

FALL 2016 VOL. 32, NO. 2

# Horizons

GRACELAND UNIVERSITY



**A NEW BRAND**   
Uncovering our common story



# + *A new* BRAND

When we put our heads together,  
we were able to see with better  
perspective, and we uncovered  
our common story:

*The Graceland story is*  
the Power of Together.

Rich in history and culture, Graceland has matured from a small, single-building college to a diverse and recognized university over our 121 years of growth and change. To honor Graceland's advancement through the decades, a visual identity team made up of faculty, staff, alumni and students met with Jensen Design Studio early in the year to boost Graceland's appeal with a new brand that takes us back to the university's early years.

Over a period of several months of work that included interviews, discussions, historical research and 17 new designs, the team distilled an identity that more clearly signifies the attributes of Graceland's tradition and path forward. The shield recalls academia centuries old and proclaims the crest of the family. The new logo will keep the "G" as Graceland's visual stronghold and incorporates 1895 to commemorate our historical significance.

**WE FOUND A HIDDEN GEM —  
A UNIVERSITY WITH A FULLY-  
ENGAGED, SUPPORTIVE  
COMMUNITY THAT SHAPES  
YOUNG LIVES WITH THE  
ASSURANCE OF LIFELONG  
LEARNING.**

—ROBERT RYTTER  
JENSEN DESIGN STUDIO

Graceland has worn many hats, seen many changes and shares a common story with every person who has experienced this higher institution of learning over the years, whether it be student, faculty or staff. Graceland has always and will forever be the big "G."

Rytter, President and Creative Director of Jensen, remarks, "Our experiences working with Graceland have been enlightening. Graceland becomes home for these students, and we were welcomed as family."

The new brand was introduced in August by Scott Briell, Vice President for Enrollment Management, with presentations to the Board of Trustees, the faculty and staff, and to the student body. As alumni and friends of Graceland, we stand together and embrace the historical – and new – big G.



Graceland  
UNIVERSITY | 1895





## BEING THE PRESIDENT OF GRACELAND UNIVERSITY IS AN INCREDIBLE PRIVILEGE. I HAVE FELT BLESSED EVERY DAY FOR THE LAST TEN YEARS THROUGH DAILY ASSOCIATIONS WITH STUDENTS, FACULTY, STAFF, ALUMNI AND FRIENDS.

I know it may sound corny, but with every annual report to alumni, I feel a deep appreciation for our alumni and friends who have made it possible for Graceland to excel. "The Power of Together," our new branding motto, is so true when it applies to the incredible impact gifts big and small make on what Graceland can accomplish.

By the time the next annual report appears on the pages of *Horizons*, Graceland will have a new president. As this is my last chance to pay tribute to the incredible Graceland family, let me take this opportunity to say a heartfelt thank you to so many who have demonstrated "The Power of Together" in so many ways.

### THANK YOU...

- for making Graceland a 1st Tier academic institution.
- for helping renovate our buildings and upgrade our equipment.
- for getting us through the toughest financial times since the Great Depression.
- for making our campuses sacred ground.
- for helping our graduates get good jobs.
- for believing in Graceland's staff and faculty.
- for service on the Board of Trustees and the Alumni Association Board.
- to those who have volunteered your time for special projects.
- to my wife, Bette, and my family for their support.
- to Jodi Seymour, my long-suffering executive assistant, and Tom Morain for his work in government relations and community development.

It is time to begin a new chapter for Bette and me, but we shall never forget the joy we have shared and will continue to cherish as part of the inspiring Graceland family.

*John Sellars*

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# *THE POWER OF*



## *PROPELS GRACELAND STUDENTS TO SUCCEED.*

The Graceland community is comprised of faculty, administration, staff, alumni, friends and family. Together there is a web of support for students as they go through Graceland's doors on their life journey of self-discovery. This *Horizons* issue gives a chance for readers to meet several current Graceland students and hear from them about why they're grateful for Graceland and the Power of Together. As alumni and friends, listen for the common thread of caring, encouragement and mentoring in their stories. The powerful network of community includes you!



Meet Leah Koch, a senior honors student from St. Louis, Missouri, majoring in elementary education. She is the editor for the Graceland Tower student newspaper, she just had an undergraduate research paper published, and is a peer editor for a new national student journal. Leah knows firsthand what a difference good teachers can make in the lives of their students. Professors Jane Chaillie and Brian White have opened doors of opportunity for Leah.

"These relationships with professors are uniquely Graceland; like I have with Jane, where she is looking out for me, and she knows that I'm writing for another class, and wants to promote my work. I remember I was in Brian White's class my freshman year, and I was pretty homesick. Brian talked to me after class and asked how I was. He could tell that something was wrong, and that's when I realized — Graceland is the right place for me — the professors really care."

Professor Jane Chaillie was helping Leah with her honors presentation and encouraged her to enter the undergraduate student research paper competition in Las Vegas at the National Social Sciences Association conference. "I chose to write on a link between movement and learning, and how more activity in the classroom is beneficial for students. Jane accompanied me to the conference in Las Vegas where I presented my paper and got runner up in the student competition." Leah's paper was published in the National Social Science proceedings journal, a collection of all of the papers presented at the conference.

The Honors program has had a huge influence on Leah, and last summer another writing/editing opportunity was presented during a two-week remote classroom in Bryce Canyon, Utah. The National Collegiate Honors Council (NCHC) has scholarly, peer-reviewed publications. Dr. Brian White is one of three founding editors of a new, online peer-reviewed journal sponsored by the NCHC that publishes honors undergraduate research and creative activity. It is called UReCA — undergraduate research and creativity journal. Part of the mission of the journal is to involve honors students in the editorial process (selecting articles, editing articles, etc.) Leah was one of the inaugural 10 student editors from across the nation for this debut year.

"These students met in Bryce Canyon for several days to build from the ground up, literally, the editorial process for the journal," explained White. I was humbled watching Leah and the other students create the process for this peer-reviewed journal. I was even more humbled knowing that, as a team, they were building something far better than the faculty editors could have done."

The journal's first issue went live in October and debuted at the annual NCHC conference in Seattle.

"There really isn't any place for undergraduate students to publish their work, so this will be a great opportunity," commented Leah. "Our job was to create a rubric, which I really liked from an education standpoint, with which to judge our submissions. We received 40 submissions, had to norm ourselves using the rubric and then grade the submissions. We are peer reviewers of this year's journal."

*Leah knows firsthand what a difference good teachers can make in the lives of their students.*

#### WHAT IS NEXT?

"After I teach for a few years, I plan to get my master's degree in special education or to become a BCBA (Board Certified Behavior Analyst). Over the summer, I had a job as an assistant teacher at Action for Autism Academy, a private school for students with severe and profound developmental delays. I was in the Elementary Intensive Behavior Intervention room, and the lead teacher in this room was a BCBA."

# LEAH KOCH



# ALI TOKATLI

When Graceland University senior Ali Tokatli graduates in December, he will have too many accomplishments to squeeze into a reasonably-sized resume. After just three years, Ali will graduate with a degree in business administration, political science and economics, with a concentration in peace studies.

*He is preparing to change the world.*

Ali grew up in Syria, fled to Egypt as a teenager, and is now part of the Graceland family. He has a huge capacity for learning and leadership and has been involved with Graceland's Peace Committee, International Club, Enactus, Economics Club, Student Senate and Cheville House as Chaplin.

This summer, Ali put his business skills to work at not one, but two internships: one working 13-hour days in marketing and sales for AT&T in Detroit, Michigan, creating marketing strategies in direct sales. "It was interesting to experience, although I wouldn't want to make that my career. I was promoted to leadership but had to leave for the next internship," explained Ali. Next, as a McClain Enterprises intern for a second year in Independence, Missouri, Ali was the team leader. An innovative and talented fundraiser, Ali was able to raise an unprecedented amount for the newly-released Polly's Pop and sold sponsorships for the community Wednesday night movies on the Independence Square. In true form, he is still involved with generating market expansion.

Ken McClain '79 of McClain Enterprises introduced Ali at Graceland's 2016 Homecoming Presidential Brunch and endorsed his work ethic and savvy business sense. "Ali is a sincere student who recognizes and seizes opportunity. His leadership and entrepreneurial business sense will serve him well."

**C  
&A**

## HOW WERE YOU LED TO GRACELAND?

"It was through a friend's recommendation. At first I was shocked; coming from Cairo to Lamoni. To be honest, the community at Graceland is like a big family, and there are more opportunities here than I would have had at a bigger university. Being involved with the Honors program, I was able to take an overload of courses and graduate in just three years."

## WHAT HAS GRACELAND PROVIDED YOU?

"Graceland provided a welcoming and friendly community free from the racism that concerned me. I have been able to interact on a personal level with all my professors and have spent hours talking with them, learning in depth, aside from the classroom environment. I have made new friends from all over the world right here in Lamoni. I worked with the interfaith campus ministries team, and Campus Minister, Mike Hoffman, is one of my favorite people on campus."

## WHAT IS NEXT?

"I plan to work for a year or two and will determine what is the best course of action for me. There is a program at Georgetown — Diplomacy and International law — that looks interesting right now, but we will see."

Graceland is proud to count Ali as part of the family. *The Des Moines Register* featured Ali, where he explained that he is studying at Graceland University to help educate; to help correct the mistaken stigma surrounding Muslims, and to work toward peace.\*

### \*SOURCE

[desmoinesregister.com/videos/news/2016/10/14/92057786/](http://desmoinesregister.com/videos/news/2016/10/14/92057786/)





# SARIMAR GASCOT

There is a strong possibility for a major earthquake to occur in the New Madrid Seismic Zone, the fault line that stretches south from New Madrid, Missouri.\*

## *Sarimar Gascot '17 is prepared for the disaster.*

Along with 40 other Graceland student nurses, Gascot helped with the New Madrid earthquake preparedness event held in the Jackson County, Missouri area on Aug. 24. It was the largest mass care exercise ever conducted by a single jurisdiction. Hundreds of volunteers and scripted “evacuees” practiced for an eventual disaster, in three large area sites.

“I believe (these) students will actually be involved in the real New Madrid event during their working careers. We are excited about Graceland’s student participation in the exercise and appreciate the support,” stated Mark Widner, Deputy Director Jackson County Missouri Office of Emergency Preparedness.

Graceland nursing professor Beverly South contacted the director to offer Graceland nursing students as volunteers for the event. The students worked at the evacuee reception center, triaged incoming evacuees at the greeting station, and worked in the medical, mental and public health, and EMS areas.

Sarimar Gascot was happy to participate. She was assigned to the Independence location off Highway 291 and worked with a team at the first aid station.

“This preparation gets me in the system, and I’ll get the experience of teamwork with a large group of professionals. It’s not as crazy as a real disaster would be, but it helps to have some organizational preparedness. We did head-to-toe assessments and made sure that they all had their vaccines,” explained Sarimar. She hopes the experience will help her be even more effective as a registered nurse (RN) when a national disaster strikes.

“I graduated from the Graceland Lamoni campus with a bachelor’s degree in biology, and now I am getting my Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) at the Independence campus. The labs in Resch Science and Technology Hall in Lamoni and those in Independence offer current technology, and I’m thankful to be able to experience them both. Just like in Lamoni, my classmates are all working together toward a goal, and the professors are always communicating with us, wanting to help and make sure that we learn everything we need. They always care about you and want you to succeed.”

“Graceland School of Nursing offers a really good program — making sure that we are involved in the community, like the New Madrid exercise that offers real training where I can see how things are coordinated. I just started nursing, and I love it. I’m already looking forward to clinicals. The lecture and lab are tied together, and I see how they help each other,” explained Sarimar.

### WHAT IS NEXT?

After graduation, Sarimar has several options. “I want to work for a year as a nurse and then get a master’s in anesthesiology, or maybe get my doctorate with Graceland as a nurse practitioner and have my own practice.”

Graceland School of Nursing lives up to its reputation, and when disaster strikes, Graceland graduates, like Sarimar, will be prepared for the front line of care.

### \*SOURCE

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/New\\_Madrid\\_Seismic\\_Zone](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/New_Madrid_Seismic_Zone)



# JENNA COX

It came to my attention early in my career as a Graceland student that the path I have chosen for my future is an unusual one. Many biology majors are pre-med or pre-nursing, but I have never been interested in those things.

*For my entire life, all I have wanted to do is work alongside animals. Caring for them fills my heart to the brim.*

So, for the past several years, I've wanted to be a zookeeper. The connections and academic growth I have made at Graceland have definitely prepared me to pursue my dream.

My sophomore year, I took organic chemistry, and it lived up to its reputation of difficulty. Dr. Daniel Pratt and I agree that I wasn't great at the subject he teaches, but he recognized my ambition and passion for a career in zookeeping. I'm a senior now, but Dr. Pratt still stops to chat with me about animals, and he even wrote me a letter of recommendation when I started applying to zookeeping internships around the country. He had no obligation to do that, but he chose to because he believes in me as a person and my career goals. I applied to a dozen summer internships and accepted a position at Northwest Trek Wildlife Park in Washington state. So many of my professors showered me with encouragement. They were excited for me because I was excited for my future.

I deeply cherished the 12 weeks I spent working with a menagerie of native animal species in the Pacific Northwest. Bears, beavers, bison; the whole lot! Every keeper at Northwest Trek was a mentor to me at some point, as so many of my professors at Graceland have been. The keepers have dedicated their lives to caring and advocating for the incredible creatures with whom we share our world. Each person had differing levels of expertise, but they strived to teach and learn from each other in order to provide the best for the animals they adore.

Everyone had an assigned group of animals to care for, but we were one team with one cause: total commitment to animal welfare, animal conservation and public education. We worked together to provide quality diets, clean and safe habitats, mental and physical enrichment, and top-notch veterinary care for our animals. It was hard labor, but a passion for the animals and the joy that comes from seeing them grow and thrive overshadowed it all. It was that love that brought us to work each day and moved the keepers to care for each other alongside the animals. Differences aside, they always had each other's backs. The zoological curator of Northwest Trek said they were the strongest team he has ever worked with, and I was honored to briefly join their ranks. I left my internship newly enlightened and inspired to follow in the footsteps of the amazing people I worked with this summer. I know I never would have reached this point without the support of a very special few at Graceland. In the words of Margaret Mead, "Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world; indeed, it is the only thing that ever has."



# PAUL STEWART

Over 50 student clubs and organizations are part of Graceland's unique attraction for students. Paul Stewart '17 has his foot in several. Coming from the desert of Moreno Valley, California, Stewart's first visit to Graceland was in May 2013, and it was snowing. He loved it.

As one of Powell House's inaugural members, he served as the COSA (Campus Organization for Social Activities) rep, he played football for two years, is a member of the Council for Student Welfare (CSW), the Science Club, Enactus, and is a student worker for the Sustainability Program.

In his sophomore year, his Science Club friends told him he needed to get busy applying for internships. He researched several and applied to the National Institute of Health's (NIH) Amgen Scholars Program. Amgen is a human therapeutics company in the biotechnology industry. The NIH Amgen Scholar Program focused on health disparities among communities, which piqued his interest. In his application, he explained his work with the Sustainability Program at Graceland, where he learned about the government assistance programs for local communities with high poverty levels in Iowa. Without access to proper vegetables and fruit, poor communities become a "food desert," where the lack of fresh food is a problem that correlates to high obesity rates. He explained a similar problem in Moreno Valley, where only fast food is readily available. Apparently Amgen liked it, and Paul got the full scholarship NIH internship and landed in Washington D.C. for the summer. Paul is the first student from Graceland to receive an internship with the National Institute of Health since 1999.

Twenty students from around the country were there as NIH Amgen scholars. Paul said he was concerned that he might not be up to speed with other students from Harvard, Stanford, Brown and the other big schools, but

*he realized he was just as prepared and was thankful for Graceland's solid science program.*

The group of interns met once a week to talk about health disparities, while doing their own research the rest of the time. Paul's project was focused on "specific targeting" for bladder cancer, a newer treatment that inhibits the cancer cells without harming the normal cells.

"It was my first experience to use what we talk about in Dr. Shawgo's Graceland classes. My principal investigator throughout the internship was the head of the lab, and he was also a surgeon. I was able to shadow 30-40 hours of surgeries, from biopsies to

removing a kidney. I'm really excited about these robotic surgeries. You sit at a console and do the 3D surgery remotely."

The internship included a trip to Los Angeles, where the scholars studied food disparities and their consequences on the population. Paul was able to share about Graceland's sustainability advances in the hoop house and the hope for future sustainability plans at Graceland. We have a unique situation — a university in an agricultural county, with among the highest poverty level in the state.\*

"I learned so much during my internship, which actually made my career plans more confusing. After shadowing the surgeries, it made me think about being a doctor. I had planned on research at someplace like Mayo Clinic, but now I might want to pursue an MD/PhD program in oncology."

Graceland has provided a solid and broad base for Paul to launch in new directions. Being able to experience several different interests through Graceland clubs and organizations, Paul has unlimited options.

**\*SOURCE**

[www.indexmundi.com/facts/united-states/quick-facts/iowa/percent-of-people-of-all-ages-in-poverty#map](http://www.indexmundi.com/facts/united-states/quick-facts/iowa/percent-of-people-of-all-ages-in-poverty#map)







# KEELY O'KEEFE

Redmond, Oregon, is a long way from Lamoni, but Keely O'Keefe knew she wanted to come to Graceland University. "I was attracted to the small community aspect, and because I'd visited several summers attending Spectacular, I felt like I belonged." It was the Graceland alumni connections and the "big G" community that enabled Keely to move closer toward her career plans in medicine.

In her sophomore year, Keely found out about the Lilly Internship possibility from classmates who had interned in previous years. She wanted an internship because, no matter what she would choose as her next challenge, it would be a great experience to have on her resume. The Lilly internship would last 12 weeks during the summer. She started talking about it in September and applied in November of the previous year.

Mike Wiley, PhD '83 is a Research Fellow at Eli Lilly and Company in Indianapolis, who has been lining up Lilly lab internships with Graceland students for several years. He mentors students as part of Graceland's mentoring program, GU4U, and then continues the mentoring through organizing internships. He believes in the Power of Together — the big G extended community and opening doors for Graceland students. Keely stayed in Wiley's home for the 12-week internship, along with another Graceland intern. Wiley set up lunch meetings with different Lilly scientists and department heads for the students to see multiple opportunities within the business.

*It was a really good experience to learn more about drug discovery and to learn about scientists who are working in current, relevant fields; to learn things that no one else knows about yet.*

"There are very few papers over certain aspects of the research; so the element of discovery was really cool. Everyone who worked in the lab was excited to teach the students coming in for the summer," explained Keely.

Keely focused on research and design for in vitro assay, meaning a "test-tube" or "plate-based" assay, which is run outside of a living system. "We ran experiments, then optimized and did data analysis while assisting a grad student with his dissertation. We learned that things don't always go as planned, and that one finding might contradict another. It was exciting to learn how to deal with those contradictions and apply the information to the bigger picture."

O'Keefe plans to work in research for a year and then go into medicine at OHSU to become an OBGYN or pediatric surgery specialist.

Dr. Ben Yaden, Senior Research Scientist at Lilly Research Laboratories, who worked with Keely commented, "Thanks again for the amazing opportunity to work with yet another outstanding Graceland student. I can't say enough how impressed I've been with every student we've had the good fortune of working with from your alma mater." He went on to say, "the way these students are able to ask quality questions and engage in scientific discussion at this stage of their development ... I'd really like to meet the faculty who are training them!"



# JACOB SOLTIS

Jacob Soltis '17 has changed his career direction several times. Graceland offers a unique opportunity for students to find and develop their own path. The faculty are sincerely interested in helping each student, even if their path isn't a linear one. Part of the Graceland experience for Jacob has been about exploring different interests and gaining leadership experience while moving toward graduation.

Jacob came to Graceland from Pennsylvania on a track scholarship and received the Study and Faith scholarship through Community of Christ. He began as an athletic training major but couldn't watch an injury happen. He realized his freshman year that he needed to change his plans.

"After athletic training was out, I was doing actuarial science," explained Jacob. But he was missing the social piece of a career path. Graceland professor Linda DeBarthe described the possibility of focusing on big data, which analyzes numbers and gives them an English representation for companies to apply to their marketing plan. Jacob continued, "I figured the math and computer science prepare me to understand numbers, and the business helps me know what to do with them and how to present them in a strategic way. I enjoy gathering data; analyzing and converting it into spreadsheets for a purpose. But I also really enjoy people; making relationships within a community."

*So he's a numbers guy who likes people – a really good combination.*

DeBarthe explained, "When I first met Jacob, he was planning to be an actuary. The more he prepared for that field, however, the more he realized that wasn't exactly what he wanted to do. He took an accounting class and realized there are all sorts of business fields that would utilize his quantitative and technology skills, while also letting him use his social skills. He's now customizing a degree. He's combining business, math and information technology to prepare for career options in big data, an emerging field."

With encouragement and guidance from his professors, Jacob has returned to Graceland for a fifth year and will graduate with math and business majors, and a minor in information technology.

In addition to academics, Jacob has taken on his share of extracurricular and leadership roles at Graceland. "This year I am House President," he explains, "which takes an enormous amount of time, but it's helpful for leadership training. I've been on student government most of my time at Graceland: on the intramural board, as a chaplain and now HP. What I love about Graceland is the community of people and the opportunities I've had to become involved."

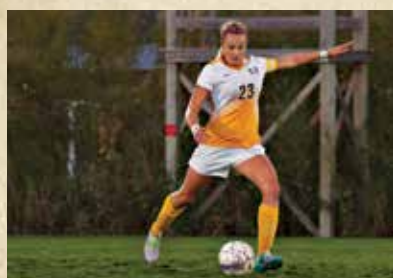
Jacob has benefited from the relationships, encouragement and involvement in the Graceland community. His path has zig-zagged, and he isn't sure if he wants to get an MBA or dive into a job and work his way up, but he is discovering his passion for life and is no doubt creating a spreadsheet to illustrate his many career choices.



# Homecoming

IS THE  
Heartbeat of Graceland,  
and all were engulfed IN THE ENERGY.

2016







The long-running fascination with celebrating Graceland heritage began as Alumni Day in 1907, and in April 1915, the first official “homecoming” took place in conjunction with the annual Community of Christ conference.

Graceland has come a long way from its meek beginnings in the second floor of the France Building in downtown Lamoni. In those days, a major event of the revelry was a baseball game pitting alumni against students, rather than the multi-sport competitions today. Just under a decade shy of a 100-year tradition on Lamoni’s campus, Graceland University has perfected its festival of coming home with an impressive show of school spirit and Yellowjacket pride.

Friday afternoon, Graceland honored long-time professor Bruce Graybill with the unveiling of a new mural, highlighting his years at Graceland, in Graybill Hall. The late afternoon brought the 17th Annual Emeriti and Awards Banquet where impactful Gracelanders were honored. The Distinguished Service Award was presented to Mike Wiley ‘83; the Graceland Award of Recognition was bestowed upon Bill ‘64 and Sherry Mesle ‘65 Morain, Dean ‘53 and Soon Ja Limric, and Stephen Veazey; and the Honorary Alumni Award was granted to Bob Fitzgerald and Stephen Veazey.

Every day of the weekend offered an opportunity to discover the talents of Graceland’s Visual and Performing Arts department in Shaw Center. Soaking in the vibrancy of stage and costume, students performed the melodies of Tony Award-winning numbers in “Broadway on ‘the Hill.’” Friday night, Closson Center was packed for the annual air band competition between “Houses,” where Graceland judges determined the most creative act, as the audience witnessed the culmination of time and dedication put in by the students involved. Upon crowning king, Dylan Pitt of Powell House, and queen, Briana Bendorf of Amici House, students, faculty, staff and alumni alike packed the stands of Huntsman Field to spur on the Yellowjacket football team. Finally, on Sunday morning, Carol Shaw spoke on “The Hilltop Where ... Our Faith Increases,” and her encouraging words proclaiming God is persistent left hearts overflowing with blessings as all shared in the sacrament.

Homecoming 2016 celebrated the heart of Graceland University, where all experienced “The Power of Together.”

**\*SOURCE**

*The Graceland College Book of Knowledge,*  
by David Goehner



Senior Ujang Zarems has seen success this fall out on the golf course and in the classroom.

"Ujang is a privilege to have on the team, and his story is unique and remarkable," said head coach Kevin Brunner. "He is a model for other students, yet very humble and is dedicated to the game of golf and to his academic work."

Ujang first came to the United States from severe poverty in Indonesia in 2014. As a three-year-old, he was digging golf balls out of the swamp to sell and later began making his own golf clubs out of coffee tree branches. He was noticed by a golf manager and was then sponsored and invited to play in the United States by Jagorawi Golf and Country Club.

The process of finding a school to attend wasn't an easy task. Ujang applied to over 50 schools, until he connected with Graceland University Head Men's and Women's Golf Coach Kevin Brunner.

Ujang, a sport management major, has endured hardships along the way — even after arriving at Graceland — with the most difficult being the language barrier. He has diligently worked to remain in good standing in his classes, seeking guidance and help from his coach, teammates and professors. He puts in extra hours every day, meeting one on one with professors to make sure he understands and completes his assignments. Last spring his hard work and studies brought him a 3.6 grade point.

"Everyone has been very helpful to me with the language barrier and desiring to help me succeed," said Ujang.

Not only has he worked to be successful in the classroom, but he has excelled on the golf course. His handicap is a +3, and this fall he won the Missouri Valley Invite, shooting a three under par to card a 69. At the tournament, he had an albatross (2) on the par five 15th hole that plays 540 yards uphill. On his second stroke, he hit the ball in the hole from 280 yards.

Ujang will complete his degree from Graceland University in May 2017. Upon graduation, he wants to pursue a career on the PGA tour as well as teach or work as a golf director.

# The Drive to SUCCEED

**GRACELAND WAS THE RIGHT PLACE FOR ME BECAUSE I FELT LIKE THE WHOLE SCHOOL WAS TRYING TO HELP ME BE SUCCESSFUL.**



**GRACELAND'S COMPUTER NETWORK CAME FROM THE HARD WORK, DEDICATION AND POWER OF WILL OF BOB FARNHAM '80.**

The fiber optic connections laid between buildings on the Lamoni campus during his tenure as the Director of Information Technology Services continue to meet Graceland's needs 22 years later. That's no small task for a technology-related project.

As we begin the work to upgrade the speed of our network between buildings by 20 times using that existing backbone, I feel it is fitting to name the infrastructure the **Robert (Bob) Farnham Memorial Fiber Optic Backbone** in recognition of his lasting efforts and vision.

—JIM COLLINS '00

DIRECTOR OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY SERVICES



# THE POWER OF TOGETHER



**“IT TAKES ALL OF US  
“TOGETHER” —  
LISTENING,  
REFLECTING,  
SHARING AND  
EVEN DEBATING  
WHAT IT TAKES TO  
MAKE GRACELAND  
SUCCESSFUL.**

**Shared leadership is changing in American universities, Graceland included.**

Our new theme, “The Power of Together,” provides a clarity of mission and purpose.

The Board of Trustees is evolving into an active working board with shared governance as its model of leadership. The administration is working across all functional areas of the school while the faculty is working in interdisciplinary teams guided by the broad mission of the school. And the focus of this effort? It is students. “The Power of Together” produces a nurturing environment where students discover who they are, where they want to go and who they want to become. In other words, we all are focusing on student success.

The integration efforts are working. Student life, athletics, religious life, leadership development — all are coming together to build a holistic community.

Students are supported within a setting where genuine interest, care and intellectual challenge coalesce to produce a vibrant, stimulating community.

All stakeholders in the university are invited to participate in this building process.

This is a continuous effort — and it’s not easy — but we are making significant progress as caring and committed people demonstrate respect and acceptance of both differences and alternative ways of thinking and doing. I am proud of what we have already accomplished to demonstrate what the power of together can accomplish.

The Board of Trustees is deeply committed to clarify our responsibilities and to implement the policies that will promote success for every Graceland student. It is “paying it forward” for those of us whose years on “the Hill” gave us vision of healthy, purposeful and stimulating lives. We are striving to understand what shared governance means, both in terms of responsibilities and limitations, in a university committed to “The Power of Together.” It is a challenge indeed, one that calls out the best efforts of all of us — together.

*Harry A. Stewart*

## BIRTHS

Caleb and **Rebekah Troyer ‘02 Billings**, Grain Valley, Missouri, Naomi Elizabeth Ariel, born May 23, 2016.

**Bryan ‘98 and Kacey Loving ‘04 Courtney**, Lamoni, Iowa, Koby Elijah, born July 31, 2016.

Dale and **Janna Cash ‘06 Gilner**, Overland Park, Kansas, Greta Matisse Mary, born March 8, 2016.

**Jacob ‘07 and Erin Farnham ‘07 Everett**, Oswego, Illinois, Felicity Sue, born Jan. 22, 2015.

**Austin ‘09 and Jennifer Stone ‘08 Isham**, Leawood, Kansas, Jonas, born May 8, 2016.

**Chris ‘02 and Stephanie Wangler ‘07 Loving**, Kansas City, Missouri, Hudson Christopher, born Oct. 30, 2015.

Scott Kang and **Samantha Parkes ‘02**, Miami, Florida, Elijah, born May 31, 2016.

Chris and **Danielle Hamlett ‘01 Patterson**, Marion, Iowa, Porter, born July 29, 2014.

**Aaron ‘11 and Leigh Tubbesing ‘12 Richards**, Orange, California, Owen Michael, born July 9, 2016.

**Kristina Thompson ‘00 Walczewski**, El Mirage, Arizona, Mason, born Nov. 12, 2011.

**Greg ‘08 and Jocelyn Vojcsik**, Gibsonia, Pennsylvania, Donald James, born June 17, 2014, and Chase Emerick, born Feb. 27, 2016.

## IN MEMORIAM

**John Allen ‘51**, Blue Springs, Missouri, Sept. 13, 2009.

**Dorothy (Dottie) Reid ‘56 Ballantyne**, Solon, Iowa, Oct. 10, 2016.

**Betty White ‘51 Barnes**, Greenville, South Carolina, June 5, 2016.

**Garold D. Barney ‘57**, Lamoni, Iowa, June 2, 2016.

**John Barr ‘59**, Fort Collins, Colorado, Aug. 2, 2016.

**Ethel Dexter ‘59 Barton**, Midland, Michigan, Sept. 8, 2016.

## WEDDINGS

Cesar and **Diana Jensen ‘01 Diaz**, Stockton, California, March 20, 2016.

## ANNIVERSARIES

**Dwight ‘54 and Doris Brooks ‘54 Heath**, celebrated their 60th anniversary on June 3, 2016.

**Dan ‘66 and Lila Kay Green ‘65 Muir**, celebrated their 50th anniversary on July 2, 2016.

**Joe ‘67 and Diane Eberly ‘67 Shelton**, celebrated their 50th anniversary on Aug. 20, 2016.

**Herbert ‘55 and Shirley Arnold ‘55 Smith**, celebrated their 60th anniversary on June 7, 2016.



**Archie Bibbey '50**, Tunnel Hill, Georgia, April 2, 2013.

**Helen Hoisington '44 Billings**, Independence, Missouri, March 20, 2016.

**N. Maxine Sheppard '44 Bowman**, Lawrence, Kansas, March 29, 2016.

**Valerie Briggs '54**, Long Beach, California, June 5, 2016.

**Everett Brinkley '70**, Corydon, Iowa, Jan. 21, 2010.

**Ronald W. Brooks '54**, Blue Springs, Missouri, March 11, 2016.

**Roxana Farnham '57 Byrd**, Independence, Missouri, Dec. 14, 2015.

**David B. Carmichael '42**, La Jolla, California, May 26, 2016.

**Arlene Sharp '75 Cathey**, Mound City, Kansas, July 7, 2016.

**Olive Dorothy Vincent '54 Church-Gehring**, Independence, Missouri, March 7, 2016.

**Audrey Marshall '44 Cohrs**, Woodbine, Iowa, Jan. 27, 2016.

**Judy Cook-Bowsky '74**, Kansas City, Missouri, June 7, 2016.

**Phyllis Root '47 Frost Craig**, La Porte, Indiana, Feb. 13, 2016.

**Edward (Eddie) Daly '00**, Loveland, Colorado, Aug. 19, 2012.

**David "Lyle" Davis '39**, Cameron, Missouri, Aug. 27, 2016.

**Richard Davis Jr. '75**, Independence, Missouri, Sept. 21, 2016.

**Ronald Dawbarn '53**, Manchester, Tennessee, Aug. 17, 2016.

**Sara Ferris '58 Decker**, Derby, Kansas, July 12, 2016.

**Daniel Dyer '58**, Cedar Rapids, Iowa, May 17, 2013.

**Evelyn Gillespie '54 France**, Corvallis, Oregon, Feb. 10, 2016.

**Ardis "Casey" Merchant '41 Forgey**, Los Angeles, California, May 1, 2016.

**Myna Hughes '47 Gibbens**, McFarland, Wisconsin, May 11, 2016.

**Edmund J. Gleazer Jr. '36**, San Francisco, California, July 31, 2016.

**Alan Hall '53**, Perry Iowa, May 25, 2016.

**Wayne Hay '52**, West Columbia, Texas, May 25, 2016.

**Robert (Bob) Hellmeister '15**, Lamoni, Iowa, June 24, 2016.

**Barbara Humes '55 Jackson**, Carthage, Illinois, Jan. 20, 2016.

**R. Blair Jensen '59**, Kansas City, Missouri, June 12, 2016.

**Teuvo Kahtava '62**, Warner Robins, Georgia, April 2, 2016.

**Bette Jean Lusha '49 Kirk**, Homewood, Illinois, Feb. 12, 2016.

**Burrell H. Landes Sr. '35**, Topeka, Kansas, May 29, 2009.

**Margaret Mauzey '38 Sanders Larsen**, Independence, Missouri, April 15, 2016.

**Gale Lionel Sr. '56**, Clinton Township, Michigan, Dec. 7, 2012.

**Jay Lively '50**, Traverse City, Michigan, Nov. 3, 2015.

**Renee Cox '74 Lorraine**, Chattanooga, Tennessee, May 10, 2015.

# Emma Jean Vicki Ross, PhD

Vicki Ross was a visionary who saw opportunities for improving the lives of other people and then dedicated her life to relieve their suffering. She leaves a legacy of caring, compassion and love.

—JOHN SELLARS  
PRESIDENT

Vicki Ross '50 peacefully and in the company of her children went home to the Lord at age 86, on Wednesday, Oct. 12, 2016. A resident of Upper St. Clair for 56 years, she was raised as one of 10 children on the farm in Iowa and lived life with a vibrant love of God, family and others. Educated at Graceland College, Iowa State, CMU and Pitt where she earned her PhD, she served the poor around the world. She served as an Evangelist and Pastor in the Community of Christ; on the Boards of Graceland University, Outreach International and the Community of Christ Seminary; as the matriarch of the Universal Electric Corporation owner family; and was a devoted wife to the late Donald R. Ross Jr. Most of all, Vicki loved her role as mother and grandmother. She is survived by her children, Janet (Bill) Zeiger, Joel (Kathy) Ross, Steve (Shelley Scherer) Ross and Julie (Jon) Dixon; her brother, Daniel McVicker; her 19 beloved grandchildren; and seven great-grandchildren.



**David Madden '64**, Trenton, Missouri,  
April 23, 2013.

**Richard (Dick) Marolf '40**, Topeka,  
Kansas, March 2, 2016.

**Richard L. McFarlane '57**, Overland Park,  
Kansas, March 24, 2016.

**Beda Mae Carswell '46 Middleton**,  
Independence, Missouri, April 17, 2016.

**Raymond L. Minton '57**, Kansas City,  
Missouri, June 22, 2016.

**George Ngangira '66**, June 24, 1992.

**Ralene Oberlechner-Gimple '13**, Lone  
Jack, Missouri, Sept. 22, 2016.

**Marlene "Marti" Howdyshell '56  
Osterhoudt**, Tavares, Florida, April 20,  
2016.

**James Piercy '49**, Champaign, Illinois,  
Nov. 3, 2015.

**Edgar Pillsbury '52**, Fall River,  
Massachusetts, Aug. 25, 2016.

**Barbara R. Moore '56 Rambeck**,  
Independence, Missouri, May 27, 2015.

**Mary Jones '41 Rasmussen**, Redmond,  
Oregon, March 9, 2013.

**Charles Renfroe '49**, Blackjack, Texas,  
May 10, 2016.

**Frances Birkby '47 Rickabaugh**, Sidney,  
Iowa, Dec. 31, 2015.

**Roberta "Bobbie" Gossadge '46 Ritchie**,  
Dayton, Ohio, July 23, 2016.

**Roger Rogers '48**, Leesburg, Virginia,  
April 18, 2011.

**Emma Jean "Vicki" McVicker '50 Ross**,  
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, Oct. 12, 2016.

**Patrick Rounds '68**, Minneapolis,  
Minnesota, June 14, 2016.

**Joseph Sage '47**, Springfield, Missouri,  
Aug. 2, 2016

**William "Jack" Scott '49**, Portales, Texas,  
Dec. 3, 2014.

**Thelma Coon '45 Shakespeare**,  
Independence, Missouri, Nov. 29, 2015.

**Kim L. Sherman '73**, Erie, Kansas,  
Jan. 2, 2016.

**Jean Stowell '51 Sinclair**, Independence,  
Missouri, Aug. 5, 2016.

**Cheryl Smith '65 Jordan**, Carthage,  
Illinois, Dec. 25, 2014.

**Mildred Camp '45 Smith**, Independence,  
Missouri, June 6, 2016.

## 50s

Even though they weren't able to travel to homecoming, Graceland still means a lot to friends from more than 60 years ago as they got together for a mini Graceland reunion in Colorado this past August.

GO Graceland! Daphne (Tappan) and  
**Ken Dunn '52**, Colorado Springs, CO;  
**Loretta (Arnold) Fields '53**, Pueblo, CO;  
and **Brooks '54** and **Yvonne Jenkins '54  
Nelson**, Colorado Springs, CO.



## 00s

**Brittany Atwood '06** was nominated and selected as the Enactus USA Alumni of the Year and will represent the many Enactus alumni across the U.S. at the Enactus World Cup. "Everything has come full circle — from a student, working at Enactus for seven years helping to start new programs, a proud alum, and now working for an awesome company, Pepsico, that supports the organization — I feel so lucky."



**Isaac Snead '37**, Longview, Washington,  
June 1, 2013

**Bruce Stayton '77**, Independence,  
Missouri, July 12, 2016.

**James W. Stoker '51**, Traverse City,  
Michigan, May 9, 2016.

**Jerrie Turner '87 Storey**, Kansas City,  
Missouri, Jan. 25, 2011.

**Laurie Anderson '79 Swails**, Aphairetta,  
Georgia, May 23, 2016.

**William "Bill" Thorton '51**, San  
Clemente, California, July 14, 2016.

**Roy A. Thrutchley Jr. '38**, Fritch, Texas,  
April 29, 2016.

**Ronald Van Fleet '51**, Independence,  
Missouri, Oct. 11, 2014.

**Lewis Weigand '63**, Bellevue, Nebraska,  
Sept. 20, 2016.

**Linda Smart '74 Wetzel**, Dayton, Nevada,  
Sept. 27, 2014.

**David B. Wheatley '79**, Independence,  
Missouri, May 6, 2016.

**Catherine Dearth '45 Wills**, Palm Harbor,  
Florida, Dec. 17, 2007.

**Richard Wilson '50**, Independence,  
Missouri, May 2, 2016.

**Lyndall (Lyn) Wheeler '59 Wixom**,  
Oroville, California, March 2, 2016.

**Clayton Wood '47**, Lee's Summit,  
Missouri, May 16, 2016.

**Jack Woodhead '60**, Carthage, Missouri,  
March 14, 2015.

**Marguerite Eagan '49 Worth**,  
Warrensburg, Missouri, Sept. 25, 2016.

# Stay CONNECTED

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media platforms!



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**@gracelanduniversity**



# DR. EDMUND J. GLEAZER JR.

Dr. Edmund J. Gleazer Jr., for whom Graceland's Edmund J. Gleazer School of Education is named, passed away July 31, just days short of his 100th birthday. Gleazer had a tremendous influence on Graceland.



He graduated from Graceland in 1936 and became Graceland's youngest president in 1946, holding that mantle for a decade. But it was in 1957 that Ed (as he liked to be called) found his true calling. He became Executive Director of the American Association of Junior Colleges, and during the next 25 years, he shepherded the phenomenal growth of community-based education in the United States. Dr. Gleazer believed that the community college system could promote "peace through education" and began to incorporate the importance of "lifelong learning."

In the recent history of American higher education, only a few names emerge as having made a greater impact for students and educators alike than Edmund J. Gleazer. His work with community colleges and the term he served as President at Graceland are both noteworthy and inspirational. After leaving Graceland, much of his work informed and influenced all educators associated with community colleges, since he was one of the primary architects during their formative stages. That work remains essential and influential today, and is a reflection of his lifelong commitment to helping students of all ages learn and improve themselves. His contribution and service should never be forgotten.

—LEE BASH

DEAN, EDMUND J. GLEAZER SCHOOL OF EDUCATION

Edmund Gleazer was born Aug. 24, 1916, in Philadelphia, the son of Edmund J. Gleazer Sr. and Jane Hunter Laurie Gleazer. His father, an Irish immigrant, was an excellent preacher and an apostle for the Community of Christ. Edmund Jr. continued in the ministry for the church, serving as Graceland's president. He remained faithful and often was found singing the hymns with gusto in his San Francisco home at The Carlisle Senior Living Community.

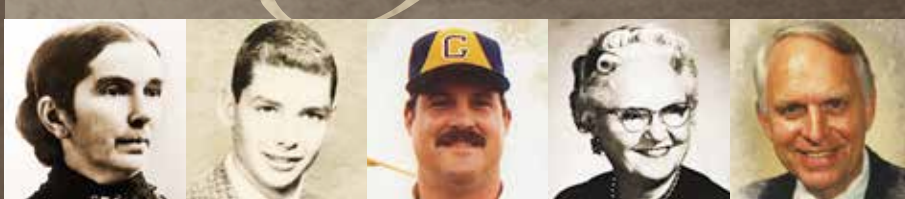
Survivors include his children, Allen Gleazer, John Gleazer, and Susan Gleazer Uhlmann, his grandchildren, Brian Nichols, Scott Nichols, Andrew Glikin and Renee Uhlmann, and his three great-grandchildren. Other survivors include his sister-in-law, Evelyn Guenther, three nieces and three nephews.



He is preceded in death by his wife of 75 years, Charlene Allen Gleazer, his daughter, Sandra Gleazer Johnson, and his two sisters, Ruth Gleazer Marquette and Eleanor Whiting.



# The **LIVING** *among* *Legends*



The **Marietta Walker mural** was created in May 2012.

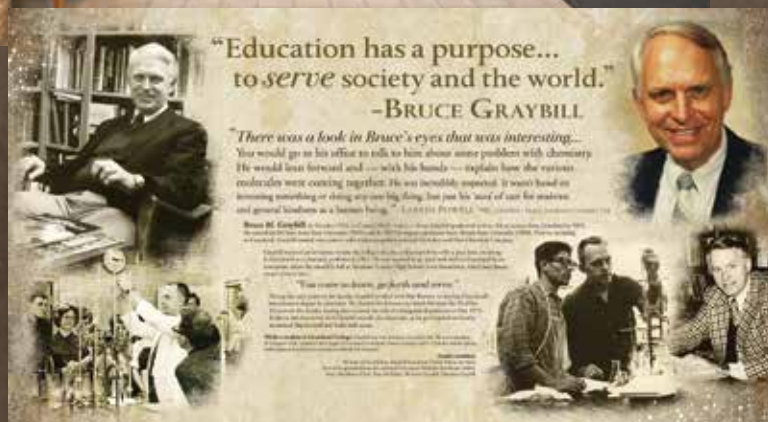
The **Daniel Kelley Lounge mural** of Dan Kelley '58 and Dick Resch '58 was installed in August 2015.

PROJECT was created in 2012 by the Residence Life Office, in response to President John Sellars' request for university leaders to find ways to tell

## Graceland's STORIES.



The **Tess Morgan '26 mural** and the **Bruce Graybill '52 mural** were dedicated in October 2016.



It is common for students who live in the four traditional residence halls to not realize their second home is actually named after a person who has made a significant contribution of service to the university. To tell their stories is to honor their legacy.

The project entailed hours of historical research to create murals for the residence halls. Graceland is deeply appreciative of the creative genius of Tiffany Rider '06 Smith, who pulled all of the images and information together in such a powerful and beautiful way for each mural.



ELECTRONIC SERVICE REQUESTED

TIME SENSITIVE MATERIAL

*Want to  
change  
the world?*

**JOIN THE  
GU4U MENTORING  
PROGRAM!**

**GU4U IS SUCH A GREAT PROGRAM.  
I'M GLAD I GOT INVOLVED. I WAS  
PAIRED WITH ART, WHO SHARES  
MANY OF MY COMMON INTERESTS  
AND HAS BECOME A GREAT FRIEND.**

We have met a few times in person now so I feel comfortable reaching out to him if I ever need advice, whether it be professional or anything else. I would recommend the program to all Graceland students. For me, it was a great opportunity to meet someone new and learn a lot from someone outside of my family and the people that I see every day.

**–Ross Robino '17**



**MENTORING A GRACELAND STUDENT HAS  
BEEN BOTH FUN AND REWARDING.**

As with any mentoring relationship you need to establish common goals and determine the roles for each party. I have shared some of my business perspectives and insights with Ross, in reality I've learned far more from Ross! Understanding his class work, information technology projects and intern experience has been fascinating. We've had a chance to meet personally three times and by e-media perhaps once per month.

**–Art Woodcock '78**



**GU4U**

**Providing students, alumni and friends  
with an invaluable opportunity –**

**TO HELP EACH OTHER,  
one Graceland at a time.**