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Alumnotes, Summer 2021

Cedarville University

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ALUMNOTES

VANTAGE POINT



Hello, Cedarville Alumni! I am delighted to introduce myself as the new Director of Alumni Engagement. As a Cedarville alumna myself, I look forward to getting to know you and serving you in this new role! Until we have the opportunity to meet, I wanted to share a little bit about myself personally and professionally and my vision for alumni engagement.

My professional experience comes from a variety of program leadership and executive administration positions from corporate business, education, and nonprofit environments. It has been my pleasure to serve in these roles by training and deploying volunteers, planning and executing special events, and developing programs and processes that move organizations forward.

Beyond my professional experience, much of who I am is defined by family and the amazing journey we have been on together. I am married to my best friend, Bret. For the last 30 years, we have shared many mountain-top highs and valley-bottom lows as we raised three children and served together. A quarter of those years found our family traveling to Africa and Central America as we ministered to abandoned children and served vulnerable families. We were blessed to have our eyes opened, to meet so many forgotten and overlooked people, and to see a passion grow in our hearts to share the good news and work to make a difference in their lives.

In 2017, we returned to Springboro, Ohio, where we currently live with our two daughters. Liz, our oldest, is graduating this summer with a degree in nursing and then will be married at the end of August. Our younger daughter, Emma, is completing her senior year at Dayton Christian and is excited to enroll at Cedarville in the fall. She plans to major in industrial and innovative design. Ethan, our son, was married last summer and is in his “sweet spot” working as a carpenter for a custom homebuilder in Waynesville.

These days, my favorite pastime is reading a good book, cooking or baking for my family or friends, organizing my house, or taking long walks. My battery is recharged as I trek through the woods, wander along a river’s bank, or dig my toes into my absolute favorite place on earth . . . a sunny beach!

Enough about me; my hope for the future of alumni engagement is simple. My goal is to serve you by helping you reconnect with old friends, find alumni in your community, and explore ways to build the bridge between Cedarville alumni and current students. We as alumni have the opportunity to invest our time, talent, and treasure in the next generation of Cedarville students. I’m excited for what the future holds for this department and my time at Cedarville.

It is incredible to see the changes that have taken place on campus since my own graduation in 1991. I hope that you will consider returning to campus this fall for Homecoming 2021 on October 1–2 so that I can meet you in person! This is going to be an incredible event, especially because we will be celebrating double reunion years. If your graduation year ends in a 0, 1, 5, or 6, then this is your chance to gather for a milestone celebration. I hope you will consider coming and help make this the biggest and best homecoming yet!

Diana (White) Perkey '91
Director of Alumni Engagement

Office of Advancement

Vice President for Advancement

Rick Melson

Associate Vice President for Advancement

Albert Grunenwald

Associate Vice President for Development

Will Smallwood

Director of Operations and Campaign Manager

Jonathan Lyons '17

Senior Director of Development

Nancy Holmes Voorhies

Regional Director of Development

Kevin Howells '90

Regional Director of Development

Stephen Schindler '13

Director of Strategic Relations

Jeff Beste '86

Director of Alumni Engagement

Diana (White) Perkey '91

Director of Annual Giving

Angie Bartel

Assistant Director of Scholarships

Trixie (Massey) Dobney '15

Director of Gift Planning

Roscoe Smith '82

NEWS

1 Stacy (Towel) Morgan '80, known professionally as Emily Morgan, is host to the #1 grandparenting podcast according to the latest Feedspot numbers. The podcast, which began in March of 2019, is now in its fourth season. To learn more about the podcast, search "The Grand Life" on your favorite podcast streaming platform.

Clayton '81 and Angela (Bowers) Beck 'N82 have lived in Europe for more than 20 years and currently reside in Brussels. Clayton serves as Vice President of Finance covering Europe, the Middle East, and Asia/Pacific for a multinational company. Angela serves in women's ministry at their local church. They are parents of three Cedarville University graduates: **Austin '12, Audrey '14, and Ethan '18.**

Ellen (Spencer) Ziegler '85 earned her education doctorate from Liberty University in June 2020. While maintaining her job teaching students with special needs at a Cuyahoga Falls High School (Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio), Ellen is now working with doctoral candidates and students at Liberty University as a dissertation chair and online professor.

Gwendolyn Good '94 started a music ministry project, Sing the KJV, which sets the Bible to music. Currently, she has completed setting 24 books of the Bible to music, creating 33 hours of music and content to share. To learn more about her project, visit singthekjv.app.

Bart '97 and Emily (Weber) Allen '99 are missionaries with Ethnos 360 working with the Amdu people, a remote tribe in Papua New Guinea. After years of learning the culture and unwritten language of this people group, teaching many of them to read and write and beginning to translate the Bible, they along with their teammates have been teaching chronologically through God's Word leading up to Jesus. They are rejoicing in the ones who have heard God's message of grace and are trusting in Christ alone for salvation!! Their focus now is on continued Bible translation and discipleship of the new believers while also continuing to share the Truth of God's Word with others in the village. People from a neighboring language group have heard of what is happening in Amdu and they are asking for missionaries to come share God's Word with them as well. Pray for more laborers to go to those who still have never heard the message of salvation!

2 Adam Nesmith '19 is a Research Assistant for the U.S. Air Force Institute of Technology in Waldorf, Maryland. In March 2021, he received a coin recognizing his work from Gen. Raymond, the highest ranking officer in the U.S. Space Force. He was reminded of a verse he memorized in one of his Cedarville engineering classes: "Do you see a man skillful in his work? He will stand before kings; he will not stand before obscure men" (Prov. 22:29). He is excited to live out this Proverb less than two years from graduation.

NEW ADDITIONS

Laura (Castle) Gauntt '06 and her husband, David, announce the birth of Hannah Lynn on February 11, 2021. She was welcomed home by Leah (6), Rebecca (2), and Daniel (4). The Gauntt family resides in Bensalem, Pennsylvania.

3 Betsy (Verwys) Taylor '07 and her husband, Peter, were married in January of 2014. They welcomed Molly in March 2016, Gabriel in July 2018, and Tad in February 2021. They are raising their family in Grand Rapids, Michigan. The Taylor family is active in their church and community, and Peter practices law.

4 Jeff '12 and Laura (Thayer) Evans '10 joyfully welcomed their daughter, Eliana Lynn, in December 2020. Eliana is adored by big brothers Josiah and Micah. Jeff works as the Vice President of Business and Institutional Relations for Jerusalem University College, and Laura adjuncts for Cedarville and runs a private music studio.

5 Andrew Held '13 and wife Melissa were blessed with their first child, Ainsley Ruth, on May 22, 2020.

6 Jon '14 and Sami (Imber) Moss '15 announce the birth of their second child, Norah June, on January 3, 2021. She was excitedly welcomed by big brother Jefferson. The Mosses live outside of Cincinnati, Ohio, where Sami serves on staff at Rivers Crossing Community Church and Jon works for Navigator Truck Insurance.

Joel '14 and Abby (Butts) Israel '15 welcomed their first child, Aidan Robert, on March 19, 2021.

Benjamin '17 and Jessica (Alderink) Keen '16 are happy to announce the birth of their son, Mason Christopher, on January 4, 2021.

MARRIAGES

7 Robert Rhodes '16 married Michelle Gammie on October 26, 2020.

8 Gregg Mendel '19 and Analice Burd '20 were married on August 8, 2020, at the Peter Allen House in Dauphin, Pennsylvania. Both Analice, studying occupational therapy, and Gregg, attending dental school, are graduate students at The Ohio State University. The Mendels reside in Columbus, Ohio.

Send us your news! Deadlines are April 15 for the summer issue, August 15 for the fall issue, and December 15 for the spring issue. The editorial staff has full discretion regarding submissions. Submit your updates to *Cedarville Magazine*, Cedarville University, 251 N. Main St., Cedarville, OH 45314, or cedarville.edu/magazine.



IN MEMORIAM

We extend our condolences to the families and friends of these dear loved ones.

Richard H. Lapp '57 of Hudson, Florida, passed away on March 22, 2021.

Frank A. Howard '61 of Ovid, Michigan, passed away on January 20, 2021.

John Bigelow '64 of Cedarville, Ohio, passed away on December 3, 2020.

Lawrence N. Killian '64 of Xenia, Ohio, passed away on January 23, 2021.

Charles R. Reed '67 of Marion, Ohio, passed away on March 26, 2021.

Thomas C. Fillinger '72 of Cullman, Alabama, passed away on February 10, 2021.

Charles L. Sheppard '74 of Levittown, Pennsylvania, passed away on January 1, 2021.

Virginia H. Christian '75 of Easton, Pennsylvania, passed away on January 11, 2021.

Karol B. Prentice '79 of Houston, Texas, passed away on January 24, 2021.

Norman D. MacKenzie '81 of Upper Black Eddy, Pennsylvania, passed away on March 29, 2021.

Joseph P. Cobine '84 of Roxana, Illinois, passed away on April 5, 2021.

Lynn M. (Case) Salyer '89 of Fremont, Ohio, passed away on February 11, 2021.

Mark D. Baits '97 of Cape Coral, Florida, passed away on January 3, 2021.

WELCOME TO THE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION, CLASS OF 2021!

