The George Fox community is discovering anew that prayer is “a way of bringing God’s power to bear in other people’s lives”

It began with a simple request: “Would it be OK if we prayed for you?”

With the nodded approval of those attending George Fox University’s weekly Faculty Lunch, student chaplain Josh McPherson went to the doors of the Cap and Gown Room and opened them to his classmates.

“It was like a movie,” he says. “They just started flooding in. Big smiles on their faces, backpacks on their backs — just out of class — and they just started coming in and coming in.”

The students circled the room and began filling in the aisles between tables. “Every faculty member there had at least one student laying hands on them. The room was packed.”

What happened that Tuesday noon in October had its start at the students’ fall retreat, but the emphasis on prayer is occurring across campus. Students are praying for faculty. Parents are praying for students. Volunteers are praying for the University and its campaign.

In President David Brandt’s experience, prayer is “central” at the University. “It’s not on the margins,” he says. “It’s a pervasive thing. People are depending on prayer.”

Prayer at George Fox has been a traditional foundation. Many classes begin with prayer by the professor or students. Students gather in weekly organized campus-wide prayer and praise sessions, this generation holding “Over the Edge” on Sunday evenings. Many University committees and meetings — from the board of trustees to ad hoc task forces — open with a time of prayer. Student living areas have formal and informal prayer and Bible study groups. That is the norm, the routine.

What has happened this year goes beyond.

For McPherson, a senior from Leavenworth, Wash., praying for professors in Faculty Lunch was an attempt to bridge a gap—a generational gap, a gap caused by different preferences for worship styles in chapel. As he sees it, faculty and staff sometimes are intimidated by students’ passion, by their ability to be relational, while students can be intimidated by their professors’ position and experience.

He and his friends wanted to connect with faculty and administrators but didn’t know how. Understanding came when psychology professor Gale Roid attended the retreat. Students were astonished, McPherson says, when Reid humbly apologized on behalf of faculty for the times he and his colleagues may have put their curriculum in front of the students themselves, in front of even Christ.

“He said, ‘We ask you to pray for us because we need a lot of help. We’re human just like you. We have the same struggles, the same hurts,’” McPherson continued on page 5
I

in the late 1940s, the Quaker college in Newberg—then called Pacific Newberg—grew tired of its frequent confusion with Pacific University in nearby Forest Grove.

College leaders and constituents spent a year debating a name change. A committee was appointed. It agreed upon a unanimous recommendation. A majority of the student body agreed. The college board of trustees agreed: The name of Pacific College would be changed to... Friendswood College.

But the name swap could happen only if approved by the college’s highest governing body—the Corporation of Pacific College.

The reasoning behind the Friendswood College recommendation was presented to the corporation at its meeting June 18, 1949. The name already was in use by a Portland pastor, who introduced Pacific’s choir on his radio broadcast as the Friendswood Echoes. “Friendswood” described the forested campus and identified the college’s denomination.

At the corporate meeting a four-page letter was read from Kansas City to argue against a philosophy professor at George Fox. The letter was read from a 1944 graduate who identified the college’s denomination.

Whatever we don’t understand about prayer, this community reports on Serve Trips over spring break, a group of students praying for George Fox employees. I recently spoke passionately in favor of Hoover College — in honor of the college’s most famous former student — but finished by announcing his support had shifted to George Fox. The momentum had turned. A final ballot was drawn up with four names: George Fox, Hoover, Friendswood and Northwest Friends. Minutes later, the college in Newberg had a new name: George Fox. A few weeks later, students began classes with little fanfare or observance to note the change.

— Rob Felton

A School by Any Other Name

Fifty years ago this academic year, Pacific College changed its name to George Fox College, honoring the founder of the Friends Church.

George Fox College, honoring the founder of the Friends Church

A School by Any Other Name

George Fox College, honoring the founder of the Friends Church

I

The Class of 1950 enrolled at Pacific College but graduated from George Fox College.
The renaming of the Ross Art Gallery honors a longtime campus architect

A man who has left a lasting visual impression on George Fox University has been recognized with the naming of a campus gallery in his honor.

The Donald H. Lindgren Gallery was dedicated Jan. 20 to honor the Vancouver, Wash., architect who designed 12 buildings on the Newberg campus over a three-decade span.

From 1962 to 1986, Lindgren was the architect for all but one of 13 campus buildings constructed during that span. Internationally renowned architect Pietro Belluschi designed the other — the Wheeler Sports Center. Lindgren was responsible for planning 200,000 square feet of floor space added to the campus.

The naming ceremony was held in the gallery adjacent to Bauman Auditorium, in the Ross Center. The gallery was created at the time the auditorium was added to the Ross Center complex, but was never named and, over the years, was called the Ross Gallery to note its location.

The naming of the gallery was approved by the George Fox University board of trustees to recognize the contributions of Lindgren, who was initially contacted by former George Fox President Milo Ross.

It was an association that was not planned, but one that just grew, Lindgren says. He recalls being introduced to Ross by a pastor. Ross, then a Friends Church minister, was helping construct a church in Seattle. Lindgren, then an architectural student at the University of Washington, stopped by periodically to visit Ross and the church construction site.

After Ross assumed the George Fox presidency, he remembered the young architect when the campus started with its modern development. Lindgren was asked to help with the buildings, and two decades later he was still helping as the unofficial “official” architect.

Although such a relationship is not unheard of, Lindgren termed it “a little more unique.” Some major universities employ a full-time architect to supervise campus construction and meet with other contracted architects. But for smaller universities, such as George Fox, full-time relationships are rare and longstanding associations not common. Lindgren believes his George Fox relationship was not equaled in the Northwest.

Lindgren calls the Ross Center, a two-phase complex with the auditorium, his most challenging. The classroom and office building for religion and fine arts opened in 1978, gutting and transforming a former gymnasium, followed with the 1,150-seat auditorium in 1982.

Lindgren was given almost total freedom in design of buildings, with few limitations: they had to meet the needs of those who use the building, and in the central campus core, they had to have a Willamina brick finish to maintain a campus visual identity and unity. His buildings are different, yet they maintain similarity, with most having two-story vertical window walls.

Lindgren has other ties to George Fox. His wife, Genevieve, was a member of the class of 1947, and three of their four daughters are graduates. Their youngest also attended.

Above: George Fox President David Brandt (with plaque) congratulates Donald and Genevieve (G47) Lindgren. Over the last three decades, Donald designed 12 campus buildings, unofficially establishing him as the George Fox University architect. Left: Lindgren addresses the gathering at the newly renamed gallery. He said he long enjoyed his close association with the University, not only because of his architectural work, but also due to his family’s involvement.

The Lindgren buildings on George Fox’s Newberg campus:

- Shambaugh Library (now Murdoch Learning Resource Center) 1962
- Pennington Residence Hall 1962
- Calder Center (now Lemmons Center) 1964
- Edwards Residence Hall 1964
- Heacock Commons (and later expansion) 1965
- Hobson Residence Hall 1968
- Hoover Academic Building 1977
- Macy Residence Hall 1977
- Sutton Residence Hall 1977
- Milo Ross Center 1978
- Video Communication Center 1979
- Bauman Auditorium 1982

Lau Named Student Life Vice President

A Pennsylvania college administrator who has held student life positions at four colleges or universities nationally has been named vice president for student life at George Fox University.

Brad Lau, associate dean of students at Lancaster (Pa.) Bible College since 1994, will begin work at George Fox in July.

Lau was one of three finalists selected by the University’s seven-member search committee and brought to the Newberg campus for interviews with students, faculty, staff and administrators.

Lau is completing a doctor of education in educational leadership and policy studies at Temple University in Philadelphia, Pa. He did his undergraduate work at Liberty University in Lynchburg, Va., receiving a bachelor of science degree in Christian thought. He then earned a master of arts in religion at Liberty University, and a master of science degree in higher education student affairs at Colorado State University.

Lau previously was director of residence life at Sterling College, a Christian college in Kansas; served as a student housing associate director and manager at Colorado State University; and was assistant dean of men at Liberty University.

He has held faculty rank at Lancaster and taught several courses there, including public speaking, Bible hermeneutics, and a freshman orientation course on how to succeed in college.

At George Fox, the student life office is responsible for a wide range of programs. Among them are residence life, health and counseling services, athletics, campus ministries, campus security, student government, and programs for special student populations, such as multicultural and international students.

Lau replaces Eileen Huime, who resigned last October to take a position at Baylor University in Texas. Craig Taylor, associate professor of health and human performance and George Fox’s director of athletics, has served this year as interim vice president for student life.
To Russia With Love

Professor Sharon Linzey describes the struggles of post-Soviet Russian Christians

Christians in Russia are facing a crisis, with their church now imperiled, says a George Fox professor who is an authority on religion in post-Soviet Russia.

Having survived decades of oppression and persecution, the Christian church — after more than a dozen years of perestroika — is in danger of being replaced by the “state church,” says Sharon Linzey, professor of sociology.

The old patriarchy — the seat of the official Russian Orthodox Church — is now furnished with a state budget, offices, and even limousines and has emerged as the official government religion, Linzey says.

This new state church could well replace communism as the chief oppressor of evangelical Christianity in Russia. With contributions from more than a dozen experts with many different opinions, God in Russia investigates the issues dividing Orthodoxy and Protestantism in the former Soviet Union and East Central Europe.

A recipient of two Fulbright fellowships, the energetic 50-year-old professor is a leading expert on the topic of modern Christianity in Russia. Linzey gained unique insights about Russia’s tumultuous religious landscape while researching her three books. The first, the East-West Directory, published in 1992, is an almanac of Western Christian organizations active in the former Soviet Union. The Directory of Indigenous Christian Organizations of the Former Soviet Union and East Central Europe, her second effort, documents upwards of 3,000 indigenous Christian groups in the former Soviet Union and was published in 1996.

Nothing remotely similar to Linzey’s two directories had ever been attempted anywhere in the world.

David Moberg, professor emeritus of sociology at Marquette University, who first met Linzey 16 years ago at a science and religion conference, describes God in Russia as a remarkable and comprehensive work. “Dr. Linzey is beyond a doubt one of the leading authorities on religion in post-Soviet Russia,” he says.

Linzey taught at Moscow State University in 1993–94. She also directed a George Fox Fellowship in 1993–94. She also directed Vision International, a Christian relief organization, in Moscow. Before leaving Russia in 1994, she hosted a historic meeting of nearly 175 Western Prot- estants, Orthodox professionals and clergy.

The conference spurred dialogue among reform-minded Orthodox clergy and scholars, and gave Linzey the idea for God in Russia.

Published in December 1999 by University Press of America, the scholarly tour de force collection of articles and essays written by more than a dozen leading scholars. Guided and co-edited by Linzey, God in Russia provides a penetrating look at the issues dividing Orthodoxy and Protestantism in the former Soviet Union and East Central Europe.

Linzey selected writers who would cover authentic points of view, different as those views were from her own. For example, Andrey Kourayev, widely recognized as the patriarch’s right-hand ideologist, initially declined, yet he is represented in the book in two articles. Although his attitude toward Western Protestantism is hostile, Linzey felt he had valid points that Westerners needed to hear.

Yakov Krotov, a church historian and author known as the C.S. Lewis of Russia, speaks highly of God in Russia. “The facts and analyses of Dr. Linzey are accurate and precise,” Krotov said. “I don’t see any Russian-proper in her article, but instead, a painful desire to tell the truth.”

Although Linzey acknowledges that it is very Western to offer pat answers, she sees no easy solutions. State law declares that every Orthodox church belongs to the Church of Russia, so some congregations are protesting by being registered in individual priests’ names. Linzey explains that these reform-minded clergy are viewed as dissenters, further splintering the church.

Also disturbing, Linzey says, is the possibility that Orthodox and Protestant leaders simply cannot work together in many places because of mistrust.

Linzey’s deep fascination with the struggles of Russian religious leaders was stirred when, as a 13-year-old, she read the book God’s Smuggler, written by Brother Andrew.

Linzey’s interest deepened in her college years, and she earned master’s degrees in religious studies and sociology and a Ph.D. in the sociology of religion from Indiana University. Before living in Russia, she taught at Seattle Pacific University.

Linzey hopes God in Russia will encourage Westerners who plan to work in the former Soviet Union. Avoiding blunders in the culturally Orthodox East Central Europe is a must if Western Christians are to be credible and do good work, she says.

Jim Foster, dean of graduate and adult education, says Linzey has so deeply committed to her work on the church in Russia that, at times, she put her own money into the project. “Unlike secular scholars, Sharon’s approach and focus grows out of Christian commitment and a call to minister,” he says.

Paul Anderson, associate professor of business and Quaker studies at George Fox, says Linzey brings the international concern of Christianity in Russia to the university. “Very few have Sharon’s approach and research are rooted in primary investigations of religion rather than second-hand observations. She’s a very significant contributor.”

— John Rumber
Leaving a Legacy

A $22 million campaign will provide for the physical and financial needs of George Fox while expanding the University’s influence

A new student services and technology-rich classroom building will be the most visible result of a $22 million campaign currently under way at George Fox. However, when the fund drive is complete, the University will also enjoy a bolstered endowment, new dollars for student scholarships and faculty development, resources for institutional technology, and a completely renovated Wood-Mar Hall.

To date, $18 million has been raised. After conducting the non-public “quiet phase” of the campaign for the past two years, George Fox staff and volunteers are ready to spend the next 20 months building support from a broad base of constituencies. A dinner in February at the Portland Hilton Hotel served as the formal kickoff for those efforts.

While the campaign will provide facilities and equipment and increase the long-term financial stability of the University, George Fox President David Brandt sees another benefit.

“In addition to the obvious benefits the campaign will provide George Fox, it also will expand the influence of the University,” he says. “One of the goals of the kickoff dinner was to increase our visibility in Portland, so there’s a sense in which the campaign becomes a positioning tool.”

The cornerstone project for the campaign is the $7 million Edward F. Stevens Center, a student services and classroom building to be located on the southwest corner of the campus.

Named in honor of the longtime George Fox president who died in 1998 of cancer, the center will provide 40,000 square feet of floor space and contain six “technology rich” classrooms and a new institutional technology center. Moved to the building will be the enrollment services areas of admissions, registrar, financial aid and student accounts, and the student life areas of student activities, residence life, campus ministries, career services and multicultural services.

Brandt sees the Stevens Center as “a very important building on campus in terms of how we serve students.” Construction is expected to start this summer, with the building set to open in fall 2001.

Other campaign goals include $6 million for endowed scholarships, $2 million designated for student scholarships, $1 million for faculty development, and $3 million for general support. The campaign includes another $4 million for the University Fund; $1 million for technology improvements; $750,000 for renovation of the lower floors of Wood-Mar Hall, the University’s “Old Main”; and $3.25 million set aside for special and designated projects.

While some of those goals are less visible than a building, they are no less important.

According to Don Black, director of student financial services, earnings from a larger endowment will help replace the portion of tuition revenues the University gives to students as unfunded scholarships.

“By building up the endowment, it allows us to fund student scholarships with endowment dollars rather than tuition dollars,” he says. “That frees up tuition monies for other sorts of things, like hiring more faculty or buying better equipment.

“The bigger the endowment we can grow, the less tuition-dependent we become. That’s good because at some point some day, we won’t necessarily have to increase tuition at the rate we do in order to keep ourselves economically viable.”

Money for faculty development is another less visible campaign goal that will nevertheless ultimately benefit students.

Robin Baker, vice president for academic affairs, says funds to support summer research, leave of absences for research, and involvement in professional conferences help expose George Fox externally to broader constituencies and keep faculty current in their fields.

“The more you engage your discipline, the more you will be able to communicate with students the life that you’re about — the life of the mind,” he says. “Professors who are engaged in research themselves bring their students along and involve them in their efforts. Instead of education being a passive experience, education becomes an active, ongoing learning process.”

Groundwork for the Legacy Campaign was laid beginning in 1998 when staff began contacting the University’s major donors, submitting proposals to foundations, and conducting campaigns with faculty and staff and with board of trustee members.

Early gifts included $3 million and two $1 million gifts from separate anonymous donors; a $1.5 million gift from Margaret Edwards of...
“GEORGE FOX SHINES” was the caption in a column in Oregon’s largest newspaper, The Oregonian, when popular columnist Gerry Frank told his readers about the public kickoff of the University’s $22 million Legacy Campaign.

Frank joined more than 400 others in downtown Portland on Feb. 10 — and he clearly caught the enthusiasm.

Those who attended the gala at the Portland Hilton left the evening program impressed by the role George Fox is playing in the academic and spiritual life of the Northwest. Thanks to the glowing words from Frank, the rest of the state was exposed. As an author, longtime political aide, and fourth-generation member of one of Oregon’s largest retailing families, Frank is on of the most well-known and influential people in Oregon.

“The dinner was a very special defining moment for both the campaign and George Fox,” says Dana Miller, vice president for advancement. “We have received very positive response, much of it from people who were unable to attend but have heard of the success of the event.”

The Legacy Campaign is for facilities, scholarships, faculty development and technology enhancement. The campaign, now with $18 million already raised, is the first since 1994. It is a comprehensive campaign, including all gifts to the University until Dec. 31, 2001.

By the time the dinner took place, George Fox University already raised nearly two-thirds of the total in a non-public “quiet phase.” The public kickoff was hosted by former Oregon Sen. Mark Hatfield and his wife. The dinner featured greetings and remarks by the Hatfields, performances by the University’s choir and other student and alumni performers, a campaign video, and comments by President David Brandt.

Those attending the dinner heard about two big gifts that had just been confirmed. They are a $1 million anonymous donation, and a $300,000 challenge gift from George Fox board member and campaign steering committee co-chair André Iseli and his wife, Gail, who called for it to be matched by any of those attending the dinner.

The Iseli gift is not yet included in the campaign tally because it is a matching gift, but already matching donations totaling $177,000 have been raised, said Miller.

1. George Fox student musicians provide entertainment for the campaign dinner reception.
2. George Fox President David Brandt addresses the crowd of 400 who attended the public launch of the Legacy Campaign.
3. Former Sen. Mark Hatfield greets members of the University’s Concert Choir at the conclusion of the banquet.
4. André Iseli, campaign co-chair, visits with Andrea Cook, George Fox University’s vice president for enrollment services.
5. Grace Kuto, an employee of Oregon Health Sciences University, and her husband, Paul, who works for 1st National Consumer Bank, talk with George Fox board member Fred Gregory (right), a non-profit agency executive from Seattle, Wash.
6. The Oregonian columnist Gerry Frank (center) with Dick Reiten, president and C.E.O. of NW Natural, and Dick’s wife, Jeanie.
Legacy Campaign Goals

Endowment: $6 million
The long-term financial stability of any university is dependent upon building an adequate endowment. The endowment provides a permanent resource base and helps minimize pressure to increase student tuition that could make it impossible for many deserving students to attend George Fox. University-funded student scholarships represent George Fox’s next-to-largest annual budget expense, second only to payroll. Adding an additional $2 million to the endowment for scholarships will ease the growing tension between the cost of education and available financial aid.

Facility are the lifeblood of higher learning, and their continued professional development is essential to ensuring top-rate academic scholarship. A designated endowment of $1 million will provide a financial foundation to partially underwrite the continued development of their individual and corporate intellect.

Stevens Center: $7 million
A key component to George Fox University’s long-range campus development plan, the Stevens Center will house classrooms and essential student services — truly becoming a much-needed center for the university community. Named in memory of longtime George Fox president Edward F. Stevens, the 40,000-square-foot building will be located on the southwest edge of the campus quadrangle. It will contain six “technology-rich” classrooms and a new institutional technology center. Moved to the building will be the enrollment services areas of admissions, registrar, financial aid and student accounts, and the student life areas of student activities, residence life, campus ministries, career services and multicultural services.

Institutional Technology: $1 million
A vital resource to high-quality education today, technology demands a major investment for the University to continue current programs and expand into new, emerging educational opportunities that will ensure excellence. Technology for its own sake is meaningless. However, it is highly valuable as it is integrated with the exchange of information in the classroom and university setting.

Wood-Mar Renovation: $750,000
This beloved building has played a central role in the growth of George Fox over the years. Wood-Mar Hall still exists because of the creative concept, design and construction of the adjacent Edwards-Holman Science Center. While Wood-Mar’s top floor has been converted into a beautiful 250-seat theater, the Edwards-Holman project did not include renovation of Wood-Mar’s first two floors, leaving them dated, worn, and under-utilized. Funding for this project will restore the quality, beauty and functionality of this historic structure, providing more classrooms and faculty offices and transforming administrative space into academic areas.

University Fund: $4 million
Every year, the University Fund helps bridge the gap between what students can pay and the cost of education at George Fox. It underwrites the operational expenses of the University and provides for the University’s most basic needs, including student financial aid, faculty salaries, and instructional support. Because these monies are so essential, for the next several years the University Fund will be wrapped into the Legacy Campaign.

Special Projects: $3.25 million
During the Legacy Campaign, special projects of a lesser magnitude, but every bit as important, need to be addressed. Funding in this category provides the University with needed resources for specific and designated projects, such as purchasing specialized science equipment, remodeling Bauman Auditorium, and purchasing and renovating the Edwards House to serve as the new home for George Fox University’s president.

Total Campaign Goal: $22 million
Legacy: Different strategies planned for campaign’s public phase

continued from page 1

Portland: $750,000 from the M.J. Murdock Charitable Trust of Vancouver, Wash.; $500,000 from the Meyer Memorial Trust of Portland; and $300,000 from the Collins Foundation of Portland.

George Fox employees to date have given $460,000, with an 81 percent participation rate.

In addition, in March the University received verbal confirmation of a gift from the Teagle Foundation of New York for $260,000, designated toward meeting technology needs identified in the campaign.

Dana Miller, vice president for university advancement, says the fact George Fox University had 70 percent of its goal raised at the time it publicly launched the Legacy Campaign is due to several factors.

“One is the fact that the goals of the campaign are compelling,” he says. “Secondly, the mission of the University is relevant and even urgent. And thirdly, I think the donors believe in the University’s leadership, including President Stevens and now President Brandt.”

While Brandt, Miller and their staff will continue to talk with individuals, other methods will be used in order to reach a broad base of constituencies.

“We’re going to be sending out 11,000 videos and 24,000 campaign brochures,” Miller says. “We’ll have some targeted phoning, some direct mail, lots of personal visits, challenge grants, and six regional events.”

The Legacy Campaign title was selected, according to Brandt, because it conveys continuity in the University’s values and purposes. He said it implies there is a passing of something of value from one generation to another. The campaign is subtitled, “Preparing Leaders with Values and Vision.”

Honorary co-chairs for the campaign are former Oregon Senator Mark Hatfield and his wife, Antoinette, and John and Marilyn Duke of Rogue River, Ore. John Duke is an investment manager and former George Fox board member. Mark Hatfield teaches at George Fox as the Herbert Hoover Distinguished Professor.

Co-chairing the steering committee are André Iseli, president of Iseli Nursery, Inc., Boring, Ore., and fellow George Fox board member Barbara Palmer, Newberg, senior vice president for private banking for Bank of America, Portland.
President Brandt calls the time of prayer by the students a “unique experience,” one he’s not had before. “It was a very wonderful time in the sense that it was a powerful way for the students to express their thanks, their appreciation, for faculty and staff,” he says. “We often wonder how to express thanks, and the students, in my opinion, did it in the best possible way.”

Religion professor Howard Macy likewise says he can’t recall another time in his 25 years of teaching when students gathered to pray for faculty as a whole. “I always regard prayer as an expression of one’s faith, and we saw students praying for God’s power to bear in other people’s lives,” he says. “I know that for a number of us, it was deeply moving for students to show that kind of concern for us as faculty.”

An emphasis on prayer as a part of the University’s Legacy Campaign is also unique, according to Harold Ankeny, a George Fox alumnus, former employee, and member of the campaign’s steering committee.

Ankeny chairs the committee’s prayer group. Despite his many years in development work, he says, “This is the first campaign I’ve been associated with where they have a prayer component. With other campaigns, we prayed, but it wasn’t structured that way.”

Dana Miller, vice president for university advancement, makes prayer part of the campaign, he says, because “it really goes to the heart of who we are as an institution and our dependence on God for all things.”

He asked Ankeny to lead the group because of his knowledge and understanding of the University and, most importantly, “because of his heart for God and his leadership abilities.”

Ankeny attends meetings of the steering committee and then meets every six weeks with his seven-member prayer committee. He shares specific prayer requests — concerns such as upcoming applications with foundations — and they pray for staff to receive favorable receptions, for wisdom, and also for the students to express their thanks, their sense that it was a powerful way for the experience,” one he’s not had before.

Miller tells of being challenged by a member of the steering committee to depend upon God for a $1 million gift for which they had no knowledge or expectation. “And we received a gift that fit those criteria exactly,” he says. “It’s really pretty amazing.”

A parents’ day of prayer held March 11 also may have been the first of its kind at George Fox University. The idea for a specially designated day of prayer was initially generated at a Parents Council meeting last fall.

“As parents, we felt it was important to be in touch with what’s happening at our kids’ school,” says Lonnie Heckinger of Camas, Wash., co-chair for the event. “We didn’t just want to be aware, we wanted to be involved.”

Letters were sent to 1,400 parents inviting them to join in the day of prayer, while faculty and staff were invited to submit requests and items for praise and thanksgiving. Parents gathered in seven regional sites at the same time that others met on campus during a Saturday afternoon.

During a three-hour period, the parents at George Fox prayed together, in small groups, and as part of a prayer walk. Topics included students’ needs and well being, University leadership, faculty relationships and spiritual life, and blessings and guidance for the administration, alumni, and community outreach efforts.

The prayer walk was a first for Debby Magnuson of Eugene, Ore., chair of the Parents Council. “It was a great feeling to know we were praying for people I had never met,” she says. “We were praying for their success in their Christian walk.”
nary, will no doubt play an important role as well.

Currently the senior pastor of Valley View Evangelical Church in the Clacka-
mas area, Vermillion is stepping down in June to prepare for the move.

To leave a comfortable and satisfying life to face unknown challenges in an
unfamiliar environment isn’t easy at any age. Vermillion, 53, didn’t hesitate when
this latest opportunity presented itself. Todd McCollum, the seminary’s
director of enrollment services, describes Vermillion as “upbeat, big-hearted and
generous” and says he wasn’t surprised when he heard the news.

“Bill’s always had a strong world
vision and a taste for adventure. This
isn’t out of character at all for him.”

For his exceptional service, vision and
outreach, Vermillion was named the sem-
inary’s alumnus of the year for 2000. A pastor, professor, commissioner,
officer, counselor, writer and speaker,
Vermillion insists on being called “Bill.”
A deep interest in people led Vermil-
lian down several paths. In 1976, after
obtaining a master’s degree in compara-
tive literature from the University of Wash-
ington, Vermillion completed his
master of divinity from the seminary.
Three years later, he was ordained by the
Evangelical Church of North America
and became a member of the American Association of Marriage and
Family Therapy.

In 1980, he earned his Ph.D. from
the University of Washington.

Vermillion has shined in many ways:
teaching, mentoring, researching,
and enthusiastically carrying out pastoral
ministries at Valley View Evangelical
Church and Oregon City Evangelical
Church.

He also served at the seminary as
dean, professor of pastoral studies, direc-
tor of the graduate department of min-
istry, and as acting dean during the merg-
er with George Fox.

In 1997, following the seminary’s merger with George Fox, he returned to
pastoral ministry.

Alumni award winners for 2000 (from left) Steve White, Bill Vermillion, Kent Thornburg and Steve Strutz.

Steven Strutz

A student-athlete at George Fox Col-
lege from 1972 to 1976, Steve Strutz
was known as a fearless competi-
tor who would give his all for his team-
mates.

In addition to his many athletic
achievements and awards, he was named the most inspirational leader of both the
Bruin basketball and baseball teams —
while still a junior.

“It was a joyful time. I learned to go
beyond what I thought I could do, and to
never give up,” Strutz says.

Today, as pastor of Faith Evangelical
Church in his hometown of Billings,
Mont., Strutz says teamwork is even
more important in the body of Christ
than it is in competitive sports. Under
his leadership, Faith Evangelical Church
exemplifies the kind of vibrant, growing
and active Christianity that is so desper-
ately needed.

It is active in missions, evangelism,
Christian education, youth and children’s
ministries, and social action. Church
attendance has nearly doubled to 850
people in recent years. In 1998, when
Strutz became senior pastor, Faith Evan-
gelical Church planted a new church in
Billings — Hope Evangelical Church —
and is opening yet another — Harvest
Church — later this year.

Strutz earned a bachelor’s degree in
psychology and sociology in 1976 and
three years later graduated from Western
Evangelical Seminary (now George Fox
Evangelical Seminary). After marrying his
college sweetheart, Janice Camp, the
newlyweds moved to Billings.

Active on many fronts, Strutz has pro-
vided leadership in the Evangelical
Church of North America in a variety of
positions. He has served as Western Con-
ference director of youth and director of
stewardship and finance.

He’s currently serving as the Western
Conference director of evangelism and
on its board of ministry, as well as on
the Evangelical Church’s Commission on
The Discipline. He is active in his local
community, serving as chaplain of the
Billings Police Department and as a
member of the advisory board of the
Billings Crisis Pregnancy Center.

Steven Wilhite

I didn’t take Steve Wilhite long to
make history for George Fox Universi-
ty. Right after earning his bachelor’s
degree in biology in 1963, Wilhite and
two fellow graduates became the first
George Fox graduates admitted to med-
ical school.

A former George Fox football captain
and basketball standout, Wilhite has cre-
ated a legacy of success not only as a
physician and surgeon, but also as a mis-
ionary and entrepreneur.

Wilhite took his medical training at
the University of Oregon Medical School
(now Oregon Health Sciences Universi-
ty) and, following an internship in Fres-
no, Calif., joined the United States Pub-
lic Health Service. Gaining the rank of
commander, he served as a physician to
Native Americans and the U.S. Coast
Guard in Juneau, Alaska.

In 1970, Wilhite and his wife, Nancy
(also a George Fox graduate), and their
family moved to East Africa, where he
directed the Kaimosi Hospital in Tiri-
ki, Kenya. Under his leadership, the facili-
ty blossomed: out-patient services were
revived, maternal and child welfare pub-
lic health clinics were established, a
nursing school was started, and interna-
tional scholarship recipients and other
medical students were recruited.

After nearly six years in Africa —
three at the Friends United Mission in
Kenya — the Wilhites returned to Ore-
gon, where Steven continued his medical
service in private practice.

Today, Wilhite is president of the
McKenzie Surgical Group in Springfield,
Ore., which provides comprehensive
services to McKenzie-Willamette Hospi-
tal, including a Level II Trauma Service.
He is a Fellow of the America College of
Surgeons, a member of Lane County
Medical Society, and a member of the
American Medical Association.

— John Rumler
Nicole Weiler (DCE94) is assistant property manager for Insignia/ESG, a national real estate services company, Hillsboro, Ore.

Todd Williams (G94) is an agent with Countrywide Home Insurance Group, McMinnville, Ore.

Anne Basden (G95) received her teacher education degree from Warner Pacific College, Portland. She is a substitute teacher in the Gresham/Barlow School District.

J onathan Gault (G95) teaches special education and math at Hamlin Middle School, Springfield, Ore. His wife, Kristin (Thomas) (G95), is enrolled in the master's program in teaching at the Eugene branch of Pacific University.

Wade Parris (G95) and his wife, Amy, will soon be locating in Washington, where they will be missionary teachers with the Network of International Christian Schools.

Greg Picard (G95) is a member of the sales staff at WOSN Broadcast, which owns KOPN and WM in Newatice, Wash., and KNCM-AM in Quincy, Wash.

Diane (Remmick) Groom (G96) is director of social services for Palouse Hills Nursing Center, Pullman, Wash.

Randall Mars (DC06) has been appointed to the Coos County ( Ore.) Human Rights Commission.

Beverly Hoffmann (DC07) is office administrator for Minnesota Utility Investors, a 2,700-member utility investor management organization. She graduated from Trinity Evangelical Divinity School in Deerfield, Ill.

Tim Hoffman (MBA09) recently was hired as the National Outdoor Leadership School's expedition-style education course in Chile, where she was taught survival skills, natural history, rescue, and expedition mapping. She is attending Trinity Evangelical Divinity School in Deerfield, Ill.

Alicia Wirth (MBA09) is director of Colorado Wesleyan University, Lone Tree.

Scott Betts (G98) is staff assistant at Novartis Agribusiness Biotechnology Research, Inc., Durham, N.C.

Kent McGowan (G96) is director of financial aid at Buffalo State College, New York.

Kevin Nordby (G87) is senior graphic designer for the Laus Palanus Evangelical Association, Beaverton, Ore.

Dave Maurer (G89) is working in music ministry and marketing for SPY Promotions/Stereo Type Music Group, Tualatin, Ore.

Lauree Arnold (G97) and David Or- tman (G07), July 2, 1999, in Portland.

Crisman (G97) and Nate Gates (student), Dec. 18, 1999, in Tigard, Ore.

Anna Loney (MAT97) and Chad Southards, Nov. 27, 1999, in Portland.

Nancy Rissmiller (G98) and Joe Wil- son (G99), July 10, 1999, in Tigard, Ore.

Angie Shonta (G98) and Christopher Furek, Sept. 18, 1999, in Grants Pass, Ore.

Scott Spurlock (G98) and Amber Lindsey (G99) Dec. 4, 1999, in Portland.

Kelly Webb (MBA08) and Tyler Conleton, Sept. 3, 1999, in Corvallis, Ore.

Tricia Bohlander (G99) and Jeremy Birch, Aug. 7, 1999, in Portland.

Jeanne Donahue (G99) and John Dryden, Jan. 1, 2000, in Vancouver, Wash.

Jennifer Durham (DCE99) and Thomas LeBlanc, Sept. 25, 1999, in Port- land.

Scott Edinger (G99) and Natasha Jabsuch (student), Dec. 16, 1999, in Kelso, Wash.

Kristina Gores (DC06) and Richard Malikul, Sept. 11, 1999, in Forest Grove, Ore.

Chad Hollabaugh (G99) and Jillie Miller (student), Aug. 28, 1999, in Eugene, Ore.

Janette Sheets (ME99) and Duanie Schmitt, Aug. 6, 1999, in Portland.

Debra (Crane) (G10) and Michael (DC09) Goonan, a girl, Ciera Venuta, June 14, 1999, in Portland.

Kevin (G87) and Tracy Nordyke, a girl, Sophia Quinn, Feb. 10, 2000, in Portland.

Eric (DC09) and Katheline Bronson, a girl, Jennifer Kayelet, Oct. 21, 1999, in Oregon City, Ore.

Becky (Holman) (G98) and Eion Friesen, twins, a boy, Aiden Mathew, and a girl, Amee Mathew, Feb. 6, 2000, in Flagstaff, Ariz.

Erin (Hasley) (G90) and Edward Knoba, a boy, Jacob Earle, Sept. 23, 1999, in Anchorage, Alaska.

Scott (G10) and Leslie (Herrick) (G93) Curtis, a boy, Spencer Donald, Jan. 7, 2000, in Newberg.

Kelley (Thorson) (G91) and Jason Nuss, a boy, Fisher Wyatt, Jan. 28, 1999, in Portland.

Michele (Sewell) (G91) and Loren Hall, a boy, Jonathan David, Nov. 11, 1999, in Silverton, Ore.

Travis (G91) and Teena (Johnson) a girl, Anna Elizabeth, Sept. 23, 1999, in Spokane, Wash.

Tim (G90) and Melissa (Wilson) (G92) Conley, a boy, Trey Timothy, Jan. 3, 2000, in Salem, Ore.

Sergio (G92) and Adriana Mendoza, a boy, Sergio Diego, March 9, 2000, in Las Vegas, Nev.

Cobi (Schrader) (G93) and Ken Sims, a girl, Ariy Jean, March 5, 2000, in Beaverton, Ore.

Rachel (Fendall) (G94) and Michael (MBA09) Kellar, a boy, Mason Ryan, Dec. 10, 1999, in Silverton, Ore.

Juli (Cyrus) (G98) and Robert (G05) Rising, a boy, Robert Dillon, Feb. 17, 2000, in Goldendale, Wash.

Kurt (G88) and Darron Cling, a boy, Logan Randall, Dec. 1, 1999, in Cheney, Wash.

Shelley (Perez) (G95) and James (G97) Honomka, a girl, Hannah Rose, Oct. 28, 1999, in Silverton, Ore.

Tony (G95) and Heidi (Kunze) (G97) Roux, a boy, Ryan Zachary, Dec. 10, 1999, in Vancouver, Wash.

Amanda (Braun) (G96) and Scott (G97) Henry, a girl, Grace Elizabeth, Richland, Wash.

Suzu (Kern) (G96) and Keith Kuhl, twin boys, Joseph David and Peter Elijah, Aug. 11, 1999, in White City, Ore.

Drew (Hartwig) (G96) and John (n96) Smith, a boy, Davis Jonathan, Aug. 16, 1999, in Newberg.

Debby (Enslow) (G96) and Jack Trumbl, a girl, Lauren Riley, Dec. 19, 1999, in Newport, Wash.

Christina (Monckton) (G96) and Bryan Woodward, a boy, Ronald, May 26, 1999, in Portland, Wash.

Casey (Waits) (G97) and Mike May- ben, a girl, Taole Michelle, April 1, 1999, in Medford, Ore.

Sam (G95) and Kristian (G97) and Andrew (G99) and Mon- criestuart, a boy, Harrison Moncrief, Aug. 12, 1999, in Portland.

Cynthia (Barber) (G98) and Daniel Reynolds, a boy, Mason Anson, Feb. 8, 2000, in Portland.

April (DC09) and Brian Campbell, a girl, Ray Lynn, Oct. 11, 1999, in McMinn- ville, Ore.
Katie Greller's junior year featured a record-setting season, a trip to the NCAA Division III national tournament and a marriage proposal. The year to happen to her — she says with a modesty bordering on bashfulness — will immediately deflect the attention away from her. Greller led team where no George Fox team has ever been before: a Northwest Conference title (shared with Pacific Lutheran) at 14-2 in the conference. The team also set school records for wins (23) and winning percentage (.821, 23-5) and went to the “Sweet 16” of the national NCAA Division III championships in its first year of NCAA eligibility.

Greller’s skills and leadership played perhaps the major role in the Bruins’ best season ever. Five times during the season, Greller, a 6-foot junior post, was named Northwest Conference Player of the Week. At the end of the regular season, she led the conference in scoring (16.3 points per game), and was second in field goal percentage (.534), third in rebounding (8.9 per game), and fourth in free throw percentage (.795). She was easily the choice of the league coaches as Northwest Conference Player of the Year.

Ask Greller about her part in all this, though, and she will immediately deflect the attention away from herself.

“I definitely never expected anything like player of the year to happen to me,” she says with a modesty bordering on shyness. “I just never considered myself to be that kind of ballplayer, and who would have anticipated what I’ve accomplished. I have to credit my teammates for any success I may have had — they make me a better player — more than I would my own ability.”

Greller’s superior skills were not readily apparent when she first came to George Fox in the fall of 1996. New coach Scott Rueck, who had just taken over the program, knew virtually nothing about her.

“I wasn’t really recruited by anybody,” Greller recalls with a laugh. “I was pretty much a role player in high school and played very little until I was a senior, when I became a regular. The only school that even talked to me was Northwestern College in my home town, and they knew about me because my dad worked at the college and I used to play a lot in their gym.”

Women’s Basketball

A trip to the NCAA Division III women’s basketball national championships and a spot in the “Sweet 16” in their first year of NCAA eligibility was the result of a record-breaking season by the 1999-2000 George Fox University Bruins.

The Bruins tied a record for best start to a season when they won their first four games. After going 7-2 in non-conference play, the Bruins beat the Northwestern Conference for the second year in a row.

But, like many young people raised in a college town, Greller decided she wanted to get away from home to go to school. “I just wanted to explore, and had always wanted to go to the west coast just to see some place different,” Greller says. “I probably would have come here whether I played basketball or not. That almost became a reality. She suffered a foot injury her freshman year, forcing her to sit out the entire 1996-97 season as a redshirt. Rueck still didn’t know if she could play or not, but he and the rest of the Northwest Conference quickly found out the next year.

In her freshman season, Greller set a new team record for field goal percentage (.582) and was named Second Team All-Conference. As a sophomore, she raised her scoring average from 13.0 points a game to 14.2 and earned First Team All-Conference honors. Now, after a spectacular junior year, she will enter her senior season ranked sixth all-time in scoring with 1,122 points and fifth in career rebounds with 615. She will also come back to campus next fall with a new name: On New Year’s Eve, she received a surprise proposal at midnight on a crowded boat in the middle of Puget Sound from Ben Lacey, her brother Michael’s best friend from back home and a senior at Northwestern.

“Oh, no, he’s not going to make me give up basketball,” Greller assures all Bruin basketball fans. “He likes the game and wants to see me play more. He’s going to move out here for my last year, and then, who knows?”

Lacey wants to go to grad school in premed. Greller, a fashion merchandising/interior design major, spent the past two summers as a marketing intern with the Jantzen Swimwear Company in Portland. She hopes to secure a position with a sports retail firm such as Nike or Adidas upon graduation. Her classroom success will help — she capped off her 1999-2000 season by being named to the CoSIDA (College Sports Information Directors of America)/GTE Academic All-America Team, District VIII, College Division.

Conference player of the year, Academic All-American, a record-setting season and the NCAA Tournament for her team — and a marriage proposal. It would be hard to have a senior year that could top all that. But Greller says there is one more thing she’d like to add to it. “Now that we’ve been to the national tournament, we know what it’s like and what it takes to be the best, and all this does is whet our appetites for more,” she says.

“We want to come back and not just show up. We want to win it all!”