His name is everywhere at our university. It’s written in flowing cursive script on the eight-foot sign at the entrance to the Portland Center. It’s on the two-inch parking permits affixed to hundreds of car windshields in the Newberg campus parking lots. It’s on business cards, baseball caps, dormitories, and diplomas.

It’s enough to cause an inquisitive person to ask the obvious question …

Who was George Fox?

Ask some incoming freshmen and you’ll get a few blank stares. Returning students do better. But judging from the responses to an informal poll of students, there are some misconceptions about the university’s namesake mixed in with the truth.

“He’s a famous Quaker leader.” True.

George Fox is often called the founder of the Quaker awakening that occurred 350 years ago in England. The Quakers officially are known as the Friends. One explanation for the Quaker nickname is that early critics mocked them for the way they shook when they felt the Holy Spirit moving them to speak in worship services.

Fox didn’t set out to create a new church denomination. He was a lonely young man deeply depressed by the emptiness of established religion in the mid-1600s. It was an unsettling time. The country had been torn apart by a civil war. Economic injustice was rampant. Many of the state church leaders were actually political or family appointees who likely had no sense of spiritual calling.

During his four-year spiritual search, Fox often walked alone at night and holed up in hollow trees to study the Bible and pray. He memorized nearly the entire Scriptures. He unsuccessfully sought counsel from priests, including one who counseled him to “take tobacco and sing psalms.” He declined.

At age 23, Fox had what he called an “opening.” “For I saw there was none among them all that could speak to my condition … I had nothing outwardly to help me, nor could I tell what to do then, oh! then I heard a voice which said, ‘There is one, even Christ Jesus, that can speak to thy condition’: and when I heard it, my heart did leap for joy.”

Fox came to understand Christ was more than a historical figure, but also a continuous divine presence any believer could sense and follow without assistance from pastors, priests, or popes.

“Essentially, Fox pursued the personal reality of religious experience as opposed to either ritual religion or adherence to a particular set of beliefs,” says Dick Sartwell, director of the Friends Center at George Fox Evangelical Seminary. “Quakers are not the only ones to believe you can commune with the divine. Many taught it before and since, but it had great significance for the church at that time.”

This revelation inspired him to call others to find the same “inward light” of Christ. He became a traveling preacher and social reformer, challenging others to follow the voice of Christ in their religious and social lives. Many responded, and within a generation 50,000 called themselves Friends. They were characterized by their passionate pursuit of God’s voice and their commitment to simplicity, social justice, and nonviolence.

“Fox was a charismatic leader who had a great vision and a capacity to gather other people around him … people from across the social strata,” says Arthur Roberts, a
George Fox Again in Top Tier of Rankings

George Fox University continues to be ranked by U.S. News & World Report in its 2003 edition of “America’s Best Colleges.”

In rankings released to the public Sept. 13, George Fox ranks 19th in the west region in the “University-Master’s category. Thirty-three universities are listed in the top tier. There are 572 universities (126 in the West) classified as Universities-Master’s. These institutions provide a full range of undergraduate and master’s level programs, but few, if any, doctoral programs.

This is the second year George Fox has been in the Universities-Master’s category. Last year, George Fox was ranked 17th. Before making the switch to the new category, George Fox in 2000 ranked first in academic reputation among Western regional colleges (now called “Comprehensive Colleges-Bachelor’s”). “These rankings don’t reflect all the intangibles involved in a college experience, but they are an influential resource for many prospective students,” says George Fox President David Brandt. “We work hard to make George Fox a place where academic scholarship and Christ-centered spirituality are nurtured. It’s gratifying to U.S. News & World Report recognizing the academic quality of our university.”

The rankings consider six factors: peer assessment (25 percent), graduation and retention rates (25 percent), faculty resources (20 percent), student selectivity (15 percent), financial resources (10 percent), and alumni giving (5 percent).

The rankings, including the component information on each school’s score, is available online at www.usnews.com. This is the 14th year George Fox University has been ranked as one of “America’s Best Colleges” by U.S. News & World Report.

Tapia and Hoover Named Employees of the Year

Shelley Tapia serves as an administrative support staff member in the student life office, working with housing and residence life supervisors, and the office’s student workers. Ginger Hoover oversees a staff of 12 and more than 100 student employees responsible for keeping campus facilities clean.

Although their roles are distinct, they share much in common, including recognition as George Fox University’s employees of the year for 2002. Hoover was named employee of the year — 18 years as superintendent of custodial services — was named administrative staff employee of the year. Tapia, who has worked for her alma mater since graduating from George Fox in 1991, received support staff employee of the year honors.

Co-workers praise both for their servant hearts. “Never manifesting a superior attitude” is the way Hoover was described by one of her nominators. “Never treats anyone as inferior” are the similar words used of Tapia.

What’s in a Name?

Names have been important throughout history. In the beginning chapters of Genesis, we read that the names Adam and Eve had meanings. Adam means “seed,” or “man,” and Eve means “living,” because she would become the mother of all the living. The biblical record, especially in the Old Testament, regularly gives the meaning of people’s names. Our contemporary national culture doesn’t put the same value on meanings of names, but we continue to name children carefully — grandmother’s name is used as the middle name of a newborn girl, or a new son becomes “junior.”

University commencements largely are about names. It is most important that each graduate’s name is pronounced correctly. Names matter.

Names often are triggers, conjuring up images that are less-than-accurate representations of the real thing. In today’s world, words such as United States and Islam commonly carry emotional baggage in addition to the identifi- cation content they bring. Words like the Olympics (an athletic conference) carry prestige in the academic world. Some churches are changing their names because denominational references are thought to carry negative connotations. My wife, Melva, and I grew up in different Mennonite churches. Both now carry names that do not include the word Mennonite.

Almost 40 years ago, we worshipped in a Mennonite church on the south side of Chicago in a neighborhood that had no idea what Mennonite meant, except for what it saw in this particular, small church. The church defined the Mennonite name for that neighborhood, rather than the name defining the church. So, what do people think when they hear George Fox University? What does it mean, and what are the images it brings to people’s minds?

George Fox University is identified with the founder of the Friends (Quaker) movement, which began 350 years ago in England. Does George Fox, the man, define our contemporary, 21st-century George Fox University, or does the university define him? My hope and prayer is that the answer to this question is “both.” But there are difficulties associat- ed with this answer. We know the George Fox of the 17th century only indirectly — as interpreted by many different historians and storytellers. Whose interpretation is right? George Fox called his generation to repentance and faith in Jesus Christ. He had intimate experiences with God and taught that each person could know God and could hear God’s voice — that Jesus is present and knowable.

George Fox University must honor George Fox while it deliberately and gladly honors Jesus Christ. We will focus on the message of salvation and life through Christ, fulfilling our mission “to demonstrate the meaning of Jesus Christ by offering a caring educational community in which each individual may achieve the highest intellectual and personal growth, and by participating responsibly in our world’s concerns.”

So, what’s in a name? The name George Fox is ours to define to our generation. Our roots are strong and healthy. Our task is to interpret those roots clearly, without jargon, to a world that needs a Christ-centered George Fox University.
Serve Day 2002
On the day the nation paused to remember last year’s terrorist attacks, George Fox students and employees went into the community to serve.
Quaker scholar and the university’s professor at large.

Today there are an estimated 400,000 Friends in the world, including 100,000 in the United States. Within the movement, beliefs range from Christ-centered evangelical (like George Fox University) to agnostic liberal.

*“He founded the university.”*

Perhaps the most common misperception among students, who don’t realize Fox died 200 years before the university was established by Newberg Quaker settlers.

Friends Pacific Academy was established in 1885. Pacific College was added to the academy in 1891 and was renamed George Fox College in 1949. A former college president advocated renaming the school Herbert Hoover College, after the United States president who attended the academy. Instead, a letter to the Pacific leaders from Arthur Robert — then a recent graduate of the school — convinced them.

George Fox is famous for taking his stand against Scripture he viewed as vain or hollow. Taking off his hat for men of higher social standing was one of them. He and other Friends refused to give the mandatory social courtesy because he took seriously the command to not put on the titles of respect. He also refused to give titles of any sort to ministers that we underwent for not hearing him. The name is alive.”

The Friends have been among the most inclusive of all Christian movements, affirming the importance of the presence of Friends in many of the most difficult areas of a Christian’s walk. Friends are called into Christian service. They are called to walk with others, to help others, to share in their joys and sorrows.

*“He was a philanthropist who gave money to the university.”* False. Although there are several fine universities in the United States, and the North- west, named after doctors or George Fox University is not one of them.

*“He was a football player.”* False. Side note: Some students incorrectly believe the university does not have a football team because of its pacifist Quaker ties. The university had football from 1894 to 1969, when the sport was phased out primarily for financial reasons.

*“He was an author.”* True.

Fox was a prolific writer. Much of his work has been gathered in eight volumes of collected writings available in the Quaker collection in the Newberg campus library. His journal is the best-known. His *Book of Miracles* has recently been republished with a foreword by Professor Anderson.

*“He wouldn’t take off his hat in front of the king.”* Probably false. This likely would have been true, but it’s uncertain whether Fox ever met Charles I or Charles II. Fox’s convictions caused him to reject many social customs. He saw as vain or hollow. Taking off his hat for men of higher social standing was one of them. He and other Friends refused to give the mandatory social courtesy because he took seriously the command to not put on the titles of respect. He also refused to give titles of any sort to ministers.

Because of their trustworthiness, Friends’ businesses — such as the Cadbury family’s chocolate company and Barclays Bank — often thrived.

*“He came to America and spread the gospel.”* True.

Fox came to the colonies twice to preach to the colonists, slaves, and Native Americans. He viewed all as equal before God. The Friends were among the first Americans to free their slaves and were influential in ending the slave trade. The Friends movement flourished when William Penn, a Friend, established a Quaker colony called Pennsylvania.

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Surprising Find

Lia LaBrant discovers a new source for a cancer drug as a high school student — and new challenges as a George Fox freshman

I t may be hard for Lia LaBrant, a freshman at George Fox University this fall, to top her high school academic career. As a senior at Columbia River High School in Vancouver, Wash., she conducted research that uncovered a possible new source for the rare cancer-fighting agent Taxol.

LaBrant’s work took first place in the National Junior Science and Humanities Symposium, held in San Diego in April and sponsored by the U.S. Department of Defense. Along with a $16,000 college scholarship, she won an all-expense-paid summer trip to London to attend a two-week international science forum. She also placed first in the state competition, winning a $4,000 scholarship.

Persistence pays off

Taxol is used to treat ovarian cancer, breast cancer, and Kaposi’s sarcoma. It is produced using bark from the Pacific yew tree. LaBrant found that a fungus in a tree in the hazelnut family also produces Taxol — a discovery that may make an alternative source more available and affordable, since fungi can be grown and harvested more quickly.

“She was persistent,” says Angela Hoffman, an associate professor of chemistry at the University or Portland who served as LaBrant’s mentor during her project. “That’s one of the main things a researcher needs to be. She put a lot of time into trying to figure out why things are working.”

LaBrant’s discovery began with an independent-research project required as part of her high school’s International Baccalaureate program.

“I do like putting myself in challenging classes,” LaBrant says. “I like to be challenged. I think it’s really fun. If you’re not, you’re not learning.”

Wanting to get an early start on the research requirement, she called her high school biology teacher, Kelly Cameron, the summer before her junior year. Cameron put her in touch with Hoffman.

An unexpected discovery

Although Hoffman provided guidance regarding experimental techniques, LaBrant was the one who did the actual research.

“My list of things that need to be done is not the prescription for what to do,” Hoffman says. “So Lia had to figure that out. It’s troubleshooting, problem solving — figuring out what the next step needs to be.”

Hoffman’s team already had found a small amount of Taxol in hazelnut branches and leaves. LaBrant started by trying to identify other trees that also produced the substance. Taking trees from the woods, she ran tests and was surprised to find evidence of Taxol in four of the five samples.

“When I started, Dr. Hoffman said not to expect anything,” LaBrant says. “She said it’s possible, but don’t be disappointed, because it’s not necessarily likely that you’ll find it.”

When LaBrant’s tree samples tested positive, Hoffman suggested she focus on fungi that grow in the trees, since other researchers had found evidence a fungus in the yew tree could also be a source of Taxol. Her research involved a laborious process of isolating each fungus, growing them first in a petri dish with agar and then in a liquid medium in a flask. After that, she followed a prescribed series of steps to extract a specific chemical.

The research was so complicated that LaBrant initially didn’t understand the science behind it. She kept asking questions until she did, however, and in the meantime made another surprising discovery.

“I didn’t expect to enjoy it as much as I did,” she admits. “It was almost cathartic. I loved the fact I could go in and do the research and at the same time, because some research was more methodical than others, have time to think about everything. I just found it really relaxing, actually, and really interesting.”

The road to George Fox

While LaBrant’s research results still need to be substantiated, her achievements have garnered plenty of media attention — attention that played a role in her enrollment at George Fox University. An Oregonian story last spring about LaBrant caught the eye of GVF biology professor Dwight Kimberly, who noticed she was quoted as saying she would probably attend George Fox in the fall unless she was accepted into Brown University.

He called her and initiated what became a series of conversations. LaBrant, who plans to become a pediatric cardiologist, wanted assurances she could get into a tier-one medical school if she came to George Fox.

“She was persistent. She asked lots of pointed questions, but I wouldn’t give her any promises. ‘Your success, if you go to Stanford, will be yours,’ I told her. ‘My job is to be your advocate. Success or failure depends on you, but we certainly can help you.’ I think both of us found each other intriguing.”

LaBrant admits her presence at George Fox is “a God thing.” Somewhat to her surprise, she is finding herself “a Godzilla” or “little things” are affirming George Fox is where she is supposed to be.

Having enrolled with the intention of eventually transferring, she finds herself reevaluating that plan. “The more I’m here, the less I think of it,” she says, “because I really think this is where I’m supposed to be. There have been a lot of doors that are open that I didn’t anticipate.”

One of those doors likely will be an opportunity to do research at Oregon Health and Science University; Kimberly and his colleagues have connections at the medical school.

“T’ll start those conversations after she has a semester under her belt,” he says. “I keep calling her a thoroughbred. She wants to run at full blast. I tell her, ‘I want you to ease into things and take your time, to enjoy college. We’re not here to race to medical school. We’re here to enjoy college and experience community.’”

—Anita Cirulli
On the Air

George Fox broadcast journalism/communications alumni Scott Jensen and Paul Horton are earning accolades for their work in television news.

Photorapher excels at filming key moments

As a television news photographer, Scott Jensen looks for the crucial moments in people’s lives — those points in time that tell a story through the natural interactions between people.

Jensen’s interest in television news started in high school, spurred by a station in Alaska well known for its photography and the stories it tells. After working as one of its studio camera operators for his senior year of high school, he began his search for a college.

“I wanted to stay on the West Coast,” he says. “I wanted a small Christian college, and I wanted one with television production.”

Jensen found himself stepping back from the situation and just observing. He saw his father-in-law listening, too, with tears in his eyes.

“He hit me that this was a crucial moment in this man’s life,” he says. “I don’t know if I would have noticed that if I wasn’t in this profession. That kind of moment is what I look for every day when I’m working.”

Weatherman finds ways to connect with viewers

Paul Horton admits he was excited to win an Emmy last fall as the best weathercaster in the five-state Pacific Northwest region.

“Spokane is a smaller market, so to beat the guys out of Seattle and Portland — I was pretty pumped up about that,” he says.

Equally satisfying to him, however, was being nominated for an Emmy for community service. For five days in May, he camped out in the middle of downtown Spokane, gave live weathercasts morning, noon, and night, and washed cars 24 hours a day. By the end of five days, he had washed a world-record 458 cars — and raised more than $6,000 to fight child abuse.

“A stunt like that is typical of Horton, who enjoys finding ways to connect with viewers. “I like to challenge myself,” he says. “Instead of just reading numbers on the air, I try to create a story about the weather. I’m always thinking of different ways I can keep people interested in that three-minute weathercast.”

His methods have ranged from live reports from a regional fair to an investigative report on the accuracy of electronic temperature displays to job swaps with viewers: They give the weather — with coaching by Horton — and he does their job live on the air, whatever it’s serving in the drive-through at McDonald’s, working as a dog groomer, or giving a manicure.

“People want to see someone who’s welcoming, fun, and interesting to watch,” he says. “This is a great job for getting involved with the community and just being yourself.”

Horton is well aware, however, of the importance of getting information to people when the weather turns bad. As a freshman at the University of the Virgin Islands, he saw firsthand the impact of Hurricane Hugo. In fact, that experience sparked his interest in weather reporting.

Returning to the United States, he enrolled at George Fox and selected business as his major. It took an accounting class to convince him of the error of his ways and to redirect him into broadcasting.

In the meantime, he was involved in activities that honed his communication skills: working for the campus radio station, serving as the announcer for basketball games, participating in student government — even helping out with Young Life.

“The more you get in front of people,” he says, “the more comfortable you are in front of large crowds just being yourself.”

After graduating in 1994, Horton started out in the Tri-Cities of Washington. “It was a small market, but that’s where you can get all your nerves out of your system and make all your mistakes,” he says. A stint as the “nocturnal weatherman” at a station in Seattle followed, where he paid his dues by giving hourly weather updates after infomercials for the Hair Club for Men.

“Now the morning and afternoon weatherman for KXLV TV in Spokane, he has no regrets that he switched majors, or that he took the time to become a certified meteorologist by earning his credentials from Mississippi State University.

“It makes a difference,” he says, “when you’re studying and working in a field you really love.”

— Anita Cirulis

Professional Studies Grads Earn Recent Headlines

DPS alum named top young Portland executive: 1999 graduate Perry Gruber was named one of Portland’s 40 most influential executives under 40 years old by the Business Journal of Portland. Gruber, 37, is community affairs manager for Intel Oregon. He was named Oregon Jail Manager of the Year in 1998 and 2001.

George Fox’s management of human resources (MHR) graduate named Washington County Department of Professional Studies (DPS). Gruber earned his bachelor’s degree-completion resources (MHR) degree from George Fox’s management of human resources (MHR) major.

MHR graduate named Washington County sheriff: Perry Gruber was named one of Portland’s 40 most influential executives under 40 years old by the Business Journal of Portland. Gruber, 37, is community affairs manager for Intel Oregon. He was named Oregon Jail Manager of the Year in 1998 and 2001.

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MARRIAGES
Kim Erickson (G92) and Todd Griesbrecht, June 1, 2002, St. Helens, Ore.
Laurel Mihm (G96) and Derek Chris-tensen, Dec. 19, 2001, Maui, Hawaii.
David Reitsma (G96) and Kari Bruch, July 14, 2002, Helena, Mont.
Sara Scanlon (G96) and Roby Brown, July 21, 2002, Leander, Texas.
Melinda (Ketchum) Marlett (G01) and Thomas Arko Jr., March 8, 2002, Portland.
Brian Stick (G97, MAT) and Megan Smith, June 28, 2002, Sauvie’s, Ore.
Kimberly Johnson (G98, MAT) and David Evans, June 29, 2002, Snoqualmie, Wash.
Courtney Reynolds (G98) and Hayes Petersen, July 6, 2002, Tigard, Ore.
Stacy Wad (G98) and Al Anderson, Aug. 3, 2002, Glendora, Calif.
Natalie Witter (G98) and Zachary Spears, May 11, 2002, Hilliard, Ohio.
Kristin Barnes (G99, MA) and Brent Weeks, July 26, 2002, Newport.
Cory Morgan (G99) and Tiffany Smith (G00), Aug. 3, 2002, Tualatin, Ore.
Daniel Bingham (G00) and Mars Kimmel, Dec. 29, 2001, Redmond, Ore.
Chris Carbonell (G99) and Chelsea Dauber (G01), June 22, 2002, Newport, Calif.
Jennifer McLainster (G00) and Dan DeWolfe, June 22, 2002, Oregon City, Ore.
Ryan Austin (G01) and Renee Morley, June 23, 2002, Clackamas, Ore.
Sarah Mills (G98) and David Pluesser, Aug. 2, 2002, Salem, Ore.
Kevin Schipperoper (G91) and Annie Hagland (G91), May 25, 2002, West Linn, Ore.
Janell Hampton (G00) and Eric Woods, June 22, 2002, Newberg, Ore.
Demitros Thanankardis (G02) and Heidi Smith (G02), June 22, 2002, Wilsonville, Ore.

BIRTHS
Linda (Corfett) (G88) and Ron Hendrka, a girl, Katy in Lionville, Aug. 8, 2002, Portland.
Ronnie (Brejbn) (G88) and David Work- man, a girl, Shannon Heath, Dec. 28, 2001, Oregon City, Ore.
Kim (G87) and Laura (Pedersen) (G87) Dik- lon, a girl, Mia Elizabeth Rac, Feb. 10, 2002, Salem, Ore.

DEATHS
Ron Gregory (G63), July 19, 2002, Seattle.
Bobby Stoddard (G95), May 1, 2002, Salem, Ore.
Garrett Kneen (G95), April 23, 2002, Portland.
Laura (Goddard) (G00), Sept. 25, 2002, Portland.

Key
† Traditional graduate
§ Traditional/engaged graduate
EPS Department of Educational Studies graduate (MTHS, MTHS MA)
GFSE Graduate student
Post-Doctoral psychology graduate
MA Master of arts in teaching graduate
MA Master of business administration graduate
MA Master of arts graduate
MED Master of education graduate

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The Healing Gift of Listening
Throughout the world, George Fox community members use listening to comfort trauma victims

“A Path of Tragedy”
A George Fox professor and nine graduate students help a California community begin to heal after a runaway vehicle kills one and injures more than a dozen at a church health fair.

It was intended to be a do-good, feel-good weekend service trip for George Fox Professor Clark Campbell and nine doctor of psychology students researching rural mental health. The group drove 315 miles from Newberg to Crescent City, Calif., to assist at a church-sponsored health fair Sept. 14-15. They planned to provide brochures and seminars on anger management, self-esteem, depression, communication skills, and parenting tips.

But just minutes after hundreds of people began receiving free food, free haircuts and medical and dental screenings, a 2001 Blazer — with engine revving — raced through the parking lot and food court. It rammed cars, children, parents, tents, and tables and slammed into the church building.

Chains erupted. “It was like a riot,” says Campbell, director of clinical training in the doctoral program.

“There was panic. A lot of mothers and fathers were screaming. ‘Where are my kids?’” says Steve Chandler, pastor of Cornerstone Assembly of God. “Others were screaming that their son or daughter had been hit.”

Immediately the George Fox team jumped in, says Chandler. “They began doing what they could for the victims. Praying, encouraging them. Helping them stay calm.”

A 46-year-old woman attending the health fair died. One man had a seizure. A local newspaper reported that 21 were injured. The 85-year-old woman driving the Blazer had been hit.

“Immediately the George Fox team jumped in,” says Chandler. “They began doing what they could for the victims. Praying, encouraging them. Helping them stay calm.”

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“We did what therapy is all about,” says Lee Kearsn, a second-year student from Russell, Ky. “It’s healthy to let people share and let them know there could be some effects, such as having trouble sleeping, nightmares, a decreased appetite, and recurring images of the event. We let them know this was normal, and when it happens they should feel free to share that with someone. Each time you share it, you can minimize the power it has on you.”

“The students spent several hours Saturday working with witnesses. They also helped clean up the accident scene. Sunday morning the church was packed. Several had never been to church before. The congregation was broken into groups for crisis debriefing,” Campbell said as they returned to Newberg.

“Driving down, I wasn’t sure how much help we were going to be. Leavin’ this place, I know we were desperately needed.” — Rob Felton

Reliving Sept. 11
“When trauma anniversaries come along, some people — because of how trauma memory is stored in the brain — feel the same intensity as they did originally,” says Karin Jordan, director of the graduate counseling program at George Fox. To help people at the Manhattan campus of Nazarene College through the anniversary of the terrorist attacks, Jordan returned to New York for the Tuesday service. She provided individual counseling, workshops on trauma recovery, and skills and support employees to process their trauma. “It was a day of many emotions,” she says. “But there was also a sense of unity, and for many there was a renewal of faith and hope that there is light after the darkness.”

Bell spoke to the congregation.

The George Fox group was thanked at the service. “There was a very loud applause and much appreciation for the team and the love and concern they had shared for us,” says Chandler. “They have our deepest heartfelt gratitude.”

“I was pleased how well our students responded,” says Campbell. “They just rose to the occasion. They functioned really well. It was a practical application of what our program is about. We train our students to address both psychological and spiritual issues. They were able to put into practice issues we address academically but don’t always have the opportunity to address practically.”

Kearsn repeats the words one of the students said as they returned to Newberg. “Driving down, I wasn’t sure how much help we were going to be. Leaving this place, I know we were desperately needed.”

— Rob Felton

Teaching Leaders to Listen
George Fox professors and alumni encourage healing by offering training in conflict resolution and listening skills to church leaders in Africa and the Middle East

If you made a list of the world’s regions with the most conflict and suffering per square mile, the West Bank in Israel would rank near the top. Central Africa might be even higher.

Both are places where people carry huge burdens of anger and pain.

A psychological study released in July showed that 70 percent of Palestinian children in the West Bank are suffering from post-traumatic stress disorder because of the waves of attacks and reprisals. They suffer from nightmares, clinging, declining academic performance, bed-wetting, loss of appetite, and rebellious behavior.

“Anger is a normal reaction to significant losses,” says Rand Michael (center), who leads the English-speaking branch of the Burundian Friends Church in Gitega.

Burundi, a country the size of West Virginia, holds 8 million people. In the last 20 years, it’s been in a civil war. About 200,000 people have been killed.

“Sixty percent of our children have been traumatized. We need someone to hear them,” Niyonzima says.

“Burundian parents shield children from troubles. It leaves an indelible memory,” says Paschal Niyonzima, a2002 graduate of the George Fox Graduate Department of Counseling.

...and we don’t have the funding,” the pastor said to the congregation.

“There was panic. A lot of mothers and fathers were screaming. ‘Where are my kids?’” says Steve Chandler, pastor of Cornerstone Assembly of God. “Others were screaming that their son or daughter had been hit.”

“We did what therapy is all about,” says Lee Kearsn, a second-year student from Russell, Ky. “It’s healthy to let people share and let them know there could be some effects, such as having trouble sleeping, nightmares, a decreased appetite, and recurring images of the event. We let them know this was normal, and when it happens they should feel free to share that with someone. Each time you share it, you can minimize the power it has on you.”

“The students spent several hours Saturday working with witnesses. They also helped clean up the accident scene. Sunday morning the church was packed. Several had never been to church before. The congregation was broken into groups for crisis debriefing,” Campbell said as they returned to Newberg.

“Driving down, I wasn’t sure how much help we were going to be. Leaving this place, I know we were desperately needed.” — Rob Felton

Reliving Sept. 11

“When trauma anniversaries come along, some people — because of how trauma memory is stored in the brain — feel the same intensity as they did originally,” says Karin Jordan, director of the graduate counseling program at George Fox. To help people at the Manhattan campus of Nazarene College through the anniversary of the terrorist attacks, Jordan returned to New York for the Tuesday service. She provided individual counseling, workshops on trauma recovery, and skills and support employees to process their trauma. “It was a day of many emotions,” she says. “But there was also a sense of unity, and for many there was a renewal of faith and hope that there is light after the darkness.”

Bell spoke to the congregation.

The George Fox group was thanked at the service. “There was a very loud applause and much appreciation for the team and the love and concern they had shared for us,” says Chandler. “They have our deepest heartfelt gratitude.”

“I was pleased how well our students responded,” says Campbell. “They just rose to the occasion. They functioned really well. It was a practical application of what our program is about. We train our students to address both psychological and spiritual issues. They were able to put into practice issues we address academically but don’t always have the opportunity to address practically.”

Kearsn repeats the words one of the students said as they returned to Newberg. “Driving down, I wasn’t sure how much help we were going to be. Leaving this place, I know we were desperately needed.”

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Teaching Leaders to Listen
George Fox professors and alumni encourage healing by offering training in conflict resolution and listening skills to church leaders in Africa and the Middle East

If you made a list of the world’s regions with the most conflict and suffering per square mile, the West Bank in Israel would rank near the top. Central Africa might be even higher.

Both are places where people carry huge burdens of anger and pain.

A psychological study released in July showed that 70 percent of Palestinian children in the West Bank are suffering from post-traumatic stress disorder because of the waves of attacks and reprisals. They suffer from nightmares, clinging, declining academic performance, bed-wetting, loss of appetite, and rebellious behavior.

“Anger is a normal reaction to significant losses,” says Rand Michael (center), who leads the English-speaking branch of the Burundian Friends Church in Gitega.

Burundi, a country the size of West Virginia, holds 8 million people. In the last 20 years, it’s been in a civil war. About 200,000 people have been killed.

“Sixty percent of our children have been traumatized. We need someone to hear them,” Niyonzima says.

“Burundian parents shield children from troubles. It leaves an indelible memory,” says Paschal Niyonzima, a2002 graduate of the George Fox Graduate Department of Counseling.

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