

Cairn

The magazine of Cairn University

FALL 2022

RESULTS OF THE **P.18**
RENOVATION

CORRECTING ROE **P.24**
AND CASEY

A FIELD OF
OPPORTUNITIES **P.28**

Results of the **Renovation**

*A three-year Library renovation came to a
conclusion this October.*



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“With the final furniture put in place, the three-year Library renovation came to a conclusion this October. Following a conservative build-to-cost model, the renovations were funded primarily through anonymous donations.”

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“Fall is about concluded, but it is our favorite time of year. Dawn and I were married in October . . . and it is such a vivid reminder of the changes of seasons, which often evokes personal reflection.”

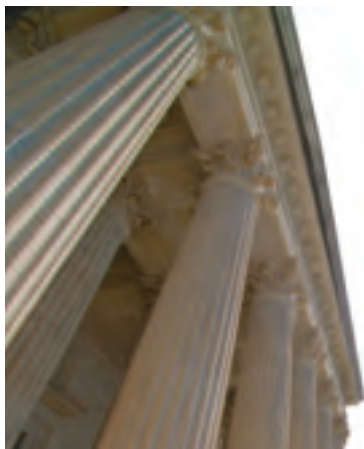
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“Though it offers no other historical description of the situation that prompted David to write this poem, the psalm itself gives enough clues to piece together what the author was experiencing.”



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FEATURES

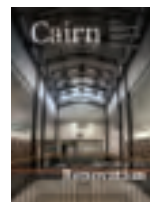


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“Meredith Jarvis, a four-year Cairn athletics student worker, graduated in May 2022 with a job in hand with the Phillies organization. By August, she was living in California and coordinating social media for the Oakland A’s.”

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ON THE COVER

The Masland Library, originally constructed in 1992, recently received a face-lift that improves the form and function of the space. You should come on campus to see it for yourself; but if you cannot, we'll show you every last detail beginning on page 18.

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MISSION

Cairn University exists to educate students to serve Christ in the church, society, and the world as biblically minded, well-educated, and professionally competent men and women of character.



Fall is about concluded, but it is our favorite time of year. Dawn and I were married in October. One of our first dates was a long horse ride together in the colorful autumn mountains of central Pennsylvania. Many of our outdoor activities are enriched by the fall colors. There's nothing quite like paddling a canoe across quiet water dotted by fallen leaves. And it is such a vivid reminder of the changes of seasons, which often evokes personal reflection.

The view from my office window that overlooks the pond is something I try not to take for granted, particularly when the leaves are changing. This year, it seems as though the colors were more vivid than in recent years. I have wondered to myself, "Is this because we are on the other side of the past three years and all of the complications resulting from Covid and its interruptions to our normal rhythms of life?" or "Does it seem more vivid because I'm actually stopping to look more intently this year?" I'm often struck by what we miss in life when we are not looking. "Or maybe it's just that there was enough moisture and the conditions were just right to make the colors more magnificent." Whatever the cause, I enjoyed it immensely.

As we head into another seasonal change, I am mindful of the seasons of change we face as part of life. Whether it be aging, loss, births and marriages, vocational shifts, or changes in our health status, life deals in change. I'm also mindful of the changes we face in the human world around us: cultural and political and economic changes, social changes, changes in public sensibilities, changes in values, and changes

in the way we receive and process information. It is cliché but no less true that change is the one constant in life, as Solomon testifies to in Ecclesiastes 3:1, "For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven." Some seasons and changes we celebrate and rejoice over; others, we lament. Wisdom is having the right perspective.

It is this issue of perspective regarding change that has me thinking this season. I've always been leery of those who embrace change for change's sake, as well as those who are averse to it on the face of it. Change simply *is*. What we have to do is determine what changes are to be embraced and what changes are not to be embraced. Where do we celebrate? Where do we lament? Where do we draw lines and for what reasons? Where do we make adjustments in order to carry out our work and be effective? These are questions we ask in our lives, and questions we ask as an institution committed to the centrality of Christ and His authoritative Word. We serve an unchanging God whose truthful word endures forever. He is also a God of new

beginnings, new birth, and transformational work in the lives of His people. The changing of seasons, and change in our lives in this world, is a constant. What great encouragement there is that our God is the constant who created and sustains all that is. I trust this issue of the magazine will bless and encourage you, and you will see in and through it the things that are changing and the things that will not. I trust that you will see God, who is the same yesterday today, and forever, about the work of transforming lives and shaping the next generation of Christ's servants.

Dr. Todd J. Williams has been the president of Cairn University since January 2008. He served on the faculty and administration from 1996 to 2001, and then returned as provost in 2005. He can be reached by emailing president@cairn.edu.



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Share your alumni news, change of address, or updated contact info via cairn.edu/update or by emailing the Alumni Office at alumni@cairn.edu.



“Pilgrims in War and in Peace: Augustinian Reflections on Ukraine”

Hello Gregory:
I enjoyed reading your article on Augustine in the Cairn magazine. Thank you! At the beginning of the year, I had read Peter Brown’s biography of Augustine, so I was unusually readied for your article. Interesting to see the aspects of Augustine that are so important to our evangelical point of view even when his life was so formed by the Roman church that he was also influencing.

—Edwin Morris

Greg,
I read your article, and was very encouraged! It was certainly a tough topic to cover, and the sections I shared below are the ones that struck me the most. God’s providence IS both comforting and puzzling at times. However, knowing it is our creator who is in control gives reason for our peace! I can testify that even through the toughest trials in my life, the Lord remained close and gave comfort as no one else could! I wholeheartedly agree with this verse: “But as for me, it is good to be near God.” Ps. 73:28

Thanks for sharing these insights!
—Laurie Handzlik

“He is Greater Than All Things”

“What a true and great reminder to our anxiety-riddled culture: Christ has, and is, and will hold all things together. Equal parts sermonic exhortation, philosophical integration, and hopeful expectation grounded in God’s Word. I’m grateful that Cairn continues to boldly stand for truth in an anti-faith generation.”

—Ben Best G’21



In this issue, we highlight the University's first Highlander Mudder event, student awards and accomplishments, our new mascot, and a psychology student's decision to stay and get involved on campus.

Over 100 Individuals Conquer the First Annual Highlander Mudder



In April, the University held its first annual Highlander Mudder. Building on the momentum of the previous two years' worth of 5Ks, the Highlander Mudder added a new burst of adrenaline and challenge to a timed race.

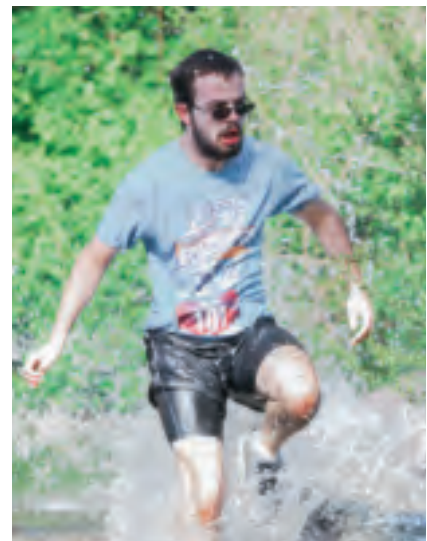
Over several weeks, the mudder course was built by University staff and volunteers, taking advantage of the natural landscape of the campus as much as possible. Over 30 obstacles

were constructed over the two-mile course. Participants took on challenging obstacles such as climbing over walls, crawling in the mud, and pulling themselves across the pond in a canoe, ending the race with a steep slide into a final mud pit.

With registration being nearly half the cost of other national mudder events, the Highlander Mudder proved to be an attractive event for all

ages. Participants ranged in age from 7 to 66 years old. And since most of the obstacles offered participants the option to choose a level of difficulty, the mudder provided a true challenge for the fittest of athletes while still giving everyone the opportunity to enjoy and complete the race.

The Highlander Mudder will return for 2023. Mark your calendars for Saturday, April 29.



Student Poets, Authors, and Artists Compete for Dr. Jean Minto Fellowship Award

In Fall 2014, Dr. Brian Toews, along with the School of Liberal Arts and Sciences, created and formally hosted a poetry competition. Following the success of the contest, Dr. Jean Minto and Dr. Timothy Hui added a short story competition in the spring semester. Over time, the two competitions merged, blossoming into an annual contest where students can submit poetry, short stories, and as of 2022, two-dimensional art.

Last spring, Professor Charlotte Gleason announced the annual competition would be renamed “The Dr. Jean Minto Fellowship Award.” Dr. Minto, who passed away in 2020, was a beloved Cairn professor in the School of Liberal Arts and Sciences. For almost 30 years, she devotedly taught literature and liberal arts courses. The University named the award after her in order to honor her love for the written word and dedication to her students amidst the

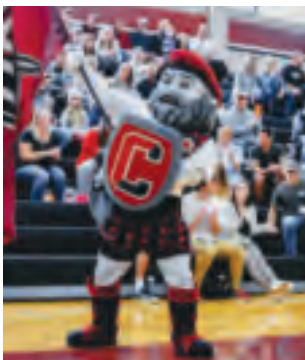
trials of cancer. Her life and the opening lines of Psalm 121 inspired the prompt for the year: “Suffering and Solace: From Where Does My Help Come?” Through a creative nonfiction piece, poem, or a work of art, students could reflect on perseverance through suffering as a mark of the Christian life. As a founder of the writing competition, Dr. Minto and her heart to encourage students’ creativity were clearly displayed through the message of this year’s challenge.

In March, contestants gathered in the Connie A. Eastburn Gallery. Art pieces were displayed, and students read aloud their submissions to fellow peers and professors. Short-story author Abbey Wahger (“Ever-Moving Feet”), poet Isabelle Lazor (“Steady Arms”), and artist Chara Fitch (“Thou Art With Me”) were chosen as the recipients of the Dr. Minto Fellowship Award for 2022.



Introducing the Highlander

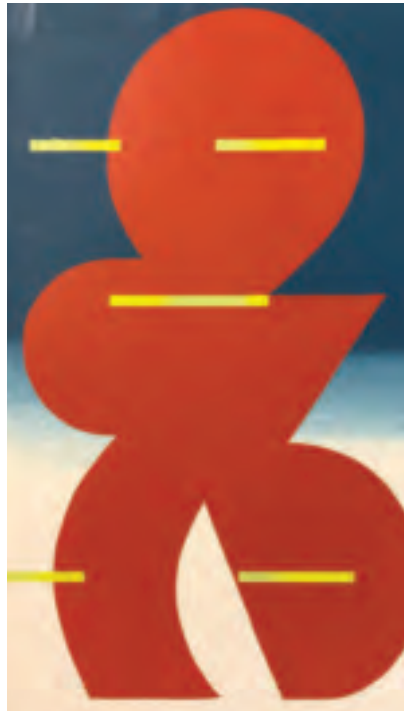
This is the University’s first mascot since the athletics department’s identity switch to the Cairn Highlanders in 2012. You can watch the origin story of how he came to lead the fan section here:



New Creatures by Timothy Gierschick II in Connie A. Eastburn Gallery

Timothy Gierschick II (b. 1976, Reading, PA) is an artist living and working in Philadelphia, PA. His body of works on display has come from his own psychological and imaginative world and has been inspired by the nature and culture he is suffused with, incorporating everything up to and

including advertising and pop culture to “fine” paintings. The matter with which these paintings are made is also a product of the world, often being created on found surfaces—humble, discarded pieces that he resurrects and finds new life in.



New Student Chosen for the Dr. Marti MacCullough Education Award

In the Spring 2022 semester, senior secondary English education major **Sophie Sveigel '22** received the Dr. Marti MacCullough Education Award. The award, created many years ago by an anonymous donor, recognizes a School of Education student whose project or paper epitomizes exemplary biblical integration.

Sophie was nominated by Dr. Stacey Bose for her lesson plan on *Lord of the Flies*. As a result of having her students study the themes of good and evil, the consequences of hurtful actions, and greed for power as seen through the novel, Sophie's project was honored for its ability to be used both in public and Christian school settings.

Alumnus David Babb Takes the Helm of Highlander Athletics



David Babb '91 is not unfamiliar with the University or its athletics program. A student himself in the late 80s, he competed on the men's soccer team, receiving the Randy Ostein Award for Courage and Perseverance in his senior year. He also brings a plethora of professional experience to the position. He has spent over 25 years in athletic leadership and administration, most recently serving 12 years as the director

“Serving at my alma mater as the Director of Athletics is a special opportunity, and I am excited to start working with the student-athletes, coaches, and staff.”

of athletics at Pennridge High School in Perkasie, PA. He is also actively involved in the sport-based ministries Fellowship of Christian Athletes (FCA) and Push the Rock, where he serves as the camp and missions director.

“Serving at my alma mater as the Director of Athletics is a special opportunity, and I am excited to start working with the student-athletes, coaches, and staff. Cairn University played a major role in my life and was a foundation for me, so I look forward to giving back and impacting the current student-athletes.”

Biology Students Travel to India for a Medical Missions Trip

For the first time since 2019, Cairn University students went overseas for missions service. Dr. Aneesh Khushman, dean of the School of Liberal Arts and Sciences, took a group of his biology students to North India to serve.

Dr. Khushman, a medical doctor, makes this annual pilgrimage back to his parents' country to provide medical services, including leprosy care and baby delivery, to remote farm towns. Two mission hospitals hosted the group. Most of the students spoke in the daily chapel service, and the

students accompanied the medical staff on their morning rounds. They also went into the local villages and offered free clinics, serving hundreds of patients over the two-week period. A VBS was also conducted for the children of the hospital staff.

Bringing the students along with him allowed for their team to care for patients that the students would not normally see, and to see the Gospel preached and lived out in practical ways in a country where Christianity is not the largest religion or indeed part of the cultural ethos.



Social Media Isn't Free

Chris Martin, author of *Terms of Service: The Real Cost of Social Media*, says social media has become so pervasive that not even non-users can fully escape it. He joins Dr. Keith Plummer on the *Cairn Commons* podcast to talk about how social media is influencing how we think and feel about life in largely negative ways and—most importantly—what Christians can do to resist. His is not a call to totally reject social media but rather a call to greater awareness, intentionality, and wisdom. Listen in at cairn.edu/social-media-isnt-free.



HEARD IN CHAPEL

“We will not and cannot overcome the fear of man by just resolving to be more courageous. We will only become more courageous as we grow in the fear of God, as He becomes progressively bigger to us.”

—Dr. Keith Plummer, *Dean of the School of Divinity*

Through All the Unexpected

Abigail Varghese did not anticipate being vice president of Cairn's Student Government Association (SGA), or even being at Cairn at all for that matter. Attending Cairn as a dual enrollment student in high school was the extent of her plans at the University. But as the time came for her to begin college full-time, Abigail felt an unexpected call to stay at Cairn. In addition to the solid counseling program, Abigail says she decided to stay because "God opened up many places for me to be able to get involved. In a larger school, I wouldn't be able to get as involved as I am now. I am beyond thankful for how God has provided and is continuing to provide."

Abigail recalled how her experience throughout high school conditioned her not to get deeply involved with the school for fear of doing poorly in front of her peers. So during her freshman year at Cairn, when she briefly considered applying for SGA, she immediately shut her laptop, assuming that was not the path God had equipped her to follow. Abigail soon learned, however, that God had something different in store. She eventually felt compelled to apply and was voted in as vice president. Through this opportunity, Abigail has been encouraged by getting to know and working with fellow students and faculty, especially as she considers her future.

Throughout all the unanticipated changes in Abigail's college journey, she reflects that "God really does stop you

and change your plans—and I wouldn't change that for anything." Every step of the way, Abigail has seen God work in ways she had not anticipated. As she continues to learn to trust the Lord, she looks forward to her hopes of earning a master's degree in counseling. Subsequently, she desires to take her education and her passion to broken families and teens that struggle with mental health. She draws her motivation from Hebrews 4:14-15: "Since then we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession. For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin." Just as Christ sympathizes with our weakness, Abigail wants to extend that same sympathy wherever God places her.

—Laura Myers '22

ABIGAIL'S FAVORITES

Favorite Food: Sushi

Favorite Course: Any psychology course with Dr. Smith

Favorite Spot on Campus: The bench above the lake right beside the chapel is my thinking and prayer area!





Giving Faithfully to a Faithful Institution: Tom & Jane Loveless

Considering they are not alumni, Tom and Jane Loveless have been surprised how often their paths have crossed with Cairn University. Whether it be keeping up with the changes at the University that they heard at church or through having friends who attended, the Loveless family, even from a distance, could testify to Cairn’s consistent mission. Tom says: “There’s a lot of things that wavered over time. There’s a lot of things that faded over time. But Cairn was one of the things you could always depend on.”

When it came time for their son, also named Tom, to choose a college, they knew Cairn would be a great choice. But they wanted the Lord, not mom and dad, to lead him there. Tom’s initial college plans did not include Cairn. But his plans changed completely during a campus visit, when he had a conversation with President Williams. His genuine care and interest in him and his future were evident to Tom and even more so to his parents. Now, he’s a senior mathematics education major preparing for student teaching and graduation this spring.

Cairn is not only a place that the

Lovelesses are thrilled for their son to attend, it is also an institution that they are proud to financially support. The Lovelesses describes Cairn’s mission as “focused on producing well-educated, independent students who have a very strong and foundational biblical worldview.” Critical parts of accomplishing this mission, in Tom’s view, are the Apologetics and US Government and Civics courses that every student takes.

The Lovelesses are faithful supporters of a few ministries and organizations, but they are highly selective in who they choose to support. They want the organization to have a proven record of using their donations in ways that directly support their mission (and not unnecessary overhead or extravagance). They also only support organizations that do not shrink under cultural pressure or compromise



biblical values. They are happy to say that Cairn checks all the boxes.

Tom and Jane are proud to continue to steward a school that commits wholeheartedly to a Christian education. Through their support of Christian education at Cairn, the Lovelesses are able to “be accountable followers of Christ in a way that will positively affect others around them.”

Golf Classic 2022 Results

165
golfers

36
sponsors

\$120,000
raised



Matching Gift Week 2022 Results



\$195,000
raised in gifts and
pledges

139
gifts and pledges

44
first-time Matching
Gift Week donors

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*The air may be chilly now,
but we've got our eyes set on a
summer full of opportunities
for you and your family.*



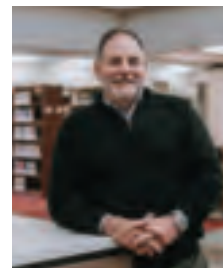
Dr. Todd J. Williams will be the speaker at the following events:

Harvey Cedars Homeschool Week (Harvey Cedars, NJ): June 12–18

CAMP-of-the-WOODS (Speculator, NY): June 24–July 1

Ocean Grove Camp Meeting Association (Ocean Grove, NJ): July 24–29

For more information and to register, visit cairn.edu/cairn-out-there.



ACADEMICALLY SPEAKING

In addition to teaching and serving at the University, Cairn's faculty and staff are committed to growing professionally, participating in ministry, and pursuing their academic interests. This issue also includes a personal interview with Old Testament (and physics) Professor Dr. Brian Luther.

SCHOOL OF DIVINITY

Dr. Jared Bryant wrote “Cosmological Trinitarian Polemics in Gregory of Nazianzus’s *Theological Orations*” for *Studia Patristica* 115. He was also named the associate dean of the School of Divinity in July 2022.



SCHOOL OF DIVINITY

Dr. Keith Plummer, dean, is featured in a Bible study video series for the forthcoming book *Following Jesus in a Digital Age* by Jason Thacker (Lifeway Press, December 2022). He was also interviewed in *The Apologetics Podcast*’s “Doubt, Deconstruction, and an Apologetic of Kindness” episode.

Dr. Gary Schnittjer was given the designation of distinguished professor of Old Testament in May 2022. He recently wrote “Long-lost Grandparent Texts of the Old Testament” for the *Didaktikos* journal and “Say You, Say Ye: Individual and Collective Identity and Responsibility in Torah” for the Center for Hebraic Thought.

Dr. Gregory Parker Jr. joined the divinity faculty full time in July 2022. He successfully defended his doctoral dissertation in the same month.

Dr. Bryan Murawski joined the divinity faculty full time in July 2022. He wrote “4 Tips for Preaching Geography-Heavy Texts” for *The Gospel Coalition* blog in September 2022.

Dr. Matt McAlack, chair of the youth and family ministry program, spoke at the Youth Leaders’ Summit at Harvey Cedars Bible Conference May 25–27, 2022.

Dr. James Dolezal wrote “Aseity and Simplicity” for *Tabletalk Magazine* in May 2022.

SCHOOL OF EDUCATION

Dr. Stacey Bose, dean, presented two sessions at the annual MACSA confer-

ence in October 2022: “What Does Science Have to Do With Reading?” and “The Attack on Children’s Literature: SOGI Messaging in Picture Books.”

Barbara Cooper, chair of special education, joined the education faculty full time in July 2022. She presented two sessions in four parts at the annual MACSA conference in October 2022: “Executive Functioning in the Classroom” and “Building Supportive Classrooms for Mental Disorders.”

Dr. Dianne Alexander presented two sessions at the annual MACSA conference in October 2022: “Integrating Social-emotional Development Within the PK–5th Academic Curriculum” and “Classroom Environment: Creating an Interactive Classroom Community.”

Dr. Marti MacCullough, professor emeritus, presented two sessions in four parts at the annual MACSA conference in October 2022: “Handling the Current Stream of Cultural Ideas Using a Biblical Worldview Approach” and “Student’s View of ‘Self’ in the 21st Century: Human Identity in the ‘Selfie Age.’”

Elizabeth Evangelous joined the education faculty in July 2022. She is teaching courses in the elementary education program.

SCHOOL OF LIBERAL ARTS AND SCIENCES

Dr. Aneesh Khushman, dean, took a group of biology students on a medical missions trip to India in June 2022.

Victoria Aquilone joined the liberal arts and sciences faculty full time in July 2022. She is teaching courses in English and the humanities.

Chris Lloyd joined the liberal arts and sciences faculty full time in July 2022. He is teaching criminal justice courses.

Michael Zimmerman joined the liberal arts and sciences faculty full time in July 2022. He is teaching history courses.

SCHOOL OF BUSINESS

Deborah Rice joined the business faculty full time in July 2022. She is teaching courses in marketing and operations.

Brandon Petcaugh joined the business faculty in July 2022. He is teaching courses in information systems, computer science, and cybersecurity.

SCHOOL OF MUSIC

Dr. Benjamin Harding, dean, performed at the annual Sing! worship music conference in Nashville, TN, in September 2022.

Graeme Burgan directed five weeks of Csehy Summer School of Music on Cairn’s campus in July 2022.

Dr. Scott Watson presented two sessions on band pedagogy at the 95th Annual Iowa Bandmasters Association Conference in May 2022. He was commissioned by the New Holland Band to compose original music for the 23-minute long 1921 silent film, *The Goat*, as well as music for two short scenes from Charlie Chaplin films. The three silent film pieces will be performed live (with films projected) as part of the band’s New Year’s Day 2023 concert.

Office Hours

A personal, after-class interview with your favorite professors

Dr. Luther is a professor of Old Testament in the School of Divinity. Since 2012, his myriad of degrees have prepared him to teach a number of classes including Old Testament, The Pentateuch, Genesis, and even Physics. In addition to teaching, Dr. Luther has various interests that keep him engaged during the times when school is not in session.

Q: So you have two PhDs: one in electrical engineering and another in Old Testament. Can you tell me more about what motivated the switch to seminary?

A: I spent 10 or 11 years in engineering. But when I was in graduate school for engineering, I got involved in a church that was very active in teaching the Bible. I saw the difference it made in my life and how it transformed my spiritual growth. It was completely different from the church I grew up in. I saw the need for others to learn and deeply understand the Bible, and that's what prompted me to make a change. So I finished up with engineering and went right into seminary. I spent three years in my MDiv, another three years doing my coursework for my PhD, and then six years on my dissertation while I was working as a high school Bible teacher.

Q: How have those other degrees showed up in expected or unexpected ways throughout your life?

A: About 10 or 12 years ago, I helped coach a robotics team at the high school I had been working at. When my kids started attending Calvary Christian Academy, I helped start up a robotics team there. This is my fifth year assisting the teams. My co-coach does the software, and I assist with the mechanical and electrical side. Our teams competed last year and actually made it to the state tournament.

Q: What has been one of your favorite courses to teach?

A: The Wisdom Literature course has to be my favorite course that I regularly teach. I've been teaching it for 11 years. I enjoy digging into the challenges of Job and Ecclesiastes and exploring their relevance for Christians today.

Q: When you aren't teaching or grading, what do you enjoy doing in your free time? I hear you enjoy woodworking!

A: Woodworking is similar to engineering in that I can build and design things. I recently built a solid wood, walnut dining room set—a table and six chairs. I have done smaller items like benches, boxes, and drawers. I also have done bigger stuff more akin to carpentry. I put an addition on the back of our house and then a patio with a pergola. When I'm done teaching in May, the rest of my family is still in school or working, so I make myself productive.

Make Me To Know Your Ways, O LORD

This year, Cairn University rallies around Psalm 25:4 as the One Scripture, One University key verse. It reads, “Make me to know your ways, O LORD; teach me your paths.”

To better grasp the meaning of this verse, we must first consider the context of the psalm. The inspired heading of Psalm 25 says, “Of David,” which likely reveals the author of the text. Though it offers no other historical description of the situation that prompted David to write this poem, the psalm itself gives enough clues to piece together what the author was experiencing. A careful reading of the psalm reveals at least three important motifs:

David was suffering humiliating—and perhaps dangerous—persecution from his enemies. He indicates he has multiple enemies (19a) and calls them “wantonly treacherous” (3b), writing that they have “violent hatred” toward him (19b). He begins and ends the psalm with a description of this persecution (2b–3, 15–20). The persecution has caused him to feel “lonely and afflicted” (16b). His persecution may be related to the second motif in the psalm:

David’s sin burdens him and has a

certain but undefined relationship to this persecution. David juxtaposes the many references to his trials with just as many references to his sin. He describes his persecution not just as an outward trial but as “troubles of my heart” (17a). He asks the Lord to forget about and forgive all his sins (7a; 18b). He acknowledges that his guilt is “great” (11b).

David does not seek this forgiveness simply to cleanse his own troubled conscience. He wants forgiveness based not on any merit of his own but according to God’s covenant love (7–8) and for the sake of God’s reputation (11a). David bases his search for forgiveness in gospel principles: by God’s grace alone, not on any human merit or work. As a man after God’s own heart, David’s humility and contrition over his sin rise to the surface. This leads into the third major motif of the psalm:

David exalts God because of His holy character. Even a cursory reading of the psalm will illuminate a collage of righteous characteristics of the Lord: God is a God of salvation (5b), mercy (6a),

steadfast love (6a, 7b, 10a), goodness (7c, 8a), uprightness (8a), faithfulness (10a), and grace (16a). What a list! This collage highlights David’s rightness in lifting up his soul to God (1) rather than trusting in his own sinful self.

With this context in mind, we consider again David’s words in verse 4: “Make me to know your ways, O LORD; teach me your paths.” What immediately strikes the reader is that David’s language is imperational. It is the language of command. Both verbs (“make” and “teach”) are written in the imperative form in Hebrew. Generally, it is not advisable to command God to do anything. He commands us—not the other way around!

One cannot even imagine this kind of language with other lesser authority figures in life. “Teach me your syllabus, O professor!” “Teach me the law, O officer!” “Teach me the proper protocol, O drill sergeant!” Such audacity would get us into serious trouble. But this is where the context of the rest of the poem enlightens us. We should not understand

“And what does it mean to ‘know’ the paths and ways of the Lord? This is not simply just an intellectual knowledge of God’s covenant (cf. 14).”

David’s command language apart from his humble attitude as demonstrated in the rest of the psalm. David writes the first command in a causative stem in Hebrew (a hiphil): “Cause me to know your ways, O LORD.” This is not David arrogantly commanding God to fill his head with knowledge; rather, this is David contritely recognizing that even the areas of life that seem to be in his control are not. Here we stand in the beautiful junction of divine initiative in our sanctification and human responsibility to grow in knowledge and morality. David was totally reliant on God for not only his salvation, forgiveness, and deliverance from his enemies, but even in his day-to-day spirituality and walk with the Lord.

And what does it mean to “know” the paths and ways of the Lord? This is not simply just an intellectual knowledge of God’s covenant (cf. 14). Surely David already knew the details of God’s covenant(s)! David uses the verb “know” in a more relational manner. To know the covenant is to obey the covenant, to follow it, to love it, to enter into a relationship with the God who initiated it. It is an experiential, active, relational knowledge that David desires the Lord to help him with.

What are the “ways” and the “paths”

that David desires God to teach him? Once again, the rest of the psalm unfolds the meaning. Verse 8 tells us that God “instructs sinners in the way.” This is followed soon by verse 10: “All the paths of the LORD are steadfast love and faithfulness.” Clearly the road David desires to follow travels opposite those who walk in sin. Verse 9 tells us that God “teaches the humble his way.” Verse 12 lets us know that for those who fear the Lord, God will instruct in the “way” that He should choose. Those who think they know all things and have life figured out cannot be taught the kind of knowledge David seeks here. God desires the truly humble to draw near to Him in all submission and obedience.

Finally, before leaving this psalm, we should pay close attention to the community emphasis. David does not desire these blessings of relationship with God for himself alone. Though David writes many of the psalm’s verses in first-person language (e.g., 1–2, 4–5, 7, etc.), he broadens to many others to indicate his desire to see the entire community of believers know the Lord’s paths and understand His ways (e.g., 3, 8–10, 14, etc.).

Indeed, the psalm ends with a certain shift that has taken many Bible scholars off-guard. Psalm 25 was written

in an acrostic format. Each verse begins with the next letter of the Hebrew alphabet. This alphabetical pattern ends at verse 21, leaving verse 22 to hang on its own. Critical scholars have long tried to excise this verse from the poem or explain it away as a later addition, but the communal nature of the verse fits well within the context: “Redeem Israel, O God, out of all his troubles.” The experience of David represents the experience of his fellow Israelites. Though he personally suffered hardship and sin, he knows this can only reflect the hardship and sin his people feel as well. He wants the Israelites to know God’s ways and paths just as he has learned them. He desires for them to experience the redemptive power of God’s atonement and forgiveness for the humble and contrite sinner.

And isn’t that what we want for the Cairn community as well? As we suffer hardship, as we repent of sin, as we feel the sting of persecution, may we be so privileged as to endure these trials together, lifting one another up through the bond of the gospel. Help us, Lord, to know your ways; teach us your paths!

Dr. Bryan Murawski is an associate professor in the School of Divinity. He can be reached at bmurawski@cairn.edu.

Because Faith and Truth Do Matter

A few years ago, the University had a billboard placement on the Pennsylvania Turnpike that was simple but clear, only a few words on a plain, single-color background. The words “Because Faith and Truth Do Matter” appeared on a field of burgundy along with our logo. In my more than 20 years at the University, I have never had more comments, calls, or emails regarding any advertisement, billboard, or marketing piece. It resonated with people in a profound way.

I believe it did so because it delivered a very clear message, one with which Christians everywhere who are serious about their faith should connect. It is also a message that clearly captures a Cairn core commitment and makes an argument for the particular kind of education we provide. We believed it was one, and perhaps the most important, answer to the question, “Why Cairn?”

This is why we chose that language then, and why we are launching a new marketing campaign revisiting that and other key themes that answer that question this year. It is compelling language for those who believe in the centrality of Christ and the Bible; inspiring for those who want to study at a university where biblical integration is intentional and evident; and timely as we see the erosion of a commitment to these things not only in the broader culture but sadly in too many institutions of Christian higher education who have succumbed to relativism, humanism, and so many other “isms” that mark the rising secularism of our day.

It is not enough for a Christian college or university to simply say it is Christian, as though we are merely referencing an association or identify-

ing with a particular cohort or tradition within a more diverse array of higher learning institutions. To declare ourselves as Christian should have force behind it and carry with it implications for what we teach as well as why and how we teach it. What we mean by “Christian” should be known and evident in our institutional priorities and decisions to everyone inside and outside our institution. Being Christian

“Truth matters. There is no question about this. But apart from faith, it is lacking. We must hold to the inextricable connection between faith and truth. And we must be careful that our understanding of faith, including its source and object, be both coherent and biblical.”

is not how we identify ourselves, as our culture conceives of that term. It is our identity. And the marks of that identity are ones we should bear without apology or reservation. Clearly, this begins with a Christ-centered mission, but our priorities, programs, and even our promotional materials should offer commentary on that mission, provide a vision for its outworking, and articulate our aspirations and expectations for the institution and those who study and serve with us. Students, both prospective and current, as well as parents, both prospective and current, should be able to see without looking too hard and know without straining too much what distinguishes

us from our secular counterparts and from those colleges and universities who exist within a Christian tradition to the extent of what they really mean by being “Christian.”

One thing to be understood is the degree to which faith and truth are valued—not merely talked about but valued in the sense that they matter—in both philosophical and practical ways. If we claim to be Christian but do not hold firmly that there is such a thing as objective, knowable truth in the world, we are on soft ground. If we waffle on whether or not there is absolute truth, we are on soft ground. If we embrace the idea that we each get to determine for ourselves whether there is truth, or what truth is, or even what is true, we are on soft ground. And nothing substantive can be built upon soft ground. This includes a truly Christian institution and a truly Christian mind; a biblical understanding of God, ourselves, and the world in which we live; and an approach to life and work that has purpose.

Truth matters. There is no question about this. But apart from faith, it is lacking. We must hold to the inextricable connection between faith and truth. And we must be careful that our understanding of faith, including its source and object, be both coherent and biblical. It is not enough to talk about faith as some abstract concept or a shibboleth to signal to others we are with them ideologically. For the Christian, and the Christian institution, faith is central and essential because of its source and object and its role in our thinking, understanding, and action.

Some years ago, I interviewed a prospective teacher who told me how important faith was to him. I asked for an explanation of what exactly that means. What I learned after a few more

questions was that this individual had placed a lot of faith in faith. The object of his faith was not clear. The implications of his faith were not clear. What was clear was that faith, to him, was nice, appreciated, even valued, something with which he “identified.” But this is not enough. There was no mention of faith in God, no mention of faith in Christ and His accomplished work, even when prompted to do so.

This is problematic on a personal level, but this perspective is also troublesome for our work of educating students according to the way and Word of Christ. When we allow the same kind of relativistic thinking we see often applied to truth to spill over into our understanding of faith, we have a volatile combination that makes the delivery and acquisition of a distinctly biblical education and understanding of the world impossible. We must understand that for the Christian, it is faith in the triune God that sets our view of truth and knowledge, our understanding of life and its purpose, and our own callings in this world on their foundations. It is from there that

we build a knowledge and understanding of God, ourselves, and the world in which we live. Believing that there is a God who exists, who is, who is the creator and sustainer of all things, and who has revealed Himself to us through Holy Scripture and the person of His Son Jesus, our redeemer and king, has significant bearing on our thinking and living but also on our teaching and learning.

By stating without equivocation that faith and truth matter here, we are also making a promise. Faculty and staff will share this commitment and teach and serve accordingly. The institution and its leadership will maintain a direction and make decisions consistent with this commitment. And in our classrooms, students’ faith will be nurtured, not threatened. Their confidence in Holy Scripture will be strengthened, not undermined. They will also be challenged: challenged to know God more deeply, challenged to reconsider their assumptions about themselves and this world in light of the truth God reveals to us, challenged to think critically, and

challenged to bring their faith and studies together in a way that actually changes how they not only think but live. Throughout our students’ time at Cairn, we strive to reinforce their commitment to truth in all disciplines because God is the source of all truth. They will also grow in their ability to articulate faith and truth as well as exemplify these things in a world that desperately needs people of action who live by conviction.

The times in which we find ourselves are full of challenges and potential, and the need for a higher education that is serious about the things that matter most is great. Cairn University will remain on that course and continue to maintain core convictions that will not be driven by the winds of secular thinking and sensibilities—because faith and truth do matter.

Dr. Todd J. Williams is the president of Cairn University. He can be reached by emailing president@cairn.edu.





Results of the Renovation

With the final furniture put in place, the three-year library renovation came to a conclusion this October. Following a conservative build-to-cost model, the renovations were funded primarily through anonymous donations. This funding allowed the library to hire an architect, dream big, and pursue the maximum potential of the physical space without spending millions of dollars to get there.

The impact of this project is evident. Usage of the library increased 300% from 2018 to 2022, an increase that is surely to the credit of turning the space into the most useful and aesthetic place on campus for study. And although the library's overall footprint has decreased over time, the library staff has found a way to optimize its

square footage to increase patron seating without sacrificing its impressive print collection.

Outside of the work on the physical space, the self-designated "small but mighty" staff has worked hard to make a name for the Masland Library in academic circles nationwide. Regularly speaking at conferences and participating in new library software trials, the library staff has continued to pull in accolades and recognition for their academic work despite the conditions of their workspace paling in comparison to other institutions. This just serves to prove that elevating the physical appearance and functionality of the library just matched it with what the library has been all along: extraordinary.

Bringing New Attention to the Original Architecture

The Masland Library has had unique architectural features since its original build in 1992. However, its striking features have been underappreciated due to a lack of contrast. Changing the metalwork from pink to black brings drama to the space and draws your eye up to the ceiling.

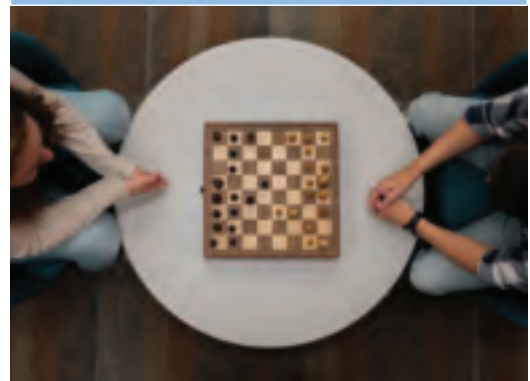
Staff Offices and a Faculty-in-Residence Office

Many of the library staff's offices have moved from the top floor to the main floor to put the staff closer to the students they serve. A faculty-in-residence office has also been added for a rotating faculty member to work in the library and be available to students.



An Ongoing Game of Chess

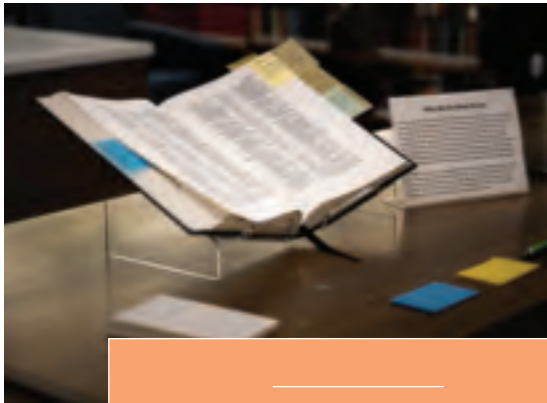
A completely new addition to the library, this permanent chess set-up is a great way to take a break from studying.



Floor Outlets and Power Banks

One thing the original library build did not account for in the early 90s was charging points for laptops, phones, and tablets. The renovation included adding over 20 more outlets to the walls and floors in order to give students charging ports in close proximity to their chosen work stations. A collection of portable power banks are also available.





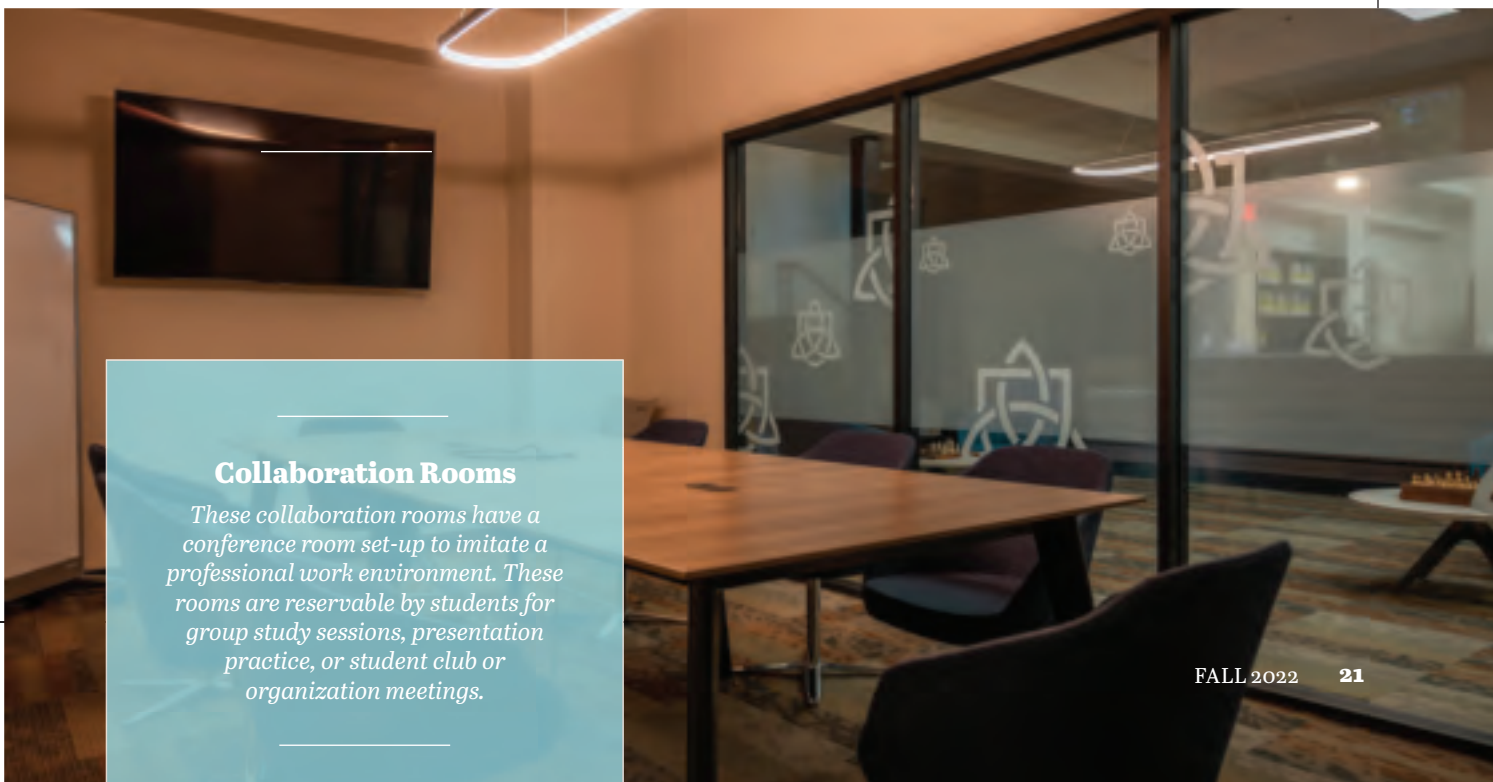
A Display of Central Importance

Front and center on the first floor, this interactive Bible display serves as a reminder of the library's purpose: to preserve the written word, and most importantly, THE written word of Holy Scripture. In addition to boasting an impressive collection of Bibles from across the centuries, the display also features an interactive Bible, in which students can highlight verses and share God's faithfulness by adding post-it notes.



Hardwood Bookshelves to Refresh the Stacks

The library now boasts \$1.5 million worth of hardwood bookshelves, and we only paid \$55,000 to have them disassembled and shipped from Michigan and Wisconsin.



Collaboration Rooms

These collaboration rooms have a conference room set-up to imitate a professional work environment. These rooms are reservable by students for group study sessions, presentation practice, or student club or organization meetings.

Moving The Academic Resource Center Closer to the Academic Resources

During the process of renovating, the Academic Resource Center (ARC) also found a new home. The ARC is now located on the library mezzanine, putting its staff, students, and tutors closer to the resources needed for each student's academic success.



New Furniture to Serve a Variety of Study Preferences

Tall tables for standing or barstool seating? Check. Tables for pairs and groups of students? Check. Individual study carrels? Check. Comfy chairs for kicking back with a stack of research material? We have that too.



A Clearly Identifiable Reference Desk

For the first time, the library has separate circulation and reference desks. The reference desk is tall and matched with several high chairs so that students can meet the reference librarian at eye level for either a quick question or a longer research session.



Q&A

with Stephanie Kaceli, *Dean of Educational Resources*

Q: How do you balance print and digital resources in the library?

A: The balance is in knowing what's being taught, how it's being taught, and where the students are located. So for commentaries and some of the seminal

works in the different areas of study, we try to have that as our core print collection. And when it comes to digital, you just get more bang for your buck there.

One of the benefits of the library overseeing textbook selection is when faculty are selecting their textbooks, we're able to purchase e-book versions of those textbooks ahead of the semester. Not all textbooks offer that option or are affordable in a digital format, but we like to do it whenever possible so students don't have to purchase a physical textbook if they are struggling financially. Catherine, one of our librarians,

actually received an award from PALCI, our local consortia, for the textbook finder tool that we update every semester.

Q: Do you want to talk to me about the strategic way the library was designed?

A: We wanted it to be adaptable, so it's not fixed in such a way that changes cannot be made easily in the future. For example, everything in the middle section of the lower floor can be cleared out in less than five minutes to make room for different events and gatherings. This furniture can be used in a lot of different ways, and then you can kind of adapt with how people's use of it changes. Another example is where we put the front desk. The hope is someday to have the library's main entrance coming off the circle with an outdoor seating area. We still need the funds for such a project. But the front desk is in a place of prominence whether you enter the library from the circle or the current entrance from The Highlands.

Q: What would you consider your biggest personal, but professional, accomplishment?

A: Actually, I think it's the renovation. When I am long gone, when the staff who are here (who worked so hard to move books, build shelves, and dream with me) are long gone—and our names forgotten, we accomplished something good and beautiful for those who come after. Because of our intentional design and not forsaking the significance of the printed word within the space, we have shown books, space, history, collaboration, and reflection can co-exist and, really, not just coexist but create a beautiful space that has become a favorite spot for so many. That is special and brings tears to my eyes.



Mobile Whiteboards to Sketch Things Out

These mobile whiteboards are multi-functional, serving as space dividers as well as places to brainstorm, work out math problems, or practice Hebrew.



FEATURE STORY *Greg Schaller, MA*

Correcting *Roe* and *Casey*: *The Supreme Court's Groundbreaking Decision*

O

n Friday, June 24, 2022, the United States Supreme Court issued its opinion in the case of *Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization*, overturning the Supreme Court cases of *Roe v. Wade* (1973) and *Planned Parenthood of Southeastern Pennsylvania v. Casey* (1992). In a Supreme Court term dealing with numerous controversial issues (religious free exercise and establishment, administrative law, right to bear arms), this one certainly was one of the most consequential terms of the last fifty years.

It is important to understand both what the *Dobbs* decision means and does not mean and what we as Christians need to be prepared to do moving forward. To better understand this decision, it is important to first grasp the role of the United States Supreme Court and how it operates and then to understand the improper opinions of *Roe* and *Casey* and why the *Dobbs* decision makes good, albeit incomplete, judicial sense. Finally, we will consider the impact of *Dobbs*, as well as the crucial work that remains for those who seek to defend the sanctity of life.

The United States Constitution established the Supreme Court as the highest court in the United States. The totality of its responsibilities is not explicit from the text requiring Congressional action and precedential caselaw to fully develop its role in American jurisprudence and Constitutional law.

Our founders were largely consistent in understanding the role of the courts and the concept of judicial review. Famously, Justice John Marshall clarified in the case of *Marbury v. Madison* that the purpose of the court is “to say what the law is.” This somewhat ambiguous statement is given greater clarity by Alexander Hamilton, in *Federalist Paper #78*, where he determined one of the responsibilities of the court was to ensure that actions taken by the government maintained a fidelity to the United States Constitution: “No legislative act, therefore, contrary to the Constitution, can be valid. To deny this would be to affirm that the deputy is greater than his principal; that the servant is above his master; that the representatives of the people are superior to the people themselves.” Hamilton’s assertion is that the court is to act as a check on legislative (and executive)

action, ensuring obedience with the United States Constitution. Today we understand this authority as not only evaluating the actions of our federal government but also those of our state and local governments.

Judicial review is a proper authority of the Supreme Court. Whether it is applied correctly or not is a different question. The Supreme Court in *Dred Scott v. Sanford* ruled that a person of African descent could never expect the

“Judicial review is a proper authority of the Supreme Court. Whether it is applied correctly or not is a different question.”

same rights of citizenship as Caucasian-Americans. In *Plessy v. Ferguson*, the court ruled that the doctrine of separate but equal (legitimizing segregation) was constitutional; and in *Roe v. Wade*, the court decided that a woman’s decision to terminate her pregnancy was fundamental to a right of privacy and personal autonomy.

To understand the *Roe* opinion, it is important to turn back a few years earlier to the 1965 decision of *Griswold v. Connecticut* (which ruled as unconstitutional Connecticut’s prohibition on the sale and use of birth control by married couples as violative of fundamental liberty including a right to marital privacy). In *Griswold*, Justice William O. Douglas explained that “specific guarantees in the Bill of Rights have penumbras, formed by emanations from those guarantees that help give

them life and substance.” Put simply, Justice Douglas concluded that even though not explicitly granted in the Constitution, a right of privacy existed that allowed for reproductive privacy rights, even though not officially conferred by the Constitution proper or the amendments. What Justice Douglas effectuated was an incorrect usage of the Due Process clause to “discover” unenumerated substantive due process rights. This was done although no such consensus existed at the time, as over half of the states had criminal penalties for those involved in performing abortions.

From the justification in *Griswold*, the Supreme Court expanded their interpretation of the “right of privacy” to include not only the right to be free from state interference when determining whether to use birth control to prevent a pregnancy to the right of women to terminate their pregnancies. In a significant expansion of this supposed right of privacy from *Griswold*, Justice Blackmun concluded with the majority in *Roe v. Wade* that this extended to not only whether to use birth control to prevent pregnancy, but now to terminate a pregnancy, all found within the right to privacy.

Justice Rehnquist disagreed with the legal reasoning of *Roe*, writing in dissent: “I have difficulty in concluding, as the Court does, that the right of ‘privacy’ is involved in this case. Texas, by the statute here challenged, bars the performance of a medical abortion by a licensed physician on a plaintiff such as *Roe*. A transaction resulting in an operation such as this is not ‘private’ in the ordinary usage of that word. Nor is the ‘privacy’ that the Court finds here even a distant relative of the freedom from searches and seizures protected by the Fourth Amendment to the Constitution, which the Court has referred to as embodying a right to privacy.” Rehnquist’s conclusion was that no such right of privacy to terminate a pregnancy exists under our Constitu-

tion, as the majority had determined.

Between 1973 and the present, the other significant abortion rights case preceding the 2022 *Dobbs* decision was *Planned Parenthood of Southeastern Pennsylvania v. Casey*, which stemmed from the Pennsylvania Abortion Control Act (1989). This law established some restrictions and limitations to abortion access, including a 24-hour waiting period, informed consent, and parental notification for minors seeking an abortion. While these provisions were upheld, the fundamental right to terminate pregnancies was also upheld by the Supreme Court in *Casey*.

It is from this backdrop that we now turn to the *Dobbs* case. *Dobbs* stems from a law passed in 2019 by the state legislature in Mississippi that prohibited abortions after fifteen weeks of pregnancy. This law was passed in conflict with the precedent cases of *Roe* and *Casey*. In the opinion, Justice Alito argued that the grounding of a right to privacy, which included a right to terminate a pregnancy, is not found as an unenumerated right and that both *Roe* and *Casey* were wrongly decided. Justice Alito argued that there may in fact be unenumerated rights that are not explicitly found in the text. The way that these are established is not, however, through Supreme Court opinions. Rather, Alito argues, they are known through long-standing norms, traditions, and laws. None of these were well-established when the Supreme Court decided *Roe* (in fact most states had criminal laws concerning abortion). Writing for the Court, Justice Alito concluded: “The inescapable conclusion is that a right to abortion is not deeply rooted in the Nation’s history and traditions. On the contrary, an unbroken tradition of prohibiting abortion on pain of criminal punishment persisted from the earliest days of the common law until 1973.” As such, it was wrong in 1973, for the Court to discover such a right.

With the overturning of *Roe* and *Casey*, it is important to understand both what this opinion does and does not do. First, what *Dobbs* does: it returns the laws in the United States back to the pre-*Roe* standard—each state through its legislature and courts will decide the abortion laws for its state. As no fundamental national protection to terminate pregnancies exists, it is now left to each state to determine what permissions and restrictions it wishes to enact. Second, what

“Rehnquist’s conclusion was that no such right of privacy to terminate a pregnancy exists under our Constitution, as the majority had determined.”

Dobbs does not do: It does not find a right to life in the Constitution, from conception or some other point. This means that the states of California, New York, Colorado, and others can legalize abortion up to the point of delivery. Explaining this new legal paradigm, the court concluded:

“Our decision returns the issue of abortion to those legislative bodies, and it allows women on both sides of the abortion issue to seek to affect the legislative process by influencing public opinion, lobbying legislators, voting, and running for office. Women are not without electoral or political power.”

For Christians, the opinion is

somewhat of a mixed bag. There is reason to celebrate, while at the same time much to be disappointed with, and the harsh reality is that there is still much more work to be done. The Supreme Court does not, in its opinion, find a right to life for the unborn. In fact, Justice Kavanaugh, writing a concurrence to the opinion, takes pains to make this explicit:

“On the question of abortion, the Constitution is therefore neither pro-life nor pro-choice. The Constitution is neutral and leaves the issue for the people and their elected representatives to resolve through the democratic process in the States or Congress—like the numerous other difficult questions of American social and economic policy that the Constitution does not address.”

There is a small percentage of conservative (mostly Christian) legal scholars who do believe that the United States Constitution confers protection to the unborn from the point of conception. These scholars argue that the 14th Amendment’s protection of the right to life (“nor shall any State deprive any person of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law; nor deny to any person within its jurisdiction the equal protection of the laws”) includes both the born and unborn. This is not, however, the opinion of the United States Supreme Court in the *Dobbs* decision. The hard work of cultivating this belief among our population and working through our state legislatures to ensure this protection of a right to life—and in our culture to cultivate the sanctity of life—is the crucial work that lies before us in the post-*Roe* world.

Greg Schaller is the chair of the social sciences department and an associate professor in the School of Liberal Arts and Sciences. He can be reached at gschaller@cairn.edu.

A Field of Opportunities

Meredith Jarvis, a four-year Cairn athletics student worker, graduated in May 2022 with a job in hand with the Phillies organization. By August, she was living in California and coordinating social media for the Oakland A's. Her journey from Cairn to California is one that some people may characterize as a combination of hard work and well-timed coincidences, but Meredith will be the first to tell you that her journey so far has been nothing short of a "total God thing."

Strangely, Meredith began working for Cairn athletics before she even began her career as a student. After transferring out of Geneva College, Meredith returned home to Medford, NJ, to complete a semester of community college before starting at Cairn the following fall. She was friends with several members of the men's baseball team already, so she and her mom (**Joy [DeSilver] Jarvis '96**) decided to spend Spring Break watching the men start their season in Florida.

As they were packing for the trip, Meredith's mom added a camera to her bag, saying "I'm not one of the baseball moms, so I'll just keep to myself and take pictures." But it didn't take very long for Meredith to pick up the camera instead. She didn't know it yet, but this trip would set a pattern for the next four years at Cairn. From her first semester on campus, Meredith worked for the athletics department, taking game day photos, creating graphics for Instagram, and writing articles for the website.

While baseball was the start for her career with Cairn Athletics, her career

in baseball started in the Cairn classroom. Meredith took a sports management class at Geneva, but it transferred into the University as a blank elective. So when the opportunity arose to take sports management (again) at Cairn, she seized the opportunity. This course was taught by Phil Feather, who worked as the director of ticket sales for over 30 years at the Phillies. Phil took his class to the Phillies' College Series, and Meredith struck up a conversation with the man who would soon be her boss. He asked Phil if he could hire Meredith to work in ticket sales, but his response was "only if she passes my class." That December, Meredith finished with an A in the class, and the offer to work at the Phillies came just a few days later.

Meredith had only been working for three months when COVID-19 shuttered game day operations across the country. She was laid off shortly after and assumed it was the end of her career in professional sports—"nothing but a cool thing on my resume." But as the country slowly began to open back up, she was one of four employees, and the only woman, invited to restart the ticket department. She continued to work, sometimes five or six days a week, at Citizens Bank Park alongside maintaining responsibilities in Cairn athletics and being a full-time student. And when a job in the social media department opened up, she was quick to jump on the opportunity.

The summer following graduation was nothing short of a dream. But as much as she loved working for the Phillies organization, it was unclear how long her role would last. So when

she heard of a social media coordinator opportunity across the country with the Oakland Athletics, she took it.

"I've always been interested in traveling and living on the West Coast, so it seemed like the perfect opportunity. I basically lived out of my car for the first month while I tried to find an apartment. But I have one now!"

Her job in Oakland is the "big leagues" of what she had done for the past four years at Cairn: managing multiple social media platforms, taking photos of walk-offs, capturing content during batting practices and warm-ups, and interacting with players and coaches day after day.

Meredith's career has had an impressive start. From the one unexpected moment of casually taking photos to becoming a professional social media coordinator, she has seen the rewards of her growing experience and hard work. Through receiving and continually pursuing these unique opportunities, Meredith has even made Cairn alumni history:

"I am, as far as I know, the only Cairn alum working in professional sports. If that's the case, I'm honored to be so, and I hope more alumni join me in the future. I've been extremely blessed with the opportunities that God has put in my path and all the 'coincidences' that have lined up to me being here."

Lydia Garrison '18/G'22 is the communications manager at Cairn University. She can be reached at lgarrison@cairn.edu.



Meredith Jarvis '22 poses for a photo on top of the Oakland A's front office in Jack London Square.

ALUMNI ARENA

Stay up to date on alumni news! From weddings, new arrivals, and anniversaries to career changes and ministry opportunities, find out what Cairn alumni are up to all around the world.



Frank DiRenzo '15 started a new job as the student pastor at Calvary Church in May 2022.

50s

Paul Gordon '54 recently “retired again,” this time as chaplain of the Long Community in Lancaster where he lives.

Phyllis (Ferguson) Spence '58 retired to northern NY from active ministry as missionary/teacher with BCM International (where she started serving in September 1959). Recently widowed, she is confined to her home because of extensive surgery. However, many folks cross her threshold, and she praises the Lord for the one-on-one ministry with those who come to visit her. She eagerly looks forward to

further opportunities to serve the Lord from her home, however the Lord leads.

70s

John Pinson '73 reached the mandatory age for a United Methodist Minister to retire at 72 years of age. At this year’s Annual Conference Session, he will retire after 44 years under appointment. He answered the call to ministry in 1968, began at Cairn in 1969, and then went to seminary at Candler School of Theology, Emory University. He writes that he “may be retiring from active service, but as a disciple there is no retirement age.”

Robert Bell '73 retired December 30, 2021, as the senior pastor of Aisquith Presbyterian Church (PCA) in Baltimore after 27 years.

1. Michael Chivalette '75 retired May 31, 2022, after serving as a K–12 superintendent for 29 years and a total of 41 years in Christian school and college education. However, a former school where he served as superintendent asked him to serve as the director of development and advancement as they seek to build a new PK–12 school. His wife, Carol Ann, will begin her 34th year teaching high school language arts.

Gary Stefanski '77 and his wife, Sandy (Elias), will retire from pastoral ministry after 50 years. Pastor Gary has been the pastor of Fairview Gospel Church in New Jersey since 2003. The Stefanskis will move to York, PA. Sandy will continue to minister remotely at Open Hands Legal Services in New York City, where she has been program coordinator since 2010.

Randy Buchman '78 is now retiring after 42 consecutive years of church ministry, the past 28 of them as the Lead Pastor of Tri-State Fellowship in Hagerstown, MD. He writes, "I'm thankful for my college years that put me on this course originally, as a dual music and Bible major—being impacted especially by Drs. McGahey and Sam Hsu."

2. Tom Cornman '78 has been appointed interim president of Corban University (Salem, OR). He joined Corban as provost in 2019, having previously served as VP and dean of the Undergraduate School at Moody Bible Institute (Chicago, 2001–2009), vice president and chief academic officer at Cedarville University (Cedarville, OH, 2009–2015), and senior vice president for academic administration and dean of Trinity College and Graduate School at Trinity International University (Deerfield, IL, 2015–2019). He earned a PhD at the University of Illinois (Chicago) and taught historical theology, theology, and history for 19 years before moving into administrative roles. Tom and his wife, **Sue (Lennox) '78**, are parents of two adult children.

E. James DuBois '79 recently published his third book, *Called to Work*, with Christian Faith Publishing. In this autobiography, DuBois identifies with God's preparation of His people for the work intended to accomplish His purposes as expressed in Acts 13:2. *Called to Work* includes the testimony of other pastors, teachers, and prison volunteers in fulfilling his or her calling. His fourth book, *A Lifetime of Adventures*, was released in July 2022.

80s

3. Paul Armes '80 just transferred into the Orthodox Church, Western Rite. He is pastoring a mission church, St. John the Evangelist, in Lakeland, FL.

4. Paul Dzubinski '83 is the director of innovation for Frontier Ventures (formerly the US Center for World Mission) and leads the Ralph Winter Launch Lab. The organization focuses on innovation and particularly walks alongside workers, agencies, and networks at the frontiers of mission as it discerns new ways forward to address their most difficult challenges.

90s

Dan Miller '92 has been the pastor at Grace Fellowship Church since its inception in 2004. He is the husband to Vicki and father of seven children. He

became a grandfather in January 2022.

Ave Maria (Enoch) Bremerman '98 has been happily married to her husband, Ralph Laine Bremerman, for 23 years. She is a housewife and tries to encourage her husband, who serves as a deacon at Tenth Presbyterian Church in Philadelphia, PA.

Lisa Feenstra Stonehouse '98 is the owner of Stonehouse Catering in White Bear Lake, MN. She is also in the midst of starting a nonprofit organization around healing from trauma and abuse.

Willie Maye Armstrong '99 is blessed to have retired from the NJ Department of Corrections as assistant supervisor of educational services in 2017. After becoming a classroom teacher of special education (2002–2009), she was fortunate to return to college and earn her endorsement as a learning disability teacher consultant. She had the pleasure of assessing children with learning disabilities, recommending appropriate programs, and assisting educators with classroom support of students with behavioral issues. After retirement, she returned to support the Pemberton Township School System teachers by substituting during their absence. She is thinking about retiring from substitute teaching this new school year.

00s

George DeVol '01 and Shannon (Minter) live in Cape May Court House, NJ. George is a senior pastor at First Baptist Church as well as a Bible teacher at Cape Christian Academy. Shannon teaches 4th and 5th grade in a guided homeschool program. They have four children: three at home and one pursuing cinematic arts at Liberty University.

Lindsay Rupprecht '03 is working in the security field and of the preborn in pro-life work and seeking a job back in that field. She runs a pregnancy center, options328, in Baltimore, and her organization has a center touching Planned Parenthood in Baltimore, which is an answer to specific prayer.

Carrie Givens '03 lives in Charlotte, NC, where she works in communications at New City Church. In 2020, with two friends, Carrie founded Bandersnatch Books, a small press publisher with a focus on publishing books found off the beaten path for lovers of all that is good, true, and beautiful. In 2021, the first title from Bandersnatch was Carrie's young adult fantasy novel, *Rosefire*, which was a finalist for the Realm Awards in the fantasy

ALUMNI IN ACTION

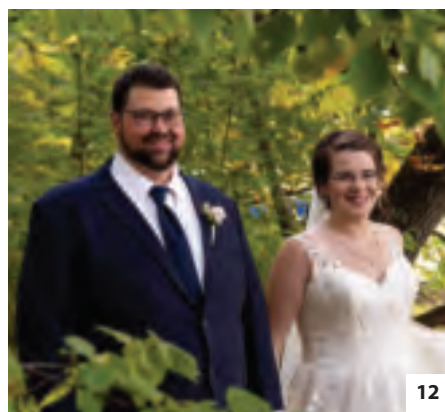
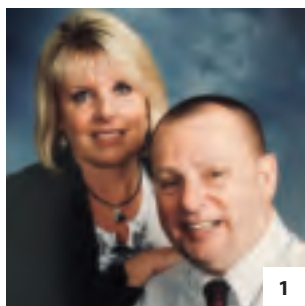


Hoping to Backpack, Getting to Serve

Gretchen Bartlett '00 has always had a passion for youth. When she was 17, Gretchen found herself called to serve in missions. With her limiting schedule, Gretchen realized only three trips worked with her schedule—Tanzania being one of them. Incentivized primarily by the prospect of it being a backpacking trip, Gretchen chose Tanzania. There, her heart transformed, and her love for Africa began. Three years after graduating from Cairn in 2000 with her Bible and social work degrees, she eagerly returned to Nairobi, Kenya, to serve with the Rafiki Foundation.

At Rafiki, her role included teaching classes, leading Bible studies, and guiding teenage girls through vocational training. Out of Rafiki, Gretchen and a missionary friend created Faith House, an organization that provided a safe Christian space for teenage girls. For nine years, Gretchen faithfully worked as Faith House's resident director.

In her time in Kenya, one of Gretchen's most meaningful experiences was adopting her daughter, Kendi, at 14 months old. For nearly four years, Gretchen and Kendi stayed with Faith House until they transitioned to the United States. Gretchen currently serves as the assistant to the head of school at a Christian school in Michigan. Her love for teaching children and teens has only grown since her first mission trip, and she is excited to be in an environment where she still can be with children as well as other people who share her passion of sharing their love for the Lord.



audiobook category. Since then, the press has released 10 more titles, including picture books, middle-grade novels, and poetry collections, and a half dozen more books are in the pipeline. Life is busy between her work at New City and as CEO of Bandersnatch Books, but Carrie makes time for hanging out with friends for meals or game nights.

Baron King '04/G'06 is pleased to announce that he has accepted the position of CEO with the Chattanooga Community Kitchen, the premier homeless services nonprofit in eastern TN.

5. Sarah Abbey '06 is excited to begin to serve graduate students and faculty with Intervarsity at Marquette University. She longs to “see people find hope and meaning in Jesus Christ, joy in community, purpose in vocation, and to discover the freedom that comes from an identity rooted in God’s love.”

10s

Michelle Alexandrowicz G'10 is living in Miami and just started a new business.

6. Michael Stinson '11 and Rebecca (Latham) '10 welcomed a baby girl this

past summer. Lydia Stinson was born July 14, 2022. Michael is the lead pastor at Faith Bible Church of the Christian and Missionary Alliance Church in Millersburg, OH.

7. Elisabeth (Small) Addis G'12 gave birth to identical twin boys, Ezekiel and Zachariah, in April 2021. The twins joined big brothers Jordan (6) and Israel (3). Her family is stationed in Portland, OR, where Elisabeth is a stay-at-home homeschool mom and musician and her husband, Stephen, is the logistics chief for USMC Recruiting Stations in Oregon, Washington, and Alaska.

James Richardson '12 has taken the position of assistant director of safety and security at Cairn University. After spending two years in the insurance industry running an independent agency, he decided to return to Cairn. His wife, Krista, is expecting their fourth child in January, and they decided it was time to increase their income flow. As he was searching for opportunities close to home that would afford him time to continue to grow his agency, he discovered that Cairn was hiring for this position. God opened the door for him to return to his alma mater and continue to serve in a very unique way.

8. Rebekah (Morrison) Langston '12 and her family moved to Hawaii and welcomed a second baby girl, Olivia Faith Langston, on March 17, 2022.

9. Nolan '14 and Anna Pierce are living in Glenside, PA, with their three children: Uriah, Ezra, and their newest addition Lydia, who was born in May 2022. The Pierces are attending Bridge Community Church.

Dan Loch '15 and **Jarred Cain '16/G'16** released an EP of new worship music called "The Home That He Has Promised." All the musicians on the project are either alumni or were students at the time. The album is available digitally as well as in physical copies.

Ashley Redcay '17 is engaged to David Gerstle and plans to marry in Summer 2022.

10. Hannah (Polster) Kieffer '18 and her husband, **Benjamin '17**, welcomed their second child, Everly Anne Kieffer, on March 8, 2022.

Jordan Cox '18 wrapped up his MEd in Higher Education from Penn State, moved to Lancaster, and is currently working at University of Pennsylvania as an academic advisor.

Tyler Rhoda '19 accepted a staff position at Berean Bible Church in Greene, NY, working for their family ministries.

11. Lauren (Engle) Kuehlewind '19 is working for Robin Downs and Associates, a biblical counseling center, where she works with clients of various ages and mental health issues. She got married in February of this year, and she is enjoying married life with her wonderful, godly husband, Ryan, who is a very gifted auto technician. They bought their first home, a fixer-upper, and they started a garden in their backyard, which has been great for her self-care.

20s

12. Rachel (Bolstridge) Jorgensen '20 got married in September 2021 to a wonderful man from her church. She is teaching preschool in a Christian daycare in Minnesota.

Sara Hayduchok '20 has been working in remote sales with Angi (formerly Angie's List) for over a year now. She loves what

she does and has found it to be the perfect opportunity for her after graduation. Her role in sales has allowed her to build on her strengths as a communicator, and she has been able to start paying off her student loans quickly.

13. Rebekah Stiles '20 graduated with an MM in Piano Performance from the Glenn Korff School of Music at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. She is returning there to begin her doctoral degree in the fall.

14. Anika (Archer) '21 married **Jonathan Wright '21** before God in Melbourne Beach, FL, on December 31, 2021. After graduation, Jonathan began serving at JAARS, a nonprofit missions organization located in Waxhaw, NC. Anika will begin her first full year of teaching high school English this fall at a public school in NC.

Donna Buttacy '21 is the interim grade 3/4 teacher at West-Mont Christian Academy. Once they find a permanent teacher, she will transition to her new role as director of special education for their district, Alliance Christian School District. This will be the first time that the school or district has someone in this position, and she is thrilled to be a part of it!

Jacob Abraham '22 is working on getting his master's in history at ASU. He also started a new job with Steam Works Studio.

ALUMNI IN ACTION

From Defensive Back to Defending Christ

Cedrick Brown '96 grew up in Compton, CA, a diverse city overwhelmed with substance abuse and violence. After receiving a scholarship to play football at Washington State, however, Cedrick found himself in a completely different environment: a predominantly white, rural area. It was during his time in Washington that he was invited into the home of a family with a different race and culture for the first time. This family would also be the ones who would lead him to recommit to his faith in Christ.

With only a semester left in his hospitality management program, Cedrick dropped out, opting to pursue a career with the NFL. After two seasons of camps with the Eagles, he began a successful business career. But as Cedrick balanced his career with investing in others' lives by leading Bible studies for the Eagles players or filling the pulpit at his local church, he felt God leading him toward full-time ministry. He responded, attending Cairn's Degree Completion Program to earn a BS in Bible to better equip himself for this calling.

Shortly after graduation, Cedrick's heart was led to plant Commitment Community Church, a "Place For All Nations" in New Jersey. For 25 years, he has been shepherding and loving one of the largest multi-ethnic church communities in the state. Looking back, Cedrick praises the Lord for using all of his diverse experiences to foster a love for all people, bringing them the gospel that is for every tongue, tribe, and nation.



IN MEMORIAM, ENDOWMENTS, & SCHOLARSHIPS

IN MEMORIAM

Mr. Victor Achinivu '13
February 7, 2022

Mrs. Ellen M. Rauscher '52
February 8, 2022

Rev. D. James Tait II '72
March 1, 2022

Rev. Andrew J. Sullivan '69
March 5, 2022

Mrs. Leslie Heitz '96
March 23, 2022

Miss Joan A. Demian '69
April 1, 2022

Miss Dorothy R. Bergner '54
April 11, 2022

Mrs. Judy M. Lindsay '64
April 12, 2022

Rev. Benno A. Gerdes '52
May 7, 2022

Mr. Leemue B. Koimene '13
May 26, 2022

Miss Margaret R. Lewis '57
May 28, 2022

Rev. Richard G. Martin '55
July 28, 2022

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Trustee Patrick Stillman Passes Away at Age 82

Longtime Cairn University Trustee Pat Stillman went home to be with the Lord on September 10, 2022, after a 10-year battle with cancer.

A lifelong athlete, Pat played football at the University of Utah on a scholarship, attaining Academic All-American honors. Following graduation, he played in the Continental Football League for the Philadelphia Bulldogs.

In addition to sports, various business interests marked his life. Starting with the traditional paper route and continuing to own a Dairy Queen, Pat's business interests were multi-industry and spanned over several states and countries. He served on the board of several organizations, including Cairn University.

Pat joined the Board of Trustees in 1985. Although never a student himself, Pat took interest in the University originally because of his connection to President Emeritus Dr. Sherill Babb.

In his nearly 40 years of service, he served as chairman of the Board twice, including during the presidential transition in 2008.

"We thank the Lord for Pat, his life, and his legacy," remarked Dr. Todd J. Williams, president of Cairn University. "He will be greatly missed. His service at Cairn was marked by his generosity of time, talent, wisdom, and resources. He was a forward-thinking trustee who loved Cairn and the students it serves."

In addition to his wife of 61 years, Beulah, Pat is survived by four children, 19 grandchildren, and 7 great-grandchildren—many of whom are Cairn University alumni.

A service celebrating his life was



held on Saturday, October 1, 2022, at 4:30 pm at Manheim Brethren in Christ Church in Manheim, PA. In lieu of flowers, contributions in Pat's memory may be made to Cairn University, SportsWorld Ministries, Blessings of Hope, or Pocket Testament League.

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Rev. Lawrence R. Katz

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Ms. Edith E. Wetherill
Mr. John R. Dearden
Mr. and Mrs. Francis Loughran
Ms. Karen A. Pieretti-Wooley

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Mrs. Mary Mayko
Dr. & Mrs. Larry McKinney
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Mr. Melvin C. Nace
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Mr. Jack R. O'Roark (deceased)
Mrs. Ethel M. Renninger (deceased)
Miss Marissa A. Rumpf
Mr. & Mrs. Lewis Weaver
Mr. James Weeks (deceased)
Mr. Robert A. Zinn (deceased)

2020
Mrs. Doris E. Carr
Mrs. Eleanor Mammino
Dr. & Mrs. William Shade

2021
Mr. & Mrs. Brian Consoli

These lists include gifts received from February 1, 2022, through August 31, 2022.



This mystery highlander taught history at the University for 27 years, earning him the professor emeritus designation upon his retirement in 2010. During his tenure he served in many roles, including his time as the first dean of the School of Liberal Arts and Sciences. He even hired President Williams for his first position on the faculty in 1996!

Please share your favorite memories of this mystery highlander by emailing magazine@cairn.edu or by writing to:
Cairn Magazine
200 Manor Ave
Langhorne, PA 19047

Last Issue's Mystery Highlander



Bertie "Coachie" Landis

Former field hockey coach and chair of health and physical education

"The mystery highlander is none other than Bertie Landis, otherwise known as 'Coachie' to our team. Coach knew how to combine a tough competitive program with laughter and fun. She loved her players and knew us all individually. She taught me to know and love better, both the game of field hockey and the Lord. Playing field hockey for her was one of the best parts of my college experience, and I am forever grateful for her impact on my life."

—Kim (Oostdyk) Burre's '95

"I have so many great memories of playing field hockey under the leadership of Coach Landis. I remember beach trips, work parties, tournaments, and victories. I also remember a loss that went into sudden death strokes. No matter what, there was never a doubt in my mind that she cared about each of us and wanted the best for us. I was not a part of the team that went undefeated and unscored upon, but that was an amazing accomplishment! I was a part of the team when Coach got her 200th victory. I am so thankful for Coach Landis and her commitment to us."

—Deb (Loughead) Augustin '92

"Some of my favorite memories of 'Coachie,' as we called her, were during preseason when she would have the whole team to her house for dinner. We would pile into each other's cars and drive after practice to have dinner and devotions together as a team in her home. It was very important to her that at every home game we had the American flag and the playing of the National Anthem. The captains held the flag and Mr. Benjamin played the Anthem on his trumpet. However, one of my most significant memories is when we planted a row of trees along the sidelines of our field. It was right where the bleachers were behind our bench, and I remember her exact words like it was yesterday: 'These trees will eventually give amazing shade to all your par-

ents and fans who come to watch our games.' I am a bit sad that I believe only one of those trees is left standing due to the construction. However, they were shade, and they were, in my heart, a bit of the legacy that she left not only of herself at Cairn, but in each of her players whom she dearly loved and wanted to see grow not just in our field hockey skill but in our relationship with Jesus."

—Karen (Tice) Noble '99

TELL US WHAT YOU THINK!

Opinions should be a maximum of 200 words and include full name, city and state, and class year (if applicable). They may be edited for length and clarity.

EMAIL: magazine@cairn.edu

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200 Manor Ave

WE'D LIKE TO HEAR FROM YOU TOO!

Share your alumni news, change of address, or updated contact info via cairn.edu/update or by emailing alumni@cairn.edu.



Prayer & Praise is a weekly calendar of prayer topics for Cairn University and our events, students, faculty, staff, and administration. Join us as we pray for God's provision and praise Him for His faithfulness.

Note: For your convenience, we have perforated the following pages.

November

NOVEMBER 1-5

Pray for guidance as students register for their spring semester courses.

NOVEMBER 6-12

Praise God for the veterans that have faithfully risked their lives to serve the country.

NOVEMBER 13-19

Praise God for the maintenance staff that quietly keeps Cairn in working order.

NOVEMBER 20-26

Praise God for the abundant gifts He has given us, and that He gives us times in life to stop and enjoy them.

NOVEMBER 27-30

Pray that students will continue to work hard as the end-of-the-semester restlessness approaches.

December

DECEMBER 1-3

Praise God for the churches that have joyously welcomed students into their community this fall semester.

DECEMBER 4-10

Pray for all students graduating in the fall semester as they seek wisdom in the next steps in their lives.

DECEMBER 11-17

Pray for students as they endure the stress of finals week.

DECEMBER 18-24

Pray that students will have a restful Christmas break with their loved ones.

DECEMBER 25-31

Praise God for the undeserved gift of His perfect Son!

January

January 1-7

Pray for staff and faculty as they continue diligently working on investing in their students.

January 8-14

Pray for the chapel speakers of the new semester, and that their message will have an impact on the students.

January 15-21

Praise God for the understanding He grants to us in order to know and love Him.

January 22-28

Pray for wisdom, health, and safety for all the spring semester student-athletes and coaches.

January 29-31

Pray for the students' mental and physical well-being through the difficulties the winter season brings.



February

FEBRUARY 1-4

Praise God for the diverse talents He has given to serve others and glorify Him.

FEBRUARY 5-11

Pray for the junior and senior music majors as they prepare for their respective recitals.

FEBRUARY 12-18

Praise God for the staff and volunteers who are always ready and willing to clear leaves and snow for the campus.

FEBRUARY 19-25

Pray that God will make Cairn a light to the surrounding communities.

FEBRUARY 26-28

Praise God for the various job opportunities Cairn continually offers to the students.

March

MARCH 1-4

Praise God for his steadfast faithfulness in times of sorrow and times of joy.

MARCH 5-11

Praise God for Student Life, as they are always ready to be available for the students' needs.

MARCH 12-18

Pray that students will have a restful spring break, and that any travels involved will be blessed.

MARCH 19-25

Pray that the Cairn community would continually be reminded to pray for one another.

MARCH 26-31

Praise God for the turning of seasons and the beauty it brings.

April

APRIL 1-8

Pray that the Cairn student community will continue to seek to serve and love one another.

APRIL 9-15

Praise God for the triumph of Christ! He is Risen!

APRIL 16-22

Pray for the mental and physical health of faculty and staff as they work hard to close the semester.

APRIL 23-30

Pray for the endurance and faithful work of the students as they complete projects and prepare for finals.



Cairn University exists to educate students to serve Christ in the church, society, and the world as biblically minded, well-educated, and professionally competent men and women of character.



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