

The magazine of George Fox University | SUMMER 2021

# George Fox JOURNAL



## MY *Be Known* STORY

Joanna and Jamie Zuckerman go deep with swim coach Natalie Turner

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OUR VISION

To be the Christian university of choice known for empowering students to achieve exceptional life outcomes.

OUR VALUES

- Students First
- Christ in Everything
- Innovation to Improve Outcomes

Cover photo by Chris Low

# George Fox Journal

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## FROM THE PRESIDENT

### To Be Known

We live in a world where the desire of most of us is to be known. Certainly, with the advent of the internet and social media, the process of being known is different than at any other point in human history. Outside influences have always provided context for our lives, but increasingly individuals or groups that we do not really know affect how we see ourselves and form our identities. Indeed, the number of followers a person has on Facebook, Twitter or Instagram serve as “social clout” in an effort to gain a stake in the world and be known.



For most of my more than 20 years at George Fox University we have made a promise to students that they will Be Known – personally, academically and spiritually. I think some people believe we are just playing into the societal impulse to provide another space for the unique individual expression of a person. In reality, we are not interested in creating an opportunity for students to gain notoriety, but to gain a sense of who they are deep within, to understand their gifts, and to help them chart a path that is God-informed and designed.

Bryant Quinn, a former student-athlete and English major at George Fox, described his experience with professor Bill Jolliff this way: “Bill has always treated me as a person. Not just as an athlete who is taking a class, or a student who plays a sport, but holistically as a human created in the image of God who possesses unique gifts and talents. Whether those gifts applied directly in the classroom or not, I have always felt welcomed and like my perspective and thoughts mattered in my interactions with Bill.”

For faculty and staff at George Fox, relationships matter because they matter to God. We are called to educate students here, but we are also called to make disciples. Discipleship is only possible when students are genuinely known.

In reflecting on our relationship with God, C.S. Lewis noted: “We are always completely, and therefore equally, known to God. That is our destiny whether we like it or not. But though this knowledge never varies, the quality of our being known can. ... When we assent with all our will to be known, then we treat ourselves, in relation to God, not as things but as persons. We have unveiled. Not that any veil could have baffled his sight. The change is in us. The passive changes to the active. Instead of merely being known, we show, we tell, we offer ourselves to view.”

When we are known in this way, the encounter with God transforms us.

At George Fox, being known means that we offer ourselves to each other and ultimately to God. In so doing, we grow, transform and in small ways begin to reflect the kingdom of God. I hope you enjoy reading about some of the George Fox people who make the Be Known promise a key aspect of our community.

Robin Baker  
President

## Nursing Students Aid in Local Vaccination Efforts

George Fox nursing students put their skills to good use during the spring semester, volunteering their time and expertise to help vaccinate hundreds of Oregonians at Providence Newberg Medical Center and the Marion County mass vaccination clinic in Salem.

“Helping at any of the mass vaccination clinics is an amazing opportunity that goes far beyond technical skills,” says College of Nursing Dean Pam Fifer. “Students were able to experience being a part of an interprofessional healthcare team, working with a diverse group of patients, developing their communication and charting skills, providing patient education, demonstrating care and compassion, and developing some level of understanding of the infrastructure needed to provide such a mass vaccination clinic during a pandemic.”

Beyond clinical experience, the activity allowed students to act on their heart for service, notes Clinical Coordinator Caroline Wildhaber. “Every one of the students that I have spoken with following their shift only had wonderful things to say of the experience. Not many of us have the opportunity to give back during a time such as this, and students knew that the time spent volunteering would bring so much peace and relief to our patients.”



## University Announces Plans for Occupational Therapy Program

Following the successful launch of the physician assistant program in January 2021, another masters-level healthcare offering is set to begin in the fall of 2024 at George Fox: occupational therapy.

The decision to add the program was a response to the growing need for healthcare professionals both regionally and nationally, with demand for occupational therapists expected to grow 16 percent through 2029, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

“This new program will address a critical need for the region, and we believe it will integrate well with existing undergraduate offerings to provide a new pathway toward health professions,” says university president Robin Baker. “Occupational therapy is a natural extension of our physical therapy and physician assistant graduate programs.”

In addition, at the undergraduate level, George Fox offers majors in kinesiology, biology and psychology, providing the foundation for those who seek to pursue a graduate degree in occupational therapy.

In the past two decades, George Fox has added nursing (2004), physical therapy (2012) and a physician assistant program as the demand for healthcare professionals has steadily increased in the region, particularly in rural areas. Each offering falls in line with the university’s mission, which strives to produce graduates who “serve with passion.”



## Toole Claims School’s First Individual National Golf Title

George Fox has been a contender at the NCAA Division III Women’s Golf Championships for years, but until this spring the program had yet to claim a team or individual national title.

That all changed in mid-May, when Makensie Toole, a freshman from Australia, earned individual national champion honors at this year’s tournament, contested at the Forest Akers West Golf Course in East Lansing, Michigan. Toole led the field of 131 players from wire-to-wire, shooting a four-day total of 291 to finish three over par and a whopping 14 strokes ahead of the runner-up. Her accomplishment helped the Bruins finish third overall as a team.

“I am just so proud of this team,” coach Mary Jo McCloskey said. “After all the challenges and restrictions that came with COVID, to come here and compete like we did is incredible. And I’m so thrilled for Makensie as well – our first national champion.”

Toole’s individual title is the first for an NCAA George Fox athlete outside of track and field. Her play landed her on both the Women’s Golf Coaches Association’s All-West Region and All-American teams. Joining her on the All-American First Team was teammate Alison Takimiya, marking the first time two Bruins achieved that honor in the same season.

Previously, the pair helped George Fox win a Northwest Conference title by 83 strokes – their 11th straight league championship.



## Bruins Win Six Conference Titles, Land 14 All-American Honors

COVID-19 impacted college sports across the country this year, canceling games, and in some cases, entire seasons. But once the Bruins got back on the field of play this spring they couldn’t be stopped, winning six of the nine Northwest Conference races they competed in and earning 14 individual All-American honors.

Leading the way on the All-American front was the **track and field program**, which boasted eight such athletes and two national runner-up finishes. The Bruins also swept the NWC Championships in both the men’s and women’s competitions.

Track All-Americans included the 4x100-meter squad of Ashley Korb-Doty, Kennedy Taube, Emily Rohrer and Sydney Radigan, who set a school record with a 46.35-second time at the NCAA Division III Track and Field

Championships to place second overall. Also running second at nationals was Bethany Gingerich, whose 1:00.1 time in the 400 hurdles also established a school record.

Joining them as All-Americans were teammates Berkley Hill (decathlon), Tayler Phillips (decathlon) and Christine Strickland (javelin), all of whom posted top-eight national finishes to earn the honor.

Meanwhile, in **men’s tennis**, the doubles team of Will Leach and Luke Lemaitre advanced to the semifinals of the NCAA Individual Championships – a program first – and earned All-American honors. As a team, the Bruins reached the Elite Eight of the NCAA Tournament for the first time in program history after winning their first-ever NWC title.

In **lacrosse**, George Fox continued its

dominance of conference play by going 10-0 in league to win a fifth straight NWC title and advance to the NCAA Division III tournament, where the Bruins dropped a first-round game to Illinois Wesleyan by a tight 13-12 score. With their perfect NWC showing, the Bruins extended their conference win streak to 39, dating back to the 2016 season.

Finally, in **softball**, the Bruins’ Claire Fountain and Savannah Vargas were both named to the National Fastpitch Coaches Association’s All-American First-Team roster, marking the first time two Bruins landed that honor in the same season. The duo helped George Fox go 23-5 in conference play and win the program’s first-ever outright NWC title.



## Grant Funds Summer Mentorship Program for Latinx High School Seniors



A \$300,000 grant from the Teagle Foundation is funding the university's sponsorship of a seminar program that will allow intellectually curious, low-income high school students from Woodburn, Oregon, to live on campus and take a pre-college course this summer.

The Liberation Scholars program, funded through the Teagle Foundation's Knowledge for Freedom initiative, will bring about 15 students to George Fox's Newberg campus for two weeks in July for a fully funded two-week seminar covering great works of philosophy, literature and history. Classes will employ a text-, writing- and discussion-based format focused on essential aspects of freedom and citizenship, and will highlight a number of Spanish-language

authors – from Sor Juana to Sandra Cisneros – in a great books curriculum.

Specifically designed for Latinx seniors-to-be at Woodburn High School, the summer sessions will be followed by academic-year meetings in which a team of George Fox faculty, staff and students will mentor participants throughout the college application process, seeking to increase the scholars' college readiness and appreciation for the humanities. To that end, four bilingual George Fox seniors have been hired to serve as mentors for the program.

Program director and grant administrator Heather Ohaneson, an associate professor of philosophy and religious studies, was inspired to launch the program after witnessing the suc-

cess of a similar initiative as a student advisor at Columbia University.

"I had the privilege of working as a graduate student with the Teagle Foundation's Freedom and Citizenship program at Columbia University, so I know firsthand how personally and civically transformative it is to pursue big questions – like 'What does it mean to be free?' – around a shared seminar table," she says.

All of the students' expenses – including tuition, room and board, books, and programming (guest speakers and extracurricular events) – are covered by Teagle Foundation funding. The grant, to be distributed over three years, will fund the program annually through 2023.

## Esports Comes to George Fox



One of the fastest-growing sports in the world isn't played on a field or court. It is played on a computer, and will be added to the university's undergraduate program offerings this fall.

Esports are team-based video game competitions watched in person or online by spectators on streaming services like Twitch. More than 200 varsity esports programs competed in the U.S. last year, up from 130 the year prior, making it the fastest-growing college sport in the nation.

"The growth of esports over the past two to three years has been staggering, and the question is no longer if esports should be added at George Fox University, but rather when would we add it," says Athletic Director Adam Puckett. "We are excited to be on the

forefront of bringing esports to the Northwest Conference."

Plans include both intramural and intercollegiate programs, complete with a 1,200-square-foot arena in Wheeler Sports Center dedicated to the sport. And, just like traditional athletic teams, participants will don uniforms and interact with teammates and a head coach as the games unfold.

George Fox is the first institution in the Northwest Conference to offer esports. The team will compete against both regional and national schools in the National Association of Collegiate Esports (NACE), an organization that includes more than 170 member institutions.

## U.S. News & World Report Names George Fox one of America's Best Colleges

### Rankings Highlights:

# No. 227

"Best National Universities" (top-ranked Christian university in Oregon)

# No. 60

"Best Undergraduate Engineering Programs"

# No. 61

"Best Undergraduate Teaching"

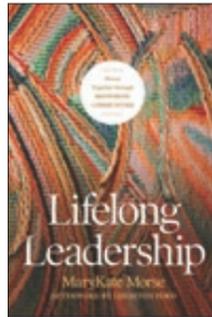
# No. 113

"Top Performers in Social Mobility" (schools that enroll and graduate large proportions of "economically disadvantaged" students)

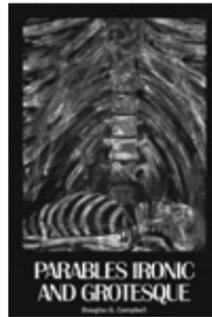
# 33rd year

It's the  
George Fox has been included on the list.

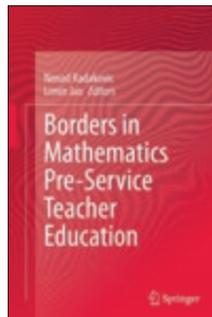
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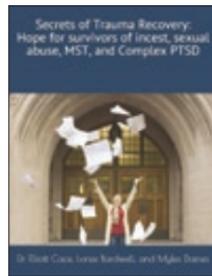
**MaryKate Morse** (seminary) published a book, *Lifelong Leadership: Woven Together through Mentoring Communities* (NavPress), last spring. In it, she offers a comprehensive mentoring community model to support and develop Christian leaders for the lifetime of their calling. This communal and formational approach to mentoring leaders was field-tested and proven to be effective in diverse cultures and faith contexts.



**Douglas G. Campbell** (art and design professor emeritus) last winter published the book *Parables Ironic and Grotesque* (Oblique Voices Press), written in the years prior to his stroke in 2012. In it, he invites the reader to ponder the common follies of his fellow man, highlighting such weaknesses as pride, selfishness, fear and greed, and pointing out the further foolishness of ignoring such shortcomings.



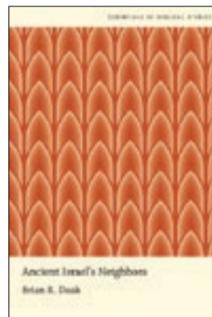
**Nicole Enzinger** (education) coauthored a chapter, “Mathematics Education Communities: Crossing Virtual Boundaries,” in the book *Borders in Mathematics Pre-Service Teacher Education* (Springer), released last summer. The chapter explores mathematics education communities within and across social media with a communities of practice lens and shares implications for teacher preparation.



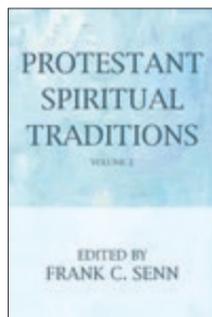
**Carl Lloyd** (Adult Degree Program) independently published a book last fall, *Secrets of Trauma Recovery*, under an alias (Dr. Elliott Cace), with alumni Loree Bardwell and Myles Daines. He also collaborated with Amy Maas to publish *Living Pictures of the Bible* (Empowering Systems Press) in January.



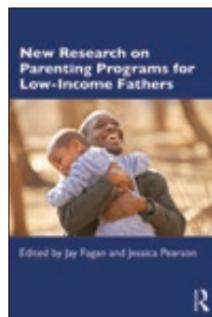
**Paul Anderson** (theology) last summer edited and published the life stories of his mother and father, *These Things I Remember: Live Stories from the Journey* (CreateSpace Independent Publishing Platform), by Alvin L. Anderson, and *Checkpoints Along Life's Journey: My Life in Eight Developing Countries* (Independently Published), by Lucy Marva Clark Anderson.



**Brian Doak** (theology) published the book *Ancient Israel's Neighbors* (Oxford University Press) this spring. In it, he provides an accessible guide to the nations immediately surrounding Israel during the biblical period: Canaan, Moab, Edom, Ammon, Philistia, Phoenicia and Aram. Each chapter provides a review of archaeology, writing, art, culture and history, discussing not only the biblical presentation of each neighbor but also what we know about the neighbor outside of the Bible from the ancient world.



**Cherice Bock** (seminary) published the book chapters “Quaker Spirituality” in *Protestant Spiritual Traditions, Vol. 2* (Wipf & Stock) and “Quaker Pneumatology” in *T&T Clark Handbook of Pneumatology* (Bloomsbury) last fall.



**Young-IL Kim** (social work) published a book chapter, with Sung Joon Jang and Brenda Oyer, in *New Research on Parenting Programs for Low-Income Fathers* (Routledge). The chapter, entitled “Factors Associated with Fatherhood Program Effectiveness: A Randomized Controlled Trial of TYRO Dads,” describes results of a research study funded by the Fatherhood Research and Practice Network.

## Recent Recognition

In February, the university’s theatre department brought home seven regional awards from the Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival, including two national runner-ups. The following students were honored:

- **Allie Schluchter**: Costume Design Regional Winner for *Passage* (national runner-up)
- **Hope Bellinger**: Sound Design Regional Winner for *Passage* (national runner-up); Jane Childs Stagecraft Institute of Las Vegas Award
- **Johnathan Billington**: Light Design Honorable Mention for *Silent Sky*; Jane Childs Stagecraft Institute of Las Vegas Award; Design Technology Management: VectorWorks Award
- **Elyse Bradford**: Cal Arts Summer Acting Scholarship

Advised by **Corban Harwood** (mathematics), 2020 Richter scholar **Ethan Jensen** (mathematics & computer science double major) won first prize for his presentation of their paper, “Existence and Shape of Numerical Oscillations in Solving Parabolic PDEs,” at the Northwest Undergraduate Mathematics Symposium in April.

**Randy Woodley** (seminary) and wife Edith in April were named the 2021 Ecumenists of the Year by Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon, a statewide



The spring theatre production *Parables* took place at various locations throughout campus, including Hess Creek Canyon.

association of faith partners that work together to improve the lives of Oregonians. They are the first married couple to receive the award.

**Bryan Boyd** (theatre) won Broadway World’s 2020 Portland Regional Award for “Set Design of the Decade” in January. The recognition was for his work on *Mamma Mia* with the Broadway Rose Theatre Company in 2018.

**Teresa Arnold** (biology and chemistry) was named the 2020 Manager of the Year last summer. The award, given by the National Association of Scientific Materials Managers,

recognizes those with a lengthy record of achievement in distinguished operational, educational or administrative activities.

**Rebecca Hernandez** (academic affairs) was selected by Oregon State University as a 2020 Alumni Fellow in partnership with the university’s College of Public Health and Human Sciences. The Alumni Fellows program recognizes eminent alumni who have achieved success in their careers or have shown great accomplishment in their work within the community.

# Homecoming is Back!

## October 8-9

- Reconnect with old friends
- Tour campus
- Enjoy a tailgate party and football game

[alumni.georgefox.edu](http://alumni.georgefox.edu)



A unique scene played out at George Fox in early May: A line of vehicles, packed with celebrating graduates and their families, stretched from one side of campus to the other. Along the way, what felt like a parade route lined with cheering faculty, staff and alumni, a place to pause for family photos, and, of course, the big moment when grads received their diploma from President Robin Baker. For students who had endured more than a year of pandemic restrictions, this was a time to celebrate – to look back on obstacles overcome and forward to future dreams – all in a safe and socially distanced setting, surrounded by family. Joining the celebration were a number of 2020 graduates who finally got their chance to experience an in-person ceremony.

Someday COVID-19 will become nothing more than a distant memory. But it's fair to say these graduates will never forget a commencement ceremony unlike any other.

# CELEBRATING THE *Class of* 2021



*Drive-Through*  
GRADUATION

CELEBRATING THE  
*Class of 2021*



# Future Career: Superhero

**Joseph Espero plans to use his doctor of physical therapy degree to make a difference in the lives of kids**

By Kimberly Felton



**“You know how cool it would be for a kid to look up and see the Black Panther walk in? They get to say, ‘That’s who I’m doing exercises with today.’”**

Joseph Espero wants to be the Black Panther of pediatric physical therapy, superhero costume and all.

Espero is currently enrolled in the university’s Doctor of Physical Therapy program after completing his undergraduate degree in exercise science in 2020. His goal is to help children dealing with cancer or neurodevelopmental issues – those not living the life every kid should.

Often these young patients are intimidated by the professional adults around them and tired of the pain. With his own perfectly healthy baby at home, Espero isn’t sure he’ll be able to handle the emotional side of the job, but he sure wants to try.

Through his future vocation, Espero plans to fulfill his calling: to give young children – and particularly kids of color – a voice.

“I have a desire to be a PT, especially for the under-spoken population,” he says. In the same way that actor Chadwick Boseman, as the Black Panther, changed how people of color see themselves, Espero wants to change how kids in therapy view themselves.

“I want to show kids of color this is what we look like. Not all providers do the same thing, and you don’t have to be like everyone out there.”

Espero is concerned about kids without financial resources, too. “I know what it’s like to not have much,” he says. “Kids with the Oregon Health Plan don’t have a choice in providers, who see whatever person is on their schedule.” Just as some kids can’t learn from certain teachers, they can struggle with medical providers, too. “It’s not because the child is incompetent; it’s because the provider is not willing to adapt their way of teaching.”

Espero wants to be a provider who is willing to adapt for a child and encourage them to say what they’re feeling.

“You see these doctors and you’re intimidated because they know 10 times more than you do,” he says. “But doctors don’t know what it’s like to be in your position. They don’t have that perspective.”

An elderly woman at a nursing home in Beaverton, Oregon, first piqued Espero’s interest in physical therapy during high school. A stroke had weakened one side of her body. Espero met her as he shadowed a physical therapist working with her.

“I remember seeing her almost daily, developing a rapport with her, seeing her progress and what the PT did with her,” he says. “She was able to regain left hand mobility – something so small but so essential. I saw this look of disbelief cross her face.

That was amazing to me. You can have an impact on people’s lives. You don’t see them just once; you see it through. That’s what’s really special to me.”

Espero had his own experience with a physical therapist several years ago, after herniating a couple of disks in his back and losing sensory and motor function in his left foot. “She saw me once and gave me outdated exercises and information,” he recalls of his experience.

He wants to be a different kind of PT – someone who continues to read the latest research in order to provide the best care. “If you don’t do that, you get left behind and have medical care that doesn’t do anything.”

The best doctors, Espero believes, combine their knowledge with humility and a determination to continually learn. “It’s honestly not by my hands; it’s by the patient’s hands. They have all the tools to get better; I’m just the mediator.”

And while he’s helping their bodies, Espero hopes he’s opening their minds to life’s possibilities.

“The most important thing for me is that my child wants to be something of her own. I hope I give her the strength and the knowledge that she can do anything – doctor, politics – if she works hard enough. And my impact goes even further for the children I see, so they can do the same thing. It’s my vocation. That’s why God put me here – so I can spread hope to other people.”



*Espero dressed up as the Black Panther for Halloween.*



*Student Spotlight* Get to know junior engineering major Tiana Ringer

**Faith. Grit. Joy.** Do any three words better describe the George Fox student experience over the past year? As COVID raged across the country, students learned to trust God like never before. To dig deep, overcome fears and keep moving forward. To find moments of thankfulness and joy – in academic accomplishments, in community despite physical distance, in discovering who they were meant to be.

The concept became a billboard series that can be seen on major thoroughfares throughout the Portland metro area. One such billboard features junior engineering major Tiana Ringer – the determined smile on her face expressing joy as she works through a difficult assignment in pursuit of her dream career. We asked Tiana how she has experienced faith, grit and joy during her time at George Fox.

**Q: Merriam-Webster defines “grit” as “unyielding courage in the face of hardship.” Can you think of a time when you’ve had to demonstrate grit?**

A: I am not naturally gifted in math, physics and other engineering concepts. When I chose engineering as my future career, I knew I wasn’t taking an easy path. But I love engineering, so if it means working harder than everyone else, that is what I will do.

During my first two years of college, I wanted to give up and quit numerous times. Despite feeling this way, I chose daily to keep moving forward, one small step at a time. I have had to adapt my course schedule frequently and take summer classes in order to stay on the engineering track, but I am doing my best and that is something to be proud of.

**Q: Tell us about a time when you experienced joy.**

A: The first core project that you create as an engineer at Fox is an oscillating air engine. The project is designed and manufactured individually with minimal instruction, but, I was mentored and encouraged to make mistakes and learn from them.

I spent the entire semester working on my engine and will never forget the night when I got it to run for the first time. I spent several long hours in the Maker Hub machine shop struggling with it, and the second it started running I was overwhelmed with joy and immediately started crying happy and relieved tears. My hard work led to an engine design unlike any other and I won first place in the competition.

**Q: How have you grown in your faith at George Fox?**

A: Fox has been a safe place for me to ask questions and seek answers about who God is and how to be a Christ-follower on a deeper level. I have had numerous deep discussions with friends late at night in dorm lobbies, been challenged to reflect on difficult questions at EYS (Engineering Your Soul) meetings, and had conversations with God in the canyon.

My professors are great examples of operating in faithfulness, obedience and grace. I have learned how to read the Bible with different lenses to gain a deeper understanding of God’s Word. I am blessed to be at a college that helps cultivate my faith. I feel like I have found a home at Fox through the people that build me up, support me and love me.



## The Cutting Edge

Everyone remembers dissecting a frog in their high school biology class. Times certainly have changed! Today, students in the university’s new physician assistant (PA) program use an Anatomage Table to simulate cadaver dissection.

Known as the most technologically advanced 3D anatomy visualization and virtual dissection tool available, the Anatomage Table is being adopted by many of the world’s leading medical schools and institutions. And while it costs about as much as a luxury sports car, the results are priceless.

“This technology and approach allow us to teach human anatomy that is real, reusable and accurate without the mess, expense and difficulties of cadaveric dissection,” explains program director Curt Stilp.

For PA students, it’s a great time to pursue this master of medical science degree – and not just for the cutting-edge tech they have access to at the university’s new Medical Sciences Building. Physician assistant ranked No. 1 among all career paths in the 2021 U.S. News Best Jobs Rankings.

# Professor Profile

Get to know Assistant Professor of Christian Ministries **Sunggu Yang**

Author,  
Arts & Preaching:  
An Aesthetic Homiletic  
for the 21st Century  
(2021)

PhD, Vanderbilt University  
STM, Yale Divinity School  
MDiv, Emory University  
BA, Yonsei University

Ordained by the  
Presbyterian Church

**Q: What inspired you to teach?**

A: Whenever I teach, I feel my God-given purpose for life is being fulfilled, which makes me really happy and satisfied. Especially, I feel so fulfilled when I see my students grow in their faith and take compassionate action for the world.

**Q: Tell us about current research, a paper, book or other project you are especially passionate about.**

A: I'm currently writing a book on the topic of arts and Christian speaking (preaching). When the book is published next year, I plan to use it for one of my courses at George Fox, Arts and Speaking, as the main textbook. The shared goal of the book and the course is to help students develop their unique artistic-communicative skills in sharing the good news of Christ.

**Q: What is your biggest hope for George Fox students?**

A: I pray for students' growth in their faith and compassionate action for the world they will serve after graduation. The world, as we know, is broken and hungry in many ways – spiritually, emotionally, economically, politically. I hope that George Fox students, with their own vocations and skills, will be faithful civil servants who will care for and heal that brokenness and hunger of the world. Of course, I believe studying hard and researching diligently at Fox is one of the best preparations for that sacred healing work!

# Uncivil Discourse: How to Make the Most of Conflict

By Ron Mock, Professor of Politics Emeritus  
Director, George Fox Civility Project



ILLUSTRATION: DARRYL BROWN

**G**od did not design us to agree. It would have been simple: make us all clones or automatons. Or, as Satan tempted Jesus, provide everyone with bread made from stones, unite the world under one divine king, and remove all spiritual doubt.

Instead, God loves us, so he designed us to disagree. We are born with different genes, in different cultures, into different families. None of this is accidental. It's part of the providential love God poured into creation and into each specially created person. Disagreement makes us human. A loving God chose this path, so it must be good for each of us, and especially for all of us.

Humans, as usual, tend to spoil this gift. Modern technology mixes with our fallen natures to create the current pandemic of toxic disagreement. American political views are as polarized as they have been since the Civil War. Relations across party lines have been fraying for two generations. Members of Congress not only vote less often with members of the opposite party, they are less likely to have social contacts across party lines. And we the people are copying these trends in our personal lives.

Harsh division spreads even to our churches and families. Martin Luther King, Jr. once observed that America was most segregated on Sunday mornings. Today, some studies show politics is more likely than race or religion to divide families and congregations.

The problem isn't that we disagree. The problem is how we disagree.

I know all this, and yet I still tend to respond to disagreement as if it's a threat. And while sometimes disagreement comes with threats, the disagreement itself is not a threat. In God's intent, it's an invitation to improve our navigation toward his truth. You, from where you stand, see truth over there. From where I stand I see truth over here. Each of us should be aware by now we are not perfect. We are prone to errors in our grasp of truth. We should be eager to navigate better together.

I am not saying every pair of disagreeing people is equally in tune with God's truth. Some errors are clearly greater than others, and a few are extremely damaging. I must speak truth as clearly as I can so it can be heard by those who disagree. But few minds are changed with arrogance, or name calling, or dehumanization and dismissal. And even the worst hater has something to teach me – about hatred, at least, and possibly about something true I never considered.

**In God's intent, disagreement is an invitation to improve our navigation toward his truth.**

**With that in mind, here are seven suggestions for making the most out of conflict:**

**1. Recognize the disagreement as a gift**

"That woman over there thinks I am wrong. She is serious. Woo-hoo! God is giving me another present! God intended for me to encounter her and for us to learn from the encounter. I wonder what's in the present! I wonder what we are going to learn!"

**2. Listen until the other knows you've heard them**

Listen until you can summarize the other's position back to them and they can say, "Yes, that's what I mean."

**3. Listen empathetically**

Listen until you can understand why the other's position is so precious. Do they see it as the key to a hopeful future? Are they responding to some key experience? Are they defending their family, values or identity?

**4. Find where you connect**

Is there some common overarching value important to both of you? Or maybe some shared opinion, or a project you both wish could be completed – even if it's just getting the dishes done? Or maybe you share an interest: baseball, botany or barbecue. Finding these commonalities gives you a fixed point from which to understand more clearly where (and why) you differ.

**5. Create a list of areas where you agree.** Then create a list of disagreements. Be as specific as possible.

**6. See if you can get to the same side of the table on something**

Perhaps you can't agree on whether America was founded in 1619 with the first slaves, or in 1776 with the Declaration of Independence. Can you still agree to work together on how schools can be more welcoming to all kids in the community? I bet you can agree on 90 percent of what should be done.

**7. See if you can agree to be a team**

Together, you can help your family, church or park board build its capacity to disagree without breaking trust or destroying relationships.

By comparing our understandings – listening to God's voice in each other – we can adjust for the limits on our own perspective and navigate a truer course toward the truth God has for us.



**What is the Civility Project?** The George Fox Civility Project was launched in the 2020-21 academic year. It grew out of concern about polarization and alienation in our political culture at every level (national, state and local) and even beyond the political realm. The project sponsors events, publishes a weekly e-newsletter, and maintains a website with information about civility. Next year, the group will help citizens hold political leaders accountable for their civility during the 2022 elections.

Visit [georgefox.edu/civility](http://georgefox.edu/civility) to learn more.



# Focus on Giving: Bruin Community Pantry

Sustained by donations from the community, this on-campus food pantry ensures no George Fox student ever goes hungry

By Andrew Shaughnessy

**S**aturn Macias comes from a big family: There's his dad, his mom, two sisters, two brothers and himself – seven in all. With so many mouths to feed, he was only able to attend George Fox with the help of scholarships. But when his dad's income dropped significantly in 2019, money started to get tight. Then, in the midst of the pandemic, Macias' family relocated from California to Dayton, Oregon, and paying the bills got even harder.

That's when he found out about Bruin Community Pantry, an Office of Student Life initiative that includes a food pantry where students can get groceries at no cost. Soon, Macias was able to bring home food for his whole family, taking some of the load and stress off of his parents during a difficult season.

"It felt really good to be able to help my family," Macias says. "It was really a blessing to have the pantry there during that time."

One week into the spring 2021 semester, Macias' grandmother passed away. Quite suddenly, his family had to temporarily relocate to California while Macias stayed behind in Oregon to continue his classes. Thanks to Bruin Community Pantry, he was able to feed himself while they were gone.



Saturn Macias

"My parents didn't have to stress about me going hungry," Macias says. "I told them, 'I have access to the pantry. Don't worry about me.'"

University students across the U.S. are increasingly going hungry while in school, with many finding it difficult to pay for both healthy food and their education. According to a 2019 study conducted by Temple University's Hope Center, 45 percent of the 86,000 college students surveyed from across the country reported experiencing food insecurity over the previous 30 days. The researchers defined food insecurity as "the limited or uncertain availability of nutritionally adequate and safe food, or the ability to acquire such food in a socially acceptable manner."

In a recent study at George Fox, 19 percent of participating students indicated that they were experiencing a temporary hardship that impacted their ability to have enough to eat. Meanwhile, 13 percent of George Fox students said they were regularly unable to afford sufficient food.

In short, Macias' situation is far from uncommon. Food insecurity is not an issue happening in distant countries or at dysfunctional universities. It's happening everywhere, including at George Fox right here and now.



Already burdened with tuition payments, many students struggle to pay the basic costs of living. With little to no margin for error, unexpected medical bills or lost jobs can have disastrous effects with far-reaching consequences. When students are forced to choose between having enough to eat and continuing to follow their dreams, some choose to drop out of school. Others skip meals, go hungry or choose cheaper, less healthy options, all of which can have negative impacts on both health and academic performance.

"College students don't have a lot of money," Macias says. "Money is something that can bring huge amounts of stress on top of all the work you have to do in college. It definitely impacts students' work in the classroom. Having access to the community pantry takes away from that stress. It reduces the anxiety of having to worry about if you're going to have enough money for groceries for the next month."

Though primarily intended to address issues of student food insecurity, Bruin Community Pantry is open and available to all members of the George Fox community. Any student, regardless of need, is invited to take advantage of the pantry's stock of healthy food and grocery essentials. The hope

is that, since the pantry is available to everyone, there will be no stigma attached, and those students who are truly experiencing food insecurity will feel completely comfortable taking advantage of the program.

The pantry survives through donations of both food and money given by community members. The Office of Student Life hosts food drives periodically throughout the year, collecting non-perishable goods like canned food, rice and coffee, as well as frozen meat and vegetables, and household basics like shampoo, toilet paper and toothbrushes. Volunteers man the food bank, helping stock and distribute items to students as needed.

With the community pitching in to help, George Fox hopes to ensure that no student ever needs to choose between having enough to eat and continuing their education. For students like Saturn Macias, Bruin Community Pantry makes a world of difference.

"Having the pantry available has given me and my family relief and joy," Macias says. "Because of the pantry, I had enough food to eat. I'm super grateful."

Visit [giving.georgefox.edu](http://giving.georgefox.edu) to support Bruin Community Pantry.

**2021  
Spring Semester**

More than...

**2,100** people served

**2,400** pounds of food donated

**\$22,000** in monetary donations

from **95** individual donors

## *What does it mean to Be Known?*

I'll tell you my story. It was 2011 and I had barely set foot on campus since graduating 13 years prior. Hired to be the university's alumni magazine editor, I went about the process of reorienting myself to campus. Much of it looked the same; I did not. No longer a youthful college student, I was a grown man with thinning hair and an expanding waistline. All that is to say, it would have been entirely forgivable if a past acquaintance didn't recognize me.

But then I heard a familiar voice. "Hello Jeremy!" It was Ed Higgins, a dozen homegrown eggs in his hand, greeting me at my office door – almost certainly wearing the same jean jacket he had donned when teaching my creative writing class back in the late '90s.

"Surely Ed is the only one," I told myself. After all, he was my academic advisor. But then I ran into Bill Jolliff, Howard Macy, Craig Johnson. I had not seen these people in years, but each one recognized me, without hesitation – they knew my name.

I was blown away, but truth be told, it's a common story. You see, back when I was a student at George Fox we didn't call it "Be Known." We didn't call it anything at all. It just was. All these years later, this unique campus culture has been given a name, but it's still the same.

So, what does it mean to Be Known? Is it academic mentoring? Is it praying with a student when they are hurting? Is it inviting them to your home? Is it remembering their name more than a decade after your last class together? The truth is it's all of that and none of that, depending on who you are. The Be Known promise is about people, and each person is unique. It's about recognizing that uniqueness and allowing each individual to feel seen, heard and valued – not just for who they are, but for who God intends them to be.

Recently a student shared a Be Known story about biology professor Kathy Weiss, and so we set up a photo shoot with the two of them. The concept was simple: They would sit and talk, and we would take a few pictures. About half-way through, as I shouted out instructions to lean this way, look here, put your arm there, Kathy looked up and asked if we were finished yet. "You're interrupting our conversation!" she exclaimed, only half-joking. It was then that it hit me: Be Known is a great marketing slogan, but the truth behind it is even better.

### **Jeremy Lloyd**

Class of 1998  
Editor, *George Fox Journal*

# MY BE KNOWN STORY



Junior Gabriel  
Messing

Music professor  
Danielle Warner

# Diving Deep

Health setbacks, then a pandemic, derailed Joanna and Jamie Zuckerman's swim dreams – but rough waters only deepened their special bond with coach Natalie Turner

*By Kimberly Felton*



**COACH NATALIE TURNER** tracks all her swimmers' times at competitions. But at this particular moment, one swimmer was foremost in her mind. Joanna Zuckerman, then a junior, was racing for the first time since brain surgery.

Turner knew Joanna would not win this race or beat her previous time. She couldn't care less. What mattered was Joanna was back in the water. She was swimming again. Slower than before, but strong.

As Joanna glanced at the clock and climbed from the pool, dripping, Turner stood at her spot by the assistant coach, her grin stretching across the concrete deck to her very competitive and somewhat disappointed swimmer, tugging out a smile in return. As soon as Joanna reached her, Turner wrapped her in a hug.

"It was not the time I wanted," Joanna recalls, "but as I walked over to talk to Natalie, I couldn't help but smile, seeing the excited look on her face. She told me she was just so happy to see me racing again. That meet was special; it reminded me how much Natalie supports me and cares about my health and swimming career."

This was just the beginning, Turner knew. Joanna would get stronger; she would be fast again. Because that's just who she is. She and her twin sister, Jamie, had been competitive swimmers since age 7. Both had to overcome a debilitating condition that presented a clear but still-difficult choice: brain surgery or paralysis.

### J and Jo

Turner and the "Zucker twins," as everyone calls them, began together at George Fox in 2017. Turner was the newly hired swim coach, charged with the task of creating a team and building it into a competitive force.

Jamie and Joanna were freshmen, the promise of competitive swimming clinching the deal for them when they toured the university the year before. Literally the first two student-athletes to commit to the new Bruin swim team, the duo first spoke with Turner in the golf coach's office because she had yet to receive her own space.

The twins had goals. From age 10, Jamie planned to break a minute in the 100-yard butterfly. Joanna aimed to be a top-

eight finalist in the conference in both the 100 and 200 breaststroke events.

Freshman year, "J and Jo," as Turner dubbed them, helped build the team. Swim practices were open to all comers that "zero year," when the team formed and practiced but did not compete. The twins were the only ones with competitive club experience. "They were the fastest girls on the team, the ones everyone would watch to get an idea of what good technique looked like," Turner says. "They were the role models."

As a coach, Turner saw her athletes in the pool nearly every day. But she wanted to know them beyond that. The team gathered in large and small groups, sometimes at Turner's house, hanging out and playing with her dog. And team members were expected to schedule office visits with her every two weeks, just to talk.

"How people are doing mentally has a huge impact on how they do in the water, and she wanted to understand us," Joanna says. "I always looked forward to those meetings. I remember talking with her freshman year, being so excited for the team she was creating. She cared about each of us. She helped us see how far we'd already grown, and she was invested in how much more we could grow."

Turner remembers some of those freshman-year talks with J and Jo. "They're ..." she pauses and smiles, searching for the right word, "achievers."

Her grin broadens. "They didn't know they didn't need to spend 86 hours studying for a chemistry exam," she reminisces. Joanna laughs and says it couldn't have been more than 45 hours. Regardless, Turner encouraged a little more life/study balance.

But office talks took a troubling turn when electric sensations Jamie had noticed in her arm got worse. "You just need to go to the doctor," Turner told her. "Just see what they say." But the doctors said everything was normal.

The next semester, Turner sent Jamie to the university's athletic trainers. During the physical exam, they alternately tapped her skin with a pen or soft brush. Eyes closed, Jamie could not tell the difference. The trainers recommended that she see a neurologist. But referrals and insurance approval were slow. By the end of freshman year, Jamie's appointment was still months away.

Before leaving for the summer, the twins and Turner met at the park to walk her dog and talk. "We reminisced about the year and plans for the upcoming year,"

*"She helped us see how far we'd already grown, and she was invested in how much more we could grow."*



Jamie remembers. "She was happy to tell us what trips we would take, the cool gear." They refused to let Jamie's worsening pain overshadow their anticipation.

### News that changed everything

Barely into their sophomore year, as the swim season approached, the twins' goals came sharply into focus. But so did the pain.

Every time Jamie flip-turned at the end of her swim lane, electricity shot down the full length of her back. She couldn't even dive off the blocks. The butterfly – her signature stroke – was excruciating, causing numbness that settled into her left arm and the right side of her back.

Six months after starting the referral process, Jamie saw a neurologist, who immediately ordered an MRI. Jamie and Joanna were in their apartment after a team barbecue when Jamie's phone rang.

"I remember it perfectly," Jamie says. "I was laying on the floor, telling Joanna how excited I was for the team this season. And then I get this call and they are saying, 'You have Chiari malformation with syringomyelia. You have to get this surgery done.'"

The lower part of Jamie's brain had pushed down into the spinal canal, and expanding cysts (the "syringomyelia") had formed within the spinal column. Postponing the surgery meant paralysis. "I'm not going to lie ... I cried," she says.

But Jamie pushed on with swimming. This was her first year of competition, and the ambitious college student wasn't about to sit it out. "I don't have to do the surgery right away. I can get it done in the summer," she told herself and everyone else.

Turner's job is to push swimmers to do their best. Push past the tired, past the pain. But not this time.

She remembers Jamie coming to her office and telling her, "The doctor says if I have surgery now, I can save some feeling in my back – but I don't want to miss out on swim season."

"I had to say, 'Sorry! You're missing out,'" Turner recalls. "It was hard to say, 'You've got to trust me.'"

Still, Jamie hesitated, until the neurologist said, "You don't want to walk into the store one day and collapse because you just became paralyzed." Finally, she was convinced.

"Many tears were shed in my office – from all of us," Turner says.

"She always had tissues ready," Joanna says. "I used lots of tissues. But she would cry with me."

"They had goals, and they talked about it from their first year on the team," Turner says. "It was hard to see that slowly slip away as each new diagnosis came in, every new doctor's report. Just coming to terms with the limitations being put on them was really, really sad."

“There definitely were times we had to sit back and really talk about God’s plan, and how this could possibly be part of it.”

### A second diagnosis

From conception until that moment, Joanna and Jamie had never been apart for the 14 days needed for Jamie’s surgery and recovery.

“If there is an eight-lane pool, and every lane is open, they’ll share one,” Turner says. Now Joanna was left to swim alone.

“If you put trust in God, you know everything’s going to work out the way he plans,” Joanna says. “But it’s different putting trust in humans to carry out such a severe surgery involving the brain and spinal cord.”

Joanna took anatomy that semester. The day of Jamie’s brain surgery, Joanna had just returned from visiting her at the hospital, and the assignment was to dissect a sheep brain. “I was a mess,” she says. “During the dissection I was thinking, ‘I hope the surgeons are not as terrible as I am right now.’”

Ten days after Jamie’s surgery, a driver ran a red light and hit Joanna’s car. A concussion and whiplash were not the only ramifications; migraines Joanna had suffered from for years suddenly intensified.

A couple days later, Jamie returned to school. Together again, the twins sat in a dark dorm room; light made their heads hurt. Bending over caused Jamie considerable pain, so Joanna picked up anything Jamie dropped. Looking at her smartphone increased Joanna’s headache, so Jamie answered emails and texts for her. They couldn’t do much, but they did a lot of laughing, which hurt them both.

“We were together,” Joanna says. “Finally, I was able to share at least some of that pain.”

But while Jamie began a slow recovery, Joanna’s pain increased. A couple months after Jamie’s surgery, Joanna told Turner she had symptoms similar to her sister’s.

“It was this moment of, you know what’s going to happen,” Turner pauses as she remembers. “And we just move forward. That was the thing we talked about the most: We trust the doctors, we trust the procedures, and we keep moving forward.”

This time, the referral and tests were quickly given, and diagnosis received: Chiari malformation.

“It wasn’t even a shock,” Turner says. “They do everything together. It was almost like, ‘Well of course you have it, too.’ But it was also a moment of, ‘Oh gosh, how are we going to do

this? We’ve barely got Jamie through. How are we going to get Jo through it?’”

Dread and relief intermixed in Joanna. “I finally had an explanation for the worsening headaches I’d had since I was a child, and there was a way to fix it,” she says. But Jamie had gone into depth explaining how she felt during recovery, and no one looks forward to pain like that.

### Trusting in God and letting go of dreams

With surgery slotted for summer, Joanna kept swimming. Jamie, still recovering, came to every practice, every meet, and cheered from the stands.

“It took me a while to become at peace with that,” Jamie says. “At first it was really hard, but then I learned to be like, ‘Hey, this is my situation; might as well make the most of it,’ you know?”

Turner understood the struggle and purposely kept her involved, handing her camera to Jamie at a four-day conference meet. “It was really fun,” Jamie says, “running across the pool deck, trying to take awesome photos just in the perfect moments. You can see their emotion, all that hard work, in those photos.”

Turner took awful circumstances and tried to make them fun. “Rock that shaved head!” she told each twin after surgery. “Show off your scars every chance you get.” She used the surgeries to take the team deeper, too.

“I always encouraged J & Jo to talk about their experiences,” Turner says. “Part of the culture on our team is hard work, showing up, accountability between teammates. They never wanted to stop a set when they were in so much pain. We had to push them to share what’s going on. That opened up a lot of vulnerability on the team.”

Another school year ended, and the twins went home for the summer – 25 miles away in Salem – only to return weeks later to meet Natalie’s newborn first child. They spent time looking at pictures from the past year, but all Jamie really remembers is holding the baby. “And Natalie not wanting me to take a picture of her!” Joanna adds, laughing.

After Joanna’s surgery that summer, both twins were back in the water their junior year, rebuilding their strength and looking forward to achieving those goals.

But halfway through junior year, the COVID-19 pandemic ground the world to a stop. Eventually practices and meets returned, but the end-of-season championship meet their senior year, where finalist standings and record times are determined, did not. Like so many student-athletes at George Fox and across the globe, Joanna and Jamie had no opportunity to meet the goals they’d worked toward for a decade.

Letting go of those goals wasn’t easy. “I can tell you for a fact that if I had not relied on God for strength, I wouldn’t have made it,” Jamie says. “There would have been so much more anger and resentment, because, why is this happening to me? You know – why? I could have chosen to be angry at God, but I didn’t. I don’t think I could have recovered as fast if I didn’t feel that way, because I would have pushed people out of my life. I chose to trust God and his plan, and know I can get through anything with him.”

Turner was a constant reminder that God’s plan is trustworthy. The twins joked with each other about failing their senior year so they could remain students. And, more to the point, to keep Turner as their coach – a coach who was tough with them, cried with them and laughed with them.

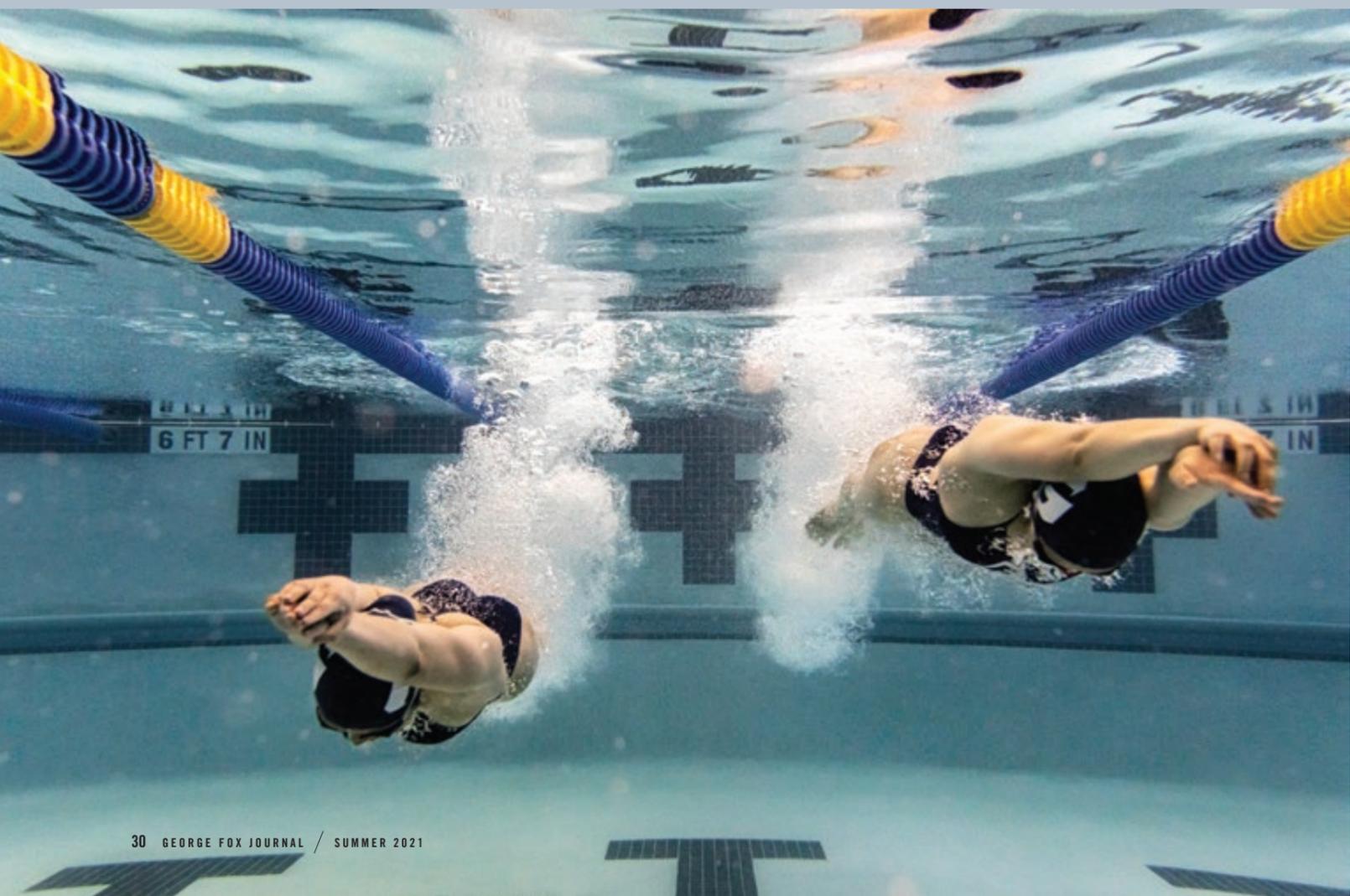
“I remember one time my junior year, I walked into her office, almost already in tears,” Joanna says. “I didn’t know what my future would look like. I wasn’t confident I had the skills I needed for what I wanted to do. She would just listen and then give advice. How to deal with it mentally, how to fix it. She would tell me to trust in God, trust in his plan, and in the gifts he’s given me. ‘Nothing is going to be easy,’ she said. ‘Everyone has doubts and everyone is just figuring it out. Enjoy the now. Enjoy the community. We’re never going to have a time like we have now.’”

“She helped me see my gifts. She made me feel that I mattered, and the path I was on was for a reason. She said that though my path is uncertain right now, I was experiencing and learning a lot, and God would help me find my way. Then she went over the strengths I had. She gave me strength.”

This fall, Joanna will begin the Doctor of Physical Therapy program at George Fox. Jamie is applying for biochemical research jobs, with an eye toward a PhD for teaching or ongoing research. Maybe they’ll join masters swim competitions in the future, maybe not. But their ongoing friendship with Turner is certain.

“I know I am their swim coach,” Turner says. “I know them and they know me so much more than the realm of swimming. We’ve become a huge part of each other’s lives.”

*“I know them and they know me so much more than the realm of swimming. We’ve become a huge part of each other’s lives.”*



**A long way from home, Jonah found a mentor and friend in his engineering professor – support that continued even after he changed majors.**

**Jonah Wafula**  
2021 Graduate  
Major: Cinematic Arts  
Hometown: Mbale, Uganda



IT WAS A LONG AND WINDING PATH that brought Jonah Wafula to George Fox. He had to leave his family in Uganda in the hopes that he could one day provide them with a better life. Along that journey, Jonah met engineering professor Neal Ninteman.

“I became good friends with his son, I met his wife, it was like family,” Wafula says. “He was like a father figure for me – he understood me. He said, ‘Come to my office whenever you have a question or you’re struggling with anything. Just talk to me and I’ll help.’ I felt comfortable going to other professors too, but Neal was my go-to.”

It wasn’t easy, but thanks to the support of his professors and lots of hard work and studying, Wafula was able to navigate his way through the university’s rigorous engineering program for nearly two years, despite coming to the U.S. at 15 with the equivalent of just a fifth-grade education.

But even as he was on his way to a career as an engineer that could one day help support his family back home, something didn’t feel right. Engineering wasn’t for



**Neal Ninteman**  
George Fox Engineering Professor

him, and it seemed like every project was a struggle. What he really loved was telling stories, and he loved movies. Near the end of his sophomore year, Wafula began looking at the university’s cinematic arts major. “What if I could support my family doing something I really enjoy?” he thought.

But he wondered if his engineering professor and mentor would be disappointed in him for changing majors. Just the opposite turned out to be true. “Neal was really happy that I got to find what I enjoy,” Wafula recalls. “He wasn’t disappointed at all.”

In May, Wafula graduated with a degree in cinematic arts. “It’s just wonderful,” he says. “I really enjoyed all my classes. It’s not easy, but it’s what I love.”

As for Ninteman, he’s just happy to see Wafula discover God’s plan for his life. “What I’m most excited about is George Fox being the vehicle for helping Jonah find what he’s made for, to help him find what God has for him to do,” he says. “He discovered his gifts here, and now he has the skills to follow that path.”

**Maddie was feeling anxious about her first big presentation, until an unexpected visit from a campus security guard helped calm her nerves.**

“ON A LATE SUNDAY NIGHT, I went to an empty classroom in the Stevens Center to practice a presentation I had to give the next morning. I was feeling pretty unprepared and anxious about the presentation, so I was just rehearsing all my material when the classroom door opened. A security guard walked in to check who was in the room. He didn’t see me at first. I said hello and startled him!

I was around the corner so he didn’t see me, but after I apologized for scaring him, he, without hesitation, sat down at a desk and asked me to give my presentation. With open ears and a kind heart, he listened to my presentation and gave me extremely helpful feedback. To my surprise, he revealed that he used to be a language arts teacher for 20 years! He joked about coming to watch my presentation and helped calm my nerves about my public speaking assignment. It was at that moment I felt known not only as a student but as a person in this community. It was a really sweet experience, and he didn’t even hesitate to listen to me.”

**Maddie  
Cognasso**

Major: Interior Design  
Year: Sophomore  
Hometown: Olympia,  
Washington



**David  
Bower**

George Fox  
Security  
Officer

**Fun Fact**  
about Maddie: “I have a dream career, and it’s been on my heart and my mind since I was a little kid. My whole life I’ve wanted to work for Disney as an Imagineer.”

**“I remember a time in my undergraduate education when I was really struggling with some bad bouts of depression.**

I was a junior and was having a hard time balancing my motivation to continue pursuing my degree with my symptoms of depressive episodes. I cannot remember why, but I ended up emailing my advisor, **Kris Kays**, for a meeting.

I came in and remember her seeing right through me before I even sat down. A few statements into the conversation, I was already weeping. She gracefully put up sticky notes on the window of her door, so as to give me privacy in this moment. She sat with me as I explored some of the feelings and pain I was enduring. There was something about the space she made in that moment that was intrinsically healing for me. She probably noticed my messy hair or sweats, but what really struck me was her ability to help me explore these feelings and thoughts without taking away from the strength and courage I had in me. I never once felt less than when I was around her. Even in the darkest moments, she can help people feel and experience what they need to, while also elegantly weaving in humor and empowerment of the person in front of her.

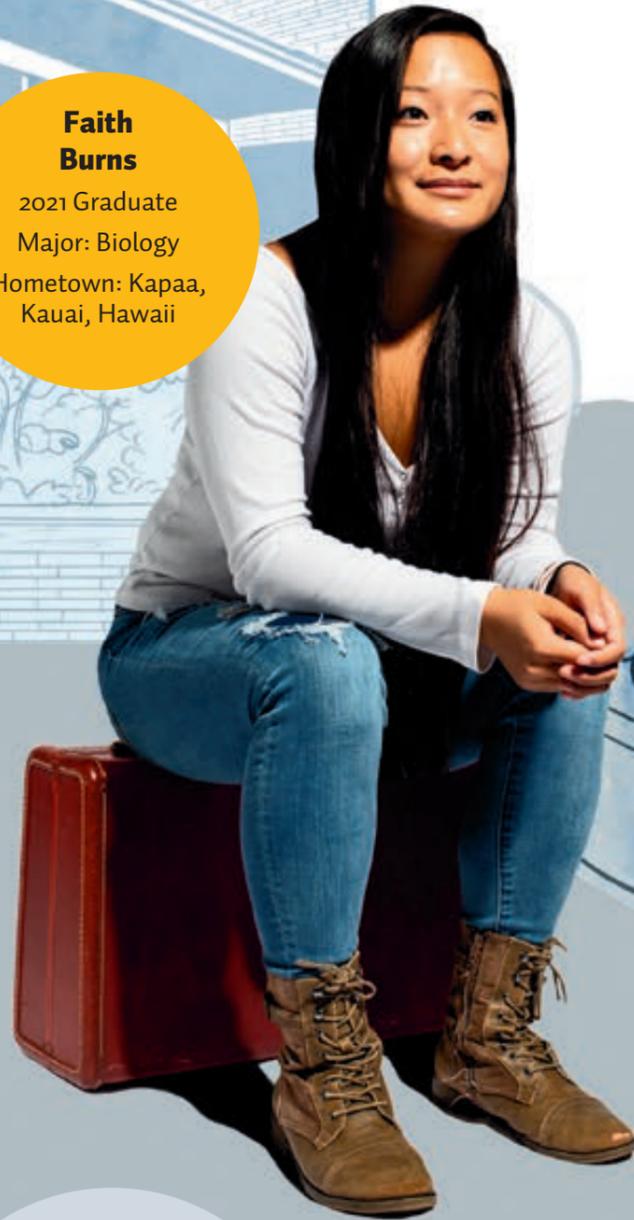
I cannot remember how long that conversation was, nor all of what we talked about, but I do remember being seen for all I was. I left that encounter feeling drained, tired and ultimately blessed to have had someone like Kris to share such sacred spaces with.”

– Graduate School of Counseling student  
**Benjamin Stanphill**



## Faith Burns

2021 Graduate  
Major: Biology  
Hometown: Kapaa,  
Kauai, Hawaii



**Faith found herself lost and alone her first day on campus – until a group of new friends made her feel right at home.**

### *Fun Fact*

about Faith: I'm one of eight children, with three brothers and four sisters! All five of us girls were adopted from different areas of China. Two of my sisters attend George Fox: Joy, a marketing major who just graduated, and Grace, a sophomore psychology major.



“WHEN I FIRST ARRIVED at George Fox, I had little to no idea what I was doing. It was the first time I had ever stepped foot in Oregon. I remember feeling excited and confused when the taxi dropped me off outside of Edwards Hall. I stood in the parking lot with my suitcases watching parents, football players, PAs and RAs run back and forth from the dorms to the cars helping students move in.

My parents were 2,000 miles away from me. Because flights were so expensive, both of them remained back home on Kauai. I remember having no idea where Hobson Hall was located and felt unsure how to ask for help. Thankfully, a group of student leaders saw my distress and came to my assistance. They not only directed me where to go, but actually ended up taking my suitcases and rolling them all the way to Hobson. When they did this, I suddenly felt less alone because these people who didn't even know me went out of their way to help me.

I highly doubt they knew their kind act would be one that would stick with me throughout my college experience. It was the kindness shown to me that day that motivated me to want to become a student leader myself. I spent my last three years on campus in residence life, and I have loved being able to encourage and walk alongside fellow students on their college journeys.”

**“I walked through EHS looking for a piece of normal.** A hive of people buzzed here and there trying to remember where they were supposed to be and at what time. The usual second-week confusion was in the air. At that moment, I wasn’t in any hurry, I wasn’t almost late to class, and I wasn’t feeling normal. I was on edge.

What had happened to the place I had grown to love during my freshman year? I don’t remember there being so many hand sanitizer stations, I don’t remember being six feet under a pandemic while an election loomed in the distance, and I don’t remember feeling a bottomless distance from others. I was in EHS searching for something familiar. I walked over to an empty classroom where a single person was inside. It was EHS 125 where I, and many other students, had engaged in mental warfare last term against the subject of human anatomy. **Kathy Weiss**, who teaches that class, was inside sitting pensively at the head of the empty classroom. My momentum slowed for a moment as I doubted if I would find what I was looking for inside, but I continued on. ‘Hello Professor Weiss,’ my voice almost faltering because I hadn’t talked at all that day.

‘Garin! How are you? It has been too long,’ was the immediate reply. The conversation proceeded onward. We talked of struggles, fears and concerns. We also talked about hope, excitement and the Christian purpose. Inevitably, I had to cut the conversation off before I became one of the people hurriedly trying to avoid being almost late to class, but I did not leave empty-handed.

She remembered my name, asked me how I was doing and wanted to talk with me. Someone new to Fox might think that a professor taking time to talk to a bright-eyed sophomore would be quite an unusual occurrence. Yet, at George Fox, this is normal. For Dr. Weiss, this is normal. She may not have realized it, but I left that room with a small piece of normal. I left that room feeling known.”

– Junior **Garin Griffith**



# INGENIERIA

**Estefan Cervantes Rivera**  
 Major: Civil Engineering  
 Year: Senior  
 Hometown: Woodburn, Oregon

## Connecting over a shared language created a special bond between Estefan and his professor.

ESTEFAN CERVANTES RIVERA is a civil engineering major at George Fox, and he's loving every minute of it: his friends, his professors, the community – not to mention seeing his future plans to become a structural engineer start to become a reality. Just one thing was missing: None of his engineering professors spoke fluent Spanish.

"At my high school I was so used to talking with my teachers in Spanish," recalls Rivera, who was raised in Woodburn, Oregon, where more than 50 percent of the population identifies as Hispanic. "It's just a different way of communicating about your experiences, and it was pretty tough coming here and not having that outlet."

Then, one day, he took his first class with professor Jeff Walters. It was Mechanics of Materials, and in the midst of talking about the complexities of the subject, Jeff told a story where he made a reference in Spanish. "I remember thinking, 'I have to go talk to him,'" Rivera says.



**Jeff Walters**  
 George Fox Engineering Professor

He doesn't recall what that first conversation was about. Instead, he remembers a feeling: "Just a sense of relief, you know? Like, finally!" That first conversation would be one of many more to come, with topics ranging from a date that didn't go well, to Rivera's desire to give back to his community, to his faith journey and so much more.

"I would stay back and talk with him after class, just goofing off," he says. "It was just nice because it felt more like a friendship than a professor. It felt really good to truly be understood."

The feeling is mutual. "Getting to know and work with Estefan has been a complete joy," Walters says. "Students like him are the reason why I get excited about this job. He inspires me forward as a teacher."

And recently, Walters was able to inspire Rivera to pursue his dream of giving back to his high school in Woodburn by showing students that they could go to college and become an engineer, too. Rivera began to work on a presentation, but doubt crept in. "Who am I to do this?" he thought. For the longest time he didn't share his presentation with anyone, then finally he showed Walters.

"He gave me words of affirmation and words of encouragement," Rivera recalls. "It just made me smile and gave me confidence that if someone I respect so much thinks that, I know I can do it. He's had such a great impact on me."

# ENGINEER

# MY BE KNOWN STORY

**“I am a student, an athlete and a Young Life leader, but I am also someone who lives with a visual impairment.**

This impacts my day-to-day life in numerous ways and also creates significant difficulty for me in a laboratory setting. When using a pipette or measuring into a beaker, I can't read the measurements or even gauge properly what level the material has filled to. I am also unable to see through a microscope. Throughout high school my incredible biology teacher did her best to accommodate me by printing off images of what the other students were looking at through the microscope, but I was never able to experience what it was like to look through a microscope and watch the slide come to life as the lens got adjusted to the perfect setting. That is until **John Schmitt** came in to check on my biology lab at Fox.

When he realized that I couldn't see what the rest of the class was working on (in this case it was observing the effects of different drugs on a goldfish's circulatory system), he immediately hooked up a microscope to a monitor, grabbed a slide and focused it for me. Then, for the first time, I was able to see a live specimen! This may seem like a small gesture, but the fact that Dr. Schmitt came into the lab, noticed that I was unable to participate, and then actively worked to resolve the situation meant so much to me. Not only did it allow me to be included in the experiment, it showed me how much my professors here at Fox truly care about knowing me and making sure that I succeed!”

– Junior **Emma Forbes**

**When a tragic fire destroyed Sierra's family home, the George Fox community surrounded her with love and encouragement.**



**Sierra Scholtes**  
Major: Nursing  
Year: Senior  
Hometown: Vacaville, California

**Andrea Alexander**  
Nursing Professor



**Catherine Kacalek**  
Nursing Professor



**Rusty St. Cyr**  
Spiritual Life



**Mitzi Martinez**  
Residence Life



“LAST SUMMER MY FAMILY was impacted by the LNU Lightning Complex fires in California. We lost the only home I have ever known two days before I had to drive up to Fox to start the fall semester. It was incredibly challenging for me to leave my family so soon after this terrible event. I had to drive away knowing that my parents and younger brother didn't have a place to call home and were sleeping on friends' couches.

I sent an email to two of my nursing professors, Andrea and Catherine, letting them know what had happened. I think I did it more out of shock than seeking comfort. They both reached out to me and even contacted the spiritual life office so they too could connect with me. Rusty, one of our campus pastors, called me and prayed with me as I drove the eight hours back to Oregon. It was something I didn't know I needed, but it put me at such ease knowing that someone was out there who cared.

My professors could have stopped there, but both of them met with me in person despite COVID restrictions and gave me a hug. Throughout the semester they continually checked in with me and offered to connect me to other resources should I want them.

When all of the fires erupted here in Oregon, I was faced with feelings of anxiousness and restlessness that I have never experienced before. I didn't realize that the smell of smoke would make me feel so uneasy. I had such a hard time focusing on school and wished with all my might that I could just go home. I felt like the fires and smoke were everywhere – truly a suffocating experience. During this time both my professors and Mitzi from housing reached out to me to check in. They knew that I would probably be uneasy with the smoke and took the time out of their day to see how I was doing.

I've always liked my professors at Fox, but simply thought the Be Known promise had to do with them knowing my name. The support I have received during this tragic period of my life has shown me that the Be Known promise at Fox is real and that God is walking with my family and me every step of the way. I can't imagine going to any other school. Even though my home in California is gone, I feel so incredibly blessed to call Fox my home too.”

# Memorable Mentors

Six professors with a combined 185 years of service retire this summer, ending careers of incalculable impact on students

By Sean Patterson

He arrived as a 30-year-old professor in the early 1980s, when he was often mistaken for a student. He retires this year “as a senior citizen on Medicare,” he jokes, after crossing paths with thousands of students and colleagues across nearly four decades.

Still, while his youthful appearance, styles and “the times” have changed, **Mark Weinert** says one thing hasn’t.

“We often remark on how so many things have changed in our students and in our culture, but in the things that matter, students haven’t changed at all,” he reflects. “My students have never aged. They’ve been 20 years old the whole time. They’re trying to find their way as they launch into the first years of their adult lives. They wrestle with faith as they find themselves deciding these eternal matters on their own, usually for the first time in their lives.”

It’s the invigorating thrill of helping shape those lives that kept Weinert, a member of the history department faculty for 39 years, at George Fox for so long. “It’s a delight to watch them move from tentative freshmen, feeling their way into this new world of independence, to confident and well-spoken young adults, ready to move into their next years. I have been privileged to share in that process year after year.”

In addition to teaching history, Weinert spent years as an administrator, taking on everything from directing the overseas study and Juniors Abroad programs to serving as dean of humanities, dean of records and faculty evaluation, director of the Portland Center, and associate dean of the seminary.

It was in the classroom, though, that he thrived. He most enjoyed teaching an introductory history class, *The History of Western Civilization* – in which, he estimates, he taught 3,500 students – as well as *Presidential Elections* (taught every four years since 1984), and *Baseball and American Culture*.

Outside the classroom, he’s visited nearly 30 countries on 20 trips with 400 students as a Juniors Abroad leader, and developed several close friendships among his peers, including a group he’s done weekly lunches with for 20 years. “One of God’s great gifts to me has been the friendships I’ve found at George Fox,” he says. “This isn’t something you think about when taking a new job, but



**Mark Weinert**  
39  
Years

I’ve found the best friends of my life here.”

Weinert says he’s retiring “just in time.”

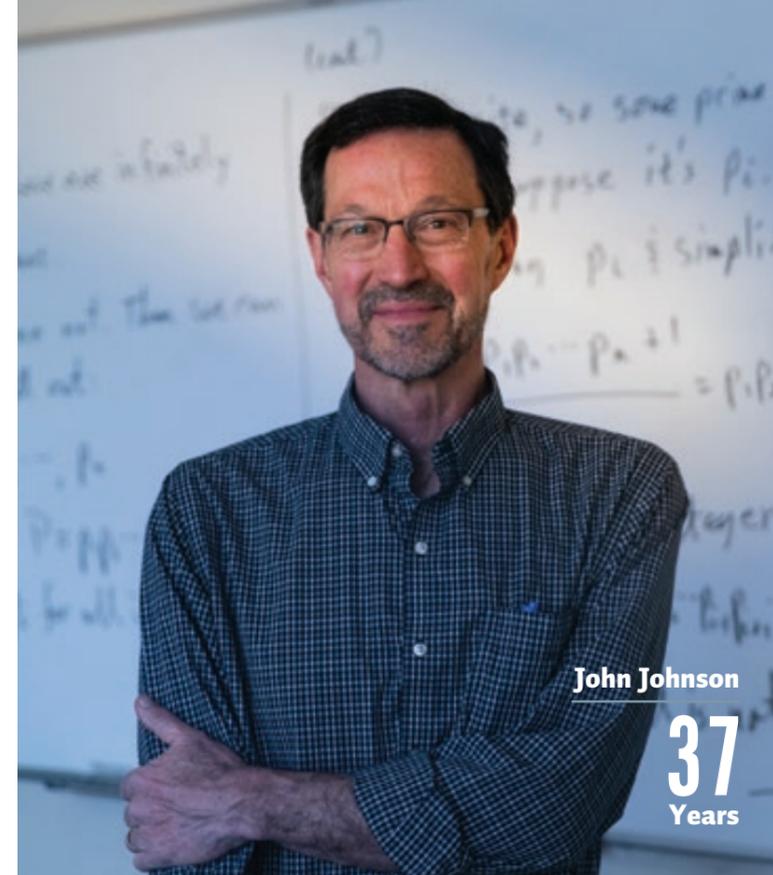
“I’ve taught many children of former students and think I am retiring just in time before I have the grandchild of a former student in class,” he laughs.

His future plans include continuing as pastor of a small church he’s led the past 12 years, doing archival work for his church’s denomination, adding to the list of major league ballparks he’s visited, and catching up on “about 30 years’ worth of deferred yard work that needs to be addressed.”

He doesn’t consider himself a matchmaker by any stretch of the imagination, but when you’ve been in one place for more than three decades – or, in **John Johnson’s** case, 37 years – you’re bound to discover that, in some small way, your class had a profound impact on lives.

Whoever said calculus was just about math?

“I had one of my students tell me his parents met in my calculus



**John Johnson**  
37  
Years

class,” Johnson recalls. “When I shared that in class, another student said, ‘Mine too.’”

Stories like those make Johnson, who retires after teaching in the math department since the Reagan administration, appreciate the personal connections he made in the George Fox community.

“I guess I loved almost everything about the job – explaining difficult math details to students, encouraging them to become good students and better people, and having outstanding colleagues, many of whom have been my good friends,” he says. “I felt I was doing something I was good at and enjoyed.”

Johnson served as department chair the past 12 years and specialized in teaching advanced mathematics courses. His favorite, he quips, was “probably Probability because the math is sophisticated yet has interesting applications.”

In addition to teaching, he enjoyed the challenge of scholarship. In one case, he discovered one of his accomplishments in a most unusual way. “I had written an article about a problem I had solved that was published in *Mathematics Teacher*, a National Council of Mathematics journal. Fast forward a few years. I was teaching our course in linear algebra and prepping my students for the first exam.

“At the end of the chapter were some review problems. As we went through them, a student interrupted me and asked, ‘Problem 29 ... is that yours?’ Sure enough, next to problem 29 was a citation: ‘John M. Johnson, George Fox College.’ It was a question I had asked at the end of the article I had submitted years before. It was kind of surreal.”

Looking ahead, Johnson plans to pursue hobbies he enjoys and take a long vacation in the fall.

Long before the university adopted its Be Known promise, music professor **Kenn Willson** made it a regular practice to know students personally. In fact, he made pupils his own promise: He would learn their names by Friday of the first week of classes.

“Other than teaching, getting to know my students was one of my favorite things to do,” says Willson, who leaves the university after teaching in the music department for 32 years. “I had a unique situation in that I taught one-on-one in applied piano. I was able to talk with each student every week to find out how they were doing. They would share things that stressed them and things they were excited about. They’d also talk about their families. These conversations gave students the knowledge that they were cared for.

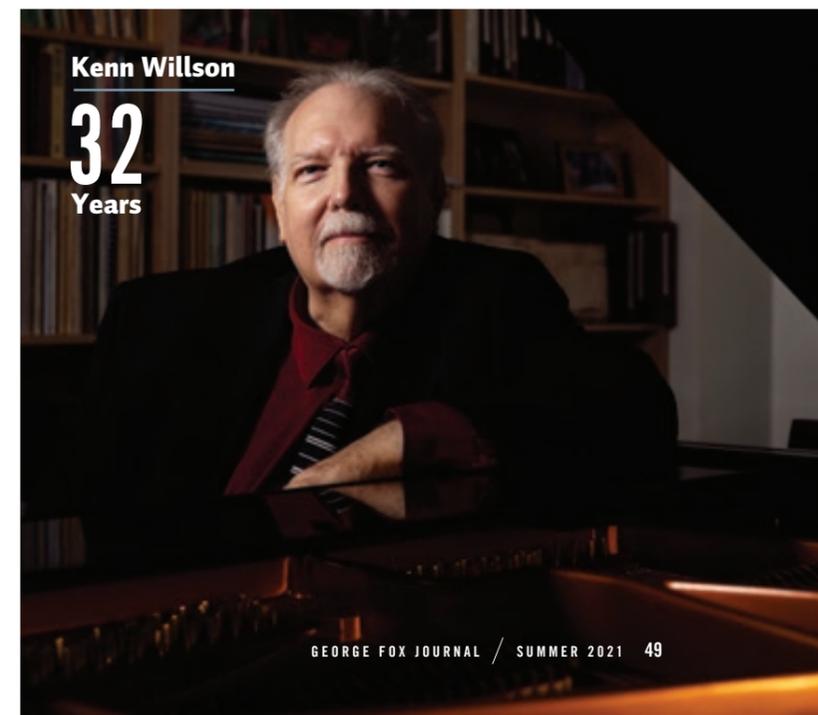
“I enjoyed working with them, teaching them, watching them understand concepts, and do well on their assignments and pieces. It was a joy to see them become better musicians over the four years they were here.”

Aside from impacting students’ lives, Willson’s most lasting legacy to the university was his role in George Fox’s purchase of three Bösendorfer grand pianos – acquisitions that led to the Bösendorfer Series, an annual concert event that drew some of the world’s most accomplished pianists to Bauman Auditorium.

The series also included “Monster Piano Concerts” in which six to eight pianos were played simultaneously by 20 pianists, all of whom were students, alumni or pupils from Willson’s private studio. It was also a forum for his own scholarship project, the “Encounters with ...” series, which showcased classical composers.

His dedication to the instrument culminated in 2018, when he received a Distinctive Artist Award from the Bösendorfer piano manufacturer of Vienna, Austria.

Willson plans to continue teaching piano and performing his “Encounters with ...” series, and he hopes to present master classes, adjudicate festivals and judge competitions. Spending more time with family – including his two grandchildren – are also on his to-do list.



**Kenn Willson**  
32  
Years



**Deb Worden**  
**27**  
Years

An avid supporter of the university's baseball team, business professor **Deb Worden** has been a fixture at Bruin home games for the better part of two decades. It wasn't unusual, then, for a player or two to occasionally drop by her and husband Paul's place for a bite to eat.

Or, in one instance, the whole team.

"One Sunday, at the end of a home series, Paul and I invited a handful of players up to our house to eat," she recalls. "Before you knew it, almost the entire team showed up. We scoured the kitchen, fridge and freezer for anything and everything that Paul could put on the smoker and I could whip up. They stayed all evening."

Impromptu dinners, a love of teaching business and road trips to ball games – including spring training in Hawaii one year – were just a few of the reasons Worden stayed at George Fox for 27 years. Tops on the list by far, though, was the countless relationships formed.

"My husband and I do not have children of our own, so some of my students became our family," says Worden, who began befriending baseball players in 2002 upon learning many of them were business majors. "There are many who are still vitally important in our lives, and we love spending time with them."

In fact, before the pandemic, the Wordens spent most holidays with the extended family of one alumnus and his wife, who affectionately call her "Nana Deb." Deb and Paul have also attended several of her students' weddings and baby showers. "We count all these young families as beloved treasures in our lives," she says.

In the classroom, she relished the opportunity to explore the intricacies of business – particularly macroeconomics – and loved

the paradoxical fact she was a student herself. "There are always new things to learn, which, by the way, is why I love teaching," she quips.

There are too many fond memories to mention, but one in particular stands out: the day she and a contingent of supporters greeted the baseball team at Portland International Airport after the Bruins won the NCAA Division III College World Series in 2004.

Her plans moving forward include devoting more time as a board member and treasurer to the Newberg Animal Shelter, purchasing a small greenhouse to get a jump-start on the growing season, and volunteering with the Safe Families for Children social services organization through her church, Wayside Friends.

Ask **Carl Lloyd** to recall his most indelible George Fox memories and a tidal wave of stories begin to flow.

He shares the account of one of his students, a single mom, who would bring her infant son to the house so Carl's wife Connie could babysit while she went to class. Or the countless times he hosted an open house during graduation weekend so students had a place to change into regalia and grandparents had a couch to rest on before attending the big event.

Another story brings a tear to his eye: The time an LGBTQ stu-

dent, facing a \$3,000 medical bill she couldn't afford, was gifted \$3,500 when someone in her Adult Degree Program cohort passed a collection hat around class.

"She was in tears, I was in tears, the entire cohort was weeping," he reminisces. "She said she had been so rejected by other Christians over her sexual orientation that she was humbled because so many in the room were evangelical, conservative believers."

Moments like that make it hard for Lloyd to imagine life after George Fox. He retires this summer after 27 years at the university – five as chair of the social work and sociology department (1994-99) and 22 as a professor in the ADP program, including stints at the university's Eugene, Salem, Tigard and Boise sites.

His reasons for staying so long? He provides four: "students, students, students and colleagues," he laughs.

"I have enjoyed the transparency of my students, their clear desires to serve others, and their growing commitments to Christ as Lord," he says. "My students have always known they could share anything with me via their writings and class conversations, and these materials remain forever confidential. They came to trust me, which was a huge blessing for all of us. I also tried to remain transparent in class, so they could also get to know me."

Lloyd admits he would like to continue working despite being 69 ("good genes," he laughs) and is seeking teaching and therapy/clinical positions in the region.

It was when **Mark Terry** went on sabbatical one year that he realized just how much he missed interacting with students on a day-to-day basis. Then, a chance meeting with one of his students whetted his appetite for campus news – and ultimately birthed a weekly gathering, Tuesday at Terrys, that drew groups of up to 30 into his living room to share food, conversation and tea.

"It all began because of this conversation I had with a student, which resulted in an invitation for her to come to our house for a meal," says Terry, who retires from the university's art department after



**Mark Terry**  
**23**  
Years

23 years. "She ended up having such a good time she asked if she could return with her roommate and cook for us. A new tradition was born."

Tuesday at Terrys convened each week for more than 10 years, making an impact far beyond anything Terry could have ever imagined. "At least one marriage had its first seeds planted there, careers were launched, and countless life lessons were shared," he reminisces.

It was a tangible reflection of his passion for students. Beyond teaching them his beloved craft – ceramics and art history were his favorite subjects – he invested in their lives.

"I suppose one of my own best personal measures of success, as well as an anecdote about the effect of our Be Known promise, is that I – or my wife Missy and I – have been asked to be active participants in six of our students' weddings over the years, including once as a groomsman, another where I got to escort the bride down the aisle, and another where Missy and I were asked to serve the wedding communion."

Terry's career at George Fox, which included 10 years as chair of the art and design department, didn't end as he expected. COVID-19 made the particular work he did in the ceramics lab dangerous for him and his family, prompting an early retirement. But, while he won't be on campus regularly, he will still pursue art, putting the finishing touches on his wood kiln, working on art commissions, and "looking forward to what God has in store for the next season," he says.



**Carl Lloyd**  
**27**  
Years

## 1960–69

**Pete McHugh** (G67), after being appointed in 2019 to fill a vacancy on the Scappoose (Oregon) City Council, in November won reelection for a four-year position on the six-member council guiding the city of 7,000. A community resident for 40 years, he spent 20 years in administrative roles with the Scappoose School District, retiring in 1997.

**Joey Soon** (G69) retired in 2012 after nearly 10 years as associate director of dining services with California State University in Chico, but continues consulting for school district lunch programs with his J Soon Consulting firm, based in Orland, California.

## 1970–79

**Ken Johnson** (G72) in April 2020 published his third book, *Signs of Life: God's Invitation to a Better, Stronger and Longer Life*. Long involved in the Foursquare Church, he stepped down from his position at Westside Church in Bend, Oregon, after being diagnosed with Parkinson's disease in 2013. Now he continues to speak, mentor church leaders and write. He received George Fox's 2005 Christian Service Award.

**Frank Kyte** (G75) and **Karol (Fenton-Nelson) Kyte** (n86), after 30 years out of state, are now back in Oregon, living in Salem, following his retirement from a career in athletic training. He spent 21 years in professional baseball, 10 of those with the Kansas City Royals. In 1977, he became George Fox's first full-time trainer.

**Joy (Treharne) Thomas** (G75), although retired, continues to be active with the Haiti Christian Development Fund, which she

and her husband started in 1982 for evangelism, education, development and leadership in rural communities. They live in Fond-des-Blancs, Haiti. Their work is told in his book, *At Home with the Poor*.

**Steve Fellows** (G76) is still in Santa Barbara, California, but retired Dec. 31, leaving his position as executive vice president and chief operating officer of Cottage Health after 15 years. He was named George Fox's outstanding alumnus in 2004 and previously served on the university's board of trustees.

**Tim Weaver** (G76) in November was reelected to the Dundee (Oregon) City Council. He is serving his third term since he was first elected in 2012 to guide the city of 3,200. Weaver retired in 2011 after 33 years with the Newberg-Dundee Police Department and is now owner of Chehalem Safe Drive, a traffic safety and drug abuse education program with diversion courses for violators. It also offers drug recognition and education programs for professionals and others.

**Debbie (Le Shana) Rickey** (G76), daughter of former George Fox President David Le Shana (1969-82), cited his leadership style several times in her retirement in September after 10 years at Grand Canyon University, Phoenix, the last nine as associate dean of the College of Education. She was recognized for leading the university's accreditation process with the Association for Advancing Quality in Educator Preparation.

**Steven Johnson** (G76) is a self-employed voice-over artist in Arlington, Texas, starting in 2018 after three years as associate pastor at New Hope Church in Abilene, Texas. He is the author of *Riverfront Property: Connecting at the River of Life*.

**Diane (Offet) Brown** (G77, PS81) is in Calgary, Alberta, Canada, where she started in 2015 as the lead children's pastor at Harvest Hills Alliance Church, a congregation of about 200.

**Dave LeRud** (G77, MDiv80) has transitioned in his roles at the Oregon City, Oregon, Evangelical Church where he has served since 1987. After 33 years as worship pas-

tor, he is now pastor to seniors, starting last September.

**Nancy (Svendson) Moon** (G78) in October began as site coordinator at Community in Schools-Mid America, working with Logan Avenue Elementary School in Emporia, Kansas. She moved in 2019 to Cottonwood Falls, Kansas, after 30 years of public school teaching and administration in Oregon and Alaska.

**Esther Hopper** (G79), after 23 years teaching in the Ontario-Montclair School District in Southern California, retired at the end of the 2019-20 school year and now is living in Dayton, Oregon.

**Steve Morse** (G79) retired in 2019 after 40 years in public education, including 27 years with the Bellingham (Washington) School District, where he was principal of Roosevelt Elementary School. He has published a book about his career: *Sixty Years in the Schoolhouse: Life After the Bell*. He now lives in Blaine, Washington.

## 1980–89

**Connie Pittman** (G81, PS84) retired in 2019 from Spokane Falls Community College, where she worked in the student achievement office. Beginning in October, she now is involved with projects at Spokane First Free Methodist Church. She also creates and leads Breathe GetAway retreats

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**Fox Fun Fact**  
Minthorn Hall, the oldest building on campus, was rolled on logs to its current location in 1892.

throughout the Northwest under her ministry Sisters of Scholastica, which combines travel, history, geology and faith.

**Wade Witherspoon** (G82, EdD07) is back on campus in the new position of employer relations manager, starting in April. He is responsible for creating awareness in corporate and community organizations about the benefits of hiring George Fox students and graduates. The former George Fox baseball coach (1983-85) in November was reelected as mayor of Lafayette, Oregon, where he has served four years as a member of the city council, two years as president.

**Mark Ocker** (G83), retired assistant professor emeritus in professional studies at George Fox, is now living in Vernonia, Oregon, where he is pursuing two writing projects: completing an autobiography and creating an update on the Friends Church in Alaska. It is to be a sequel to *Tomorrow Is Growing Old: Quakers in Alaska*, authored by **Arthur O. Roberts** (G44), longtime George Fox religion professor and academic dean.

**Bill Post** (n83) in November easily won reelection to the Oregon House of Representatives, keeping the District 25 position he has held since 2015. Now in his fourth term representing portions of Marion and Yamhill counties, he continues as a radio talk show host in Salem, Oregon.

**Dan Cammack** (G84) is the first in the new position of field director of Evangelical Friends Mission, where he focuses on member care for missionaries and development of international fields and field support teams. He has been EFM executive director for eight years, but with growth there will now be three leadership positions. He also is pastor of the Tigard (Oregon) Friends Church, now in his 19th year.

**Gary Dietz** (MDiv85) is in Greenwood, Texas, working as part of a 23-member collabora-

tive practice, Fort Worth Counseling and Interventions. He has been a licensed counselor since 2017 after retiring from the Fort Worth Police Department after 25 years.

**Matthew Simonis** (G85) lives in Camano Island, Washington, while having positions in Arlington, Washington, where he is pastor of Bryant Community Church, and in Langley, British Columbia, where he is a part-time professor at Trinity Western University, serving as program coordinator for the Project Management Professional Program. In March 2020, he received a doctorate in ministry leadership from Harvest Mission College in Greater Noida, India.

**RozeLyn Beck** (G86) is in her sixth year as chief relationship officer for Commemorative Air Force in Dallas, a nonprofit dedicated to preserving and showing historical aircraft through its museum and airshows. She communicates with retired airmen and airwomen to tell their stories and leads the development/philanthropy and member services departments.

**Sally Freeman** (G86), since 1989 a national park ranger at Lewis and Clark National Historical Park in Astoria, Oregon, plans to leave her position this year. In her 32 years she has been volunteer manager, historic weapons supervisor and tour group coordinator, along with administering visitor services' daily park operations. She plans to spend more time volunteering with 4-H and Child Evangelism Fellowship work.

**Doreen Dodgen-Magee** (G87) is quoted and pictured in the April 26 *Woman's World* magazine, a weekly with 1.6 million readers. In an article "Help Me Take a Tech Break!" it is suggested there is something revitalizing about doing nothing. She is an author, speaker and psychologist based in Lake Oswego, Oregon. In October her newest book, *Restart: Designing a Healthy Post-Pandemic Life*, will be released, offering tips and recommendations on how to manage anxiety, hesitation and over-excitement about reentering an interactive world.

**Fritz Neumann** (G87) is owner and one of two principals at Crossroads Insurance in Oregon City, Oregon. He started in 2016.

**Colleen (Gallagher) Moist** (G87) is entering her second year as human resources manager with Wilson Logistics, a trucking and transportation company in Portland.

**Jerry Sather** (MDiv88) in March made a change in his career as new interim pastor of St. Francis Episcopal Church in Palos Verdes Estates, California. This follows retirement from the U.S. Air Force in November after 25 years of active duty service and a total of 41 years of military service, the most recent assignment as a wing chaplain in Alconbury, England.

## 1990–99

**Gary Marks** (ADP90), with 29 years of city administration experience, is now public works director in Dallas, Oregon. Through 2019 he was city manager for five cities in Oregon, Idaho and Montana, most recently in Lebanon, Oregon, where he served more than six years.

**Mark Strong** (PS91, DMin03) gained television coverage in August for his book *Friendly Joe's Guide to a Kinder Portland*, which was featured on KGW-TV in light of nightly disruptions and riots in the city that left residents in turmoil. Although written prior (2018), it was recommended because of

*Continued on page 56*

## KEY

<b>G</b>	Traditional graduate
<b>n</b>	Traditional nongraduate
<b>MA</b>	Master of arts
<b>MS</b>	Master of science
<b>MSW</b>	Master of social work
<b>MAT</b>	Master of arts in teaching
<b>DMgt</b>	Doctor of management
<b>DBA</b>	Doctor of business administration
<b>MBA</b>	Master of business administration
<b>MDiv</b>	Master of divinity
<b>DMin</b>	Doctor of ministry
<b>MEd</b>	Master of education
<b>EdD</b>	Doctor of education
<b>EdS</b>	Education specialist in school psychology
<b>PS</b>	Portland Seminary (formerly George Fox Evangelical Seminary)
<b>PsyD</b>	Doctor of psychology
<b>DPT</b>	Doctor of physical therapy
<b>ADP</b>	Adult Degree Program



**Fox Fun Fact**  
Riley House is named after a dog that used to roam campus.



# Business Beyond the Bottom Line

**MBA and marketing alumnus Joe Ahn’s encounter with the Be Known promise more than a decade ago still informs his work today, halfway around the world** By Sean Patterson

Joe Ahn (BA09, MBA10) had it all: A high-profile job in San Francisco at a company with a \$700 million marketing budget. He was launching Super Bowl campaigns and rubbing shoulders with the global powers of the advertising world – Facebook, Twitter, Google and LinkedIn among them – at a time when social media was just emerging as a marketing phenomenon.

Soon after, it was on to the MRY creative agency to help launch another Super Bowl campaign, this time with Drake as part of the T-Mobile account.

But something didn’t sit right. It was then Ahn asked himself a question: “How can I use what I’ve learned and my experiences to impact positive change?”

His life hasn’t been the same since.

“I just did a complete 180,” Ahn says of his career shift. “I felt a pull to do something else with my life.”

Initially, that meant a shift to the healthcare field, first as director of social and content marketing for Sutter Health and later as vice president of marketing for Tivity Health. Then, last winter, his desire to promote sustainability and cultivate community in business led to yet another opportunity – this time halfway around the world.

Today, Ahn is global director of marketing for the ECCO footwear company, based at the company’s headquarters in Tønder, Denmark, an outpost about a three-hour drive from Copenhagen and 20 minutes north of the German border. It is here Ahn has rediscovered why he fell in love with marketing in the first place.

The privately owned ECCO is globally known, with more than 2,500 retail stores in over 100 countries, but unlike the publicly traded behemoths he worked for in the U.S., it’s an enterprise that takes pride in being environmentally friendly while truly getting to know its customers – and one another.

“That was a big appeal for me, having worked in public companies driven by the urgency of meeting the next quarterly earnings goal, rather than focus on long-term sustainability,” says Ahn, a 2010 graduate of George Fox’s full-time MBA program and a 2009 undergraduate marketing alumnus. “My responsibility here is to cultivate community and drive new ways of engaging consumers. Thinking back to George Fox’s Be Known promise, there are interesting parallels, as one of our key corporate strategies is to ‘increase our knows’ – how many consumers we know.”

At a corporate level, that means deepening an understanding of customers’ behaviors, interests and passions, allowing for a more personalized experience when marketing to them. “I was brought here to help answer the questions, ‘What does it mean to

be part of a shoe brand community?’ and ‘What is the consumer benefit we want to create?’ Whether you go into a retail store or navigate online or on social media, we can speak to you as if we know you,” Ahn says.

Beyond its emphasis on consumers, ECCO values relationships both in house and with the up-and-coming generation. “This is a third-generation, family-owned business, and some employees have been here 20 or 30 years,” Ahn says. “The company invests in its people and has created programs to bring in Next Gens from all over the world as part of an intense three-year internship program.”

Ahn was also sold on the company’s commitment to sustainability, as, unlike many other big-name footwear companies, it owns its entire value chain, allowing ECCO to closely monitor its environmental impact at the manufacturing level.

The biggest selling point, however, is the fact Ahn truly has the opportunity to develop relationships that both propel the business and create a supportive community – values he first encountered as an MBA student more than a decade ago.

“The MBA program’s emphasis on transformational and servant leadership has always stuck with me as I’ve progressed in my career, and as a people leader it’s something I deeply value,” he says. “The MBA also did a good job of involving us in local community businesses as consultants working through real-life challenges. It took theory and applied it in practical ways that, if a business liked our work, they would implement it and ask for continued support.”

Ahn values his relationships formed at George Fox – he still keeps in touch with classmates, basketball teammates, and a former professor who attended Ahn’s wedding to wife Jillian – and credits his undergraduate and MBA experiences with helping him develop into the businessman he is today.

“I’m grateful for my experience at George Fox,” he says. “It grounded me in my faith and values as a person, and that guides me in how I approach my work. It definitely breathed life into my career and personal development that I may not have received at another university. Fox really is all about reinforcing this idea that you can be known and be yourself.”

His advice to young professionals? “Channel your curiosity. For me, the people who stand out are those who express their curiosity and take those proactive steps to understand more about where they hope to work. Take the time to research, have a point of view, and ask questions.

“And also, stay humble, hungry, and your authentic self. Because the last thing you want is to be like everyone else.”



its 21 humorous tips and comical illustrations. Strong has been senior pastor of Life Change Christian Church in Portland since 1988.

**Michele (Rayner) Elola** (G91) is in her second year with Redwood Coast Regional Center in Lakeport, California, where she is a client service coordinator for the state agency that provides social services for people with developmental disabilities.

**Gina (Withnell) Ochsner** (G92) won the 2020 Kurt Vonnegut Prize in Short Fiction, awarded by *North American Review*, the oldest literary magazine in the United States. She also was second in the 2020 Grand Writers Flash Fiction category. In addition, she has been awarded a John L. Simon Guggenheim grant and a grant from the National Endowment for the Arts. She is the author of the short story collection *The Necessary Grace to Fall*, which received the Flannery O'Connor Award for Short Fiction. She teaches at Corban University in Salem, Oregon.

**Philip Higgins** (G92) was in the news in Oregon in September as he brokered the sale of Newberg's Westrock paper mill to Commercial Development Company, Inc. The site is now being cleared for future redevelopment under a new riverfront master plan by the city of Newberg. Higgins is the principal with his Pacific Crest Real Estate Advisors in Newberg.

**Shawna (Shankle) Wilcher** (n92) lives in Beaverton, Oregon, while working two jobs. She is with Marketplace Chaplains as a remote chaplain working with contracted employers providing mental health care via a website and smartphone app. She also is helping provide spiritual care in Oregon prisons and jails through Celebrate Recovery Inside, serving as a liaison with the state of Oregon and the prison system.

**Kevin Dougherty** (G93) and **Kim (Cain) Dougherty** (G95) are in Woodway, Texas, both involved in teaching. He is associate professor of sociology at Baylor University in Waco, Texas, where he is part of a research team that received a \$1 million grant from the Lilly Endowment for a five-year study: "Churches that THRIVE for Racial Justice." She is a music teacher, in her seventh year at Castleman Creek Elementary School in Hewitt, Texas, and was named Teacher of the Year for 2021.

**Christine (Deboy) Drazan** (G93) continues as the top Republican in the Oregon House of Representatives. The incumbent caucus leader was returned to her Oregon House District 39 seat in November's general election, reelected to the seat she won first in 2018. A resident of Oregon City, she represents much of the area in Clackamas County.

**Jeff Kosmicki** (G93) is interim police chief of the Newberg-Dundee Police Department, starting in April 2020, following the resignation of **Brian Casey** (ADP98) after 29 years with the department. Kosmicki is completing his 24th year with the department, including 23 years as captain.

**Jenny (Davis) Duquette** (G94) is on campus again as coordinator for the undergraduate teaching, administrative licensure, doctor of education and master of education and endorsement programs. She started last year after 23 years with Mt. Hood Community College in a variety of positions in technology, degree auditing and encoding, and testing services.

**Robin (Horine) Henderson** (MA94, PsyD96) has become a go-to mental health expert for Portland-area media during the last year. As chief executive for behavioral health for Providence Medical Group, she's frequently seen in television interviews with reporters asking for her comments and advice on isolation and depression during the COVID-19 pandemic. She has been with Providence since 2016 after 14 years with the St. Charles Health System in Bend, Oregon.

**Jennifer (Dawson) Lumley** (G95) is living in Battle Ground, Washington, while in her seventh year with Ridgefield (Washington) Living Center, where she is a medical aide and healthcare associate at the senior assisted living facility.

**Gary Fox** (MBA95) is a financial manager at St. Joseph Providence Health & Services



#### Fox Fun Fact

*Herbert Hoover, the 31st president of the United States, took classes in Minthorn Hall.*

in Portland. He is in his 14th year in that role, responsible for supporting business lines of specialty pharmacy, home medical equipment, home health and hospice.

**Elizabeth (Evon) Lee** (G96) has been with the Yukon-Kuskokwim Health Corporation since graduation and is a registered nurse living in Bethel, Alaska. She now is director of human resources for the medical organization, which provides comprehensive health care for 50 rural southwest Alaska communities.

**Diane (Marr) Longmire** (G96) is director of outpatient services at Comprehensive Healthcare in Yakima, Washington, in her second year, promoted from adult and elder team leader, a position she held for nearly six years. The private nonprofit organization provides recovery services for mental illness and substance use disorders for youth and adults in six counties.

**Heidi (Holdorf) Haberlock** (G96, MAT01) is a third-grade teacher at Middleton Elementary School in Sherwood, Oregon, in her 20th year with the school district.

**Ben Spotts** (G96) in February became executive director of operations at Village Church in Beaverton, Oregon, after one year as senior director. The Baptist-based multicultural church offers sermons in English, Spanish, Korean and Mandarin.

**Todd Dallof** (G96) received local attention from Newberg's Chehalem Valley Chamber of Commerce in October when he was cited for volunteering to help fight three of Oregon's severe forest fires in September. A volunteer firefighter with the city of Dundee, he received permission from his employer, Comcast, to help for two weeks. He is completing 24 years with the cable company, the last 11 years as a network engineer.

**Nathanael White** (G97) and **Angela (Dean) White** (G98) are living in Colorado Springs, Colorado, where he has retired from his position as a space and missile officer in the United States Air Force. He now is substitute teaching in all subjects at the middle and high school levels in Academy District 20 and has been coaching in the district for 11 years. She is in her ninth year with Mary Kay Cosmetics, working full time as an independent senior sales director.



#### Fox Fun Fact

*George Fox sports teams were briefly nicknamed the "prune pickers."*

**Jimmi Sommer** (G97) is now in Guayaquil, Ecuador, where in September she became management officer at the U.S. Department of State/U.S. Consulate General. She moved from The Hague, Netherlands, where she was supervisory general services officer with the State Department beginning in May of 2019. She was George Fox's 2007 Outstanding Recent Alumnus.

**Jesse Cadd** (G97) and **Kerri (Kennison) Cadd** (G98) are back in Newberg after 16 years, 12 years overseas. He now is a cloud support engineer at Amazon Web Services in Portland, starting in December. They moved from Yokosuka, Japan, where he was with CRSA, working in IT as a systems administrator on the U.S. Navy base there, and they were both involved in a church plant, Tokyo International Presbyterian Church in Ueno.

**Tricia Gates Brown** (G96, MA97) in September was ordained as a deacon in the Episcopal Diocese of Oregon and has been placed as a deacon at St. Mary's Episcopal Church in Woodburn. She is now in Yamhill, Oregon, while a part-time editor at Portland State University, starting in January 2020.

**Nathan Miller** (G97) and **Sarah (Yancey) Miller** (G00) live in Newberg where they have a business, Thistillium Pottery and Things, selling her pottery (mostly Medieval European inspired), as well as sewing and textile items at markets and online. He also is employed as a sanding expert with A.R.E. Manufacturing, a machine components firm in Newberg.

**Christopher Lehman** (G98) is principal of Pomona Elementary School in Montrose, Colorado, in the position since 2018. He moved from Dr. Martin Luther King Elementary in Colorado Springs following 15 years in the classroom.

**Charles Odimgbe** (MBA98) is the first to fill a new position of chief operating officer with the Toledo (Ohio) Area Regional Transit Authority (TARTA). He started in November after 10 years as CEO with the Rhode Island Public Transit Authority in Providence.

**Shawna Hughes** (G99) is now chief accounting officer with Magnite in Seattle, starting in June 2020 after her former firm, The Rubicon Project, merged with Telaria to become Magnite, creating the world's largest sell-side advertising platform. She started with the company in 2015.

**Kelly (Irish) Lemarr** (G99) in November was elected judge of the circuit court, 20th District, Position 5 in Washington County, Oregon. She was named pro tem in June 2018. Earlier, she was managing attorney for the Hillsboro branch of the nonprofit St. Andrew Legal Clinic, starting in 2008, and began her legal career there from 2004 to 2006.

**Shawna Rodrigues** (n99) is owner/founder of Grit2G, started in September 2019 in Portland. It supports women, giving grace and gratitude to help them uncover what they truly want in life. She also is author of a novel, *Beyond the Pear Blossoms*, released in December by Notebook Publishing.

**Summer (Dean) Valentine** (G99) graduated in December with a master's degree in professional counseling from Liberty University in Lynchburg, Virginia, and now is a mental health counselor with Life Encounter Counseling Services in Tigard, Oregon.

**Dayna Kirk** (ADP99, MBA02) in December was promoted to vice president of customer service and voluntary benefits at Standard Insurance Company in Portland. She started with the firm in 1990 and most recently was assistant vice president of voluntary benefits, in that position since 2013.



#### Fox Fun Fact

*Reed College students once dropped the George Fox Victory Bell in the Willamette River.*

**Tyler Johnson** (G99) and **Karen (Witty) Johnson** (n02) are now in Lake Charles, Louisiana, where he is assistant professor of history at Sowela Technical Community College. Last year they survived two hurricanes – Laura in August and Delta in October. They evacuated to friends in Texas for several weeks during the first, returning when power was restored. They had to evacuate again for five days during Delta. Their house survived, but his office building was severely damaged, and most of his American history books were ruined. He volunteered with Samaritan's Purse disaster relief and worked on 76 houses, cutting trees and branches, clearing debris and tarping roofs.

## 2000-09

**Jonathan Roberts** (G00) is now campus pastor at New Life Church in Gladstone, Oregon, starting in June 2020 after 16 years as a social studies teacher at Portland Christian High School.

**Ryan Dougherty** (G00, MBA11), after 20 years in admissions and enrollment positions at George Fox, most recently as vice president for enrollment and marketing, in August stepped down to help start a strategy and organization management company, TG Three, in Newberg.

**Kelly Boeve** (G00, MA04) is a licensed professional counselor with her own practice in Beaverton, Oregon, opened in 2018.

**Leslie Sesser** (G01) in September became a shareholder at Finney, Neill & Company, an accounting/auditing firm in Seattle where she has worked since 2011. She is also on the board of directors of the Washington Society of CPAs and has been leading a Young Life group in Shoreline, Washington, for 18 years.

**Robin Carter** (MBA01) in March started as vice president of marketing for San Diego-based Blue Sky eLearn, which provides learning platforms and virtual event services to clients.

**Beth (McPherson) DuPriest** (G01) is now professor of biology and division chair at Warner Pacific University in Portland after being on faculty since 2009. She also is an affiliated scientist with Oregon Health &

Science University, from which she has a PhD in integrative biomedical sciences.

**Eddie Hall III** (ADP01) is now an adjunct professor teaching engineering ethics at Grand Canyon University in Phoenix, where he also is education director with Prayer Assembly Church of God in Christ, directing 50-plus teachers who provide educational training and personal development management to area residents.

**Julie (Eggiman) Evans** (Go1) received a master's degree in project management from Georgetown University in May 2020 and now is back in West Linn, Oregon. She is project manager and estimator for James Frank Construction in Portland.

**Elizabeth (Carlson) Comfort** (Go1, MBA04) is finance director for Clackamas County, Oregon, with 100 on her staff. She assumed the position in January 2020 after first being a consultant, then interim finance director.

**Ramona Mangelsdorf** (Go1, MAT03) received attention in February when she was named an Amazing Educator by the Oregon Pamplin Media Group newspapers and highlighted in a special feature section. She was showcased for her nearly two decades of experience, including her current position as language arts teacher at Newberg High School for the last six years.

**Susan Shortridge** (ADP01) is in her 10th year at Portland State University, the last nine years as executive assistant to the dean of the graduate school of education.

**Shannon (Vandehey) Buckmaster** (Go2) is the city of Newberg's first economic health manager, named in August to support the economic recovery of the community. She left the position of CEO of the Chehalem Valley Chamber of Commerce after serving in that role for two years.



#### Fox Fun Fact

A bear born before George Fox University existed inspired the school's use of "Bruins." The cub lived in Hess Creek Canyon.

**Lindsey (Bennington) McDowell** (Go2) in March was named to the newly created position of public information and communications coordinator for the Baker County (Oregon) School District. Previously, she had been in nearby Union County working for its Center for Human Development.

**Matt Cummings** (Go2) in December became a leadership coach with Building Champions, Inc., an executive coaching firm in Lake Oswego, Oregon, that helps managers and business professionals build their businesses and lives. He ended nearly 15 years with Huron Consulting Group, most recently as director of software engineering.

**Brian Van Bergen** (ADP02) will continue as Yamhill County (Oregon) clerk, reelected in November to the position he has held since January 2013. Earlier, he was account manager and digital storefront manager for the Lynx Group in Salem, Oregon.

**Tim Revett** (MAT03) is a missionary with United World Mission, serving at New Horizon School near Asuncion, Paraguay, where he teaches the English program and he and his wife also work in youth ministry and lead a home group. He also coordinates a national evangelism and missions ministry for neighborhoods and prisons in the country.

**Stephanie (Holderby) Tyrer** (ADP03) in early 2020 joined the Oregon Department of Education as a senior business operations and policy analyst. She works in Salem and lives in Dallas, Oregon.

**Kristen (Damron) Baluyot** (Go3), who lives in Mead, Colorado, is social services director for The Salvation Army in Denver, in that position since 2015. She has guided extra efforts to respond to the impact of COVID-19 among the homeless in the area.

**Rachel (Miller) Aichele** (Go3, MAT07) started last fall as a special education teacher at Jefferson Elementary School in the Mt. Vernon (Washington) School District.

**Danielle (Becker) Ambrose** (Go4) is university registrar at California State University in Sacramento, in her fourth year after two years as registrar at Concordia University in Portland.

**Phillip Towne** (MDiv04) is now chair and professor of intercultural studies at Hope International University in Fullerton,



#### Fox Fun Fact

The student newspaper, *The Crescent*, was first published in 1891.

California, where he started in 2012.

**Stephen Keck** (Go4) in December was promoted to clinical director of the North Idaho Veterans Affairs Clinic in Coeur d'Alene, Idaho.

**Shawn Daley** (MAT04) joined George Fox University in the fall as chief strategy and business development officer. He arrives from Concordia University in Portland, where he was executive vice president for business development and innovation for three years before overseeing closure operations in 2020. Previously, he was an education professor with Concordia since 2010.

**Kevin Ganey** (PsyDo4) is owner and clinical psychologist at Ganey Counseling and Consultation in Newton, Pennsylvania. He established the practice in 2005.

**Michael Seregow** (Go4) is the 2020 winner of the American Prize in Chamber Music Performance. He is half of the Eason-Seregow Duo that won the professional division. Seregow, a pianist, is assistant teaching professor of music at Ball State University in Muncie, Indiana. His current career includes teaching, performing, recording and being a clinician and adjudicator. The American Prize recognizes commercial and noncommercial recorded performances of classical music in the U.S.

**Kyle Adams** (Go5) works in the U.S. Capitol, where he is a health and fitness specialist at the U.S. House of Representatives, in that role since 2012. He has been in the Washington, D.C., area since 2009, when he began a nearly three-year commitment as a ceremonial guard with the U.S. Navy.

**Joann (Whittaker) Boswell** (Go5, MAT10) and **Matt Boswell** (Go5, MDiv09) are in Camas, Washington, where she is a poet and he is a pastor. In June, she released *Cosmic Pockets*, a 306-page book of 88 poems and

142 color photographs. She also is owner/photographer of Joann Renee Photography. He has been pastor of the Camas Friends Church since 2015.

**Amy (Endicott) Wolff** (Go5) released a book, *Signs of Hope: How Small Acts of Love Can Change Your World*, an intimate collection of stories from her personal life, as well as people impacted by the movement she started of posting yard signs with messages of hope and encouragement. She began with 20 yard signs and, in just 18 months, saw the movement spread to all 50 states and 27 countries. Her story was featured on an episode of ABC's *GMA3* this spring.

**Jeff Sargent** (Go5) got to oversee what turned out to be a family-involved project when, as facilities director, he helped with creation of the new Nature Center at Twin Rocks Friends Camp and Conference Center in Rockaway, Oregon. It transformed the lower part of the Friendship Center into an outdoor education space. His wife, **Emily (Sims) Sargent** (Go5), has had her dream become a reality in her role as outdoor education director for Twin Rocks.

**Scott Hyde** (Go6), after a standout career in Bruin baseball, is now back in his hometown as deputy director with Josephine County Community Corrections in Grants Pass, Oregon, with the department since 2012. He is one term away from completing an MSW from Portland State University. Back in 2004, Hyde led George Fox to a Division III national baseball title, being named World Series MVP and national co-pitcher of the year.

**Kait (Saechin) Chao** (ADP06) is in San Antonio as a financial planning and analysis analyst at Sirius Computer Solutions. She started in 2019 after several accounting and controller positions in Texas since 2007.



#### Fox Fun Fact

Dancing was finally allowed on campus in 1995.

**Todd Guevara** (MDiv06) is a board-certified chaplain with the Association of Professional Chaplains, working since 2019 at Oregon Health & Science University Hillsboro Medical Center. He previously served at the Portland Veterans Administration and at the Oregon State Hospital in Salem, and was a pastor.

**Jolene (Madsen) McElwain** (Go7), who joined the company in 2019, in October was named secretary/treasurer of Muscanell Millworks, Inc. in Cortez, Colorado. The company produces precisely milled, long-length solid flooring from sustainable area hardwoods.

**Kenny Herrera** (MBA07) started in July with R&H Construction in Portland as environmental, health and safety director. A certified safety professional, he has been in similar positions since 2008 with four other firms, mostly recently with Intel Global Construction as EHS manager.

**Josiah Nishita** (Go7) is now deputy managing director in the office of Maui County (Hawaii) Mayor Michael Victorino. He was appointed in 2020, promoted from Maui County clerk, a position he held for a year after more than five years as deputy county clerk. He works in Wailuku, county seat for the 168,000 residents.

**Wolfram Laub** (MBA07) in August became chief operating officer for Associates in Medical Physics in Greenbelt, Maryland. He left his position as chief of clinical medical physics at Johns Hopkins Hospital in Baltimore, where he had been for three years after nine years as director of medical physics at Oregon Health & Science University. This April, his new firm merged and rebranded to become Aspekt Solutions, providing radiology and radiation oncology providers staff, guidance and technical expertise and support.

**Rick Chromey** (DMIno7) has released his sixth nationally published book: *Gen Tech: An American Story of Technology, Change and Who We Really Are*. He also was the cover story in the October issue of *Boise Christian Living Magazine*. He is the founder/president at MANN! Educational Services, based in Meridian, Idaho, with the purpose of empowering and equipping teachers, pastors, leaders and parents through creative, inspirational training.



#### Fox Fun Fact

Wood-Mar Hall is named after Amanda Woodward and Evangeline Martin, who raised \$30,000 for its construction.

**Thomas Beyea** (Go7), after more than 10 years in Washington, D.C., resigned from his job last summer in order to move back to Portland. But before finding a new position in the city, his employer in the capital, the American Farm Bureau, called: They wanted him back. So now he's in his same position as director of national member benefits, working full time remotely from home.

**Stephanie (Francis) Pietz** (Go8) is in her second year as a language engineer at Welocalize in Portland, a company that delivers content solutions for translation, localization, adaptation and machine automation.

**Peter Jackman** (Go8) is in his second year as a test development engineer with SRAM, at the Colorado Springs, Colorado, site of the national bicycle component manufacturer.

**Barbara (Hedges) Carter** (ADP08) completed a doctoral degree in management in organizational development and change at Colorado Technical University in 2019 and continues her work as design senior consultant at Wells Fargo Bank in Vancouver, Washington.

**Poppy Smith** (PS08) is a motivational life coach, spiritual counselor, abuse recovery advocate, speaker and author in Portland, inspiring women to thrive spiritually, emotionally and personally. She became a certified life coach with the American Association of Christian Counselors in 2019.

**William Stevens** (MBA08) began in March as an account executive in Portland with VMware, a cloud computing technology company. He serves on the George Fox Alumni Board of Directors.

**Leonel Trujillo** (Go9) this year joined Albany (Oregon) OB/GYN, part of Samaritan Health Services. He earned his medical

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## A Face for the Isolated

**For weeks on end, Brent Kimberly has been many of his COVID-19 patients' only link to the outside world – a reality that's deepened his connection to both them and his loved ones** *By Sean Patterson*

**Brent Kimberly** (G95) had certainly connected with patients before the onslaught of COVID-19. As a hospitalist at Providence St. Vincent Medical Center in Portland the past 17 years, he's stood bedside countless times to offer treatment, an encouraging word and a reassuring presence in the midst of crisis.

But there was something different about this disease. Something that distinguished the coronavirus from all the other ailments he'd encountered. For, until now, nothing had so drastically disconnected his patients from the outside world.

Suddenly, he was the one point of contact – the one face – many of his patients would see for weeks, even months, on end. The gravity of that reality has deepened his connections to those in his care and hammered home a reminder never to take anything – particularly relationships – for granted.

"COVID makes you reflect on what's important in life and opens your eyes to what we take for granted," says Kimberly, a doctor of osteopathic medicine and an alumnus of George Fox's biology program.

"I hope, long term, that's the thing that sticks with us – that we better learn to appreciate the people in our lives and the simple pleasures that are lost in something like this."

Kimberly suspected the emotional and psychological ramifications of this virus were unique when, one day, the hospital received a phone call. It was from a patient he had treated three months before – a man who insisted he meet the one doctor who had seen him through those weeks of isolation.

Kimberly tried to satisfy the patient's need by taking a phone call. But that wouldn't do. The man

insisted he meet Kimberly face-to-face. The ensuing meeting included a photo of patient and doc and a hearty "thank you."

"First time in 17 years that a patient actually tracked me down and insisted on meeting me," Kimberly says. "Sometimes when you're doing your job, you don't realize what impact you're making on people. The guy just wanted to thank me and shake my hand. And he wasn't going to take 'no' for an answer."

Kimberly's empathy for his patients deepened when, in early December, he contracted COVID himself. The result was a 10-day quarantine at home, isolated from even his wife **Cindy** (G94) and teenage kids, Chase and Elle. "Let's just say it was a very different Christmas this year," he sighs. "Fortunately I had recovered by the end of the month, but the whole season had a different feel."

As a hospitalist, Kimberly treats a wide range of patients, from heart attack and stroke victims to those with pneumonia and other infectious diseases. It's a job that combines his two passions: science and helping others.

"I come by it honestly," says Kimberly – the son of longtime George Fox biology professor Dwight Kimberly – of

his devotion to medicine. "And while some people might see science as a threat to their faith, for me it's the opposite – it's the validation of it. I think it's a reflection of the creative work of God."

Faith has always been a part of Kimberly's practice, but in recent months it's taken on a deeper meaning. "Ironically, I think I've connected more deeply with COVID patients because of the isolation factor," he says. "And there have been more interactions where I've connected with someone over our shared faith."

"I try to approach my day differently than someone who isn't focused on Christ. That can be challenging, because you're always busy and pressed for time, but when you realize you might be the only person this patient sees today ... well, you just ache for them. You just want to be the tool God uses to remind them that somebody cares."



**Fox Fun Fact**

As a George Fox student, Grant Davis (G21) created a LEGO set that was sold in stores across the country.

degree at Pacific Northwest University of Health Sciences College of Osteopathic Medicine in Yakima, Washington, and completed his residency at AMITA Health Saint Francis Hospital in Evanston, Illinois. He specializes in robotic-assisted surgery and laparoscopy.

Vladimir Tkach (G09) is now in the Charlotte, North Carolina, area, promoted in 2019 to be planning and reporting manager (new trucks) at Daimler Trucks North America. He is in his seventh year with the company.

Jamie (Smith) Raines (G09) is a soldier in the U.S. Army, starting in September based at Camp Parks (Parks Reserve Forces Training Area) in Dublin, California. She is a training instructor who previously worked in a counterintelligence field office in Camp Zama, a U.S. Army post in Japan.

**2010–19**

Karen (Koch) Shimer (MDiv10) in July began pastoring two Oregon churches: Carus United Methodist in Oregon City and Marquam United Methodist in Mt. Angel.

Michelle Mayer (G10) in March was approved for tenure at Clark College, a public community college in Vancouver, Washington. She joined the faculty in 2017 after receiving a PhD in mathematics from Texas Tech in Lubbock, Texas, and is course coordinator for the applied algebra courses.

Jacob Garsez (MAT11) is head baseball coach at Oregon Tech in Klamath Falls, Oregon. He was named in August following a four-year stint as head coach at the University of Antelope Valley in Lancaster, California. Previously, he coached at Corban University from 2011 to 2015.

Sarah Askin (G11) and Kyle Askin (G12) live in Newberg, where she is gallery manager for ART Elements Gallery. She started when it opened in 2012 and is one of its 50 artists, showing her work in painting, watercolors, woven baskets and ceramics. He started in January as a senior software engineer with PK, a design- and technology-powered digital marketing firm in Beaverton, Oregon. He also is owner of Hound Dog Creative, doing freelance work since 2016.

Simone (Keller) Harlow (PsyD11) is a clinical psychologist at Austin Integrated Psychological Services in Austin, Texas.

Adam Cuneo (MBA11) in December became a recruiter at Boise State University, responsible for workforce outreach. He has worked for the university since 2017, when he became corporate partnership manager with BSU's Center for Professional Development.

Alexandra (Jimenez) Rhizor (G12) in March was promoted from staff nurse to clinical nurse supervisor at Nursingale, where she has worked the last two years. The Portland nursing agency helps medically fragile children with in-home, family-centered care.

Jay Mathisen (EdD12) starts July 1 as superintendent of Jefferson County (Oregon) School District, leaving his position of one year as director of educational leadership at George Fox. It's a return to Central Oregon, where he was deputy superintendent of the Bend/La Pine School District from 2015 to 2020.

Amanda (Winkelman) Howard (G12), director of marketing at Westside Christian High School since 2018, added duties as director of admissions in 2019, and is now also responsible for alumni relations for the Tigard, Oregon, school.

Billy Watson (DMin12) is lead pastor at The Watershed United Methodist Church in League City, Texas, south of Houston. He started in 2018 after being lead pastor at the First United Methodist Free Church in Kountze, Texas.

Josh (Riedel) TenHaken-Riedel (G13), after five years as assistant director of spiritual formation at Belmont University in Nashville, Tennessee, now is in Spokane, Washington, where he is a flex coach with InsideTrack, working with prospective and enrolled college students to clarify their goals and understanding of self.

Ann Campbell (G13) is in Bakersfield, California, where she is accounting manager with Direct Safety Solutions, Inc., in that position since graduation. The company is a wholesaler of personal protective equipment and gear.

Jordan (Enobakhare) Ifueko (G13) is a New York Times bestselling author of the *Raybearer* series and other stories. She's been featured in *People* magazine, NPR Best Books, the *NPR Pop Culture Hour* and other publications. She lives in Los Angeles with her husband David.

Hannah (Munger) Williams (G13) started last August as a gifted and talented resource teacher in the Colorado Springs (Colorado) School District 11.

LaShawanta Spears (MA13) in November was announced as Oregon Assistant Principal of the Year, selected by the Oregon Association of Secondary School Administrators. She has held that position at Alice Ott Middle School since 2017 and has served in the David Douglas School District (Portland) since 2001.

Jim Ferraris (ADP13) in March retired after serving as police chief of the city of Woodburn for five years. That meant he also left his position as president of the Oregon Association of Chiefs of Police, a post held since 2020. In April, he began as owner/principal of Ferraris Investigations and Consulting in Wilsonville, Oregon, serving government and private sectors. In March, he also started as training coordinator with the Oregon State Sheriffs' Association in Salem. He continues as a leadership instructor with the Oregon Department of Public Safety Standards and Training. He has been in law enforcement 43 years, including 27 years as assistant chief of police in Portland.

**Fox Fun Fact**

When George Fox was founded in 1891, the cost of tuition was \$8 to \$12 per term. Room and board was \$2.50 per week.

**Fox Fun Fact**

Our first graduating class had just two students.

Dorie Vickery (EdD13) is completing her first year as superintendent of the Sheridan (Oregon) School District. She was named last June to guide the district of just over 1,000 students in four schools. She left a one-year position as educational consultant with the Philomath (Oregon) School District.

Ryan Schlunz (ADP13) is in his second year as chief information officer with Profit Recovery Partners in Costa Mesa, California. He left the Portland law firm Stoel Rives after nearly 11 years, where he was chief administration, information and innovation officer. His new firm develops and manages cost-reduction solutions for Fortune 1000 companies and private companies nationwide.

James MacDonald (G13) received a doctoral degree in mechanical engineering in June 2020 from Western Michigan University and now is in a postdoctoral position working on advanced ignition research for internal combustion engines with Sandia National Laboratories in Livermore, California.

Katherine (Scherer) Khaw (G13) is director of rehabilitation and a certified occupational therapy assistant at Infinity Rehab in Portland, where she began in 2015.

Sue (Covey) Harte (MA13) is 2020–21 president of the Oregon School Counselor Association, involved in planning for Oregon school openings and operations during the COVID-19 pandemic. She is a counselor at Central Linn High School in Halsey, Oregon, starting in 2014 after 16 years with the Albany (Oregon) School District.

Carly (Halverson) Pon (G13) in November started as coordinator of communications and development at Project Patch in Vancouver, Washington. The nonprofit

Christian organization reaches out to at-risk adolescents in crisis and their families, providing specialized services.

Mike Vogel (PsyD13) is back on the George Fox campus as assistant professor of clinical psychology in the Graduate Department of Clinical Psychology. He started in the fall after a year as assistant professor of counseling education at MidAmerica Nazarene University in Olathe, Kansas. He started there in 2017 as a lecturer, then adjunct faculty, then assistant professor of psychology.

Caroline (Hudson) Jovanovich (G14) and Peter Jovanovich (G16) live in SeaTac, Washington, where she is staying home with their new son and he is a staff engineer with RH2 Engineering in Tacoma, in that position since graduation.

Linda (Reining) Lovos (ADP14) is vice president and branch manager at Columbia Bank in Wilsonville, Oregon.

Christopher Luttrell (MAT14) is now one of a few Google for Education Certified Trainers in Idaho. He is completing his second year as a teacher in the Twin Falls School District, serving as a fifth-grade teacher at Perrine Elementary.

Justin Vanier (G14), who earned an MDiv degree from Western Seminary in 2020, is in his sixth year as youth minister at Southwest Bible Church in Beaverton, Oregon.

Micah Donor (G14) received a PhD in chemistry at the University of Oregon in 2020 and now is in postdoctoral research in instrument development and deployment at Pacific Northwest National Laboratory in Richland, Washington.

Bonnie (McDonald) Doran (G14) is an intensive care unit nurse and registered respiratory therapist at PeaceHealth Riverbend Hospital in Springfield, Oregon, in that position since she graduated in 2014. She also works with emergency intervention as part of the rapid response team. Last July, she was awarded expert level designation in the Professional Nurse Advancement Program.

Angelyn (Haughey) Holmes (G14) and Micah Holmes (G14) live in Tualatin, Oregon, while she is in her fourth year as a shift supervisor with Starbucks in West Linn, Oregon, and he is in his fifth year as middle

school director for Countryside Community Church in Sherwood, Oregon.

Renee Geck (G14) received a PhD in biological and biomedical sciences from Harvard University in May 2020 and now is a postdoctoral researcher in genome sciences at the University of Washington in Seattle.

Jennifer (Newman) Higgins-Newman (G15) is in her second year as program manager at Beacon Hill Friends House in Boston. It is a co-op residence for community living, with about 20 persons of all ages participating each year.

Joseph Truitt (G15) continues to live in Newberg while working in Aurora, Oregon, where he is a mechanical engineer at Columbia Helicopters, starting in 2018.

Austin Strutz (G15) and Jess (Giddings) Strutz (G17) are in Gardena, California, now in intensive Chinese language study while preparing to return to China this fall. They are with ELIC, which recruits, trains and sends teachers on long- and short-term missions trips to Asia, the Middle East and North Africa.

Jonathan Switzer (G15) is using his major in organizational communication very directly, now in the athletic apparel industry. In December, he moved to Baltimore, where he is change management lead with Under Armour, leaving Nike, where he was a consultant for transition and enrollment for more than a year.

Emily Lund-Hansen (G15) in August started as a communications specialist at Leadership Education at Duke Divinity School in Durham, North Carolina, from which she received a master of theological studies degree in 2020. That followed two and a half years as an assistant editor at *Christianity Today* magazine in Chicago.

Continued on page 66

**Fox Fun Fact**

The Centennial Tower was built in 1991 to commemorate our 100th anniversary.



# The Heart of a Hero

*When COVID-19 struck her long-term care facility, Tracy Berg refused to leave her residents alone*

By Jeremy Lloyd



**Tracy Berg (G13)** has always had a heart for seniors, a quality her friends at George Fox fittingly described as “aggressively trying to help elderly people.”

Do you need help carrying those groceries? Can I walk with you across the street? “My friends would say, ‘They’ve made it this far, they’re walking fine,’” she recalls, laughing. “And I’m like, ‘But their shoes are untied!’”

It was only a matter of time before her passion for senior care led Berg to Marquis Hope Village, a rehabilitation and long-term care facility in Canby, Oregon.

As social services director, her job entails a variety of activities that all boil down to a single mission: advocating for the individual needs and rights of residents. Each morning, she gets in early and reviews the previous night’s report: Are there new residents? Did anyone move rooms? Were there medication changes? Did anyone have a fall? Do families need to be contacted? The latter is a big part of her job.

“I tell families, ‘I’m here. I will care for your loved one so you don’t have to be the caregiver anymore. And I can walk with them through that journey all the way through end of life,’” she says. “This isn’t just a job for me. Every single day I come into work, I care so passionately about these people.”

That passion shows well beyond the typical requirements of the job. One of her favorite memories involves a resident who was near the end of his life. He had served in the Navy and was a deep-sea fisherman. “He loved ships. He loved anything related to the water,” she recalls. “So for Halloween I made his wheelchair into a boat. I got him an orange vest, I got him a sailor’s hat with his name on it.”

And so the two of them, both dressed as sailors, motored around the facility in their wheelchair boat. “I’m not a DIY person,” Berg laughs. “I spent way too many hours on that costume. But I have this video of him in the costume, just thrilled, just loving it.”

A few weeks later, the man passed away.

When a resident passes, a white ribbon is placed next to their name on the door to their room. “The morning after, I always come and stand by the door and I’ll usually put my hand on that ribbon and take a minute to go through the memories I had with them,” Berg says. “It’s just my way of saying goodbye.”

It’s a way to grieve, process and move on. To mentally prepare for the next resident that needs her. But nothing could prepare her for June 2020 – the month a COVID-19 outbreak changed everything for Berg and the residents she cares so much for.

“By the time we discovered it – I’m talking like as soon as someone spiked a minimal fever – it had already spread by that point. It didn’t matter,” she says.

Residents were sick. Employees were sick. Berg, too, tested positive. Everyone with COVID was quarantined together, so she kept working.

“It was all hands on deck,” she says.

Berg’s responsibility during the crisis was one of the hardest. “It was my job as social services director to call the families and say your loved one tested positive. That was a tough phone call to make.”

Eventually, Berg became too sick to work. She experienced flu-like symptoms, loss of taste, and pain in her legs. She was sent home. But the anxiety of not being there was too much. She had to return.

She could still sit with residents so they weren’t alone in their final moments. She could still hold a phone to their ear as family members gathered outside their bedroom window. She could still hold their hand. And so she stayed, being present, giving of herself, loving her residents until the end – aggressively.

For her selfless acts of compassion, Berg was presented with a “Legend Award” from Marquis, for which she is grateful. But not all stories have a happy ending, especially those about COVID. Residents were lost before their time, and Berg still feels the lingering physical and emotional effects of “the worst month of my life” more than a year later.

But during the experience she also felt something else: “I could feel that people were praying for me,” she recalls. “When I had a moment to take a deep breath, I was like, ‘Oh my gosh, I can tangibly feel it.’ It was an incredible experience.”

In the midst of the outbreak, a former roommate from Berg’s George Fox days drove to the facility to encourage her friend. She brought a coffee and waited patiently at the door of the locked-down facility for someone to bring it inside. When the beverage finally made its way to Berg, she looked at it and stopped, tears welling up in her eyes. On the side of the cup, where a name is normally written, was one simple word: “Hero.”



**“I care so passionately about these people.”**



#### Fox Fun Fact

Our mascot Pennington Bear is named after Levi Pennington, president of George Fox from 1911 to 1941.

**Reed Keltner** (MBA15) is in his third year as West Coast operations manager with S. Walter Packaging Corporation in Portland.

**Don Jones** (MBA15) started his own business in July, becoming owner/principal of Invaluable People, located in Forest Grove, Oregon. He is a management consultant for banks, credit unions, small businesses and nonprofits following more than 22 years as a vice president and branch manager in the banking industry.

**Ryan McMillen** (G15) in February was announced as the new president of RyanTech Cloud Services in Higley, Arizona. He started with the cloud services provider in 2017 as product manager, then became business development manager before being named director of business development in 2019.

**Josh Farrester** (DPT15) began this year as the new clinical director of Step and Spine Physical Therapy in his hometown of Madras, Oregon. He began as the clinic was taking over the former Apex Physical Therapy, where he started as a physical therapist in 2015.

**Chris Fronsoe** (ADP15) in October joined Vitro Architectural Glass in Vancouver, Washington, as national architectural manager for the Northwest region. He left a position as pre-construction manager with DeaMor Associates in Ridgefield, Washington, a specialty contractor for natural lighting products.

**Marty Palacios** (EdD15) is in his first year as dean of education at Warner Pacific University in Portland. He ended 31 years with the McMinnville (Oregon) School District, where he started as a teacher, then was principal at Patton Middle School for 15 years and most recently was assistant principal at Duniway Middle School for five years.

**Megan Hays** (G15) is in her second year after being named a manager with the tax and accounting firm Opsahl Dawson, with offices in Vancouver and Longview, Washington. She joined the company in 2017.

**Joshua Garcia** (G15) last year received a master's degree in religion from Yale University after receiving a master's degree in theological studies, texts and traditions in 2017 from Boston University. He now is a PhD student in Hebrew Bible and Old Testament at Graduate Theological Union in Berkeley, California.

**Brett Vernon** (G15) is following in the footsteps of his father, **Mark Vernon** (G77), as a basketball coach. This year he was hired to coach Aloha (Oregon) High in the Class 6A Metro League. He moves up from a year as assistant coach at Westview High School in Beaverton, Oregon. He is also assistant golf pro at Chehalem Glenn Golf Course in Newberg. His dad, Bruin men's basketball coach for 18 years until 2000, later coached at Southridge and Newberg high schools, and this year retired from his PE teaching position at Stoller Middle School in Beaverton. He now plans to have a role in helping his son.

**Allison (Gilbert) Garvin** (G15) is back in Colorado, where she is a nurse at Clinica Family Health in Lafayette, a primary health clinic serving underserved populations. She started in 2019 after she and her husband quit their jobs and took a year off to travel through New Zealand, Canada, Bali, Bolivia, Chile and Patagonia.

**Megan Weaver** (G15, MSW20) is using her newest degree in Bend, Oregon, where she started in October as a behavioral health specialist with Deschutes County Crisis Stabilization Center.

**Aaron Medina** (G15) and **Annabrodea (Stancil) Medina** (G16) live in Tigard, Oregon. He is a software engineer with ID Experts in Portland, in his second year with the firm, which offers identity theft protection, recovery services and credit monitoring. She is self-employed, assisting clients with management and development strategies for growth and coordinating leadership events for training and development.

**Caleb Barlow** (G16) in 2019 received a doctorate in physical therapy from the University of St. Augustine for Health

Services in Austin, Texas, where he now lives and works in his second year as a physical therapist at Austin Sports Medicine.

**Corie (Houlbjerg) Camara** (PsyD16) is a clinical psychologist at Dallas Cognitive Behavioral Therapy, in her third year.

**Daniel Proffitt** (DMim16) is executive pastor of generational ministries at Trinity Fellowship Church, which has five locations in the Amarillo, Texas, area. He started in 2019. This last year he also became associate campus pastor of the main campus, the Hollywood Road location, overseeing all operations.

**Keiko (Fujii) Neufeld** (G16) in November joined Vacasa, a vacation rental management company in Boise, Idaho, as senior software engineer. She left a position as software development manager at Clearwater Analytics.

**Julie Dodge** (DMin16) in December was named interim director for the Multnomah County (Oregon) Behavioral Health Division. She was on the Concordia University-Portland faculty full time starting in 2012 and served as dean of the College of Health and Human Sciences from 2018 until the university closed in May 2020.

**Sarah (Rudinsky) Sherrell** (MBA16) and her husband, Parker, were the subject of a feature story in the December issue of *Good Fruit Grower* magazine, which highlighted them as first-generation farmers in Hood River, Oregon, where they are planting pears, apples and cherries as part of their new business, Columbia River Land Management. She also is director of operations for Mount Adams Fruit in Bingen, Washington, in that position since July, but in her third year with the company.

**Kurtley Knight** (DMin16), after three years as an adjunct, now is assistant professor of



#### Fox Fun Fact

George Fox students have studied on every continent but Antarctica.



#### Fox Fun Fact

A student named George Fox graduated from George Fox in 2009.

spiritual formation at Portland Seminary. Previously, he was teaching missional leadership while also serving as a senior teaching fellow at Renovare Institute in Denver. He is ordained as a transitional deacon in the Anglican Church of North America.

**Beatriz (Terraza) Guerrero** (G16, MAT19) is in her second year with the Woodburn (Oregon) School District, where she is a fourth-grade Spanish/bilingual teacher at Heritage Elementary.

**Quinton Phelps** (G17) is a self-employed blockchain developer and consultant in Portland, working with clients to help them launch their cryptocurrency since 2018.

**Justin Dutton** (G17) started in 2018 as a production associate at Tesla Gigafactory in Sparks, Nevada. The plant makes electric motors and battery packs at the highest volume in the world.

**Kelly (Douglass) Lafferty** (MA17) is a self-employed counselor, in 2018 opening her own practice, Grace and Peace Counseling, with offices in West Linn and Tigard, Oregon. She specializes in individual, couples and family therapy.

**Jasmine Cranshaw** (G17) graduated in December with an MBA from Corban University in Salem, Oregon, and now is in Charlotte, North Carolina, where in March she started as a strategy consultant at Catalyst, a healthcare consulting firm.

**Jongwon Seo** (MSW17) is a child and family therapist with Family Solutions, a behavioral health provider for children and families in Clark County, Washington.

**Makayla Fitchett** (G17, MSW18) is in her second year as a child and family mental health therapist at Children's Center, a medical group mental health clinic in Vancouver, Washington. Previously, she was director of Odyssey Preschool in

Tualatin, Oregon.

**Paula Darling** (ADP17) in February started as a financial advisor with Edward Jones in Salem, Oregon. She left a corporate sales job after 30 years to find a more meaningful and purposeful career. She also is a volunteer with the Willamette Humane Society, Arches, an organization involved with running homeless shelters, and is a speaker with MERIT, an organization providing education and financial advice to individuals coming out of poverty.

**Cassidy Galimanis** (G17, MSW18) is back in her hometown of Meridian, Idaho, where she is a medical social worker at St. Luke's Hospital, starting last July. Her last seven years were in Oregon to attend George Fox and work for nearly two years as a clinical social worker with Bristol Hospice, headquartered in Clackamas.

**Bryan Fosmire** (G17) and **Stephanie Fosmire** (G17) now live in Dundee, Oregon, while he is working in McMinnville, Oregon, as a drafting engineer at Solid Form Fabrication. He started with the custom metal firm before graduating. She has been with Volunteer Community Connections of Providence Newberg Medical Center since 2019, helping with the Kids Day Out program.

**Grant McGill** (G17) has started his own business, Will McGill Surveying, in Turner, Oregon, where he is a water rights and geographical information systems consultant. He started the business part time shortly after graduation and then went full time in November 2018. Now his two-man team has grown from serving five clients to more than 100.

**Brittany Allen** (G17) is in her second year as an educational assistant in special education at the Mountain View Middle School Learning Resource Center in the Newberg School District.

**Jody Becker** (DMin17) is associate pastor at Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Salem, Oregon, in that position since 2017 after nine years as pastor at Lutheran churches in Wisconsin.

**Shane Gallup** (G17) is digital marketing coordinator with Value Based Inc. in Sherwood, Oregon, a boutique consulting company offering custom sales and marketing strategies.

**Paul McLaughlin** (PsyD17) is a licensed clinical

psychologist specializing in individual therapy. He is part of Hillcrest Psychological Associates, a group of independent practitioners, with his office in La Jolla, California.

**Miriam Saucedo** (MA17) is a mental health counselor at Linfield University in McMinnville, Oregon, in her second year after being a primary counselor with Volunteers of America for nearly two years.

**Andrew Reichenbach** (G17) is the new baseball coach at Newberg High School, promoted from assistant after one year. He was a staff accountant at Delap, an accounting firm in Lake Oswego, Oregon, for more than two years prior to joining his high school alma mater. The former Bruin was a two-time Northwest Conference first-team pick and had a two-year stint in the West Coast League.

**Megan Bos** (G17) is back at George Fox, starting in January, where she is a graduate admissions counselor for the MBA and Doctor of Physical Therapy programs. The previous three years she served as assistant director of development with Boys & Girls Aid in Portland.

**Derek Richwine** (G17, MAT19) is living in Eugene, Oregon, where he has an online teaching position with Baker Web Academy, a K-12 charter school based in Baker City, Oregon. He is in one of seven regional outlets that offer field trips, labs and face-to-face opportunities with mentor teachers who visit each student twice a month in person.

**Rebecca Pridmore** (G18) is completing her first year as head softball coach at Hermiston (Oregon) High School. She had been the JV coach at the 1,600-student school since 2019. She is a second-grade teacher at Sunset Elementary School in the district.



#### Fox Fun Fact

The first basketball game at George Fox was played in 1898 — just 7 years after the sport was invented.

**Eden (Wiegand) Preston** (G18) has opened her own decor gift shop and art gallery, Little Sparrow Gallery, in her childhood hometown of Fort Walton Beach, Florida. She also is teaching art part time at Liza Jackson Preparatory School, where she attended, and is painting watercolor animal portraits for pet owners, more than 40 a month. She was the subject of a lifestyle feature in April in the *Northwest Florida Daily News*.

**Nicholas Felt** (G18) started with Tektronix after graduation and is now a software design engineer with the Beaverton, Oregon, electronics firm.

**Jessica (Wilson) Schmidt** (G18) is a victim advocate with the Polk County, Oregon, district attorney's office, where she started in 2018.

**Charity (Metzger) Jones** (G18) and **Jordan Jones** (G18) live in Roseville, California, while working in Sacramento. She is an administrative assistant at the law offices of Suzanne E. Rogers and he is a software engineer with CalPERS, the state's public employees' retirement system.

**David Beach** (DMim18) is in his fourth year as the mental health director at Johnson-Brower Foundation, newly branded as LifeGR, in Lowell, Michigan. The non-profit organization assists veterans, first responders and military service members. He and his wife also have started Soul Seasons Publishing, which promotes conversations about spiritual and creative formation. Its latest publication is his new book, *The 7 Pillars of SheWillStay: Growth Strategies for Partners of Trauma Survivors*. It is a mainstay for the foundation's SheWillStay program, helping wives of veterans and first responders who choose to stay in difficult marriages.

**Michelle Thoreson** (DPT18) is living in Newberg but working in Salem, Oregon, where she is



#### Fox Fun Fact

The university has planted more than 1,000 trees in Hess Creek Canyon.

a physical therapist at Infinity Rehab, starting in 2018.

**Janeeta (Beck) Nelson** (G18) is a financial analyst with the Union Wine Company in Tualatin, Oregon, but is working remotely from Orlando, Florida, starting in March. She moved there while her husband is in school studying videography.

**Chelsea (Kraus) Gillespie** (MSW18) is an acute care social worker at the Veterans Administration in Portland, in that role since 2018.

**Jordyn Dunseath** (G18) is an independent videographer, photographer and graphic designer. She has her own freelance company and also continues to lead Young Life in Newberg.

**Mercedes (Morrow) Chance** (G18) in August started with the Hood River Valley (Oregon) School District, where she is a second-grade teacher at Hood River Options Academy.

**Laree Wolfe** (MA18) lives in Sandy, Oregon, and is a school counselor with Summit Learning Charter School, a virtual school serving K-12 students. She started in 2018.

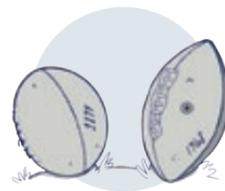
**David Jones** (MBA18) is chief growth officer with Valerian Technologies in Richardson, Texas, in that position since 2020, after a year as director of operations. The firm is a custom plastic card manufacturer.

**Kenneth Dye** (G18) and **Danielle (Howard) Dye** (G19) are in Newberg while he is an instructional aide at Yamhill-Carlton Intermediate School and has his own music studio, where he teaches trumpet. She is program coordinator and viola teaching artist with the JOY Project of the Yamhill Enrichment Society, teaching an after-school youth orchestra program.

**Kaitlyn Groshong** (G18), after nearly two years with an advertising agency in Los Angeles, has relocated to Washington, where she is now a senior marketing specialist with World Vision in Federal Way.

**Benjamin Hortalez** (G18, MAT20) started in July as a high school mathematics teacher at Peoria Accelerated High School, part of the Leona Group of schools.

**Jennie (Acker) Harrop** (DMim18), after a six-year process, in December was ordained as a Presbyterian pastor. She is lead pastor of Cedar Creek Church in Sherwood, Oregon.



#### Fox Fun Fact

Football was played at George Fox from 1894 to 1968, then resumed 46 years later in 2014.

She also serves as both associate dean and a professor for George Fox Connect.

**Ben Griner** (G18) in July became a wireless platform software test engineer with Apple in Cupertino, California, after starting with the company in 2018.

**Amy Drinnon** (G18) started in September as a first-grade teacher at McKinley Elementary in the Beaverton (Oregon) School District.

**Nolan Schuler** (G18) and **Haley (Strowbridge) Schuler** (G20) are in Providence, Rhode Island, where in January he became product sales manager with Eaton Corp, an electric and power management company. She has her own business, Schuler Interior Design, for residential and commercial clients.

**Laura Alvarez Schrag** (ADP18) has been named to the board of directors of Columbia Banking System, headquartered in Tacoma, Washington, with 145 banks in three states. Appointed Jan. 1, she is president/owner of Pondera Consulting in Nampa, Idaho, a business consultant and executive/leadership coaching firm. It was started in 2009 after she completed more than 17 years in human resources with Hewlett-Packard.

**Kimberly (Hunsaker) Vela** (n18) in August became a teacher in the Gervais (Oregon) School District, teaching middle school science.

**Robyn Angelis** (ADP19) in January returned to George Fox, where she is an access services specialist in the Murdock Library. Previously, she was at Marylhurst University as an administrative assistant in its library.

**Dianne (Woods) Climenhage** (n18) is with the Mennonite Central Committee, in her third year as Atlantic Canada regional representative for the global nonprofit relief agency located in Moncton, New Brunswick, Canada.

**Robert Thomas** (ADP19) in March became social services director at Marquis in Newberg, an assisted living/senior care facility. He transitioned from admissions director, a position he had held since he graduated. This spring, Thomas received a Legend Award for volunteering to sit with a Marquis resident who was dying in the hospital and had no remaining family or friends. The award recognition cited: "Your selfless nature is an example for all of us."

**Alexa (French) Howell** (G19) and **Jeremy Howell** (G19) live in Portland, where he is an audit associate with Aldrich Advisors, a CPA audit firm, in his second year. She started in May with The Drew Coleman Team realtors in Lake Oswego, Oregon, and is studying for her real estate broker's license.

**Chloe Tomlinson** (G19) lives in Sherwood, Oregon, where in August she started in technical support with Justinmind, a high-fidelity prototyping tool for web and mobile apps.

**Christian Parr** (G19) in October became a certified strength and conditioning specialist through the National Strength and Conditioning Association and is beginning to train private clients. He is a physical therapy aide at Rebound Physical Therapy in Bend, Oregon, where he started in 2018.

**Yesenia Vega** (ADP19) is a clinic supervisor at Vancouver Clinic. She started in 2018 at the physician-owned multi-specialty clinic with 11 locations in Clark County, Washington.

**Aiden Coomer** (G19) in November started as youth pastor at Plain Community Church in Leavenworth, Washington. For the last three years he has been with Youth Dynamics, working in relational youth adventure ministry.



#### Fox Fun Fact

Mama Bear, a bronze statue installed on campus in 2018, is 10 feet tall and weighs 1,200 pounds.

**Lauren Labant** (G19) reports she has landed her dream job as an emergency nurse at Willamette Valley Medical Center in McMinnville, Oregon.

**Jenie (Strickland) Armstrong** (DMim19) is a licensed professional counselor who now is owner at Ruach Restoration, starting in 2018 in Watkinsville, Georgia.

**Hannah Lingel** (G19) joined with One Collective in September and now is an entrepreneurship advocate in Zambia, Africa, arriving in April. She teaches business skills and business development, working with small groups while also leading Bible studies. One Collective works worldwide to assure access to food, freedom and forgiveness, based on the teachings of Jesus.

**Evangelina Montelongo** (G19) started last fall as a recruiter at Maxim Healthcare Services, a medical staffing agency in Los Angeles.

**Chesarae (Hall) Fletcher** (PS19) is in Sacramento, California, where she is a risk analyst with BETA Healthcare Group, in her second year, and also is a professor of research methods with Epic Graduate School. She has helped launch Sabbath With My Sisters, a public spiritual formation circle for women.

**Taylor Dawson** (G19) and **Brianna Martin-Ortega** (G20) live in Newberg while working in Portland. He started in January as a software engineer with BlockNative Corp., which builds infrastructure to monitor and manage the memory pool, the cryptocurrency mechanism for storing information on unconfirmed transactions. She is in her second year as an administrator with the Every Child program at The Contingent, a nonprofit in Portland. She helps provide support for vulnerable children, in partnership with the Oregon Department of Human Resources.

**Michelle (Sullivan) Dignan** (MSW19) started in January as a member engagement supervisor with Yamhill County Community Care. Located in McMinnville, Oregon, it is a coordinated care organization with a network of providers offering physical, mental, emotional, spiritual and social well-being.

**Deirdra Eden** (G19) last summer released three books in the Amazon best-selling



#### Fox Fun Fact

The first-ever George Fox basketball game was played on the third floor of a local hotel.

series, *The Watchers*, a Christian fantasy fairytale genre. Her books are *To Capture the Wind*, *White Dragons* and *The Silver Phoenix*. She is owner of her own Eden Literary Company in Canby, Oregon, where she is author, illustrator, photographer, designer and blogger. She has also authored *Time Management for Creative People*.

**Douglas Bursch** (DMim19) published a new book in April through InterVarsity Press: *Posting Peace: Why Social Media Divides Us and What We Can Do About It*, inspired by his doctoral research at the seminary. He is co-pastor (since 1998) of Evergreen Foursquare Church in Auburn, Washington, and is producer and host of *The Fairly Spiritual Show* program and podcast.

**Kristina (Petty) Krabill** (MBA19) is now in Bend, Oregon, where she started in December as director of health services at Brightwater Senior Living, combining her MBA with her registered nurse background.

**Kyler Shumway** (PsyD19) is a psychologist with Deep Eddy Psychotherapy in Austin, Texas, in that position since January but with the firm since September as business and program coordinator. He is the author of *Getting Psyched: The Therapist's Guide to the Art and Business of Public Speaking*.

**Pam Strachan** (DMim19) in September became senior chaplain at Adventist Health Tillamook (Oregon), providing spiritual care for the center, medical offices and home care services. A bereavement specialist, for the last 14 years she was in a similar role at Adventist Health Portland.

Continued on page 72



# The Perfect Assist

**Basketball star Les “Pee Wee” Harrison takes an “I Choose Love” message to the nation in an effort to build communities and set up others for success** By Sean Patterson

Regardless of where he travels – whether it be to the Midwestern plains of his youth or the run-down, broken-glass-covered streets of America’s inner cities – Les “Pee Wee” Harrison’s message is the same: “Choose love.”

It’s a simple but profound mantra, first instilled in him by his parents during the height of the civil rights movement and one that continues to drive him with each bus ride or flight to cities across the nation. As the leader of “I Choose Love USA” – a grassroots initiative that promotes reconciliation, transformational healing and social equality – Harrison (G86, MBA03) is on the road the majority of the calendar year.

In fact, he plans to travel to all 50 state capitals by the end of 2021. With each stop, he’s meeting with governors, mayors, police and fire chiefs, and educators in an effort to build relationships between community leaders and their constituents.

“We don’t have the luxury to hate,” he says matter-of-factly. “Too many of the recent movements out to seek justice are divisive. They are separatist in nature. I wanted to create something that was inclusive of everybody.”

Inspired by the gospel song *I Choose Love*, sung by the group The Brown Sisters – of which his wife, Leah, is a member – Harrison launched “I Choose Love USA” in 2020 in response to the civil unrest and divisiveness taking hold in Portland and around the country.

It kicked off in his childhood hometown of Omaha, Nebraska, where he initiated a “Governor’s Challenge” that resulted in the state’s leaders – among them Governor Pete Ricketts – signing an “I Choose Love” creed.

The tour also includes a transformational workshop that aims to educate participants on how others live in hopes of bringing about understanding, and week-long basketball camps that call for police officers to serve as coaches to youth in the community. “How do you build community? Through relationships,” Harrison says. “By doing this, we help kids see officers as advocates and the officers see the kids as coachable.”

The movement also incorporates neighborhood beautification projects that clean, one block at a time, the streets that lead to local schools. The practice serves as a metaphor: Pave the way for children to safely walk to school, and it sends a message that they can get an education and pursue their dreams.

A final element of “I Choose Love USA” is

perhaps its most profound: the presentation to civic leaders miniature replicas of the Statue of Responsibility, a sculpture inspired by Holocaust survivor Viktor Frankl and commissioned by famed author (*The 7 Habits of Highly Effective People*) Stephen Covey. The 305-foot statue, featuring two hands joined together, will be erected by 2023 in a to-be-announced West Coast city to promote social, civil and vocational responsibility. The monument will serve as a West Coast counterpart to the Statue of Liberty in New York.

The underlying themes of it all: Choose to love. Take responsibility for your city. Build relationships with others to dismantle the walls that separate us.

“With all these stops, we’re not just about external beautification. This isn’t a ‘community fix-up project,’” Harrison says. “It’s all about internal beautification. It’s about building relationships. It’s about giving kids the ability to dream.”

“We’re going to these civic leaders because the streets are not going to change first. Congress needs to change first, and then the streets will change.”

Promoting unity and personal responsibility is nothing new to Harrison. For more than three decades he’s traveled the globe as a motivational speaker and entertainer as a member of the Harlem All-Stars, an outgrowth of the Harlem Globetrotters. Playing alongside basketball legends Meadowlark Lemon and Curly Neal has given Harrison a platform to spread a message of hope to the masses.

The conviction that drives him? Be willing to set others up for success, putting their interests ahead of your own.

“That’s what I’m all about,” says Harrison, a point guard for the Bruins (1984-86) who led the squad in assists his first season and who stands at No. 5 on the university’s all-time steals list. “That’s why I call my book and my company by the same name – *The Perfect Assist*. I realized as a player that, in order for me to be the most successful point guard I could be, somebody’s success had to come before mine. Because if I pass you the ball and you miss the shot, I don’t get an assist.

“So, my whole focus is this: How can I put people in places so they can have success?”



Harrison played for the Bruins from 1984-86, finishing fifth in career steals.



 Learn more about I Choose Love USA at [Ichooseloveusa.com](http://Ichooseloveusa.com)

**Fox Fun Fact**

An air-filled waterbed captured the college's annual Raft Race, an on-and-off George Fox tradition, in 1976.

**2020–21**

**Corey Johnson** (MBA20) in October became senior management analyst for the city of Tigard (Oregon), leaving after seven years with the Tualatin Hills (Oregon) Park and Recreation District, where he was operations analyst the last three years.

**Lindsay Almquist** (G20) is using her new degree in Christian ministries as youth leader at Living Savior Lutheran Church in Tualatin, Oregon.

**Joshua Anderson** (PS20) in April 2020 became agency relations coordinator with the Marion Polk Food Share program in Salem, Oregon, a nonprofit that serves 46,000 monthly.

**Anna Sovereign** (G20) after graduation started as a legislative policy assistant with the House Republican Office and House District 39 of the Oregon Legislative Assembly. She lives in Oregon City, Oregon.

**Angelee Berrian** (MA20) started last June as a school-based therapist at Columbia Wellness, a mental healthcare agency in Kelso, Washington.

**Dan Kreiss** (DMin20) is now in Roswell, Georgia, where he is associate pastor of Mission Outreach at the Roswell Presbyterian Church, starting in January. Previously, he was in Christian ministry in New Zealand, then was dean of the school of missions at King University in Bristol, Tennessee.

**Shelli Dial-Omedo** (MAT20) on April 1 started Imagination Education Creation Daycare in Tillamook, Oregon.

**Alex Hastings** (G20) has started her own business, Spectrum Music Studio, in Boise, Idaho, where she teaches violin, viola, music theory and composition classes. She

also is pursuing a master's degree in violin performance at Boise State University, where she plays violin as a member of the graduate string quartet.

**Jessi Mau** (G20) started in February as a member of the newly created strategic foresight and analytics team at George Fox. As a student she was an administrative assistant in George Fox's Department of History, Sociology and Politics for three years.

**Lane Kimbro** (G20) is now in New York City, where he is an investment banking finance and strategy analyst with Goldman Sachs, a multinational investment bank and financial services company.

**Jonathan Wilson** (G20) is immediately putting his civil engineering degree to use, in the summer joining 3J Consulting, a civil engineering, resources engineering and community planning firm in Beaverton, Oregon.

**Riley Moresco** (G20) started immediately after graduation as a student success coach with the International Sports Sciences Association in Phoenix, a distance education and certification company, where she motivates students to achieve their goals.

**Katie (Pupkiewicz) Fabel** (G20) is using her nursing degree, starting in September as a registered nurse in the immediate care unit at Providence St. Vincent Medical Center in Portland.

**Austin O'Donnell** (G20), after serving as summer housing residential coordinator at George Fox, now is a behavior technician at Alternative Behavior Strategies, Inc., in Alpine, California, where he cares for children on the autism spectrum.

**Amanda Ripley** (G20) is using her elementary education degree with English as a Second Language endorsement as an English Language Learners middle school teacher in the Parkrose (Oregon) School District.

**Brian Ehlers** (G20) is a vocational rehabilitation specialist with the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs in Vancouver, Washington. He has been in that position since 2018, but started with the VA there in 2015 as a social services representative.

**Jerry S. K. Adatsi** (DBA20) is in Newnan, Georgia, as a senior quality specialist

with Qualio, a firm that helps life sciences companies get their life-saving products to the market. He started last year after three years as a quality management systems consultant with Battelle, consulting at the Centers for Disease Control in Atlanta.

**Chascity-Mae Sarmiento** (MSW20) is a child and family therapist in Caldwell, Idaho, at Mana Resources, a family-owned business founded to help at-risk youth with transitional housing and training, and now encompassing mental health service with 10 counselors.

**Marina Stewart** (MBA20) at graduation started as hospital manager at VCA Animal Hospitals in Portland, overseeing staff, client and office management and budget monitoring.

**Danielle Garza** (MBA20) is a political and legislative assistant at Laborers' International Union of North America, Portland Local 737, in her second year.

**David Angeles** (G20) started in August as a junior graphic designer with Traxo, a corporate travel data capture firm based in Dallas. He works remotely from Tigard, Oregon.

**Greg Bergerson** (ADP20) is in his second year as a support desk analyst with the Oregon Centralized Voter Registration Department of the Oregon Secretary of State in Salem.

**Dawn Kilian** (DMin20) is now in Wilmore, Kentucky, where she started in January as associate dean for intercultural life at Asbury University, a Christian school with 1,700 students. She is a member of the student life staff and responsible for cultural diversity programming.

**Julianne Robinson** (G20) is using her organizational communication degree as director of hospitality with Hogan Hospitality, specifically at Chick-fil-A in

**Fox Fun Fact**

For more than 20 years, George Fox gave a computer to each incoming undergrad student.

**Fox Fun Fact**

Mary Sutton taught at George Fox for more than 50 years (1911-1963), our longest-serving professor.

Tanasbourne, Oregon. In her third year with the company, she started in the new position in October, promoted from new-hire orientation and front-of-house training administrator.

**Hayden Staub** (n21) in January graduated from Marine Corps boot camp in San Diego as Company Honorman, the highest accomplishment for a Marine in recruit training. He now is at the School of Infantry, training at Camp Pendleton, California, with plans to become a reconnaissance Marine.

**IN MEMORY**

**Fern (Nixon) Roberts** (G42), Dec. 20, 2020, in Newberg.

**Clynton Crisman** (G44), June 25, 2020, in Newberg.

**Mildred (Haworth) Minthorne** (G46), Aug. 6, 2020, in Newberg.

**Pauline (Ireland) Koch** (G48), May 16, 2020, in Caldwell, Idaho.

**Glenn Armstrong** (G49), June 12, 2020, in Boise, Idaho.

**May Wallace** (PS49, MDiv72), Oct. 26, 2020, in Newberg.

**Arline (Frazier) Watson** (G50), April 3, 2021, in Newberg.

**Peter Fertello** (G51), Jan. 2, 2021, in Newberg.

**Louise (Fivecoat) Ralphs** (G51), April 10, 2021, in Caldwell, Idaho.

**Gay (Foley) Laverty** (G52), Oct. 20, 2020, in Baker City, Oregon.

**Richard Riggs** (n53), Sept. 27, 2020, in Caldwell, Idaho.

**Jerry Carr** (G54), March 16, 2021, in Chandler, Arizona.

**Phil Lamm** (n54), Oct. 18, 2020, in Kamiah, Idaho.

**Nigel Shockey** (n54), Feb. 22, 2021, in McMinnville, Oregon.

**Nonagene (Jeanne) (Carnes) Blackshear** (n54), April 5, 2021, in McMinnville, Oregon.

**Orville Winters** (G55), Dec. 23, 2020, in Newberg.

**Nancy (Trautman) Lamm** (n56), May 2, 2020, in Newberg.

**JoAnne (Tuning) Magee** (n56), April 19, 2021, in Mt. Angel, Oregon.

**Steve Ross** (G57), April 22, 2020, in Costa Mesa, California.

**Quentin Nordyke** (G58), Feb. 24, 2021, in Newberg.

**David Weinert** (PS59), April 14, 2019, in Woodburn, Oregon.

**Conrad Schmeltzer** (G64), Nov. 24, 2020, in Newberg.

**Ruthann (Rami) Batty** (n65), Jan. 1, 2021, in La Grande, Oregon.

**Linda (Gulley) Bloodgood** (n65), Feb. 12, 2020, in Yuma, Arizona.

**Mary (Goodman) Drahn** (G67), March 18, 2021, in Medford, Oregon.

**Gary Blackmar** (G68), April 27, 2021, in Vancouver, Washington.

**Wesley Nelson** (MDiv70), Sept. 24, 2020, in Stanwood, Washington.

**Delores (Marks) Kastine** (G74), Nov. 12, 2020, in Vancouver, Washington.

**Marva (Sedore) Sandberg** (also known by her pen name, Marva Dawn), (MDiv78), April 18, 2021, in Vancouver, Washington.

**Larry Smith** (G79), May 12, 2021, in McMinnville, Oregon.

**Dan Vogt** (n81), Sept. 26, 2020, in Twin Falls, Idaho.

**Arthur LaBrant** (MDiv82), Dec. 23, 2020, in Vancouver, Washington.

**Daniel Albrecht** (PS84), April 5, 2020, in Scotts Valley, California.

**Gene Christian** (G85), Jan. 25, 2021, in Vancouver, Washington.

**Russell/Rusty Haws** (G92), Feb. 9, 2021, in Gore, Virginia.

**JoAnne Prosser** (ADP93), Dec. 21, 2020, in Forest Grove, Oregon.

**Susan (Foster) Capalbo** (MAT98), Sept. 29, 2020, in South Dennis, Massachusetts.

**Lance Kidd** (ADP02, MBA04), Aug. 10, 2020, in Portland.

**Eric Keck** (EdDo6), July 8, 2020, in Northfield, New Hampshire.

**Margaret (Gadler) Tripp** (G10), April 11, 2021, in Portland.

**Jack Meadows**, Sept. 21, 2020, in Fayetteville, Arkansas. Board of Trustees 1978-1997, Honorary Trustee.

**David Rawson**, Sept. 16, 2020, in Newberg. Scholar in Residence, College of Business, 2018-2020.

**Dennis Hagen**, March 18, 2021, in Santa Barbara, California. Music professor and fine arts chair, 1964-2003.

**William (Bill) Wilson**, April 9, 2021, in Longview, Washington. Board of Trustees 1985-2017, Honorary Trustee.

**Laurie Bloomquist**, May 1, 2021, in Mountain Home, Idaho. Assistant Professor of Counseling, Graduate School of Counseling, 2020-2021.

**Andrew Moses**, May 9, 2021, in Portland. Visiting Assistant Professor of Business, MBA and undergraduate programs, 2017-2021.

## LOOKING FOR MARRIAGE AND BABY NEWS?



Visit  
[georgefox.edu/marriage-baby](https://georgefox.edu/marriage-baby)  
 for alumni family updates!

# A Day in the Life

Ever wonder what it's like to be a college student these days? During a pandemic? A new video series, Life@Fox, allows viewers to join George Fox students on a typical day on campus as they go to classes and labs, interact with professors and coaches, hang out with friends in their dorm room and more.

Ready to relive your college days and see what student life is like in 2021? Just open the camera on your phone and hover over the QR code for each video. Then sit back, grab some popcorn and enjoy a glimpse of Life@Fox!

*Life@Fox*

MAJOR:  
**Civil Engineering**

*Estefan Cervantes Rivera*



*Life@Fox*

MAJOR:  
**Social Work**

*Dasha Harris*



*Life@Fox*

MAJOR:  
**Transfer Student**

*Makensie Harris*



*Life@Fox*

MAJOR:  
**Marketing**

*Michael Mercado-Smith*



*Life@Fox*

MAJOR:  
**Honors & Math**

*Peri Ralston*



*Life@Fox*

MAJOR:  
**Engineering**

*Thomas Noel*



# BRUIN ATHLETICS

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## *Driving to the Finish Line*

It was a commencement ceremony unlike any other. Graduates and their families piled into cars, trucks and even a small bus, following a route through campus lined with cheering faculty and staff. At the end, the culmination of years of hard work: the opportunity for grads to walk across that stage and receive their diploma.

→ See more on page 10.

