of Carnegie Hall). The curriculum's companion CD also includes selections from such distinguished Turkish musicians as Latif Bolat, Sami Yusuf, the Kudsi Erguner Ensemble and the Radio Ankara Ensemble.

Dr. Jeff Lawton, Andrew Bradstreet '08 and THC sophomore Dean Chia, form the Eastern University MS-150 cycling team that raised \$900 to support the local Multiple Sclerosis chapter. The 150-mile-ride started near Philadelphia and ended in Ocean City, NJ.

## Dr. Conde-Frazier Named Dean of Esperanza College



Dr. Elizabeth Conde-Frazier will be the new dean of Esperanza College, effective January 2009.

Esperanza College is Eastern's junior college serving the Latino community in Philadelphia, PA.

Dr. Conde-Frazier is an educator with a fine regard for the discipline of religious education and its ties to theology, spirituality and the social sciences. She has written on multicultural issues, Hispanic theological education, and the spirituality of the scholar. In addition to her M.Div. from Eastern Baptist Theological Seminary (now Palmer Seminary), she holds a B.A. from Brooklyn College and a Ph.D. from Boston College.

"As the incoming dean of Esperanza College, I will seek to continue the rich legacy of the college as a Hispanic-serving institution with the purpose of helping students to be successful academically as a step toward their dreams," Dr. Conde-Frazier said. "I hope to instill in the graduates a strong sense of their gifts and vision and to nurture a desire to serve the community as a part of their expression of faith."

Esperanza College was created in partnership between Nueva Esperanza, Inc. and Eastern University. The President of Esperanza, Reverend Luis Cortés, Jr., says, "Bringing Dr. Elizabeth Conde-Frazier to Esperanza College is a special moment in the life of our college and community. To bring a senior scholar to serve a neighborhood college is rare. To have her in the only Pennsylvania Hispanic-serving institution is a blessing."

Dr. Conde-Frazier has taught at the Claremont School of Theology in Claremont, CA, and teaches at Latin American Bible Institute in La Puente, CA. She served as lecturer in field education (Andover Newton

Theological School, Newton Centre, MA) director of the Orlando E. Costas Hispanic and Latin American Ministries Program, facilitator for Women of the Cross, Hispanic Women's Support Group, and pastor of the Primera Iglesia Bautista Hispana, (New London, CT), among others.

Her scholarly passion involves participatory action research with communities working on justice issues, such as immigration and ecumenism, as they relate to religious education. Dr. Conde-Frazier, an ordained American Baptist minister, is the author of *Hispanic Bible Institutes* and co-author of *A Many Colored Kingdom: Multicultural Dynamics for Spiritual Formation*, and many academic and church-related papers. Her accolades include The Justo González Award for Excellence in Theological Education (2004) and Teacher of the Year from the Latin American Bible Institute (2004).

For more information, visit [esperanza.eastern.edu](http://esperanza.eastern.edu) or call 215.324.0746.

### In Memoriam

The Eastern community mourns the untimely death of MBA student **Veno Leigertwood**, age 31, who was shot outside his home in September as he packed his car to attend the last day of graduate school. Leigertwood was a counselor in the Philadelphia School District with a program called GEAR UP that guides low-income students through high school and helps them get into college.

**Dr. Cyril D. Garrett** (1919-2008) passed away on August 14 in Ojai, CA. Dr. Garrett had served as a professor of religious education at Eastern Baptist Theological Seminary (now Palmer Seminary) and as executive vice president at Eastern Baptist College (now Eastern University). A lectureship in family and community engagement for Alzheimer's disease is being established by the Garrett Family Trust. Visit [www.ccgarrrett.com](http://www.ccgarrrett.com).

## Working for Gold in Beijing

Doug Horton '99, Eastern's newest Athletic Training faculty member, was involved with our nationwide effort to win gold medals in the 2008 Beijing Olympics.

Over the course of four days, Horton assisted Olympic athletic trainers in treatments and competition safety coverage for the U.S. Olympics gymnastics team when they competed in the June trials at Philadelphia's

Wachovia Center. NovaCare rehabilitation was the site host for team medicine at the trials and was responsible for the sports medicine team at the facility.

"Knowing that these were the athletes representing



Horton (left) and EU athletic training major **Chris Slininger** tend to a player at an Eastern soccer game.

my country was such a great feeling. You really feel like you are part of the team," said Horton. Now he hopes to provide Eastern's students with similar opportunities. As Athletic Training clinical coordinator, Horton is responsible for setting up all internships for the students' practicums and he also serves as director of the life fitness courses.

Horton's work in athletic training started with his education

here at Eastern where he graduated with the health and exercise degree (now athletic training). He then went on to work with the Philadelphia Eagles, the Phillies and Indiana University's athletics teams.

## Mathnasium

By Rebecca Druckenmiller

Greg Bundens '91 initially thought he would seek a career in the psychology field, but as a senior at Eastern he decided to pursue teaching instead. After he graduated with his degree in psychology, he earned a teaching credential from Widener University and his master's degree in math education. He then taught in a few local districts, but knew he could do more teaching in a different capacity. That is what led Bundens to open a Mathnasium in Paoli, PA, and he has now expanded with a second branch in Rosemont.

Mathnasium is a learning center for students from pre-K through the 12th grade who need help developing their math skills. With the help of tutors, students work to improve their understanding of math concepts and overall school performance through a renewed confidence and positive attitude.

"I feel that in this capacity I can be more effective because we are working with the students one-on-one so

they don't get lost in the mix of a large classroom," said Bundens. He says that his business is helping students go from hating math to excelling in it and loving it.

One of his greatest joys is enlisting Eastern students and grads as tutors on his staff. Bundens has over six alumni, five current students and one faculty member on staff. "It is fun and exciting to think of ways to get children to understand concepts," says Eastern student and Mathnasium staff member Dean Chia. "I'm really grateful to be involved. It can be frustrating at times but in a good way because I know I'm helping someone." Working at Mathnasium also benefits Eastern's students because they have the opportunity to get some real teaching experience. "It's been very rewarding to witness a student's 'ah ha' moments," says Eastern student and Mathnasium staff member Jonathan Bradstreet.

To learn more about Mathnasium, visit [www.mathnasium.com](http://www.mathnasium.com) or e-mail Greg Bundens at [gbundens@comcast.net](mailto:gbundens@comcast.net).

## 1950's

**Mary Lou (Davis) Holly '52** resides at Elm Terrace Gardens, an American Baptist retirement home, in Lansdale, PA.

**Rev. Arthur Gualtieri '53** served as a pastor and missionary to Thailand from 1981-1995. He is affiliated with the Worldwide Evangelization Crusade and New Tribes Mission.

**John W. Horton '53** resides in New Jersey. John is a retired Presbyterian minister who is now serving as a part-time pastor of the Athena Reformed Churches and will continue to serve for five years.

**Patricia (Ling) Magdamo '53** is living in Audubon, PA. Pat has been retired for 12 years and is enjoying her six grandchildren. After graduating in 1953, she returned to Eastern Seminary where she worked in the Registrar's Office.

**William Zulker '53** is celebrating 58 years of marriage to his wife Isabel and 52 years in Gospel ministry. He is presently taking flying lessons in both a helicopter and airplane.

**Jack Lottey '54** assisted **Dr. George Claghorn** in the preparation of his Ph.D. thesis "Aristotle's Criticism of Plato's 'Timaeus'" for publication. The original price of the book was \$2.85 postpaid. The book second hand now sells for \$125 on www.Amazon.com.

**Beverly (Clark) Carlson '58** is currently living in Pennsylvania with her husband, Allen. They have three children and three grandchildren. Beverly attends a United Methodist Church and is taking care of her 96-year-old stepmother who lives nearby.

**Elizabeth (Hill) Cutting '58** is living in New Hampshire with her husband, David. They have three children and seven grandchildren aged 1 to 19 years. Elizabeth is

active in her church, teaching Sunday School, leading Bible studies, and speaking.

**Rev. Dorcas Diaz-Shaner '58** is living in New Jersey with her husband **Donald '61**, whom she met at Eastern Theological Seminary (they both graduated in 1961). In 2007, she was invited to begin a new ministry at Emmanuel Baptist Church as the Pastor for Latino ministries. She is also the facilitator for the Prayer Shawl Ministry. Donald serves on the Board of Deacons.

**Lester (Gene) Eberhart '58** is living in New Jersey with his wife, Nelda. They have six children and eight grandchildren. Gene is currently attending Bayside Chapel, which is new and growing. He belongs to three musical organizations and continues to play his trumpet.

**Alan Garvie '58** is living in Hamilton, NJ. He celebrated the birth of twin grandchildren on March 18. In 2002, Alan retired

from being an elementary school principal after 38 years.

**A. Barbara (Liston) Lehman '58** resides in Pennsylvania with her husband of 40 years. She worked as an English and social studies teacher for 30 years and is now retired and attends St. John's UMC.

**Judith (Zimmerman) Lister '58** is living in New York. She has two sons, David and Christopher, and three grandchildren, Morgan, Kevin and Joshua. She is a member of the First Baptist Church of Ballston Spa and the Ministry Enhancement Team of Capital Area Baptist Association. She is also a past moderator of the association and an occasional preacher.

**Cynthia (Guild) Runyon '58** resides in Georgia with her husband, Theodore. They have three children, Margaret, David, and Stephen. Cindy attends the Glenn Memorial United Methodist Church on the Emory campus where she is a member of a lay ministry that visits people who are hospitalized and homebound. She also volunteers for the Decatur Cooperative Ministry.

**Jalna M. Schuler '58** is living in Philadelphia, PA, with her husband, Thomas A. Jones. She retired in 1993 after 33 years of classroom teaching in Nevada, Oregon, and Philadelphia. Jalna attends the Roxborough Baptist Church in Philadelphia. She is also a member of the Buck Ridge Ski Club, the YMCA

of Roxborough, and the Germantown Historical Society.

**Chaplain (Col) Vahan Sipantzi '58** reports that he writes a "Chaplain's Corner" each month for a half-dozen Army Special Forces Association newsletters. He also shares that the highlight of each year is spending two or three months working in Haiti.

**Reiko Ushioda '58** is living in Yokohama, Japan, with her husband, Michio. They have two children, daughter Yuriko is 44 and their son, Makoto, is 37. Reiko is a member of Maita Kyodan Church (United Methodist Churches of Japan) in Yokohama.

**Donald Valentine '58** is living in Pennsylvania with his wife, Carol. They recently celebrated their 50th anniversary with friends and family in New Hampshire. Don is the pastor emeritus at the Baptist Church of Grafton.

**Donald Walls '58** is living in Pennsylvania. In December of 2004, his wife Jane went home to the Lord after a long battle with cancer. Don has a son, David, a daughter-in-law, Erika, and a grandson, Peter. Don is currently teaching in the Church Leadership Institute Program and mentoring his 12th student.

**Ed Warner '58** retired in 1993 after 27 years as a senior information officer with the Educational Commission for Foreign Medical Graduates (ECFMG). He has worked part-time in the Alumni Office at

Eastern since 1994. Ed also serves as organist at First Baptist Church of Manayunk, Philadelphia. He is treasurer of the University Alumni Council.

**Esther (Smith) Wuertz '58** is living in Pennsylvania with her husband, Charles. They have two sons and four granddaughters. Esther continues to substitute teach 2-3 days a week at Twin Valley High School. She is also an active member of Brandywine Baptist Church.

## 1960's

**Paul Banyacski '60** and his wife, Jeanne, celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on May 31, 2008. Paul was seriously injured in a motorcycle accident in August 2007, but has made an amazing recovery.

**David Bevington '62** reports that he is officially retired, but still pastors a small church and preaches at another twice a month. He also plays piano for a local restaurant on Friday nights.

**Nora (Tomajko) Day '63** lives in Indiana near her son. She's a nanny to her first granddaughter during the school year.

**Barbara (Moore) DuBois '63** has a daughter, Michele, who is an RN in NJ and a son, Stephen, who is an accountant in NY. Barbara retired in 2004 after 30 years as an elementary school media specialist and is

involved in the United Methodist Church.

**Judi (Forney) Leaming '63** is wandering through Texas with her husband, **Spicer Leaming '64**.

**Abdiel Lorente '63** retired to Florida.

**Ruth Anne (Davis) Offutt '63** is celebrating her 44th anniversary this year with her husband **Bill '63**. Bill served as an interim minister at Good Shepherd Baptist Church. Steve, their son, is an adjunct professor at Eastern's School of Leadership and Development.

**Robert (Bob) Plimpton '63** is living in San Diego, CA. He is the uncle of three nieces and one nephew. Currently, Bob is the resident organist of the First United Methodist Church of San Diego. He still performs frequently in Balboa Park. Bob also does freelance recitals and plays fairly regularly with the San Diego Symphony.

**Mary Sue (Blum) Shier '63** is living in New Mexico with her husband of 42 years, Maurice Shier. They have four married children and five grandchildren. Mary Sue attends the First Presbyterian Church where she serves as a bell ringer, a choir member, and the church treasurer. She also volunteers for Habitat for Humanity and the Kiwanis of Silver City.

**Larry Thoren '63** has been married to Betty, who attended Eastern, since June 8, 1963.

They have four children, Rob, Chris, Karen, and Gretchen and 14 grandchildren.

**Cathy (Parker) Wrisley '63** is retired. She is living in Pennsylvania with her husband, Stuart. Cathy enjoys time filled with friends, the 4-H, volunteering, grandchildren, and membership and duties within the local church.

**Roger Kennett '64** is enjoying teaching and doing research with undergraduates at Wheaton College, IL, as the Strohschein Professor of Biology. He is also on the emeritus faculty of the University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine. Carol and Roger attend Willow Creek Community Church near their home and are pre-marriage mentors in the marriage ministry there.

**Carol (Lundberg) Kennett '66** received her Ph.D. in the Anthropology of Education from the University of Pennsylvania and has developed and directs graduate programs in education at Trinity International University in Deerfield, IL.

**Joyce (Black) Ackerman '68** was married to Thomas Ackerman in 1969. He passed away in 2005. She has two daughters and two grandchildren. She recently retired as an elementary teacher in June '07. She attends the Pinelands Community Church in NJ.

**Richard Austin '68** is living in Wisconsin with his wife



Alumni from the class of '58 celebrated their 50th Reunion by leading the May 2008 Commencement processional.

**Bette-Jane (Spooner) '69.** They have a son, David Graham, and two granddaughters, Madelyn Grace, and Lauren Elizabeth.

**Carolyn Bekes '68** is living in New Jersey. In February 2008, she received the "Courage to Lead" award from ACGME, an organization that accredits graduate medical education programs.

**Adele (Grollman) Hansen '68** is living in Minnesota with her husband, Steve. They have two daughters, Maria and Jennifer.

**John Lanzalotti '68** has been an adjunct professor at William and Mary College, Williamsburg, VA, for 25 years. He also has a general medical practice there. In his spare time, he sculpts in marble and bronze. View his work on [www.williamsburgsculpture.com](http://www.williamsburgsculpture.com).

**Mary (Mugridge) Nicol '68** is married to **David Nicol '71** and they're celebrating their 38th anniversary this year. They have three children, Gwen, Michelle, and Jonathan, and three grandchildren. Mary currently works part-time as editor at Wyeth Pharmaceuticals in Collegeville, PA. She's also an organist at First Presbyterian Church in Phoenixville, PA (David is choir director).

**Steven Stewart '68** has just received notice from his place of employment of 39 years, the Harrisburg Academy, that he has been selected for induction into the Athletic Hall of Fame for his many years as a coach and athletic director.

**Florence (Deisenroth) VanDyke '68** and husband **Glen '67** just celebrated 13 years of marriage. They both sing in the Chancel Choir at First Presbyterian Church in Lewisburg, PA.

**John (Court) White '69** is in Thailand providing eye care to former Laotian refugees.

## 1970's

**David Nicol '71** has retired after 37 years of teaching music at Spring Ford School District in Royersford, PA. David continues as director of the Christian Artists Singers.

**M. Jean Knapp '72** was honored at the Township of Lower Merion Employee Recognition Awards Ceremony as the 2007 Outstanding General Manager for the Township. Jean is the Bala Cynwyd Library head librarian.

**Elaine (Morrill) Ardia '73** and her husband, Bruce, have been married for 33 years and have one son, Tom. She has been the archives assistant to the Muskie Archives and Special Collections Library at Bates College for the past seven years.

**Stephen Delphey '73** celebrated his 32nd wedding anniversary in August 2008. He has three sons, Tim, 28, Adam, 19, and Ben, 17. He attends Haddon Heights Baptist Church where he was recently part of a work team that was helping to



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finish buildings at a camp in Columbia. He also helped to build a church for one of their missionaries in the Bronx, NY.

**Patricia (Williams) Flewelling '73** is living in Maine with her husband of 35 years, Bill. They have two daughters, Kate and Anna, and recently welcomed their granddaughter, Alexandra Kate, into the world.

**Natalie Hale '73** celebrated her 38th anniversary to **Charles Hale '71** in May 2008. Their first grandchild was born in April 2008. She serves as an educational consultant and developmental therapist for Childhood Development Services in Lewiston, ME. Natalie is a member of South Gorham Baptist Church.

**Sherrill (DeMott) Hultgen '73** celebrated 13 years of marriage to her husband Rick on July 15, 2008. She is continuing education as a Reading Specialist. She has also served on the Board of Illinois Branch of International Dyslexia

Association. In her church, Woodridge UMC, Sherrill is active in Stephen Ministry, in the Prayer Shawl Ministry, and Adult Sunday School as co-facilitator.

**Dr. Mark Rodgers '73** was married in 1974 to **Jan Aiello '74**. He is the dean and a professor at Dominican University's Graduate School of Social Work. He is involved with the United Methodist Church and the International Association of Social Workers.

**Mary Lou (Peterson) Sturgill '73** and her husband, Phil, celebrated their 27th year of marriage. Phil also retired from Amtrak after 34 years in management. They have two sons, Andy, 25, and Stephen, 21. Mary Lou is a member of Brandywine Baptist Church in Downingtown, PA, where she teaches Sunday school, sings in the choir, and attends a ladies Bible study and small group.

**Gretchen (Sayles) Dunneman '74** and her husband, Reg, can be reached at 607.765.2627.

Check [www.thedunnemans.net](http://www.thedunnemans.net) for their complete concert schedule.

**Stephen Gray '75** has had a long career with the Boy Scouts of America. Beginning in 1988, he joined the National Capital Area Council in Washington, D.C., as a field director. In June 2007, Gray joined the Hudson Valley, NY council in Salisbury Hills as its account executive.

**Dr. Jackie Parker '75** works part-time in the emergency room at Grandview Hospital, Sellersville, PA. She is married to Barry Silver who is also an emergency room physician at Warren Hospital, Phillipsburg, NY. The couple has two children.

**Melinda Graves-Story '75** was ordained in the Christian ministry in 1996. In May 2002, Rev. Melinda (Graves) Story graduated from the Eastern Baptist Theological Seminary with a master's of theological studies degree. Since October 2003, she has been serving as interim pastor of the Evelyn Graves Ministries Church.

**Dr. Clarence Walker '75** is an ordained minister and certified marriage and family therapist. Clarence serves as pastor of Fresh Anointing, as well as president of Clarence Walker Ministries. Dr. Clarence Walker is an adjunct professor at Palmer Seminary. Visit [www.thefacc.org](http://www.thefacc.org).

**Patricia (Elling) Wedding '75** received the Finger Lakes Community College chemical

dependency counseling award in late 2007.

**Beth (Labresco) Allen '78** has two sons, Matthew and Josh. She is currently living in Pittsburgh, PA. She is employed as a drug and alcohol counselor at Mon Yough Community Services and is in the process of earning national certification and licensure. Beth is a past president of Pittsburgh American Baptist Women's Ministries and a member of the First Baptist Church in Monroeville.

**Renee (Williams) Cox '78** celebrated her 25th wedding anniversary with her husband, Brian. She has two children, Katherine, 16, and William, 13. They enjoy living in California.

After working as an AIDS oncologist in Chicago and then a hospice physician in Tampa, for the past three years **David W. Lyter '78**, MD, MPH (E.C. Class of 1978, EBTS Class of 1980) has been working as a primary care physician for the gay and HIV community in Ft. Lauderdale, FL.

**Jim McMahon '78** is the principal of JM Bear Advisors and Consultants located in Sacramento, CA. His firm provides consulting to the banking and financial services industry and small to middle market size businesses.

**Tom Ridington '78** is a senior vice president at Eastern University. His wife, Meridith,

teaches at West Chester University and is a grad student at Eastern. Tom has four children: his son Kyle lives in Chicago; his son, Evan and daughter, Alison are both undergrads at Eastern; and his son Jesse is a senior in high school.

**Dr. Jim Sioma '78** resides in York, PA, with his wife, Nancy. They have two sons. John is a senior at York College and David is a freshman and a soccer player at Eastern. Recently, he has been working at Family First Health, a nonprofit health agency in York, PA.

## In Memoriam

Marite Meek, wife of James Meek '56  
John J. Dew '58  
Dean M. Haywood '58  
Richard G. Green '60  
Helen (Saratovsky) Boltniew '63  
Paul W. Pedrick '63  
William Foyle '67  
Cynthia Lyon '72  
Marianne Heberer '77  
Thomas R. Bonney '81  
Kenneth Francis, husband of Maureen (Moe) Wooldridge Francis '81  
Elizabeth (Kelsey) McGovern '82  
Jeanne Hanlon Doucette '81

### ALUMNI OFFICE GOES GREEN

We know that our alumni from the 1980's, 1990's, and 2000's have come to this section of Spirit Magazine to view news of their classmates. But in our effort to be good stewards of the environment, we are asking our "more recent" alums to go to our alumni Web page ([www.alumni.eastern.edu](http://www.alumni.eastern.edu)) to view the class news section. There, you'll find the most up-to-date news and notes of your classmates. Please bear with us while we're trying something new this issue. We're very excited about our online community and hope you'll re-connect with your classmates inside our Alumni Eagle's Nest.



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