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Oh, Happy Day!
This group of giddy graduates took a time out for the camera. Check out the Big Pic® on page 12 for more photos!

Cedarville University Alumni Association
251 N. Main Street
Cedarville, Ohio 45314
www.cedarville.edu/alumni
While working on this issue of Inspire, I watched the “Survivor” TV show finale. I found it interesting that the final immunity challenge — the one on which everything would ride — was about one thing and one thing only: Balance.

After 38 days of enduring hardships which tested every ounce of fortitude the contestants had, it was their ability to balance on a floating disc that made the difference. It didn’t matter that they could win every race, out-think the best puzzle-masters, go days without food, or charm the other players. They needed balance.

Even more interesting was the process. Each player started on a fairly large disc anchored precariously in the water. After balancing for a specified amount of time, they moved to a smaller disc. This continued until someone found it impossible to stand. I had never thought about this before: the smaller the object we’re on, the more difficult it is to balance.

I am far from being an expert at living a balanced life. For me, it often is literally a “balancing act.” But, just like these “Survivor” contestants, I find that leading a balanced life is easier when I’m standing on a bigger foundation. The more I keep God and His will, principles, and plan at the base of all I do, the more I can handle. However, as I step away from His Word or His direction, my foundation narrows and life becomes uncertain. I lose my balance as I struggle to make it on my own.

You may be thinking, “She gets all that from ‘Survivor?’” Strange, I know. But, God can speak to us in unusual ways, and I’ve been reminded of the importance of keeping an unchanging, unswerving God at the base of all I do. That’s the only way I can find any balance in this ever-changing world.
Inspire

The following is just a sampling of CU events on the road. Visit www.cedarville.edu and select “Calendar” for more events and information.

August 5
Alumni Chapter Event
Portland, Maine

August 5
Alumni Chapter Event
Raleigh, North Carolina

August 15
Alumni Chapter Event
Greenville, South Carolina

August 17
Alumni Chapter Event
Miami Valley, Ohio

August 27
Dr. Charles Clevenger
Canton, Ohio
LaGrange, Ohio

September 23
Alumni Chapter Event
Dallas, Texas

September 28
Dr. Bill Brown
Johnson City, New York

October 13
Alumni Event
Atlanta, Georgia

November 2
Alumni Event
Toronto, Canada

Note: BOLD dates indicate alumni relations events.

Friends for Life Corner

In January 2006, Jessica Swayze ’09 decided to try balancing her schoolwork with opening her own business in downtown Cedarville! Her store, called Uptown Collection, carries clothing, furnishings, jewelry, accessories, and gift items. Jessica’s mom, Jane Hansen Swayze ’79, assists Jessica with ordering and billing, as Jane has experience running a small furniture and accessory store.

Uptown Collection carries bags and jewelry by Karen Wildermuth Whitacre ’80, who was Jane’s roommate at Cedarville. In addition, Karen’s daughter, Amy Whitacre ’09, rooms with Jessica and occasionally assists at the store!

Although the Swayzes reside in Milford, Michigan, and the Whitacres live in Kansas City, Missouri, they came together at Uptown Collection recently for this photo.

Send your Friends for Life pictures and stories to alumni@cedarville.edu

Left to right are Jane, Jessica, Amy, and Karen. To find out more about Uptown Collection, visit http://uptowncollection.biz/website or contact Jane at mjswayze01@comcast.net.
Extreme Balancing

We live in an extreme world. People want to push themselves to the limit physically, overcome their fears, and extend the boundaries of their experiences.

The opportunities for extreme experiences seem endless. There are the obvious sports such as whitewater kayaking, drag racing, jet-skiing, mountain biking, or windsurfing. Then there are the over the top ones (sometimes, literally): BASE jumping, kitesurfing, free diving, mountain boarding, skysurfing, and bungee jumping.

There are even parodies of these extreme activities, such as “extreme croquet,” “extreme wheelbarrow,” and “urban housework.” My favorite is “extreme ironing,” described as “the latest danger sport that combines the thrills of an extreme outdoor activity with the satisfaction of a well-pressed shirt.”

Not all extremes are so bizarre — extreme commitment to Christ is the heart of true discipleship. But we are talking here about extremes in lifestyle. In this area, George Chapman reminds us, “Extremes, though contrary, have the like effects. Extreme heat kills, and so extreme cold.”

Finding balance in life is not only desirable but essential. Balance is not a matter of weighing one extreme against another; it is finding equilibrium among many varied interests, concerns, and activities. Most of these are good — but too many good things can suffocate us and take the joy out of life.

The most well-known “balance” passage in the Bible is found in Proverbs 30. “Keep falsehood and lies far from me; give me neither poverty nor riches, but give me only my daily bread” (Proverbs 30:8). We tend to focus on the last half of the passage and the possible harmful responses: “Otherwise, I may have too much and disown you and say, ‘Who is the LORD?’ Or I may become poor and steal, and so dishonor the name of my God” (Proverbs 30:9). Both poverty and riches are extremes that can lead to spiritual arrogance or moral expediency.

But don’t miss the opening request: “Keep falsehood and lies far from me.” The wise author is asking that he live an authentic life; not one bruised and cut by extremes. He knows his limitations and his potential to sin, so he asks for a life that avoids extremes in every direction. He wants balance.

In this issue of Inspire we will explore how balance in your life is God’s way of providing joy, fulfillment, and effectiveness — and possibly a well-pressed shirt.

President’s Pen

Honor to Whom Honor is Due

Alums Named Faculty and Staff of Year
Dr. Jeff Fawcett ’82, associate professor of marketing, and Faith Linn ’83, director of alumni relations, were selected by the student body as Faculty and Staff Members of the Year at the spring Honors Day chapel.

Forensics Team Highest-Ranking Among NFA Christian Schools
Of 82 teams from around the country, the CU Forensics Team took eighth place in the President’s I Division of the National Forensics Association National Tournament. Cedarville was the highest-ranking Christian school at the event and tied with Kent State University as the top Ohio school.

Debate Team Finishes Strong
At the National Parliamentary Debate Association (NPDA) National Debate Tournament, the Cedarville University Debate Team finished 14th out of 400. In addition to this strong improvement over previous years, the team received the top ranking within NPDA for the state of Ohio, for Cedarville’s five-state district, and among institutions affiliated with the Council for Christian Colleges and Universities (CCCU).

SIFE Team Earns Regional Honors
In the spring SIFE USA Regional Competition, Cedarville’s SIFE team was named first runner-up in the league as well as finalist in the Market Economics and Success Skills Criteria categories.

2006 SOCHE Excellence in Teaching Awards
Each year, SOCHE (Southwestern Ohio Council for Higher Education) selects outstanding faculty from their 22 member schools to receive the SOCHE Excellence in Teaching Awards. On April 21, four Cedarville University faculty members received this honor.

Students Receive Ohio Space Grant Scholarships
The Ohio Space Grant Consortium (OSGC) has presented Cedarville students with four of the state’s 51 available undergraduate research scholarships. In addition, OSGC gave three of its 18 Ohio math and science education scholarships to Cedarville students.

Freese Honored by Ohio District 7
Kathy Freese, associate professor of exercise and sport science, was recently inducted into the Ohio District 7 Basketball Coaches Association Hall of Fame.

To find out more about these honors, visit www.cedarville.edu/whatsabuzz and follow the prompts for the Inspire page.
Invisible Children

On April 11, Cedarville University’s Epsilon Omega chapter of Phi Alpha, the National Social Work Honor Society, joined with Invisible Children to raise awareness about Ugandan child soldiers.

The CU students showed a documentary about the disturbing situation and had Invisible Children personnel on hand to answer questions. The awareness efforts continued on April 29, when Cedarville students took part in the Global Night Commute.

110th Commencement Brings Message from White House

Cedarville University was pleased to welcome Tim Goeglein, special assistant to the President of the United States and deputy director of the White House Office of Public Liaison, as its commencement speaker on May 6. As Tim stood before the 656 graduates and thousands of parents, faculty, staff, and friends, he passed on a personal message from President George W. Bush and spoke on “The Duty of the Christian Citizen.” DVD copies of the commencement ceremony are available for purchase through The PATH® at http://store.ThePath.fm.

Combat Diary

Throughout Memorial Day weekend, the A&E Television Network aired a dramatic documentary called “Combat Diary: The Marines of Lima Company.” One of the Marines featured was Cedarville University student Lance Cpl. James Howard ’07.

As a member of Lima Company, James was deployed to Iraq for approximately seven months in 2005. His unit sustained significant casualties, including one Marine who was James’ Bible study partner. The two-hour documentary used the Marines’ own words and video footage to express the emotions and realities of their incredible experience.

James is a junior pastoral studies major from South Shore, Kentucky.

Allport Receives Excellence in Engineering Education Award

Chuck Allport, assistant to the academic vice president at Cedarville University, has received the Society of Automotive Engineers International (SAE) Excellence in Engineering Education Award. A dedicated member of SAE International, Chuck has had a passion for the past 15 years to integrate SAE International into engineering education.

New Academic Programs for Fall 2007

Cedarville University has approved several new programs that will give students even more opportunities to impact their world for Christ. These programs include a forensic science major, a molecular and cellular biology major, a Bachelor of Science degree in exercise science, an engineering co-op program, and a biomedical engineering minor.
3rd Annual! “Where in the World is Cedarville?” Contest

Share Cedarville University with the world by wearing a CU shirt on your summer vacation. Send us a picture to enter our “Where in the World is Cedarville?” contest.

There will be one winner of a $50 CU bookstore gift certificate in each category:

- Most Adventurous
- Best Participation (most people with CU shirts)
- Best Family Picture
- Most Famous (pose with a famous person)
- Most Unusual Location
- Most Creative
- Most Patriotic
- Best Overall Photo

Enter by e-mailing the alumni relations office at alumni@cedarville.edu or by mailing your entry to Cedarville University, Alumni Relations, 251 N. Main Street, Cedarville, OH 45314.

The rules:

1. At least one CU alum wearing a Cedarville shirt must be in the photo.
2. Only CU alumni may enter the contest.
3. Photos must be received no later than September 1, 2006.
4. Only one winner per household.
5. Photos will not be returned and may be printed in Inspire.
6. Photos submitted via e-mail must be high resolution (300 DPI).
7. Photos must be unaltered.
8. The prize will be awarded to the person(s) sending the photo(s).
9. The following information must be included with the photo: name, grad year, address, e-mail, phone, location of photo, names of people in the photo.

Tim Fenton ’01 proudly wears his CU shirt as he hikes Angel’s Landing in Zion National Park, Utah. Given the beauty of God’s creation, this had to be our best overall photo in 2005.
The John W. Bickett Heritage Scholarships were established in 1982 by the Heritage alumni of Cedarville College. These awards are named for the Reverend John Wilson Bickett, who, as a member of the first Cedarville College graduating class, was the first Cedarville student to receive a diploma.

The scholarship recipients are upperclassmen preparing for pastoral or missionary service and planning to further their education in seminary or language studies. Following are the students’ mini-biographies and notes of appreciation, which were written in March 2006.

**Sarah Hyatt**
A youth ministries and Christian education major, Sarah has volunteered at Junior Jam and The Rock (an after-school inner-city ministry with at-risk teens). After graduation, she plans to marry and to work in ministry with her husband. Sarah hails from Delaware, Ohio.

*Thank you so very much for the privilege and honor of this scholarship. It is a tremendous encouragement, and I am very grateful.*

**Kathryn Lakomy**
Kathryn holds leadership in two campus organizations: she is president of the Tau Delta Kappa Honors Program organization and secretary of the Alpha Sigma philosophy/critical thinking group. A resident of Liberty Township, Ohio, Kathryn is a junior philosophy major. Her post-graduation plans include missions work and graduate school.

*I would like to thank those who founded this scholarship. Financial help is a gift from God, and I’m particularly grateful to have been blessed in this way through you.*

**Mark Smith**
Hailing from Springfield, Ohio, Mark has plans of earning an M.Div. at seminary and becoming a senior pastor. A sophomore pastoral studies major, he currently serves as a substitute preacher and is part of a men’s group led by Dr. Carl Ruby ’83. He has also been involved in cross country and track, intramural basketball, the Jeremiah Project, and a missions trip to China.

*Thank you very much for this scholarship. Cedarville University is a wonderful, Christ-centered school and is worth every penny. Your help is very appreciated.*

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**Upcoming Heritage Events**

**October 6**

Heritage Homecoming Reunion

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*Inspire 9*
Established by the Alumni Council and funded by alumni, the Alumni Scholarship and Grant Endowment Fund helps outstanding students complete their education at Cedarville University. Each academic department selects one student from their department who is deemed most deserving of academic recognition. The following are the students’ mini-biographies and notes of appreciation, which were written in March 2006.

**Athletic Training**
Patrick Clinton is a junior athletic training major from Olympia, Washington. An EMT, Patrick was part of the Fall Break Hurricane Katrina Relief Team as well as this Easter’s Prison Fellowship ministry. He is the president of the Sigma Phi Lambda men’s service organization. Patrick’s post-graduation plans include paramedic school and fire training.

I would like to thank those in the athletic training department for this award. I attribute my success to their effective teaching and instruction. I would also like to thank my parents for their hard work and sacrifice in sending me to Cedarville. Finally, I offer praise and thanks to the Lord Jesus Christ by whom and through whom all things are possible to His praise and glory. May He come soon!

**Biblical Education**
An Honors Program student, Brett Smith has chosen to major in philosophy. During this past year, he filled his spare moments with a discipleship small group, Adopt-A-Block, pep band, intramural softball, and College Republicans (of which he was the chaplain). Although the New London, Ohio native is only a sophomore, he already has his mind set on seminary, marriage, and a large family.

I wish to offer my sincerest thanks to the alumni for this scholarship. It encourages me to see that you, having the advantage of hindsight, consider your Cedarville education to have been valuable enough that you wish to assist current students in obtaining the same. Again, thank you.

**Business Administration**
As an accounting major, Lindsay LoDico would like to work for a large public accounting firm and become a Certified Public Accountant. The junior is currently an Awana co-leader and the treasurer for Alpha Delta Omega, a women’s service organization. She hails from Washington Township, New Jersey.

I would like to express my appreciation to the alumni for awarding me this scholarship. I appreciate the commitment you have shown to Cedarville and its students. Thank you again for the encouragement this award has given me.

**Communication Arts**
To say that Craig Vinson loves radio might be an understatement. The Chillicothe, Ohio native has been with student station U99.5 FM since his Cedarville years began, as a DJ, Top 20 host, Request Line host, and now operations director. Next year he will become station manager. An electronic media major, Craig hopes to work at a radio station after graduation.

I want to personally thank each and every alumnus who helps make this scholarship possible. College has been a large financial strain on my family, and this gift will help in many ways. The education I receive at Cedarville is worth every penny, and I promise to use what I learn in the future to impact our culture for Christ.

**Education**
Lauren Keller plans to obtain her master’s degree after graduation and teach math at either the high school or college level. An integrated mathematics education major, she is also interested in teaching overseas if God so wills. Lauren is a sophomore from Lancaster, Pennsylvania and enjoys tutoring and playing in the orchestra.

I would like to thank the alumni who sponsored this scholarship. It means so much to me personally that you would give of your resources to further my education as well as the education of past recipients. Thank you for giving back to Cedarville and its students!
**Engineering and Computer Science**
As a junior mechanical engineering major, Michael Hubenthal holds membership in the Society of Engineers Aiding Missions, Tau Beta Pi (national engineering honor society), and the American Society of Mechanical Engineers. He still finds time to play intramural soccer and assist with Adopt-A-Block and the Student Academic Advisory Board. A native of Kokomo, Indiana, Michael is considering graduate school and an overseas career.

*Thank you for your great kindness and generosity in awarding me this scholarship. I am honored by your gracious recognition. Thank you so much for investing in the lives of students.*

**Exercise and Sport Science**
Stephanie Shank's career plan involves working with obese or overweight children, helping them form lifelong healthy habits. In the meantime, she has served as an aerobics instructor, vice president of the Health and Fitness Association, and volunteer for The Rock inner-city youth ministry. This junior exercise science major hails from Roanoke, Virginia.

*I would like to thank the alumni for providing scholarships for students such as myself. It is an honor to be awarded, and I greatly appreciate it.*

**Language and Literature**
A journalism career and law school are in the future for junior English major Joe Dugan. The Dearborn, Michigan product is currently preparing for these goals via his involvement with the CU Debate Team, Writing Center, Cedars student newspaper, Alpha Kappa Delta (English honors organization), and Tau Delta Kappa (Honors Program organization).

*Thanks to the Cedarville alumni who make this scholarship possible. Your financial support and your dedication to students like me is truly inspiring.*

**Music and Art**
In pursuit of her lifelong goals, Sarah Smoyer is double-majoring in piano performance and keyboard pedagogy. She would like to eventually teach college piano and music courses while performing and accompanying on the side. Active in concert chorale, accompanying, church activities, and working at The Hive, Sarah says she has enjoyed her freshman year immensely. She is from Traverse City, Michigan.

*Alumni, I would like to thank you ever so much from the bottom of my heart. This award is such an answer to prayer and will be instrumental in allowing me to return to Cedarville in the fall.*

**Nursing**
Junior nursing major Beckie Schrank will be going to Togo, West Africa this summer for a cross-cultural nursing internship. She hopes the experience will show her how God would have her combine her love for nursing, the outdoors, and children into a career. A native of Freeland, Maryland, Beckie is a discipleship small group leader, among many other activities.

*I am greatly encouraged by the way in which alumni are using their time and resources to serve the students currently at Cedarville. I thank you for using the gifts God has given you to faithfully administer God’s grace in its various forms. Keep on keepin’ on.*

**Psychology**
Courtney Johnson, a sophomore psychology major, is a member of Psi Kappa Theta (psychology club) and the Student Academic Advisory Board. During her freshman year, she volunteered at Twin Valley Behavioral Healthcare. The Miamisburg, Ohio product plans on pursuing a Ph.D. after graduation.

*Thank you, alumni, for giving back to me! I am both honored and humbled by your generosity. Your gift is an incredible encouragement to me!*  

**Science and Mathematics**
A junior biology major, Eric Robinette desires to attend medical school after graduation and one day become a medical missionary. The Westerville, Ohio native has participated in Open Heirs while at Cedarville.

*I want to thank the alumni for making this scholarship possible and for their continued commitment to academics at Cedarville University. Thank you for sharing the blessings that God has given you.*

**Social Sciences and History**
Debb Dunteman hopes to become a high school social studies teacher someday. The junior integrated social studies education major stays busy as a resident assistant/assistant resident director in Maddox Hall, a teaching assistant for the department of social sciences and history, and a church youth group worker. Debb is originally from Crest Hill, Illinois.

*This award is such an encouragement to me. I would like to thank all of the alumni that have given to make scholarships like mine possible.*
The President’s Trophy, the highest honor for a graduating senior, recognizes leadership, ministry, community and campus involvement, athletic performance, and academic achievement. The 2006 recipients were Jillian Anderson (top left), a communication arts and theatre major from Hudson, Iowa; and Matthew Shiraki (bottom left), an integrated social studies education major from Cheltenham, Pennsylvania.

The Faculty Scholarship Award went to three students for maintaining perfect 4.0 grade point averages throughout their college careers. The recipients were Jillian Anderson (shown in President’s Trophy photo); Gregory Lynch, a philosophy major from La Rue, Ohio (top right); and Joanna Hinks, a mechanical engineering major from Waukesha, Wisconsin (bottom right).

All of the students were congratulated by commencement speaker and White House presidential assistant Tim Goeglein and Dr. Bill Brown.
This edition of *Inspire* revolves around the importance of balanced lives. We are blessed to have so many professors and staff who exhibit a Christ-filled commitment to life. As we consider this theme of balanced lives, we rejoice in these accomplishments of several Bible professors.

Dr. Tom Cragoe has served as the interim chair of the department of biblical education this last year, during which time he provided excellent leadership and direction. He was recently appointed to serve as the official chair for the next four years. Congratulations, Tom!

Tom writes, “I am delighted to serve as the chair of the department of biblical education for the next four years. My vision for the department is to build collegial participation in enhancing both our Bible major and our Bible minor. This will be based on the ongoing assessment of our curriculum and classroom effectiveness. I also hope to support the personal growth of each member of our department as they pursue classroom excellence, writing projects, and continuing study in their respective disciplines. My goal is for our department to become a cohesive and mutually supportive team that is wholeheartedly committed to ‘the Word of God and the testimony of Jesus Christ.’”

Dr. Chris Miller was recently recognized as the recipient of the Cove Award for outstanding support for students with disabilities. Kim Ahlgrim, director of the Academic Assistance Center, spoke very highly of Chris as she presented and explained this award: “The award goes to the faculty member who has shown outstanding support for CU students with disabilities. This professor has created a Christ-centered learning environment for students with disabilities. The universal design of his teaching, his approachability, his respect and compassion for the individual, his timely communication, and his collaboration with the disability services coordinator and the testing and tutoring coordinator have afforded his students with disabilities the same opportunities to learn as their peers. One of the main criteria for this award is that the recipient is nominated by a student with a disability. One student stated, ‘I had several problems with taking tests due to my disability, and he went out of his way to help me. He took the time to meet with me in his office and spent 45 minutes of his extremely busy day to help me! He also answered a list of problems/questions I had and burned me a CD disk with all his audio lectures and PowerPoint slides on it. He has been most kind to me and very understanding and considerate.’” Congratulations to Chris for his outstanding service to both the University and each and every student.

Congratulations to Dr. David Hoffeditz ’92 in his recent promotion to associate professor and his advancement to full tenure. Tenure is an earned privilege which represents both faculty development and excellence. Tenure is only awarded after a thorough and comprehensive program of evaluation which includes the candidate’s character, professional proficiency, academic development, and the ability to academically advise students.

In addition to these professional endorsements of David’s life and ministry at Cedarville comes news along the personal front. He and Dr. Lori Anderson ’97, a counselor in the University’s counseling services, entered into a sacred covenant of marriage on May 13, 2006. Many students have commented how they have appreciated David’s modeling of the single life, as well as how both he and Lori modeled their courtship. Congratulations to both David and Lori!

Dr. Greg Couser has been promoted to full professor. This honor recognizes sustained excellence in teaching effectiveness, including integration of faith and learning, along with ongoing contribution to the department, the University, the professional setting, and local church ministries. Greg continues to make major contributions to his family, his local church, his students, Cedarville University, and the academy at large. Congratulations to Greg on this wonderful accomplishment!
What is Balance?
By Dr. David Mappes
Associate Professor of Bible

One recent study identifies the Millennial Generation (children born between 1982-2003) as a generation that insists on solutions to long-term problems and will insist on equilibrium. This generation is characterized by deeper family values and requires much more hands-on parenting and personal involvement. Recent studies also indicate that this Millennial Generation values parental oversight and influence more than the influence of their own peers. As Christians we applaud these societal shifts. However, with all of the increasing life challenges and obligations in our fast-paced culture, both exhaustion and burnout are major issues for believers to address.

Balancing the Christian life is best understood as living a fully integrated Christian life. In the popular “Spiritual Formation” class in our Bible minor, we seek to assist today’s busy student in balancing his or her life through the practice of various spiritual disciplines (Bible study, prayer, journaling, meditation, etc.). Many times I will display a picture of the unbalanced Christian life and have students discuss the nature of the imbalance (see Figure 1). Students seek to rebalance this portrayal as they sketch in and prioritize their activities.

Many students observe that the cross (representative of Christianity) should be placed in the largest circle, thus giving Christianity a greater priority. As we continue the exercise, students begin to understand the fatal error and flaw in this type of model. It is not fully integrated but rather compartmentalized. This type of compartmentalization allows one’s Christianity to be separate from certain areas of his or her life. So in this model one can think and act Christianly in one area but not another. Many times as believers we attempt to use various spiritual disciplines to readjust Christianity as just one of many important priorities. This entire model creates a type of spiritual dissonance leading to such spiritual failures as harboring secret sins, isolation, etc.

After critiquing the compartmental model, we then create and practice another model which does represent a fully integrated life (see Figure 2, next column). The Christian balanced life recognizes that Christ should permeate every aspect of our lives. Paul emphasized this type of integration when he wrote in I Corinthians 8:6 that “there is but one God, the Father, from whom are all things and we exist for Him; and one Lord, Jesus Christ, by whom are all things, and we exist through Him.” Paul is arguing that our identity with Christ and His ownership of us should permeate every aspect of our beings and lives.

After surfacing this integrative model of spirituality, we then explore and practice various spiritual disciplines to help create balance. Such disciplines as Bible reading and prayer are crucial. The Scripture is foundational and defining of all other disciplines since Scripture is the very Word of God. Hence we spend many weeks teaching and modeling Bible study methods. Further we explore the controlling/filling ministry of the Spirit as described in Ephesians 5:18. Paul argues that as believers we are to allow God to manifest Himself through us in every area of life. As He fills (controls) us, God will then manifest His fruit in our lives which is identified as the fruit (or virtues) of the Spirit in Galatians 5:22-26.

The true test of balance involves consistent manifestations of the Spirit’s fruit in each dimension of our lives. As a class we address probing questions regarding the Spirit’s fruit in dorm life, dating relationships, vocational attitudes, etc. If one is walking with God, then the collective fruit of the Spirit will be manifested. As we discuss this area of balance we necessarily address how to respond to our own personal sin as well as the sin of others. We identify the two polar extremes mentioned in I John 1:6-10. These polar extremes involve either not acknowledging any personal sin or simply continuing to live in personal sin. John commands us to confess our sins. Balance then is re-established through intentional association with biblical local churches that live in true community as they pursue truth and godliness in every area of life, including confession of personal sin. Unfortunately some Christian cultures have either socialized sin (removing the heinousness of sin as an offense to God) or have so demonized sin that no atmosphere exists for confession out of fear of complete isolation.

As believers we should seek to continually acknowledge the absolute and sovereign Lordship of Christ in every area of life as we strive together to serve Him. This is truly the integrated life.

Figures 1 and 2 are from Conformed to His Image: Biblical and Practical Approaches to Spiritual Formation by Kenneth Boa, 2001, p. 222.
Can You Find Balance?
by Lydia Baker ’05

“Order is not pressure which is imposed on society from without, but an equilibrium which is set up from within.”
—Jose Ortega y Gasset (1883-1955)

I am discovering that balance is a topic on which I may never be able to lead a seminar. It is one of those issues in life that must be continually in the forefront of my mind to ensure that I lead a stable, fulfilled existence.

While in college, my efforts to achieve balance seemed to be directly connected to my ability to keep and organize my planner on a daily basis. I thought that by attending classes, fulfilling my extracurricular commitments, attending church, and completing assignments, I was essentially becoming a better student and, more importantly, a better Christian. Little did I realize that my being organized did not automatically signify that I led the life of a well-balanced individual.

After the diplomas were given, the final goodbyes were spoken, and my few possessions were neatly packed away, I was forced to deal with reality. I had to truly evaluate my life for what it was. Without the hectic day-to-day demands of college, the treacherous truths relating to my lack of balance began to surface. I was not the stable person that I had imagined myself to be. I found the adjustment process to be quite challenging and discovered that my inability to maintain balance further complicated my life. Instead of frantically running from one commitment to the next, I was now devoted to a traditional eight-hour job which left me with ample time to reflect on my needs and responsibilities. My priorities had shifted drastically from making the grades in the classroom to making the cut in the office. I no longer had the privilege of having many of my friends centrally located and available when I needed a social fix. I had myself, my car, my job, and my apprehensive co-workers who constantly reminded me that I was new to the “working world.”

It was during this transition that I began to grasp a more concrete understanding of what it means to find balance. The excitement of college life left my schedule jam-packed with activity. My eagerness to get the full college experience allowed me little time for self-rejuvenation. Between my commitments to classes, meetings, homework, a job, and church, I rarely had the opportunity to simply be. I enthusiastically looked forward to life after graduation because I knew that things would not be as demanding. I would have more control over the way that I spent my day, and I anticipated having more time to do the things that I truly desired to do. I thought that I possessed this phenomenon called balance, but I quickly discovered that my interpretation of what it meant to be balanced was completely unrelated to the true definition of balance. For me, at that time in my life, balance meant organization. It meant that as long as I accomplished all my tasks for that day, then I could end the day satisfied. I mentally correlated my ability to complete tasks with distinct levels on the balance scale. If I was able to submit homework on time, tend to my resident responsibilities, meet friends for dinner, study for an upcoming test, and read my Bible, then, in my mind, I had become the essence of what I thought balance to be.

I must say that this past year has been a non-stop learning adventure. I have come to realize that I had absolutely no clue what true balance was. I had become so accustomed to my hectic schedule in college that I found myself struggling to find meaningful activity to participate in during my transition to a full-time job and a new city. Initially, I did not know what it meant to be still. I did not understand the value of being left alone with my thoughts. Naturally, I knew very few people in this new city, and for the first time in my life, it was literally just me and God. I had the tremendous opportunity to get to know God as my friend, not just the Divine Being to whom I periodically prayed. I was able to discover myself. I asked myself, “What are the most important things in my life? What is it that keeps me ticking and brings comfort and joy to the numerous mundane responsibilities that are a daily part of life?” These questions were not easy for me to answer, because I had always been the type of individual who had done what was expected of me. Those expectations kept me so preoccupied that I rarely got the opportunity to fully enjoy the many moments that life hands our way.

The excitement of a new beginning with new opportunities had my heart racing and my thoughts steadily moving, calculating my next step. What would I do with my newfound free time? How would I spend my days? I could catch up on my reading. I could discover new hobbies and explore the city. I could volunteer my time and resources to bettering the community. The list could go on and on. There were so many possibilities … so many options.
In the meantime, I was discovering how unbalanced I was. I had become the dreaded individual who devotes all her time to work and then slowly becomes disconnected from friends, family, and all social activity. I felt like I was living to work and working to live. I would get off work and find it dark outside because of daylight savings time. After cooking, cleaning, and exercising, I found myself preparing for bed. After a while of this, I realized that I had become a total bore. I didn’t know what to do with myself beyond those things that were already expected of “responsible working adults.” During this time, I was associating what I thought balance was with responsibility. Again, I was wrong.

Balance is not organization. It is not measured by my ability to complete tasks, and it is definitely not calculated based on my inability to maintain a daily schedule. It isn’t the type of thing that just happens. I believe that in order for individuals to find balance, they must be mindful of their tendencies and then strive to counteract their extremes. Balance is not achieved by saying “no” to that additional ministry. It is not found by minimizing the number of hours that you put in at the office. It is not even based on taking the extra minutes necessary to finish that last chapter in that book that you have been struggling to complete. Finding balance does not mean that you have set everything on a timer and your entire day is planned out with little room for spontaneity.

I believe that to find balance is to find time for those things that make you whole. It is found by living in the moment, while simultaneously enjoying your responsibilities. It is found by being fully aware of where you are and what is expected of you in that particular environment, but also being willing to stretch yourself beyond what is typically expected of you. For some, it could be spending an entire day strictly devoting yourself to your family. For others it could be to re-establish your hobbies while discovering a new passion. It could be as simple as completing that book. Or it could be as challenging as devoting more time to God or to a ministry. I believe that balance cannot be universally defined because it is different for each individual.

For example, I am a task-oriented person. I am always thinking of the next assignment that I need to complete. So for me, balance means that I need to relax by not only doing things that I need to do, but also by doing things that I enjoy. It means that I am not stressed, worried, or the least bit anxious about the many duties that I must accomplish before dusk. It means that I get the amazing opportunity to talk to my God not because it is another item on my list, but because it is one of the many things that I know makes me whole. It means that I take the time to enjoy life. I take the time to value relationships. I take the time to read interesting books. I take the time to express my thoughts with words. I make it a priority to spend time with family. And I strive to find ways to encourage others. These are things that balance out my obsessions with completing tasks.

No, I don’t have it all figured out, and yes, I do struggle with maintaining balance in my life. However, I can honestly say that I feel more refreshed and more at peace with myself when I literally put the planner away and stop to smell the roses.

Lydia lives in Columbus, Ohio, where she works for Ohio Secretary of State J. Kenneth Blackwell. Her e-mail is lydiabaker@alumni.cedarville.edu.
Balance defines Laura Dimacchia Meyer ’86. Two decades have passed since she graduated from Cedarville. She started her alumna life as a resident director, wife, and soon a mother when a year after graduating, her son was born. Looking back she said, “I remember wanting to have lots of children, but Drew was five rolled up into one — he was very busy.” With Lawlor Hall providing an endless supply of excellent babysitters, Laura noted that being a resident director had its advantages for a new mother with an active toddler.

But life soon changed when Laura and her husband separated and ultimately divorced. Now a single mom, Laura taught in a Christian school and waited tables to make ends meet. Drew had just started elementary school, and Laura was thankful that his father was still a big part in Drew’s life. “That has made a huge difference in Drew,” she commented, “But I was still mom, counselor, small wound doctor, tutor, and chauffeur 24/7.”

Eventually Laura left private school for the public school system. That move meant that she could take on club advisory positions to supplement her income instead of waitressing. However, working in public school brought new challenges. “Public school was an issue in and of itself,” Laura recalled. “I was in a struggling district, and the needs of my students left me really drained, but I didn’t get to rest because I had a child to take care of, to help with homework, to take to sport practices, and I had to tend to housework on top of it all. I think this is where a lot of people just give up, and I completely understand. They are tired from a full day’s work, and there’s just nothing left in them to parent.”

Looking to make a career change, Laura pursued a master’s degree in exercise science. By this time Drew was a teenager. “I remember being so frustrated with trying to do it all at that point,” she reflected. “Junior high brought new issues. Many days were spent deprogramming Drew from the negative influences of public education and teaching him to take in the meat and spit out the bones of his day,” Laura added.
While she was thankful that her son was very communicative with her, balancing the competing personal and professional needs in her life was a challenge. “I had to learn to shut myself in my classroom more so I could get school work done in school, because I had grad school work once I left,” she said. “That was really tough, because as a social person, I thrive on people. But somehow I learned to find balance.” Exercise was a vital part of that.

With grad school finished, Laura naively thought she would have more time, but Drew’s school schedule became more demanding. Along with that, he was looking at colleges, which required time from Laura. Additionally, Laura started training clients and had taken on the position of English department chairperson and student council advisor on the side. Going through this season of wearing so many hats, Laura said part of being balanced was her refusal to lose her identity as a person.

After earning an M.Ed in exercise science and an American College of Sports Medicine Health and Fitness Instructor certification, Laura left teaching and became a full-time personal trainer and fitness speaker. “It is my job to encourage people to develop healthy habits,” she explained. “It’s a pretty cool field. I do what I love, and I get to use my teaching background right along with it!”

Now with a more balanced schedule, Laura is in the gym as much as possible and watches her diet. She noted, “While I am not a fat-free freak, I do watch what fats I eat and absolutely avoid anything that says ‘hydrogenated’ in an ingredients list.” All of that led her to co-author a book called Dr. Bob’s Trans Fat Survival Guide.

Laura says she doesn’t know how she made it through 13 years of single-parenting on her own. “But like I mentioned earlier, Drew’s dad was in his life until he moved out of state, and between him and my parents, Drew was able to get where he needed and have food when I had to be in class,” she stated.

Even with help, Laura says she can’t begin to describe the mistakes she made along the way. It seems to her that she must have had to apologize a hundred times for losing her cool simply because she was frustrated from being so tired and not being able to do it all. She recalled, “My neighbor would frequently hear me yelling at Drew. She would lovingly remind me that at the age of 13 all brain matter leaves children but returns again between ages 18 and 19. Not only would that make me laugh and get some perspective, but it was so true.” She proudly shares that today Drew is well-adjusted and doing extremely well in college. “He even made the dean’s list his freshman year!” she proudly noted.

Looking back Laura says her life has been a constant balance of work, single parenting, and running a household on top of graduate school. She concluded, “I’ve made so many mistakes and left huge gaps, but God is so good. He repays twofold what the enemy has stolen.”

For more information about personal training or Laura’s book, visit her Web site at www.laurameyer.org.
Seventy-five-hour work weeks, late nights of study, and life/death decisions. Add commitments to family and church and you have a recipe for a life seriously out of whack! How does the follower of Christ maintain equilibrium (literally “equal balance”) when stress is high? Inspire interviewed recent alums enrolled at Medical University of Ohio in Toledo to discover that balance is about managing, not eliminating, the pressures of medical school.

**Five P’s to Managing Pressure**

The pressures of responsibility are not squandered on the weak; the Master’s testing comes after preparation and faithful living. Jason Hall ’01 noted, “My time at Cedarville created the foundation from which to view current circumstances. It was a time when I developed habits in my spiritual life that serve to continually remind me of my dependence on the Lord and that there is no greater pursuit than to glorify God.” Physician’s assistant student Andrea Galehouse ’04 highly values Cedarville University chapel and her CU training in bioethics, seeing God’s hand throughout her life of learning. Thanks to excellent scholarship required by CU faculty Dr. Terry Phipps ’70 and Dr. Lisa Schaffner, third-year med student Eric Mitchell ’02 “already knew what it was like to study all night and still feel overwhelmed!”

God’s provision supplies all we need for life and godliness. Jason stated that “close friends, supportive parents and siblings, a wonderful church family, and an ever-patient and encouraging wife [Geneva Roberts Hall ’00] have really aided me in the pursuit of maintaining a balanced life in medical school. And God has continually shown Himself faithful in providing strength and rewarding diligence.” God has graciously supplied a godly older woman to faithfully mentor Andrea in her local church, as well as “friends for life” from Cedarville days to encourage her and avoid relationship “blackout.”

Just as Paul trained himself to put aside past gains or lesser goals (Phil. 3:12-14), a clear sense of purpose enables these students to keep their eyes on the prize. Living a life worthy of Christ’s calling (Eph. 4:1) challenges Kathy Steingass ’02 that “it is by God’s will and His grace that I am training to be a physician and that I need to use the gifts He has given me wisely. All of my work needs to be done to His glory.” While peers might be striving to amass personal wealth or accomplishments, Andrea takes joy in preparing for the good works God has planned for her to do through a career in medicine.

A firm sense of purpose allows one to set priorities to govern usage of time, energy, and gifts. Eric makes a priority to eat dinner together every night with his wife, Erin (Vallowe) ’01, and their four-month-old son, Cole. Travis Casper ’03 shared that he may practice medicine for 25 years, but he’ll be a husband, a son, a brother, and a child of God for the rest of his life. As a result, attending church with his wife, Kristin (Pierce) ’03 and enjoying their church’s small group activities are key. Eddie Nehus ’01 discovered that keeping things in proper balance was among the most difficult tasks in medical school. Nurturing genuine faith that pleases God involves “holding fast to our previous convictions, namely, that our daily time spent with God IS our number one priority, even when our emotions (e.g., anxiety, worry, and frustration) tempt us to do otherwise,” shared Eddie.

Persevering in pursuit of priorities yields productivity. Efficient use of time spent studying, sleeping, and relaxing helps Travis produce under pressure. “Medical school is one giant balancing act. If your priorities aren’t balanced perfectly, you’ll snap under the weight of it all,” he said. Andrea has learned that being disciplined about the way she uses her time makes her a better person and a more useful instrument for God to wield. Efficient use of time has facilitated ministry, allowing several of these students to consistently teach children’s Sunday school, volunteer at clinics for the uninsured, or join Bible study groups.

So take it from these medical students — balancing life and managing pressure is all about the five P’s: preparation, provision, purpose, priorities, and productivity!

Mark is an associate professor of chemistry at Cedarville University, as well as the director of summer school and continuing education.
Cedarville was an incredible experience for me — a literal fork in the road of my life. It is the place where I really learned of God’s great, great love toward me and His desire to use my life to minister His heart to others. There I witnessed real grace lived out in the lives of precious people, and my heart was forever changed.

I graduated from Cedarville determined to live in the truth of God’s love toward me and to minister His love in the lives of others. However, what that actually looks like in real life in my here and now is quite different than what I had ever envisioned as a bright-eyed 21-year-old graduate.

In 2000, I married my wonderful husband, Jim, and a year later, we welcomed our first child, Jacob. In 2003, our second child, Isaac Immanuel, was born, following an extremely difficult labor and delivery that nearly cost me my life. After I received a blood transfusion because of the severe hemorrhaging that followed Isaac’s birth, we thanked God for the opportunity to live and enjoy life together as a family. We also thanked Him that the first day of my sweet son’s life had not proven to be my last.

About two and a half years passed and, following a careful process and consultation with a developmental pediatrician, we received a diagnosis of autism for Isaac. The doctor telephoned our home with the news in November 2005. Although I remained composed while the doctor and I spoke, I sobbed as I shared the news with my mom in Ohio.

My life has been dramatically changed since that weighty conversation last November. It has been essential for me to examine my own heart to discover exactly what the purpose statement of my life really is. What will “success” look like, and how will I know if I am achieving it? I had already determined that to succeed in fulfilling my life’s calling, my days would be invested in loving God and asking that He use me as a vessel to share His great love with people. So now, in the midst of Isaac’s many, many appointments throughout our state, as well as speech and occupational therapy sessions, developmental preschool and evaluations, educational conferences, etc., I must return again and again to my life’s purpose statement when a new door of opportunity opens before me.

Out of necessity, I have learned to say “no” to many good and worthwhile things and to say “yes” with all of my heart to my family and the special needs of our beautiful three-year-old son. When the reality of the weight of what we were facing with our son became evident, I chose to resign from a full-time position as well as several other commitments. I believe that my calling now is clear, and I am free to invest my energy and time in what really matters most. I know that investing in my family in this precious time is a decision that I will never, ever regret.

Finding balance is absolutely essential as I seek to fulfill the roles of mother, wife, sister, daughter, friend, teacher, and Isaac’s chief advocate and chauffeur while also living as an individual and a forgiven follower of Jesus Christ. There are some very practical steps that have helped me achieve more balance in my life, including clearly communicating specific, real needs to our church family and graciously accepting practical help from others when it is offered.

For example, after we had some time to digest the diagnosis of autism for Isaac, we wrote a two-page letter to family and friends to clearly explain Isaac’s diagnosis and ask that they join with us on the difficult journey that we were beginning. We received a wonderfully loving response to our letter, and simply letting people know what was happening in our family made a tremendous difference.

In addition, I choose to live life literally one day at a time. We do not know what the future holds, so I can very easily drown in the tumultuous sea of “what ifs” if I allow myself the opportunity. Instead, I choose to rest in the grace of God in the present, drawing strength and courage from the past, and trusting Him and His love and faithfulness for the future. Living in the present has made a tremendous difference for me personally.

One of the professionals who works with Isaac told me that it is as if I am swimming the English Channel: I just need to keep my head down and keep swimming. If I stop and look around, all that I will see is water all around me. I have found this to be very true and valuable advice.

One paramount lesson that I have learned is to continue to walk forward, in the midst of my pain and unanswerable questions, with what author Philip Yancey refers to in Disappointment with God as “fidelity, hang-on-at-any-cost” faith. Yancey writes, “Job, along with the saints in Hebrews 11, points to a different kind of faith ... Childlike trust may not survive when the miracle does not come, when the urgent prayer gets no answer, when a dense gray mist obscures any sign of God’s concern. Such times call for something more, and I will use the musty word ‘fidelity’ for that hang-on-at-any-cost faith.” I have chosen to trust in God’s love in the midst of this grimly gray world of autism, and He has brought vivid colors — oranges and yellows and purples and reds and pinks — into that gray, gray world, and our lives are happy and good in spite of this life-changing diagnosis.
Chad ‘01 and Erin Brauns Foerch ‘01 are learning to find balance between career, marriage, parenting, and running a bed and breakfast in Mount Pleasant, Iowa. Built in 1868, The Ambler House has one guest room and is also used for bridal showers, banquets, and other social functions. Erin does the scheduling, marketing, planning, and cooking, while Chad works as a mechanical engineer and in his spare time enjoys renovating and maintaining the 4,100-square-foot guest house. The Foerchs have a three-year-old son, Carter, and are expecting a daughter. The Ambler House was recently featured on HGTV.

Inspire asked Erin about the bed and breakfast business and how the family finds balance.

How did you come to buy The Ambler House and start a bed and breakfast?

We bought the home after Chad’s job change moved us to Iowa. The house had been vacant for two years and had dropped in asking price from $225,000 to $135,000. We thought and prayed hard about it since it was a big house and therefore a big commitment. It had a lot of history, and so that was a selling point too, along with the fact that we would like a large family. So we decided to purchase this large, history-rich home. We were thrilled to come across a thesis that the previous owner had written complete with photos. After buying the house we decided to start a small business for financial reasons. I wanted to have a hobby that I could enjoy and make some extra money while staying at home. I love to host parties, so this business made a lot of sense.

What is a typical hosting day like?

About an hour before a party, I begin preparing the food. When the guests arrive, I greet them and give a tour of the front rooms. Then I serve the food. During this time, Carter plays and sometimes comes and helps me greet the guests. After the party I clean up the rooms, so it only takes about three hours total for the day.

If we have a bed and breakfast guest, I make sure that the room is clean and presentable. Then we greet the guests, tour the rooms, and answer any questions, as well as get to know them a little bit. Usually guests have their own agenda, so we are on-call but not occupied. The next morning I serve breakfast and talk with the guests. When the guests leave, I clean the room.

A Bed and Breakfast Balancing Act

by Chad ‘01 and Erin Brauns Foerch ‘01 as shared with Cessna Catherine Winslow

Chad ‘01 and Erin Brauns Foerch ‘01 are learning to find balance between career, marriage, parenting, and running a bed and breakfast in Mount Pleasant, Iowa. Built in 1868, The Ambler House has one guest room and is also used for bridal showers, banquets, and other social functions. Erin does the scheduling, marketing, planning, and cooking, while Chad works as a mechanical engineer and in his spare time enjoys renovating and maintaining the 4,100-square-foot guest house. The Foerchs have a three-year-old son, Carter, and are expecting a daughter.

Jennifer and her husband, Jim, reside in Washington state, where they are the very proud parents of three children: Jacob, Isaac, and AnnaSophia. Jim is employed as a sales representative at an area Toyota auto dealership, and is working towards his bachelors degree at Washington State University. Jennifer stays home to care for their children and also works part-time during the school year as an ESL (English as a Second Language) instructor at a local community college. Jennifer would be delighted to hear from other Cedarville graduates and can be reached at jennifercbates@alumni.cedarville.edu.

Families of children with special needs are invited to join Jennifer at Homecoming for a special time of fellowship and encouragement. See the Homecoming brochure for details.

When I was pregnant with Isaac Immanuel, whose names mean “laughter” and “God is with us,” my prayer for him was that he would have the joy of the Lord, and God has so answered that prayer. Isaac is a delight, and his life’s theme song would have to be “What a Wonderful World” by Louis Armstrong. He is a sweet and happy and loving boy, who wins the hearts of all teachers and professionals who have the privilege of working with him. We have learned to celebrate all that he can do — running and climbing and giving us kisses and seeing the vibrant colors of life with his eyes — and that he is learning to communicate more with words. In general, he has a happy heart.

I often think of heaven and imagine what it might be like. Tears of hope and joy stream down my cheeks as I imagine worshiping Jesus one day in heaven, with Isaac at my side and completely free of autism, both of us with thankful hearts before our Lord and our God.

The longing of my heart is to please God and minister to Him through caring for my family and my son. One day Isaac will understand all that we have invested in him, and I believe that he will say with true understanding, “Thank you, Mom.” My prayer is that one day Jesus will tell me that as I ministered to my entire family and to my son with autism, I pleased His heart and that the work He prepared for my life was accomplished just as He had hoped. Thinking on these things, sustained day by day by His great grace and love and strength, is how I find balance in the present.

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How do you juggle running a business and taking care of a family?

I feel as though with one child and staying at home, I have a fairly easy task to handle. With that said, I try to take housecleaning tasks and split them up between several days. For instance, Thursdays are my laundry days and Wednesdays I vacuum. Also, recently I have found that it helps tremendously if I plan out the meals we will have for upcoming weeks and do the shopping beforehand. This makes meal time less stressful for me.

Since I am pregnant, I have developed a habit of napping with Carter during the afternoons. Chad likes to take about an hour each evening to spend some one-on-one time with Carter — usually it is while I am preparing dinner.

Thinking about my day ahead of time and what I would like to accomplish during the day also helps. I make a list of the things I would like to get done, and then there are things that I always plan to do, such as spend time with Carter and think through how the day might play out. I take this same strategy for the work that I have to get done for the business.

You seem to juggle your roles well. It must help you find balance, right?

We try to keep in mind what is really important to us and what goals we have for our lives. Besides spending time with God and making our church family a priority, we desire to enjoy the time that God has given us with each other. We decided before we were even married that we wanted one of us to stay home with our children. Logically that person is me, and I LOVE it! Purposefully training our children is a high priority to us. Whenever we have a decision to make regarding the business, working on the house, etc., we have to think if it is going to conflict with any of these priorities. If it will, we simply say “no” or choose not to spend our time doing it. We control the volume of business and therefore can say “no” to business commitment that would interfere with our family life, and we have said “no” on several occasions. This business is not meant to support our lifestyle, but rather be a fun hobby that provides a nice little profit and offers a way to get to know our community.

How did HGTV learn about The Ambler House?

Our local chamber of commerce was contacted by HGTV, and they referred us. We then corresponded with HGTV via phone and e-mail about the history of our home, and soon HGTV decided they wanted to have us on their “If Walls Could Talk” show! During part of the taping, I wore my CU T-shirt!

To learn more about the Foerchs and The Ambler House, visit their Web site at www.theamblerhouse.com.
Work/Life Balance: An Intergenerational Approach

by Paul McGrady ’93

We are a Cedarville family in every sense of the word. My wife’s parents (Richard ’63 and Martha Short Davidson ’65) are grads as is my wife, Lisa (Davidson) ’89, who was at one time an English professor at Cedarville. I remain actively involved with Theta Rho Epsilon, a group which remains dear to my heart. My kids are on campus at least once a year, usually for Homecoming, and we have already launched the propaganda machine with leading questions like “Where will you go to graduate school after you finish at Cedarville?”

So, when we were faced with the realities of trying to maintain balance in our lives, what sort of “Cedarville Solution” do you think we came up with?

First, let me share with you some of the balls we are juggling. In order to survive and thrive, I must bill a certain number of hours per week for my law practice, commute in and out of Chicago (which eats up another three hours every day), and put in an hour of exercise (which my doctor tells me is not a luxury but a necessity in my case). There are also always a series of “unbillable” events every month such as client care and feeding, marketing, and internal management and recruiting functions.

Lisa is in no better a position. She is completing her Ph.D. while raising two small children and running a household. She is also a terrific helpmeet in my practice. (In fact, my clients like her much better than they like me. I think they feel a little sorry for her.) Her situation is further complicated because our co-sheep at church don’t seem to understand that writing a dissertation is not like sitting on the board of the “Bring Back the Petunia Association of Greater Frankfort.” So she is constantly inundated with requests from these nice folks to take on this or that additional ministry.

As far as we have been able to tell, there is no “job sharing” a Ph.D., nor is there a splitting of a partnership at the eighth largest law firm in the world. Neither job can be done in a rural town where there is no traffic, no economic opportunity, and no access to a hub airport. We are years and years away from being able to retire and open that apple farm, bed and breakfast, college town coffee house, etc. No matter how we push, traffic doesn’t become less congested, trains don’t go faster, printers don’t print more speedily, and academic committees don’t rubberstamp anything. In fact, by our current estimation, our home will be completely overrun by unanswered e-mails sometime in the third quarter of 2007. We also don’t want our kids raised by a nanny (other than their real Nanny, who is 78 but who lives in Ohio and, while more beautiful than ever, is a bit confused these days).

So, given these pressures, how can we find work/life balance? For us, one answer was found in our family.

Lisa and I are able to do so much because her parents have chosen to devote their time to our kids. While others of their generation are combing the Florida beaches with metal detectors, Rich and Martha dutifully roll out of bed here in the frozen tundra and/or sweltering humidity of Chicago and get to work helping us raise our family. This goes far beyond
mere babysitting. We see our children and their grandparents sharing time and sharing values. Our kids are learning firsthand what it means to be a mature believer. All the Sunday school curriculum in the world can’t teach that.

My wife’s parents live in our small suburb and attend the same church we do. It is amazing how the personal connections they have made with others over the years have worked to calm us two nervous parents, especially, for example, when our daughter started kindergarten this past fall. I was nervous about leaving Lily for six hours a day with someone we don’t know. My mother-in-law informed me not to worry, that the kindergarten teacher’s older sister was best friends with a young lady we both knew very well. Suddenly, this teacher was transformed from stranger to family friend.

It’s also not just the availability, but the quality of these two people’s lives that bring us such joy and peace. I was so happy when I heard that my kids had learned first from their Papa that “life isn’t fair.” (I knew this, but didn’t want to be the one to break it to them.) What joy to see godly values being lived out in front of my children every day!

My in-laws have several lifelong friends they met while at Cedarville. One such friend describes us as “disturbingly nuclear.” While there may be some truth to that, we consider ourselves truly blessed to have Lisa’s parents so close and so willing to assist us in meeting our life goals and ensuring that our children have an opportunity to be raised by people who love them. For young couples just starting out or older couples with children who feel burned out from the rat race, if you have godly parents who have the desire to help, consider bringing balance to your life through choices that will allow your family to help.

Paul is a shareholder in the Chicago office of Greenberg Traurig, LLP, an international law firm where he practices intellectual property law. Paul lives with his wife, Lisa, and two children, Lily (6) and Danny (4), in Frankfort, Illinois. Paul can be reached at mcgradyp@gtlaw.com.
Alumni Events

Cedarville University

Friends for Life

Alaskan Cruise

A Seven-Day Alaskan Cruise aboard the luxurious Norwegian Star

June 16-23, 2007

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<th>Day</th>
<th>Port, Washington</th>
<th>Arrival</th>
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<td>1</td>
<td>Seattle, Washington</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>Cruise Alaska's Inside Passage</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>Ketchikan, Alaska</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>Juneau, Alaska</td>
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<td>Skagway, Alaska</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>Prince Rupert, British Columbia</td>
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<td>At Sea</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>Seattle, Washington</td>
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How often does the Cedarville University extended family have an opportunity to get together for fellowship, worship, and teaching? Not often enough! The Cedarville University Friends for Life Cruise will give us wonderful opportunities to sit and talk for as long as we want. Not only will we enjoy great foods and the wonderful sights of Sawyer Glacier, we will also have time to laugh, sing, and pray together.

We look forward to a great time with you.

Dr. Bill Brown
President

Please contact Tom Strong at Cruise Planners, Inc. with questions or reservation requests at 1-877-535-8359 or visit www.cedarville.edu/alumni for more information.

100 Cabins Available!

Call your friends and book your trip today!

from
$1069
per person

Upcoming Chapter Events

August 5
Portland, Maine

August 5
Raleigh, North Carolina

August 15
Greenville, South Carolina

August 17
Miami Valley, Ohio

Find more information at www.cedarville.edu/alumni.

Past Events

Englewood, Colorado — May 22

While in Colorado, the Lifeline Players touring drama team stopped by Englewood Baptist Church for a performance and dessert with a group of local alumni and friends. Sponsored by Mindy Robinson Ruffin ’00, the group enjoyed a great evening of fellowship!
Cedarville University Alumni Online Resources

Online Alumni Directory
We are happy to announce one more way for you to stay connected to your Cedarville friends. The Online Alumni Directory is up and running!

The directory can be found at www.cedarville.edu/alumni under “Online Services.” Because only those who activate their accounts can be included, please be sure to activate your account as soon as possible. You may do so by selecting the “visibility settings” on the page that immediately follows a successful login to the alumni directory.

By now you should have received your login name and password in the mail. If you did not receive a letter, or you would like more information, call alumni relations at 1-800-837-2566 or e-mail alumni@cedarville.edu.

CU in the News!
What do newspapers and magazines say about Cedarville University each week? Would you like to be in the know? If so, you can subscribe to the free CU in the News e-mail service, which sends you a once-a-week e-mail noting newspaper and magazine articles that mention CU by name. Where possible, a link is included to let you read the article online.

You can get your free subscription to CU in the News by visiting www.cedarville.edu/cf/subscriptions and following the prompts. Sign up today!

E-mail for Life
Do you have an E-mail for Life (EFL) account? If so, you'll want to make sure that your friends and family have the correct e-mail address. Your EFL account should contain the word “alumni” right after the @ sign. So, for example, John Smith’s EFL address would be johnsmith@alumni.cedarville.edu.

Don’t forget to tell people your e-mail ends with “alumni.cedarville.edu”!

Blogging with Dr. Bill Brown
Dr. Bill Brown has been in the news a lot lately, but not for the reasons you might expect. A number of prestigious publications have made note of his blog, which is apparently one of the only university president blogs in the nation written by the president himself.

On his blog site, Dr. Brown shares his personal news — like details about his daughter’s trip to Kenya — and keeps readers informed of events happening at Cedarville. He also uses his blog to share his thoughts on current trends or news topics, like The DaVinci Code and the Gospel of Judas. “My blog is not about me, but about a lot of the things I am thinking about and working on,” he noted.

To see what Dr. Brown has been up to, visit his blog at www.xanga.com/billbrown.

Openings Available at Cedarville!
Have you ever considered using your gifts and experience at Cedarville University? Or perhaps you know of individuals who would thrive in our dynamic university environment.

We are seeking candidates for three key positions in the Advancement Division and always prefer hiring Cedarville graduates.

The Annual Fund Director will lead our current gift fundraising efforts with particular emphasis on achieving the University’s annual funding goals. Qualifications include a minimum of three years of successful advancement or related professional experience.

The Major Gifts Officer will invest his or her energies in developing and maintaining fruitful relationships with major donors. Qualifications include a minimum of five years of advancement experience and proven success in attracting major gifts. Extensive travel is expected.

The Station Manager of the CDR Radio Network will direct the initiatives and operations of our campus-based media network that provides Christ-centered programming to listeners via FM and Internet broadcasting. Qualifications include extensive radio experience as well as a track record of success in media team leadership and fundraising. This individual will succeed station founder Paul Gathany ’63, who plans to retire in the near future.

Look for details concerning these and other campus openings at www.cedarville.edu/cf/hr/positions.cfm.

Calendar of Campus Events

August 18-20
Getting Started Weekend

August 21-24
Fall Bible Conference

August 23
Instruction Begins

Find more information at www.cedarville.edu/calendar.
Laura Roby ‘76 has relocated back to Cedarville after spending the last nine years in Daytona Beach, Florida. While in Daytona Beach, Laura received her Master of Arts degree from Stetson University and served as an adjunct instructor of English at Daytona Beach Community College. She was also heavily involved in community service by connecting people with food pantries and shelters, making evangelistic trips to the Bahamian out-islands and establishing Bible study groups, visiting the elderly, and being a counselor at a Billy Graham Crusade.

Marty ’78 and Denise Gawthrop Shaw ’78 celebrate 23 years of serving the Lord with WorldVenture. They are so thankful for all that God has done. They are currently living in Singapore.


Mark ’79 and Debbie Hall Seymour ’83 started their furlough from Chad, Africa in June. They are thankful that Debbie’s health issues are much better and that they were able to complete some work in Chad before their furlough began. Mark was especially excited to see the graduation of seven men from the Bible Institute in May.

80s

Coach of Character

The National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA) has named Teresa Cooper Clark ’75 the second person ever to receive the NAIA Coach of Character Award. Teresa was selected over seven other finalists who were picked out of the approximately 4,000 coaches in the NAIA.

An assistant professor of exercise and sport science at Cedarville University, Teresa recently completed her 10th and final year as head coach of the Lady Jacket volleyball program. She guided Cedarville to two NAIA National Tournament appearances, one NAIA National Tournament Team Sportsmanship Award, one Buffalo Funds Five Star Award, 322 victories, and a CU career of nothing but winning seasons.

“The NAIA is proud to honor Coach Clark and recognize her for her positive role in sports,” said NAIA Director of Champions of Character Initiatives Rob Miller. “Not only has she had success on the court, but she is most known for her role as a coach of character.”

CU volleyball player Kelsey Jones ’06 remarked, “Coach Clark is the quintessential example of a Champion of Character. The five core character values are instilled in Coach Clark’s everyday living. Respect is an underlying principle on the court. She encourages feedback and makes her office door and home open to players whenever needed. The sheer fact that she encourages us to give feedback and makes an honest effort to evaluate and implement ideas speaks volumes about her character.”

Carleton Birch ’81 is currently deployed in Afghanistan with the U.S. Army as the deputy division chaplain for the 10th Mountain Division. He and his wife, Christina, have four children: Luke, Seth, Reanna, and Bryan.

Dave ’81 and Carol Sue Cox Merkh ’82 enjoy investing in the lives of several couples in Brazil through Bible studies. Dave was pleased that the master’s degree in ministry program completed its first year with 23 Brazilians finishing the first leg of the course.

John Balaiscus ’84 completed his fourth and final year of residency in the department of psychiatry at the Albert Einstein Medical Center in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania in June 2006. He has been awarded a fellowship position to pursue sub-specialty training in sleep medicine at the Thomas Jefferson University Hospital in Philadelphia.

Loren Crum Oliver ’84 and her husband, Stephen, announce the birth of Gideon James on February 28, 2006. He joins siblings Timothy (17), Benjamin (16), Rebecca (14), Esther (11), and Josiah (5) in New Carlisle, Ohio.

90s

Bobby ’90 and Sara Sweetland Hile ’92 are encouraged by what God is doing in the new church plant in Ballito, South Africa. People are feeling a sense of belonging, attendance is rising, and people are coming to know the Lord.

Deane Shriver Rozeboom ’87 and her husband, Dave, announce the birth of Desiree Renee on December 3, 2005. She was welcomed home by her brother, Drew (7), and her sister, Dani (6), in Waco, Texas. The Rozebooms had thought Desi would require surgery on her lung, but they praise God for His healing hands and that no surgery was necessary.

Dove ’87 and Valerie Hite Smallman ’85 have returned to Brazil after enjoying their home assignment. Val underwent major surgery in February, and they are thankful to God that her problem was discovered. Dove and Val have three children: Adam, Ryan, and Shelly.

John Law ’89 and his wife, Leigh, announce the birth of Martha Grace on October 3, 2005. They reside in Roanoke, Virginia.
Twins Featured in Financial Magazine

Matt ‘91 and Mark Biddinger ‘91 were featured in the March 2006 issue of Financial Executive magazine, a publication of Financial Executives International (FEI). The brothers were highlighted as the only known set of identical twins to be members of FEI.

Matt is division controller at Hunter Fan Company in Memphis, Tennessee, while Mark is director of finance for Project Management Solutions in Middletown, Ohio. Matt and his wife, Carrie (Lowe) ‘93, have three boys and a girl, as do Mark and his wife, Valerie (Plume) ‘90. Matt, who lives in Hernando, Mississippi, can be reached at mbiddinger@hunterfan.com. To contact Mark, who resides in Cedarville, e-mail him at mbiddinger@pmsolutions.com.

CU Alumni Receive Teaching Honors

Two CU alums have been recognized for their excellence in teaching. Jay Burkholder ‘94 has been named a Teacher of the Year by Wal-Mart/Sam’s Club. Jay, who teaches fifth grade at Park Layne Elementary School in New Carlisle, Ohio, won $1,000 dollars to spend in his classroom and $100 from Sam’s. Illness prevented him from accepting the award in May, but his wife, Kristen (Secthrist) ‘95, and their children accepted on his behalf. The Burkholders reside in New Carlisle and can be reached at burk123@earthlink.net.

Cindy Hasselbring ‘95 has received a 2005 Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching, which earned her a trip to the White House and a $10,000 grant from the National Science Foundation. She is among only 100 7th-12th grade teachers nationwide to receive this prestigious award. Cindy resides in Milan, Michigan and teaches math at Milan High School. She may be reached at hasselbr@milan.k12.mi.us.

Brian ‘92 and Dana Guy Phipps ‘90 are ministering to the people in Turkey. Continue to pray for their outreach ministry and for the understanding of the people in their current fellowship.

Karen Williams Fuller ‘93 and her husband, Craig, announce the birth of Josiah Lance Sterling on September 24, 2005. He was welcomed home by big sisters Natalie (7) and Alexis (4). Karen enjoys homeschooling and caring for the children. They have recently relocated to Richmond, Virginia.

Randy ‘93 and Sarah Good Southwell ‘93 have been serving the Lord in São Sebastião do Cai, Brazil for five years. They are thankful that they can look back over these five years and see many lives that have been impacted and transformed by the gospel. They have recently moved their Sunday service to the morning time and pray that this proves to be an even more effective outreach to the community.

Cathy Lubbers Hinken ‘94 and her husband, Kevin, announce the adoption of Jenna Noelle Song (1) from China. She joins her older brother, Joshua (7), in Allendale, Michigan.

Scott ‘95 and Christine Fischbacher Hayden ‘93 are thankful for the Lord’s protection for their family. For example, they

CU Alumni Receive Teaching Honors

Cindy Hasselbring ‘95 receiving the 2005 Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching from Arden L. Bement Jr., director of the National Science Foundation (left) and John H. Marburger III, director of the Office of Science and Technology Policy, Executive Office of the President (right).

Stephen ‘95 and Rhonda Miller Reiter ‘93 announce the birth of Garrett on November 18, 2004. He joins his siblings, Alyssa (9), Connor (6), and Paxton (4), at home in Woodbury, Minnesota. Steve works at Zilog, Inc., and Rhonda homeschools the children.

Rachel Searcy ‘95 is in orientation and Indonesian language study at a school in Salatiga, Indonesia. She is enjoying getting to know her neighbors and practicing her language skills.

Mark ‘96 and Amy Cartzendafner Button ‘97 announce the birth of Ava Grace on November 17, 2005. Mark is an assistant manager at Chipotle, and Amy is excited to be staying home with Ava. They reside in Beaver Creek, Ohio.

Phil ‘96 and Tara Wagenaar Geelhood ‘95 announce the birth of Samuel Erving on November 19, 2005. His sister, Sofia, welcomed him home. In July 2005, the family arrived back in the States after spending two years in Ukraine, where Phil studied at the National Aviation University as a 2003 Olmsted Scholar. Phil has returned to regular operation duties as a C-130 aircraft commander at Pope Air Force Base, North Carolina. He is currently deployed to the Middle East.

Amy Awabdy Gregory ‘96 and her husband, Randy, announce the birth of Noelle Emrietta on August 4, 2005. She is named after her great-grandma Harriet Emrietta Siplock. Noelle was warmly welcomed home with hugs and kisses by her brother, Zachchoes. The proud grandparents are Abe and Judy Siplock Awabdy ‘64.

Jeff ‘96 and Tiffany Trimble Nelson ‘95 returned to Brazil in June after an enjoyable furlough. Jeff has recovered well from two shoulder surgeries, and they were able to visit many supporting churches and friends. They have decided to start a wedding rental business in hopes...
Faculty Scholar of the Year

In a fitting high point to close his seven years on the Cedarville University faculty, Dr. Gerson Moreno-Riano ’94 has been named the 2006 Cedarville University Faculty Scholar of the Year. Gerson is leaving Cedarville to chair the department of political science in the School of Undergraduate Studies at Regent University in Virginia Beach, Virginia.

The naming of Gerson as a faculty scholar at Cedarville should not be surprising given his active research and scholarship background. In 2003 Gerson accepted an appointment as a visiting professor at the Central European University in Budapest, Hungary and served as a faculty summer scholar at the Calvin College Christian Scholarship Summer Seminar Program. He was selected as an academic fellow for the Foundation for the Defense of Democracies in Washington, D.C. in 2005, has been a fellow for the Center for the Study of Democratic Citizenship since 1999, and is currently a fellow in Cedarville’s Center for Political Studies.


Gerson has been a presenter, panel organizer, panel discussant, or panel chair in more than 40 presentations both at home and abroad. He has fulfilled lecture invitations from universities and scholarly societies in Norway, Switzerland, and various parts of the United States. The founder of Omega Mu, Cedarville’s chapter of Pi Sigma Alpha (the National Political Science Honor Society), Gerson has been a vibrant part of Cedarville University’s political science academic endeavors. We wish Gerson well in his new role at Regent University!

That Project Rescue will become financially independent. If you have items that you are willing to donate, please contact them at nelsonsebm@yahoo.com.

Nicole Hernandez Smith ’96 and her husband, Ryan, announce the birth of Katrina Natalie Rose. She was born September 6, 2005 and joins sister Annie (4) at home in Archbold, Ohio.

Calvert King ’97 and Jerami Calvert King ’97 announce the births of their two children. Chandler Dallas was born June 28, 2002, and Winnifred Anne was born March 5, 2005. Jerami is employed at Flagstar Bank, and Valerie works in a dental office. The Kings attend Woodside Bible Church in Troy, Michigan and reside in Lake Orion.

Melany Trimble Tiago ’97 and her husband, Elias, have two daughters, Eliana (4) and Elisa (1). They have been ministering at the Ebenezer Baptist Church in Brazil for two years. Melany is so thankful for how God called their family into ministry and for the people God placed in her life as she waited on the Lord.

Nicole Kriese ’97 and her husband, Rob, announce the birth of Jonathan, born August 13, 2005 and joins brother Graham at home in LaPorte, Indiana.

Sally Ward Foglesong ’98 and her husband, Jonathan, announce the birth of Grace Ann. She was born August 13, 2005 and joins brother Graham at home in LaPorte, Indiana.

Michelle Boehm Garman ’98 and her husband, Clint, announce the birth of their son, Calix David, on October 14, 2005. Clint works for Lifeway for Youth, which is a licensed child placement organization that places children into therapeutic foster care/counseling. Michelle enjoys staying at home to care for Calix after teaching elementary students for the past seven years. The family resides in Indianapolis, Indiana.

J.J. Schweickart Kobe ’98 and her husband, Andy, announce the adoption of their daughters, Lucinda Jane and Sophie Anne, on September 21, 2005. The Kbes traveled to Kazakhstan, where they spent seven weeks completing the adoption process. Previously, J.J. taught fourth grade at The International School of Indiana, but now she enjoys staying at home with the girls. Andy is a deputy attorney at the Indiana Attorney General’s office in Indianapolis. For more details about their trip or international adoption, visit www.cwa.org, click on “Kazakhstan,” and look under “The Kobe Family” link under “Kazakhstan Adoption Stories.”

Nikki Anderson Myers ’98 and her husband, Dave, reside in Colorado Springs, Colorado with their two children, Elizabeth “Ellie” Arwen (3) and Stephen Rohan (1). Dave is an electrical engineer, and Nikki is now pursuing her master’s degree at the University of Colorado and coordinating their church’s outreach to a local public elementary school. Previously, Nikki taught at-risk students for four years.

Joy Hasty Stevens ’98 and her husband, Darin, announce the birth of Ella Grace on August 3, 2005. They have been serving in the United Kingdom for three years as missionaries to youth and youth leaders.

Stay at home with Noah, and Rob is a real estate agent with Keller Williams. They reside in Wake Forest, North Carolina.

Daniel ’97 and Rebecca Kniofski Graham ’99 announce the birth of Zachariah Dexter on May 13, 2005. He was welcomed home by his siblings, Benjamin (5), Josiah (3), and Juliana (2), in Cato, New York. Daniel is a product engineer for Syroco, and Rebecca stays home with the children.

Rachel Hendricks Jones ’97 and her husband, Caleb, announce the birth of Charles Clayton. Charlie was born September 23, 2005 and joins sister Annie (4) at home in Archbold, Ohio.

Stacy Brewer Ellis ’98 and her husband, Mark, reside in Jenison, Michigan and have four children, Emma (6), Madelynn (4), Brayden (4), and Jacob (2). Stacy stays at home with the children and works occasionally as a registered nurse.

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Joy Hasty Stevens ’98 and her husband, Darin, announce the birth of Ella Grace on August 3, 2005. They have been serving in the United Kingdom for three years as missionaries to youth and youth leaders.
in Peoria, Illinois. Philip is a datalink coordinator at Caterpillar Inc., and Charisa enjoys staying home with the children.

Dan ‘99 and Summer Schafer Forness ‘98 announce the birth of Sarah Joy on February 24, 2006. Dan serves as the worship pastor for Spring Creek Church in Pewaukee, Wisconsin. Prior to worship ministry, Dan earned his Master of Education degree from the University of Buffalo in New York and taught junior high and high school music/chorus for two years in western New York. Summer enjoys being a stay-at-home mom after working as a school psychologist for five years.

Shawn ‘99 and Erin Reagan Lundvall ‘99 announce the birth of Lucas Owen on February 16, 2005. Shawn is a computer engineer for IBM, and Erin has taken a leave of absence from her elementary teaching job to care for Lucas in Poughkeepsie, New York.

Keturah Stork ‘99 and Josh Roberts were married June 18, 2005. She is thankful for her beautiful stepdaughter, Maddison. Keturah graduated from Millersville University in May 2002 and is a bank staff accounting officer with Fulton Financial Corporation in Lancaster, Pennsylvania. The family resides in Strasburg, Pennsylvania.

2000s

Philip ‘00 and Charisa Ripma Ausfahl ‘01 announce the birth of Corban Johannessen on February 21, 2006. They praise God for a healthy baby and delivery. He joins his sister, Sierra (19 months), at home in Peoria, Illinois. Philip is a datalink coordinator at

Ashley Barnes ‘00 and Matthew Blomquist were married August 28, 2005 at the Parkside Mansion in Denver, Colorado. The theme of their wedding was John 10:10b, “I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full.” After a honeymoon in Cabo San Lucas, they returned to Niwot, Colorado, where they now reside. Matt is a radiologist and partner in private practice with Boulder Radiologists, Inc. Ashley enjoys volunteering with the Boulder Museum of Contemporary Art and singing with the worship team at their church. They look forward to God’s purposes and ministry for them as a couple.

Jeremy ‘00 and Naomi Kinney Frank ‘01 announce the birth of Jadon James on November 3, 2005. He was welcomed home by his sister, Leala (2). Jeremy works for D2 Media Company in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, and Naomi runs a business from her home. For more information on this business, please visit www.babyssilkie.com.

Heath ‘00 and Erin Stuenzi Runkles ‘99 announce the birth of Jesse Aaron. He was born November 7, 2005 and joins his brother, Ethan (2), at home in Mt. Airy, Maryland. Erin stays home with the boys and teaches piano lessons. Heath is a superintendent in his family’s construction company and is also busy building another addition on their home.

Nathan ‘00 and Andrea Patterson Verwyys ‘01 announce the birth of Rita Jean on November 29, 2005. She joins her sister, Grace (18 months), at home in Vienna, Virginia. Nathan is a contract analyst for the Department of Labor in Washington, D.C., and Andrea stays home with the girls.

Ann Weeks ‘00 has received a Marie Curie Fellowship from the European Union to allow her to do postgraduate scientific research in surface chemistry at the École Polytechnique in Paris. Ann is currently a third-year doctorate candidate in physics at Cambridge University in the United Kingdom.

Jenni West ‘00 and Jay Young were married May 14, 2005 in Orlando, Florida. They live in Altamonte Springs, Florida, where Jenni works at KeyLife Network. Jay goes to school and works at Carrrabba’s.

Heather Brown Burner ‘01 and her husband, TJ, announce the birth of Abigail Nicole on January 21, 2006. TJ is serving in the U.S. Navy at Naval Air Station Patuxent River, and Heather is a nurse practitioner at the local health department. They reside in Lexington Park, Maryland.

Erin McDaniel ‘01 and Mark Longbroke were married November 26, 2005 in Columbus, Ohio, where they currently reside. Erin continues to pursue her master’s and doctoral degrees at The Ohio State University and plans to finish her doctorate in biological sciences in 2007. Mark is pursuing a doctorate in economics from The Ohio State University.

Tim ‘01 and Sabrina Springer Ropp ‘01 announce the birth of Allen Braden on December 15, 2005 in Columbus, Ohio. He was welcomed home by his sister, Melinda Anne (17 months). Tim is a chemist for Ashland Chemical, and Sabrina operates a home business as a wedding and studio photographer.

Jennifer Gratton ‘02 and Brian Yoder were married December 18, 2004 in Burke, Virginia. They enjoyed a honeymoon to Paris and returned to Bamberg, Germany, where Brian is in the U.S. Army. Jennifer is a kindergarten teacher with the Department of Defense dependent schools.
Ken ‘02 and Sherri DeWitt Mansfield ‘01 announce the birth of Ellenanne Margaret on September 18, 2005. Ken manages a vineyard, and Sherri is happy to be a stay-at-home mom in Hector, New York. Steve Olson ‘02 is the interim program director for WAYJ-FM in Fort Myers, Florida. The station was recently named by Radio and Records, Inc. as the number one Christian radio station in the United States. Steve and his co-worker, Nathan Flood ‘04, were recognized for their significant contributions to the success of the station. Steve and Nathan were former station managers of student radio U99.5 and enjoy working together again. Nathan is the promotions director for WAYJ. Elizabeth Whiteley ‘02 has settled in Vienna, Austria. She will work for the Vienna Christian School through the 2006-07 school year.

Ariel Starbuck ‘03 and Candace Starbuck have adopted Aiden Matthew Starbuck, son of Matthew and Cara Starbuck. Aiden was born on March 6, 2006 at Greene Memorial Hospital in Xenia, Ohio. He was retired after 34 years as an industrial director of public service for the City of Xenia until his retirement in 1986.

Throughout his years, Warren was active in his church, local government, and, of course, music. At Grace Baptist Church in Cedarville, he played the organ from 1956 until Fathers Day 2002. His involvement in local government included one term as mayor of Cedarville and 30 years as a village councilman. Warren directed the Cedarville Community Band from 1976 to 2003 and led the Greene County Adult Chorus for a time. Certainly now Warren is enjoying making music for our Lord in heaven.

Warren is survived by his four children (Carol Webber Stewart ‘72, David ‘74, Allen ‘79, and Bonny Webber Wagener ‘81) and many other family members and friends.
“The Proof’s in the …”

RESULTS! In a word, that is why Cedarville introduced a comprehensive assessment program in 2004. We want to demonstrate with careful research and meaningful data that the Cedarville experience really is all that we say it is. Across campus, departments have established clear objectives to measure the outcomes of their work. The results from the first year’s assessment project are now in, and we have good things to report!

- 100% Praxis III pass rate for senior education majors (Praxis III is the professional test required for teacher licensure.)
- Two-thirds of Spanish majors participated in summer or semester-abroad study programs.
- 94% pass rate for engineering graduates who took the FE exam in April 2005 (compares to a national average pass rate of 82% for first-time test takers on the mechanical and electrical exams)
- A permanent art exhibit space for students and faculty was added in the music and art wing of the Dixon Ministry Center.
- 93-95% pass rate on the National Council Licensure Examination (NCLEX-RN) for nursing graduates
- More than 300 employers participated in career services recruitment events.
- 73% pass rate for the written portion of the BOC (athletic training) certification exam on the first attempt (compares to a national pass rate of less than 60%)
- 90% of senior psychology majors presented research in undergraduate research conferences.
- A record number of students indicated an interest in traveling on a Missions Involvement Services (MIS) team.
- 85% of students reported that chapel challenged them personally to develop a heart for God, mind for truth, friends for life, and service for eternity.
- Approximately 90% of students also agreed that Cedarville's campus environment encouraged spiritual growth.

Assessment never really ends. We are continuing to evaluate, measure, and find new ways to improve the Cedarville experience for current students and, in the process, are increasing the value of a Cedarville education for every alum.

Alumni Meet Everywhere!

Brent ’04 and Jennifer Wooldridge Schumacher ’04 ran into Rick and Kelly Schriemer Bagley ’04 (Kelly shown between the Schumachers) in the Montego Bay, Jamaica airport in April 2006. The Schumachers were on their way home from a missions trip and Kelly and Rick from their honeymoon.

Send us a picture of your unexpected meeting with another alum to alumni@cedarville.edu!
New Opportunities!

The Cedarville University Career Services Office recently partnered with the Elmer W. Engstrom Department of Engineering and Computer Science to start a new and exciting opportunity for engineering students. Cedarville University’s Cooperative Education (co-op) program is a creative joint venture between the student, the university, and the employer. The objective of the program is to provide students with the opportunity to enhance their academic knowledge, to further their work experience, and to learn more about working with people.

If you are interested in participating as an employer in the co-op program, contact Lew Gibbs in career services. There will be a link available to all students and employers on both the career services and engineering Web sites after June 15.

Career Services
888-562-4811
career@cedarville.edu
www.cedarville.edu/career

Join our network of alumni willing to help students network – CareerNet.
Tom taught high school students for 25 years. Throughout his career, he found that his abilities were tremendously enhanced by the education he received at Cedarville University. Like many alumni, Tom decided one day that he wanted to give something back to his alma mater.

After consulting with Dave and Kim in the gift planning office, Tom decided that a deferred gift annuity was the perfect gift vehicle to suit his needs. This option allows him to make a gift, receive a charitable income tax deduction, and create secure income for retirement all at the same time.

A deferred gift annuity is a simple contract between a donor and Cedarville University. The donor makes a gift to Cedarville, and in return, the University agrees to pay a fixed income to the donor for life beginning at a predetermined age, usually 65. The donor also receives a charitable income tax deduction. The payment rate is determined by the donor’s age at the time the gift is made and the age at which the donor wishes to begin receiving the income. Because the income is deferred, a higher rate of return can be paid out, making charitable deferred gift annuities a great way to prepare for retirement.

Would you like to increase your retirement income by helping Cedarville? Visit our Web site at www.cedarville.edu/giftlegacy or contact the office of gift planning and endowment office at 1-800-766-1115 or giftplanning@cedarville.edu.

Office of Gift Planning and Endowment
Contact Dave Bartlett
1-800-766-1115
bartlett@cedarville.edu

CEDARVILLE
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50% tuition scholarship
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