

Dear Alumni and Friends,

Since its establishment in 1852, Wartburg College has experienced many trials and tribulations, while continually working to better serve our students, alumni, friends, and families. As we say goodbye to a summer we won't soon forget, it is apparent that the Wartburg community is embarking on a year of new challenges.

The Alumni & Parent Relations Office, now more than ever, is committed to engaging with you throughout this upcoming year. Wartburg prides itself on traditions, and at the heart of those are the relationships within the Wartburg community. We had hoped to have you back on campus this fall for Homecoming & Family Weekend, but disappointingly, due to COVID-19, we are unable to gather for these celebrations in their traditional format. Despite not being physically together, we are developing programming to strengthen relationships through virtual connections with one another and the College.

Our virtual programming kicked off this summer with two new programs. The Wartburg Book Club provides the opportunity for online discussion and conversation around each month's text. Sir Victor's Shuffle is a 185.2-mile walk/run that allows you, your family, and your friends to move toward fall while supporting student scholarships. All are welcome to participate in these new programs and more information can be found at www.wartburg.edu/alumni. Please continue to check this site throughout the year for additional programming.

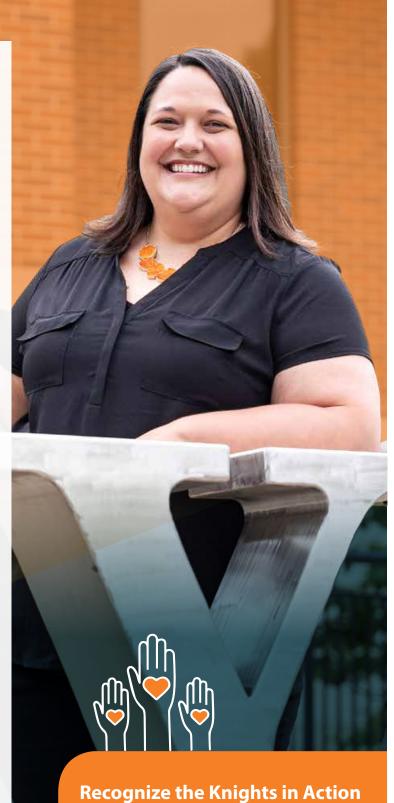
Just as Wartburg has overcome other challenges in its history, we look to all Knights for your understanding and support as we continue to grow and thrive.

Sincerely,



Renee Clark Voves '04

Associate Director of Institutional Advancement -Alumni & Parent Relations & Annual Giving



in your community

Challenging times call for special people to step up and serve their communities, and we want to share the stories of Knights who are living out the Wartburg mission in special ways. Visit www.wartburg.edu/ **knights-in-action** to share how you or a Knight you know are living out the Wartburg values of leadership, service, faith, and learning today. Share what you know, and we'll reach out if we need more information.

features







more

- 2-5 Wartburg in the News
- 8-9 Knights Athletic Recap
- 10 Wartburg Names Baseball Stadium
- 14-15 The Class of 2020
- 20-21 New Dwellings
- 24-25 Mission Driven
 - 26 Wartburg Names HHP Center for Wuertzes
- 27-29 Knights in the News
- 29-31 In Memoriam
 - 32 Bingham Earns Fulbright Award

Wartburg

Wartburg Magazine Summer 2020 | Vol. 36 No. 2

President

DARREL D. COLSON, Ph. D.

Vice President for Advancement SCOTT LEISINGER '87

Associate Director of Institutional Advancement RENEE CLARK VOVES '04

Director of Marketing & Communication CHRIS KNUDSON '01

Magazine Editor EMILY CHRISTENSEN

Assistant Magazine Editor STEPHANIE ROBBINS BOEDING '99

Magazine Art Director JOSHUA PETERSMITH

Magazine Photographer
JULIE PAGEL DREWES '90

Print Production Manager LORI GUHL POEHLER '75

Video Production Manager ROLAND FERRIE '08

Contributor
KATIE KREIS '19



ON THE COVER:

Dikgarebe "Vanessa" Mamabolo '21 was one of nearly 200 students who remained on campus through the shutdown. Read more about her and the college's response on pages 11-19.

Wartburg Magazine is published twice a year by Wartburg College, 100 Wartburg Blvd., P.O. Box 1003, Waverly, IA 50677-0903.

If you have suggestions for Wartburg Magazine stories or comments about the content, contact Emily Christensen, magazine editor, at **emily.christensen@wartburg.edu**. Address corrections should be sent to the Alumni Office or submitted online at **www.wartburg.edu/alumni**.

TRANSCRIPTS:

To obtain an official college transcript, contact the Registrar's Office or complete an online request form at **info.wartburg.edu/Offices/Registrar-Office/Transcript-Request.aspx**. There is a \$5 fee per transcript.

Requests must include maiden and all married names used, as well as birth date and, or Social Security number. Enclose return address and payment with the request.

WARTBURG

VISIT WWW.WARTBURG.EDU/NEWS FOR MORE NEWS















Diversity, inclusion advocate receives Wartburg's Graven Award

Felecia Boone '93, a consultant for the Hennepin County Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Division in Minnesota, was the 2020 recipient of Wartburg College's annual Graven Award in February.

Boone supports the operations and public works lines of business and delivers countywide training in continuous improvement, customer service, diversity and inclusion, employee engagement, and workforce development. She also is the administrator of the county's Diversity Leadership Mentoring Program.

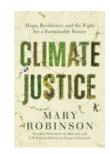
Outside of work, Boone is involved with the Minneapolis Area Synod of the ELCA as vice president, is a member of the ELCA Multicultural Leadership Event 2021 core team, and is active in her home congregation, Calvary Lutheran Church in Minneapolis. She also serves as chair of the Crossroads Community Organization, a nonprofit that seeks to enhance the quality of life for children and adults in south Minneapolis.

"Felecia Boone has lived out her calling to serve God and her neighbor by dedicating her life to the church and God's mission of justice, love, and mercy for all people. She is helping the church acknowledge its brokenness and the system of white privilege that keeps us from being the people God created us to be," said the Rev. Brian Beckstrom, dean of spiritual life and Herbert and Cora Moehlmann Chaplaincy Endowed Chair. "She is equally dedicated to the work of justice in her community. Felecia embodies the qualities that we aspire to instill in all of our graduates and is a most deserving recipient of the Graven Award."

The Graven Award, now in its 31st year, honors one "whose life is nurtured and guided by a strong sense of Christian calling and who is making a significant contribution to community, church, and society." It is named for the late Judge Henry N. and Helen T. Graven of Greene, whose lives reflected those same commitments.

Climate Justice is 2020 **Knight Reading**

The 2020-21 common reading for new Knights is Climate Justice by Mary Robinson, the former president of Ireland and the United Nations' Special Envoy on Climate Change. Incoming students will read the book this summer and discuss it in their IS 101 classes during Fall Term.



Climate Justice is "an urgent call to arms by one of the most important voices in the international fight against climate change,

sharing inspiring stories and offering vital lessons for the path forward," according to its online synopsis.

Whether you read this as part of a book club, alumni group, or on your own, we recommend taking time to enjoy it along with our first-year students.



Castle Singers perform at Central & North Central ACDA conference

The Wartburg College Castle Singers were one of only two lowa collegiate and 18 overall ensembles selected to perform at the Central & North Central American Choral Directors Association division conference in early March.

The Castle Singers, a chamber vocal ensemble under the direction of Dr. Nicki Toliver, performed We Stand on Their Shoulders, a new work by Kyle Pederson, a quest composer at Wartburg, and noted poet Charles Anthony Silvestri, among other pieces. The ACDA performance was part of the Castle Singers' 2020 National Concert Tour, Feb. 28-March 7.

The conference brings together choral directors from all school levels — elementary through college, public and private, as well as community, church, and professional — from a 10-state region.



Wartburg Festival Choir performs at Carnegie Hall

A special Wartburg College Festival Choir performed at Carnegie Hall in New York City as part of the National Festival Chorus, which was conducted by Dr. Lee Nelson, the Patricia R. Zahn Endowed Chair in Choral Conducting.

The Festival Choir comprised 60 students from Kantorei, St. Elizabeth Chorale, and Ritterchor.

Nelson, who also conducted more than 40 Wartburg students as part of a similar concert in February 2017, was invited to bring Wartburg musicians along again to serve as the core of the National Festival Chorus, which included 216 singers from six states.

"I wanted to provide an opportunity for the exceptional Wartburg students in our non-auditioned ensembles, in part, because the students in the auditioned ensembles already have many opportunities to travel," Nelson said. "This was a great way to allow more really talented students to perform on a national stage.

"It is always a tremendous honor to conduct at a prestigious hall such as Carnegie Hall. It is a thrill that I never take for granted," Nelson said. "To share this experience with the Wartburg students really excites me. This was a great opportunity for them to represent the college and show their talents on a national level."



Dance Marathon raises nearly \$100,000 despite canceled 'Big Event'

A global pandemic may have forced the Wartburg College Dance Marathon team to cancel its annual "Big Event," but nothing could stop the student fundraisers from continuing to rally "For the Kids."

After a week of online celebration, the team revealed they had raised \$96,313.20. That money will help the University of Iowa Stead Family Children's Hospital support its Pediatric Transport Team, which includes the air care and ambulance services that get some of the hospital's sickest patients through its doors.

"We would not be able to provide the high level of life-saving care that we do without the support of each and every single one of you," said Megan Frischmeyer, assistant director of corporate and community relations at the hospital. "We are so excited to be partnering with Wartburg College Dance Marathon this year to ensure that our Pediatric Transport Team always has the necessary resources to care for our patients, regardless of where they are coming to us from."















Four faculty receive tenure, two granted emeritus status

Four Wartburg College professors were granted tenure and promotion during the college's Board of Regents meeting in February. Those awarded tenure and who will assume their new titles in September are:

- **Dr. Brian McQueen**, associate professor of sociology, criminology, and criminal justice.
- Dr. Richard Snyder, associate professor of education.
- **Dr. Stephanie TeKippe**, associate professor of education.
- **Dr. Nicki Toliver**, associate professor of music.

In addition, **Dr. Samantha Larimer Bousquet** will be promoted from associate professor of biology to a full professor. The board also approved emeritus status for two faculty members who retired this spring: **Dr. Keith McClung**, professor of biology, and **Dr. Fred Waldstein '74**, professor of political science and Irving R. Burling Chair in Leadership.

Strause named 2020 Newman Civic Fellow

Brittany Strause '21 was one of 290 students from across the U.S. selected by Campus Compact to be among its 2020-21 cohort of Newman Civic Fellows.

Strause, a social work major from Plano, Ill., has served as the volunteer coordinator for the Department of Social Work's Holiday Shoppe, a program that provides Christmas gifts for hundreds of Bremer County children, and was herself a volunteer with the program as a freshman.

"This experience strengthened my idea of what it means to help those in your community in a way that you don't have to be high up in leadership or a millionaire to do," Strause said. "You can just be a college student who wants to help."

She also is an Orientation Staff leader and serves on the Student Senate Diversity Committee, an opportunity that has helped her learn more about the college's American multicultural and international students.

Helping others is nothing new for Strause, though. As a young teenager she volunteered at Hesed House, the second-largest homeless shelter in Illinois, in the clothing closet. As a Wartburg student, she did a summer internship through AmeriCorps with the shelter. As a high school senior, Strause was on the receiving end of some much-needed help. When her biological father died, a counselor saw her through the difficult time and showed her how she may be able to use her experience to help others.

She still has time to decide her plans after graduation, but she's already starting to identify her career interests.

"I know I want to do more micro work, helping families or individuals or small communities, rather than macro work. I know policy is super important, but just not something I have the confidence yet to do," she said. "I also recently sparked an interest in hospital social work, but also think that mental health and substance abuse are really important, as well. I'm looking at grad schools now, but there are just so many avenues to explore."

The Newman Civic Fellowship, named for Campus Compact co-founder Frank Newman, is a one-year experience emphasizing personal, professional, and civic growth for students who have demonstrated a capacity for leadership and an investment in solving public problems. Through the fellowship, Campus Compact provides a variety of learning and networking opportunities, including a national conference of Newman Civic Fellows in partnership with the Edward M. Kennedy Institute for the United States Senate. The fellowship also provides fellows with access to apply for exclusive scholarship and post-graduate opportunities.





A team of Wartburg students took first place at the Washburn University Leadership Challenge Event in early March.



Wartburg student media win numerous statewide awards

Wartburg student media took home a total of 52 awards, including 33 in the News Media division — a school record for awards — and the coveted News Media Organization of the Year for *The Trumpet*, the student-run newspaper, from the Iowa College Media Association.

Knight Vision News won the Overall Excellence award among 15 honors received by the college's student media from the lowa Broadcast News Association. In addition to the top prize for student stations, Knight Vision Sports earned third in Best Sportscast, while Knight Vision News took home second for Best Newscast.

The Trumpet also earned eighth place in the Best of Show Newspaper General Excellence category at the Associated Press: Best of the Midwest Conference. Staff writers and photographers also took home nine individual awards.





Wartburg students place first at Leadership Challenge Event

A team of Wartburg College students took first place in the College Division at the Washburn University Leadership Challenge Event.

Jenna Brannaman '20, Barbara Tigere '21, Gene Anne Berst '21, Sarah Martin '21, and Jenna Smuszkiewicz '23 competed against teams from 10 other colleges to win the title. The LCE provides high school and college students the opportunity to address a variety of problems and situations where the outcome of the simulation is dependent on the leadership decisions made throughout the course of the competition.

Brannaman said the team was first alerted of the simulated situation, a mental illness incident at a local correctional facility, when a folder marked "URGENT" was slipped under their door at 6 a.m. In the fictional scenario, a corrections officer had attempted to de-escalate the situation, but a physical altercation had occurred. Each team member was given a role to fill throughout the competition and some details about their position.

Throughout the day, the team was observed by a mostly silent judge and was visited by several other participants playing the roles of concerned community members and local media, among other things.

Lunch ended with a message from the "governor," who told the teams that the state was cutting funding for mental health services in correctional facilities. The team had 90 minutes to deliver a complete report on how they would address the situation.

"We felt good about our recommendations, but at the end of the day, we were really just there for the learning opportunity. We didn't think we were going to win," she said. "I think we all froze when they called Wartburg as the champion. We gave it our all through the entire process, and in the end, we won, but more importantly, we learned a lot."

Dr. Michael Gleason, Wartburg's Irving R. Burling Distinguished Professor in Leadership, was proud of how the team worked together, despite never having competed in an event like this before.

"I heard multiple times throughout the day that the students were excited to learn about the process and ready to tackle whatever was thrown their way," he said. "It's even more exciting when their performance is acknowledged. To go for the first time and to do so well only reinforces how talented they truly are."

This student experience was supported through gifts from alumni and friends to the Leadership Education Institute.



Wind Ensemble still able to 'perform' at IBA conference

In March, the COVID-19 pandemic brought a stop to on-campus courses and activities, meaning a sudden end to the Wind Ensemble's performances for the rest of the academic year. When the Iowa Bandmasters Association's annual conference decided to move to an online format, the group offered the Wartburg ensemble a new opportunity: to share a virtual performance with IBA members using video recorded earlier in the year.

With help from Knight Vision, which had streamed the ensemble's concerts earlier in the year, Dr. Craig Hancock drew up a list of pieces to assemble a video concert, along with a PDF program, for the virtual event (which can be viewed at www.wartburg.edu/iba). On May 14, the original date for the concert in Des Moines, IBA members watched recordings of the Wartburg Wind Ensemble playing eight pieces, including Festival Variations by Claude T. Smith, considered among the monumental band works of the 20th century.

Earn. Return.



Leading educational philanthropist shares his message with Wartburg's Davis Scholars

BY EMILY CHRISTENSEN PHOTO JULIE PAGEL DREWES '90

rowing up, Shelby Davis' parents laid out a roadmap for his future: education, hard work, and philanthropy.

"They always said the first 30 years should focus on learning. The next 30 years, you focus on your career, on earning. Then, the last 30 years, focus on returning," he said in February while on the Wartburg College campus to accept an honorary Doctor of Humane Letters. "Learn, earn, return was drummed into my head."

Davis co-founded the Davis United World Davis College Scholars Program in 2000 with veteran international educator Dr. Philip O. Geier. The program has since grown to become the world's largest private international scholarship program for undergraduates. To date, Wartburg has hosted 218 Davis UWC Scholars from 82 countries. Of that, 91 Davis students from 51 countries were enrolled at Wartburg last year. The philanthropy currently contributes about \$50 million annually to this cause, which has supported more than 10,000 scholars at about 100 U.S. partner schools.

"If I had the ability to cure cancer or Alzheimer's. I would invest in that," Davis said. "But I know that I can't do that. What I can do is give kids who have winning habits the ability to get a higher education. If you have an education, you have more possibilities to help the world and be a leader. I've been extremely lucky my entire

life, and I'm overwhelmed this has happened, that I now have what people tell me over and over is the world's largest family, with more than 4,000 kids in college as we speak."

Davis Scholar Josh Voigt '20, of Ezulwini, eSwatini, came to Wartburg from Waterford Kamhlaba UWC of Southern Africa, just 12 miles from his home. His first year at Wartburg, his mother, Polly Stapley, a teacher at Waterford, told



him that Davis was visiting his high school. During the short visit, she was able to thank Davis for helping all UWC Scholars, including her son.

But that wasn't enough for Voigt. In November 2018, he penned a letter to Davis inviting the philanthropist to see firsthand the difference he had made in the lives of so many Wartburg students. Before sending it off, Voigt shared his plan with Dr. Edith Waldstein '73, vice pres-

ident for enrollment management. It was then that Voigt learned the Wartburg Board of Regents had approved an honorary degree for Davis in 2013, but had yet to coordinate a campus visit for him to accept the honor.

"It would be a great honor for me, as well as all of the others whose lives you have changed, to be there to witness you receiving this award in our senior year," Voigt wrote.

Within two days, Davis had responded. A visit was in the works. Though Voigt had hoped the honorary degree could be bestowed during the regular May Commencement, Davis' schedule only allowed for an overnight stop in mid-February (which turned out to be a blessing in disguise as the COVID-19 pandemic shut down campus events just a few weeks later).

"The only reason I am here is because of him. I attended a UWC school because I knew it would be a possibility for me to come to the U.S. after I graduated," Voigt said. "His influence is quite literally on everything I do. I don't know how often he gets to meet the students he impacts, but for me personally, just being able to thank him is a big deal. This man has invested \$80,000 in me, but it's not just the financial investment. His work has changed everything for me."



Though Charmaine Denison-George '20, of Freetown, Sierra Leone, had a very different UWC experience than Voigt - she attended UWC Mahindra in Pune, India, more than 6,000 miles from her hometown-she knows their shared experiences will connect them forever.

"There are similar themes that run through our experiences that now make up the collective experience of life as a UWC Scholar," she said. "These

can be seen in many ways. It is seen in the glimmer in the eye when we meet and immediately connect with other Davis Scholars for the first time. It is in the magic our diverse student body creates when at the annual Culture Show we bring a slice of the world and our cultures to the stage. It is seen in the heated debates at our tables in the Mensa, over topics of global pertinence."

Waldstein said Wartburg was very fortunate to have partnered with the program 13 years ago.

"There is no match for Mr. Davis' commitment to international education," she said, "It was wonderful to have him on campus to accept his honorary degree and so that we could show our deep gratitude for all he has done. Our Davis Scholars come to us with such global and richly diverse experiences. They are empowered to make changes. They truly feel the UWC mission of making education a force to unite people, nations, and cultures for peace and a sustainable future."

The UWC mission aligns guite closely with the expectations inside the Davis household. Both of his parents were international scholars who worked at the League of Nations in Geneva for several



years during the 1930s. Growing up, family friends from around the world would pass through the home, exposing Davis to the importance of learning from those with different perspectives. His mother, Kathryn Wasserman Davis, founded Davis Projects for Peace in 2007 to celebrate her 100th birthday. She committed \$1 million annually to fund 100 grassroots efforts by college students. Wartburg students have received a grant every year since the program's inception.

"Students who come from UWC schools often wonder why the rest of the world can't work like a UWC school. They have students from 80 countries there, every race and religion you can think of," Davis said. "They may be nervous at first, but by the second year, when their senior roommate is graduating, they are all hugging and crying and going to miss each other."

As both Denison-George and Voigt prepared for their own graduations this year, they acknowledged the significance of the night with Davis.

"It goes without saying that despite the curveballs, mine has been a truly fulfilling experience. Imagine, however, if I didn't have this second chance at success," Denison-George said. "Imagine if after UWC, I was relegated to the subpar education in my home country. For this consideration and many others, I am bursting at the seams with gratitude for the UWC Scholars Program and particularly Mr. and Mrs. Davis for making this educational aspect of my life a reality. That's really six years of stellar education and travel experience that I got because of the Davis Scholars Program, because they value a world-class education for people like myself." 🦁

- Shelby Davis



8 | WARTBURG MAGAZINE



MEN'S BASKETBALL

The men's basketball team reached the conference playoffs for the eighth straight season and upset No. 3 seed Loras College in the first round. A trio of Knights earned Honorable Mention laurels on the American Rivers All-Conference Team: **Jack Molstead '23, Max Smith Drahos '21**, and **Ryan Stulken '21**.

BOWLING

The men's and women's bowling teams completed their second season of competition with both teams seeing improvements from the inaugural season. The men totaled a season-best 7,828 pins and a fifth-place team finish at the Stout State Open, while the women compiled a season-high 7,100 pins at the Bronco Open.

LACROSSE

The women's lacrosse team had an 0-2 record before its season was ended. The Knights were led by **Bri Greiskalns '21**, who scored four goals in two games played.



The indoor men's and women's track and field teams qualified athletes in nine individual events and were the only school in Division III to qualify all four relay teams for the 2020 National Championships, which were slated to take place in North Carolina. The women won the A-R-C Indoor Championships with 211 points in Decorah, while the men took second with 147 points.

SOFTBALL

The Wartburg softball team was off to a strong start in 2020, compiling a 9-3 record during its annual spring trip in Florida. The Knights were ranked No. 21 in the March 4 National Fastpitch Coaches Association (NFCA) poll, cracking the top 25 rankings for the first time since 2009.

BASEBALL

The baseball team finished its shortened season with a 9-1 record, coming off a 7-1 spring break trip in Florida. During the season opener, pitcher **Dylan Gotto '21** broke a single-game school record with 16 strikeouts in seven innings.

GOLF

The men's and women's golf teams had their spring seasons canceled.

TENNIS

The men's and women's tennis teams had their spring seasons canceled after completing a spring trip in Orlando, Fla.

ACADEMIC ALL-CONFERENCE

Seventy Wartburg spring sport student-athletes earned Academic All-Conference honors, more than any other school in the American Rivers Conference. To be eligible, a student-athlete must be on the eligibility list for the sport of nomination, at least a sophomore in academic standing with at least one year in residence, and attain a cumulative grade point average of 3.5 GPA (on a 4.0 scale) or higher.

In addition, **Will Hasken '20** (football), **Kolin Schulte '20** (football), **Carina Collet '21** (track/cross country), and **Erica Rittgers '20** (track) were named CoSIDA Academic All-Americans, bringing Wartburg's total to 109 honorees.

Wartburg had the fourth-best total among Division III colleges with 26 USTFCCCA All-American recipients on the men's and women's indoor track and field teams. In lieu of holding the indoor national championship, which was canceled due to COVID-19, the USTFCCCA recognized as All-Americans all student-athletes initially accepted into individual and relay events at the national meet.



New athletics podcast launched

BurgCast is the official podcast for the Wartburg College Athletic Department. Each episode, produced by the Wartburg Sports Information Office, features an interview with a student-athlete, a coach, or an alum.

Find the full BurgCast lineup at www.go-knights.net.

Wartburg names baseball stadium for Ray and Gracia Harms



BY KATIE KREIS '19 PHOTOS JULIE PAGEL DREWES '90 AND WARTBURG ARCHIVES

loyal college supporter, longtime faculty member, and former baseball player will be remembered forever with the naming of the Wartburg baseball stadium. The Wartburg College Board of Regents approved the naming of Harms Stadium at Hertel Field to honor Ray Harms '51, and his wife, Gracia. Ray was a member of the Knights baseball team and taught religion and Greek at Wartburg for 36 years, retiring in 1994. Ray died in 1998, and Gracia remained a fixture in the community until her death in 2018.

The leadership gift was provided by their son, Matt Harms '81. The funds helped provide permanent seating for 500 for baseball, including 100 chair seats and improved handicap accessibility. A new press box, with technology enhancements and improved sight lines, also was constructed.

"I wanted to honor my folks because of their commitment to Wartburg," said Matt. "I like the idea that this gift will help improve the baseball stadium and allows Wartburg to host larger Division III events. I know the high school uses the field, so we can help them, too."

Matt played tennis for the Knights and has made gifts to the team as an alumnus. Ray and Gracia's other two sons also graduated from the college: Bart in 1983 and Blake in 1985.



COPING WI

n Monday, March 16, 2020, Wartburg College President Darrel Colson took the unprecedented action of ending in-person classes for Winter Term 2020 amidst a coronavirus pandemic that had already sickened nearly 200,000 and killed about 7,800 worldwide.

"It's no exaggeration to say that we face an unprecedented challenge, but we face it together, and together we will find our way through it," Colson wrote in a letter to students, faculty, staff, and parents.

The following stories are just a few of the many that could be told from what happened over the subsequent nine weeks as professors hurriedly prepared their courses for remote instruction, students prepared themselves for remote learning, and the remaining campus community prepared itself for a time unlike any other.



Editor's note

This story was finalized on July 15, 2020. All information is accurate as of that time, but given how quickly things can change with this virus, any forward-looking information may no longer be accurate. Please visit www.wartburg.edu/coronavirus for the most up-to-date information.

"Mitigated normalcy."

Those were the words Wartburg President Darrel Colson used to describe the plans for the 2020-21 academic year.

"We were getting the same message from both current students and new students. Our current students were eager to return, and our new students indicated a similar eagerness," Colson said. "This makes sense. Students choose Wartburg because they seek the mentoring community we promise; they want to pursue the rigorous and experiential educational opportunities that we offer; and they desire the rich co-curricular experience that completes the education of their whole person. They yearn for normalcy, even 'mitigated normalcy.' No one — not students, not faculty, not staff — wants to continue operating at a distance."

In mid-June, Colson announced that Fall Term classes would resume on Wednesday, Aug. 26, one week earlier than originally planned. In an effort to minimize travel to and from campus, Fall Break has been eliminated and in-person Fall Term classes will conclude on Nov. 24. Following the Thanksgiving holiday, students will have one week of finals or final activities to complete remotely.

"This revised calendar provides students with the most time in the classroom while limiting the hours spent providing courses remotely," Colson said. "While in many ways we are still at the mercy of the virus, these changes reflect our intent to keep our students on campus and healthy while providing them the academic and co-curricular experiences that are the hallmark of a Wartburg education."

In addition to altering the schedule, the college is requiring all students, faculty, staff, and visitors to wear a face covering in public places where physical distancing is not possible. Though students living together on a residence hall floor or in a suite will be consid-

ered a "family unit," students will continually be reminded about the importance of good hand hygiene, covering one's mouth when coughing or sneezing, and maintaining at least six feet of physical distance whenever possible.

"These guidelines, and our whole Wartburg Cares initiative, is about making a commitment to each other in the Wartburg community," said Dr. Dan Kittle, vice president for Student Life and chair of the college's Campus Health Recovery Team. "And, while masks are not a silver bullet, they are one important way we can communicate to each other that we take seriously the health and wellness of our students and colleagues."



Campus life

When President Colson announced the end of in-person classes on March 16, the Residential Life staff, led by Cassie Hales, was ready to help students move off campus as quickly and safely as possible. They bypassed the usual room inspections and fines, gathered boxes from area retailers, arranged last-minute summer storage options, and worked nearly around the clock to accommodate students and their families who wanted to get home before

more strict stay-at-home orders might come.

And when they weren't helping with moving arrangements, staff were helping students, including many seniors, come to terms with the reality that this was how the year would end.

"We had a lot of sad and scared students, and the Residential Life and Student Life teams stepped up amazingly," said Hales, director of Residential Life. "Our doors were open and we were there for them. We weren't always socially distant, but we did what we needed to in that moment."

When her fellow students began moving off campus in mid-March, **Dikgarebe** "Vanessa" Mamabolo '21, from

Johannesburg, South Africa, saw very little change in Founders Hall, where she lived with two roommates. The close quarters made the public health major quite anxious as the virus continued to spread in neighboring communities.

"When COVID first started spreading we talked about it in my public health classes, but I never thought it would get this big," she said this summer through her black mask. . "All I really wanted was my family in South Africa, but I was scared to go home because I wasn't sure if I would be able to come back."

Once the initial flurry of activity was over, the Residential Life team set its sights on helping students on campus and off continue

"These guidelines, and our whole Wartburg Cares initiative, is about making a commitment to each other in the Wartburg community."

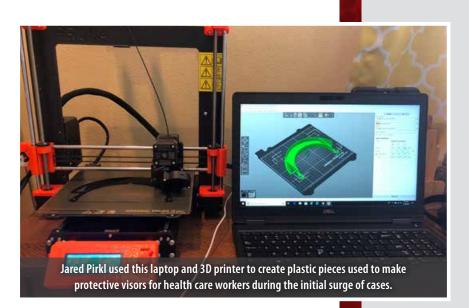
 Dr. Dan Kittle, vice president for Student Life and chair of Campus Health Recovery Team

to feel connected to the college and each other despite the physical distance. On campus, staff hosted Music Mondays, taking requests for music that could be enjoyed from a safe distance on Clinton Field. On Wednesdays, The W offered a Zoom fitness class that could be taken by students no matter where they lived. And resident assistants were tasked with reaching out to each and every one of the students who had lived on their floor via email, text, or video conferencing, just to check in.

"This was important to let all of our residents know that we were still here and gauge who was struggling," Hales said. "I think the biggest thing we learned through all of this is that Wartburg is a residential campus for a reason. We do it really well. I know other schools are looking at going online in the fall, but I really hope we don't have to do that here because it would completely change who we are. We do a really good job at the residential experience. We can make it work for the short-term, but we just really want our students on campus."

In addition to the emotional support, Mamabolo also was thankful the Student Life Office was able to stay open so she could retain her job - and her income. For those who weren't able to keep their on-campus jobs and faced other financial hardships, the Alumni & Parent Relations Office launched the UKnight for Students Fund. On what would have been the college's sixth annual UKnight Day, alumni and friends instead were asked to donate to the fund, which collected about \$48,000 in just a couple days. Those funds, along with other institutional resources, were used to match the nearly \$650,000 in federal money Wartburg received from the U.S. Department of Education. The money allowed the college to provide an emergency financial aid grant to every full-time student who was registered during Winter Term.

Continued on p. 16





Jared Pirkl, a former Wartburg pitcher and current Knights baseball assistant coach, teaches sixth grade in Cedar Falls, where he was awarded a grant for a 3D printer to use in his classroom. He took it home over spring break to learn the new technology, never realizing that he wouldn't return to classroom teaching for the remainder of the 2019-20 school year. When Jared's mother, who has worked in health care since he was a child, started talking about the shortage of PPE in Iowa and around the world, he



turned to the internet to see how he might help using the 3D printer.

A friend pointed him to a group of other Cedar Valley volunteers working individually to make the pieces needed to assemble protective visors for health care workers at UnityPoint Health -Allen Hospital.

"When our twins were a year old, we had an experience with RSV (a respiratory illness), and Noah spent nine days at Allen. He was on a ventilator, and we were living at the hospital for that period of time," Jared said. "We've experienced that stress, so this was an easy yes from me."

> By turning the printer on every morning when they awoke and starting a new print every night before bed, the Pirkls were able to produce between three and five mask pieces each day. His plastic pieces (above) were passed along to someone who assembled the visors.

> "This is all being done by the blessing of social media. I wouldn't be able to pick these other people out of a crowd, but when this is all said and done, it would be neat to sit in the same room with them and get to know them all," Jared said. "It was great being able to share this opportunity with my family and my class. They loved to hear how our little classroom was making an impact in the fight against COVID-19. We talked a lot about how little things can make big things happen." 💖

Read about more Knights in Action at www.wartburg.edu/knights-in-action.





Continued from p.13

"Wartburg alumni showed up to support our current students in a big way. Even as they themselves were trying to figure out the new normal, our alumni were quick to understand the needs that our students would be facing during these challenging times. I'm always proud to see our alumni willing to support students they don't even know, to ensure these students have a positive Wartburg experience," said Renee Clark Voves '04, associate director of Institutional Advancement – Alumni & Parent Relations and Annual Giving.

Though Mamabolo was supposed to return home this summer, she opted to remain on campus to ensure she could finish her final year at Wartburg. In addition to her job in Student Life, she found an internship at Cedar Valley Friends of the Family where she works with survivors of sexual assault, human trafficking, and domestic abuse. Now living in her own room in Clinton Hall, she's feeling better about her health and safety, but worries what will happen come fall, as coronavirus cases begin to spike again across the United States.

"I hope everyone remembers how serious this is and follows the guidelines that are in place," she said. "In the beginning everyone took social distancing very seriously, but I worry now people are just tired of it."



"All I really wanted was my family in South Africa, but I was scared to go home because I wasn't sure if I would be able to come back."

- Dikgarebe "Vanessa" Mamabolo '21

"In that moment there was a lot of our Winter Term schedule because had a substantial chunk of the term had built relationships with our facilitated better learning when the standard standard schedule was a lot of our winter the schedule because the schedule was a lot of our winter the schedule because the schedule was a lot of our winter the schedule because the schedule was a lot of our winter the schedule because the sched

 Kim Folkers, associate professor of marketing and the Carl and Dorothy Hagemann Endowed Professor in Business and Economics

Academics

Dr. Zak Montgomery's students were some of the first to be impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. In the days before the college ended in-person instruction, Montgomery, associate professor of Spanish and Harry and Polly Slife Professor in Humanities, was already working with Kathleen Sihler, study away coordinator, to get his students home from Spain safely and then help them complete the requirements needed to receive academic credit for their immersive course.

Nearly simultaneously, Montgomery was devising ways to ensure his on-campus students could accomplish the main goals of their courses when the college transitioned to remote learning.

"I had to think of how I could offer the most flexibility, while still meeting those goals," he said. "I trimmed some of my readings and shortened or eliminated some material. They could still understand the themes I presented, but we just didn't get as many voices represented. All of my students really rose to the occasion and bought into making the most of the experience."

In the Department of Business Administration, Accounting & Economics, most of the professors were already adept at using technology to teach; however, the pivot from in-person to remote learning was a new hurdle.

"We knew what was possible, but it was still a shock," said Kim Folkers, associate professor of marketing and the Carl and Dorothy Hagemann Endowed Professor in Business and Economics. "In that moment there was a lot of appreciation for our Winter Term schedule because we already had a substantial chunk of the term done and had built relationships with our students, which facilitated better learning when we had to go remote."

Folkers said the college's commitment to the transition, which included an institutional licensing account through Zoom, a video communications platform that provided unlimited access to all

students, faculty, and staff, was invaluable. Internal support from colleagues who were familiar with the software also helped ease the learning curve, she added.



For Dr. Michael Bechtel '94, associate professor of science education, Winter Term was never a concern - he already taught Biology 131: Biology of Ordinary Things online during the summers and was able to easily transition in Winter Term. However, figuring out how to teach The Science of Water, a hands-on course that usually takes students across Iowa on day trips, during May Term took weeks of reconfiguring. And, he had to teach twice as many students because several May Term travel courses did not translate into remote work.

"This has always been my second favorite class to teach on campus. We visit Backbone State Park, a sewage treatment plant, the lock and dams. There are just so many things we can do with this class," Bechtel said.

Instead, he found new ways to engage the students with at-home experiences.

"It wasn't the same, but there were parts that were really awesome," Bechtel said. "And I've already created two more labs I could do if the class ever has to be taught remotely again."

Once the academic side of the house was taken care of, Dr. Penni Pier, professor of journalism and communication and Grant L. Price Endowed Department Chair, shifted her attention to focus on her students' mental well-being. Her large office in McElroy Center is a natural gathering space for students, and she was determined to keep building those out-of-the-classroom relationships, even though most students were no longer on campus. In addition to daily virtual coffee, Pier also sent handwritten notes and with her daughter, baked meals and treats for the students still on campus.

"For me, it's all a form of therapy. Spending time with students, writing letters and cards, it all helps me self-soothe and keep my mental health in balance," she said.

Continued on p.18

Science programs donate PPE to Waverly Health Center

n the days following the World Health Organization's decision to classify the spread of COVID-19 a pandemic, Wartburg College students and siblings Cameron '20 and Gabby Corday '23 approached their professors about how they could help.

The Denver, Iowa, natives' mother is a physical therapist and their aunt is a nurse in St. Louis, so they heard firsthand about the shortage hospitals either were already facing or were planning for as the number of critically ill patients increased.

"Hearing these stories got me thinking about how PPE (personal protective equipment) was worn within our labs, and now that students are no longer in face-to-face classes, the PPE could be given to others who need it more than Wartburg does at this time," said Gabby Corday.

Dr. Christine DeVries, associate professor of chemistry, approached her colleagues with the idea, who then took their plans to the dean of faculty. Once getting the go-ahead, the team gathered their unused PPE and when the Waverly Chamber of Commerce posted a list of needs for the Waverly Health Center, DeVries and Eric Berns, the biology lab coordinator, sprang into action.

In all, the college donated eight N95 masks, two cases of disposable lab coats, more than 50 boxes of nitrile glove, about 500 disposable sleeves, and one full face shield.

"It would not be in keeping with our mission for workers at our local hospital to be at risk if we have the means to help," said Dr. Dan Black, chair of the Department of Chemistry, Biochemistry and Engineering. "We were happy to be able to donate the items we were no longer using during this school year." 🦁

Zoom usage (March 17-July 10, 2020)

862

10,737

586,273 85,021

Wartburg users

Meetings

Meeting minutes

Meeting participants



Top 10 countries of Wartburg Zoom usage U.S. **Denmark**

Brazil Mexico Japan Canada Croatia Costa Rica Vietnam Italv

Continued from p.17

Campus Ministry

When students began to disperse, Wartburg's Spiritual Life & Campus Ministry (SLCM) offerings pivoted quickly to offer online spiritual resources to a campus community that could no longer gather physically.

"Losing our physical worshiping community was painful for all of us, especially the seniors. Fortunately, God's Spirit cannot be constrained by buildings or even physical proximity," said the Rev. Brian Beckstrom, dean of spiritual life and Moehlmann Chaplaincy Chair. "I'm amazed at the ways in which God allowed us to minister to one another in such a challenging time."

Weekday Chapel services were moved online through Knight Vision or Facebook Live, allowing graduating seniors and other speakers to share their messages. Dr. Karen Black, Rudi Inselmann Endowed Professor of Organ, recorded herself playing hymns that

were used in the online services. The Wednesday night weekly gathering for Bible study and music, called Sanctuary, continued to meet via Zoom.

In May Term, SLCM usually does not offer weekly Chapel services. But wanting to create a sense of community while being apart, pastoral intern Rebecca Baird '18 produced a weekly video based on spiritual disciplines, which included a prayer walk with video of campus, meditation, and artistic expression.

Once Commencement shifted to a virtual ceremony, Beckstrom also wanted to offer an online Blessing of the Seniors (Baccalaureate) service. With contributions from Baird, Black, and members of the senior class reading Scripture and leading prayers, the service also featured previously taped selections performed by the Wartburg Choir and Wind Ensemble. The service is available to watch on Knight Vision.



"For me, it's all a form of therapy. Spending time

with students, writing letters and cards, it all helps me

self-soothe and keep my mental health in balance."

– Dr. Penni Pier, Grant L. Price Department Chair in Journalism & Communication

Behind the scenes

While many Wartburg employees were able to transition to remote work in mid-March, staff in some areas weren't able to take their work home. With about 200 students remaining on campus through May Term, employees were needed on campus to ensure students were well cared for.

In Dining Services, state mandates required the college to eliminate dine-in seating without warning.

"That quick change left us scrambling. We just weren't set up to do takeout for all our students and their guests," said Marty Johnson '83, director of Dining Services.

There were other bumps along the way, as the team determined how best to continue to serve students while limiting their exposure. Student satisfaction went up when meal transfers in The Den, which allowed students additional options, were re-instated.

"It was a crazy couple of weeks. We would make plans in the morning and have to change them by the afternoon," Johnson said. "We learned a lot of things, but what was re-iterated is why it is so important that things are well thought out and well communicated."

In cleaning, the rules weren't changing, but expectations were on the rise. In the early days of the pandemic, Keith Strand, director of general maintenance and cleaning, redirected student workers to make additional cleaning and disinfecting passes through high-traffic areas, like elevator buttons, door knobs, and hand railings.

"We went through a lot of disposable gloves and disinfectant during that time," Strand said.

As the situation began to stabilize on campus, Strand worked with Residential Life to determine which halls were empty and with the Academic Affairs Office to find out which classrooms and labs could be thoroughly disinfected and closed so the cleaning staff could focus their attention on locations that were still in use.

"It's been hard on my staff, but they are working hard and want to be here so they can help keep the campus open," Strand said. W

Wartburg Choir's impromptu concert provides closure for many

inutes after Iowa Gov. Kim Reynolds announced a statewide shutdown of bars, restaurants, fitness centers, and theatres and banned any gatherings of more than 10 people, Dr. Lee Nelson, Wartburg Choir director, sprung into action.

His students already had planned to gather later in the day for their final class and a hastily planned concert to end the school year. With those plans thwarted, he enlisted the Choir Council, which was meeting at the time of Reynolds' announcement, to contact as many students as possible to join him in the Wartburg Chapel to sing together one final time before the ban took effect at noon.

"We had one hour before the governor's ban went into effect. We were going to sing as much as we could," Nelson said. "It was surreal, but such a

blessing considering all things. We were able to have an, albeit last-second, concert. People were still in their pajamas, but no one cared. It is something we will all hang on to."

Students continued to join their classmates on the stage throughout the concert, which was livestreamed on Knight Vision and Facebook. Though there were a few moments of levity, many students were visibly shaken, knowing that, for the seniors at least, this would be their last concert.

"I am sad about the way the year ended, but I am grateful for the time I was able to spend with people who had such an impact on my senior year," said Linzee Espensen '20, in the moments after the concert.

The choir already had sacrificed greatly amid the coronavirus pandemic, learning on March 12 that their May Term tour through Europe was canceled. Knowing all of this, 2019 graduates Mark Fakler and Emily Meeker, who had stumbled on the concert through Facebook Live, rushed to purchase red carnations for each of the graduating seniors, a choir tradition they couldn't let fall by the wayside. As the group dispersed around the Chapel for a final, tearful performance of Give Me Jesus, Fakler and Meeker ensured the tradition continued.

"Having this opportunity to get together again was so important for all of us. We have been crying through our last three rehearsals, knowing the end was coming," said John Krull '20, who missed the first half of the concert so he could finish his virtual senior recital. "These are all people I will love forever; they fill me with joy. I'm so glad we were able to have this moment."



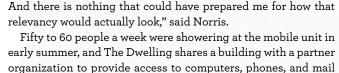
hen the Holy Spirit moves, the **Rev. Emily Harkins Norris '08** has learned to go with it, even if the timing doesn't make sense. After seven years of volunteering and working with an overflow shelter ministry in Winston-Salem, N.C., Norris brought the idea for a new church, specifically serving the area's homeless population, to leaders of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) and her synod.

"In a typical way of developing a church, you spend at least two years doing the discerning and the planting and the relationship building before you even launch it," said Norris, who had volunteered with those experiencing homelessness since 2013 through City with Dwellings Emergency Overflow Shelter at Augsburg Lutheran Church, where she worked as a youth pastor. "They're just looking for a way to land and a pastor to help lead it — it's already there. So it was a really easy 'Yes' for the church."

After getting paperwork ready through the fall of 2019 and a name — The Dwelling — the new ministry planned an opening date: Feb. 1, 2020. "Just in time for COVID to change the game," said Norris, the new church's mission developer.

But instead of closing its doors due to an unprecedented pandemic, the ministry adapted to provide holistic care to an at-risk community even faster. The Dwelling planned to offer a mobile

shower unit as part of its ministry, but it wouldn't be ready for weeks. Instead, they rented a shower unit that could go immediately into action, helping people get clean three or four days a week. In addition to showers, The Dwelling gives out socks, underwear, clean T-shirts, and toiletries. "In this really crazy turn of events, I prayed so hard and so



deeply that this church would be relevant from the beginning.

delivery for those without a home.

"It's this holistic wrap-around care that the organization is able to provide some of the social service side of things," said Norris.

"And then the church comes alongside and rounds it out with the real personal care and spiritualness; it's this very holistic way for

how we're caring for this community."

While the pandemic has kept churches across the country from gathering in person, The Dwelling has found that togetherness is a matter of survival for the people it serves. "We are not a typical, normal congregation," said Norris. "My community of people, the coronavirus did not impact them in the ways that it did others. And it still is not, because when you don't have shelter, when you don't have food, when you don't know where you're going to shower next, when you don't have human things that are just a guarantee for you, a virus that could take you out is the least of your worries."

She had a profound moment of understanding how the pandemic is affecting the homeless population while talking to a man named John at The Dwelling. "I said, 'John, you have to social distance!' And he looked at me and he goes, 'Miss Emily, if we distance, we die," recalled Norris.

"Community looks so different within populations that are experiencing homelessness; they actually physically depend on that closeness to survive. And so it's really hard to tell this population, 'You have to separate to protect yourself' when that's so counterintuitive to the way that they actually have to survive in this world."

Sunday morning worship begins with fellowship and a light meal to feed people physically as well as spiritually. When waiting in the parking lot for showers during the week, the community becomes worshipful with musicians singing and playing



"In this really crazy turn of events, I prayed so hard and so deeply that this church would be relevant from the beginning. And there is nothing that could have prepared me for how that relevancy would actually look."



instruments. Squares painted on the pavement help everyone stay socially distanced, and staff are disinfecting often, but the loss of physical contact has been hard for Norris as she ministers. "When I'm talking with someone. I want to be able to touch their hand or touch their shoulder. And you can't do that," she said. "The physical-ness of being in relationship, there's some loss in that. But everyone understands."

Starting a new church at the onset of a pandemic is not the first time Norris has felt the spirit's urging down an uncertain path. When serving as a youth pastor at Redeemer Lutheran in Waverly, she received a call to youth ministry in North Carolina in 2013, and she resisted going to interview. Then her bishop in the Northeast Iowa Synod, the Rev. Steven Ullestad '75, told her, "Emily, whales are really messy. Stop being a Jonah." So she flew to North Carolina for an interview, and within a month she was on a new path that would eventually lead to earning her Master of Divinity at Wartburg Seminary, ordination this past May into the ELCA, and helping lead the new ministry at The Dwelling.

For Norris, ministry was not part of her plans in her early days at Wartburg. The history and history education double major was far from her Colorado home and hadn't been involved in campus ministry. She didn't attend a Eucharist service until she felt a nudge to go one winter night when summer camps were recruiting for staff. By the end of the night, she had been hired to work at a camp for the summer, another unplanned move that brought her closer to a life of ministry.

Her second May Term trip to Africa during her senior year changed the trajectory of her path, Norris said. She met the Rev. Herb Hafermann '59 during her religion course in Tanzania, where he was a volunteer after retiring from many years of ministry in Africa.

"[Herb Hafermann '59] was the first pastor that really showed me that pastors don't have to be typical and that the call to the church is bigger than just congregational ministry."

- Rev. Emily Harkins Norris '08

"He was the first pastor that really showed me that pastors don't have to be typical and that the call to the church is bigger than just congregational ministry," she said. "I started listening a little bit closer to what that could be in my life." Hafermann became a lifelong friend, meeting with some of Norris' later group trips to Africa and presiding at her wedding. She attended his funeral in 2017, and the bishop who ordained Norris this past May wore a stole belonging to Hafermann.

Her relationships with Wartburg's history faculty also have been meaningful, both during her time as a student and long afterward. "All of them at different points would talk about faith and religion and would share parts and pieces of their faith as well. I think that's across the board for all of the professors at Wartburg," said Norris. "We know that our learning is a part of not just the education process, but it's the formation of who we are as people, and bringing in that faith in people's own histories and experiences and understandings, it rounded us all out.

"Dr. (Daniel) Walther and Dr. (Erica) Lindgren and Dr. (Terrence) Lindell, all of them, 10 years later, are some of the first people to comment and congratulate and say, 'We've always known you've been made for this.' They are still actively connecting and cheering me on. And Kathy Book, one of my education professors, always is engaging still," said Norris. "My friends that I made at Wartburg have been some of my greatest cheerleaders on this journey." (7)

Fellowship leads to educational opportunities for teacher

BY STEPHANIE ROBBINS BOEDING '99
PHOTOS SUBMITTED

or someone who doesn't like being cold, visiting Antarctica wouldn't seem like a dream destination. But for **Stacey Snyder '86**, visiting the southernmost continent as a Grosvenor Teacher Fellow was the chance of a lifetime, and, surprisingly, warmer than her home in Iowa when she traveled there in November 2019.

The Grosvenor Teacher Fellowship is a partnership between National Geographic and Lindblad Expeditions that puts 45 teachers on a field-based expedition. The fellowship is a professional development opportunity for pre-K-12 classroom teachers that has a two-year commitment beyond the trip. Snyder, an expanded learning program and gifted-student resource teacher at Orange and Lowell elementary schools in Waterloo, applied because of the travel and the focus on empowering students to take action to better the world. Though visiting the Galapagos Islands was

her top choice ("I love turtles," she said), being selected to go to Antarctica was a huge thrill because of the continent's wild and pristine nature—Snyder's ship didn't allow plastic containers on board. "In retrospect I am so thankful I went to Antarctica because it's probably not a place I would go to on my own. Now that I've been there, I feel differently."

To prepare, Snyder did a lot of reading along with her students. "I have always believed that chance will favor your prepared mind," she said, and she wanted to be ready to spot the continent's wildlife and know their habits. Since educators in the fellowship are expected to incorporate their learning into their classroom teaching and share their experience in the community, Snyder borrowed 360-degree cameras from Iowa State University's FLEx program, with hopes of creating a virtual field trip with her students.



finishing that project this spring, Snyder has been able to share the story of her trip with community groups and local media.

Her highlights were seeing some "biggies," like a huge iceberg that was 80 miles by 25 miles and took the expedition's boat several hours to pass. On the ice floes behind the iceberg, Snyder got to see emperor penguins floating in the sea, a rare treat because that largest of the penguin species usually is found further south. Overall, Snyder saw four species of penguin on her trip. "I know birders would be jealous to see some of the birds that I saw," she said, including the wandering albatross, which has the largest wingspan in the world.

Snyder was willing to get cold just once and made it a fun moment for her students. Trip participants were invited to do a "polar plunge" in the Southern Ocean, and while most brought a bathing suit for the jump, Snyder had a different plan. "I decided I was going to get a penguin costume because I love Halloween and I like to dress up, and I'm a storyteller to the kids. So they know that I can be a character," she said.

But the biggest moment occurred at the end of the group's multiday excursion, when a blue whale swam near the group's ship for more than 20 minutes. "That made my life in a sense, because that's not an animal that's all that common. Yeah, they're huge, but they're in a huge ocean, too. And so as an endangered species, to be able to be near that, see it, and watch it, that was pretty amazing."

Snyder is one of only two Iowans who have participated in the fellowship, and now her task is to incorporate her experience into her classrooms in Waterloo, where she already has been challenging her students to make earth-friendly changes. Before becoming a Grosvenor Teacher Fellow, Snyder was part of the Geo Challenge project, where students find ways to keep plastics from getting into local water bodies. "My students changed Orange Elementary, basically from plastic silver-

ware to metal silverware," Snyder said. The students won the first-ever Iowa regional in 2019 and traveled to Washington, D.C. Other students of hers have initiated projects to get reusable mugs for teachers and to approach a local store about using cloth bags instead of plastic.

"I get kids to ask serious questions and collect information that would help them answer that, whether that's evidence or other data, then visualize a way to make sense of that information and create a way to take action," said Snyder. "The whole idea is to get teachers who are getting their students to think globally minded and get them to be empowered to action."

The passion for education has been passed down to Snyder's children: daughter Megan Newbrough '19 is a sixth-grade English and language arts teacher in Denver, Iowa, and son Austin Newbrough '18 teaches health at Mount Pleasant Middle School. Three Wartburg educators in the family has led to many shared experiences. Both mother The whole idea is to get teachers who are getting their students to think globally minded and get them to be empowered to action."

- Stacey Snyder '86

and son played golf for the Knights, and mother and daughter discovered a chance coincidence when moving Megan into her room her freshman year. "We get on the floor, and she and I had the same freshman first dorm, Vollmer 234. I mean, how does that happen? How many years in between?"

Though buildings, courses, and professors have changed over the years, the college's traditions and excellent preparation in the education program has created a special bond. "It's encouraging to have both of them following in your footsteps, in a way," said Snyder. "I think that teaching is a profession that builds all others." 🕔









This spring, the college, with a whole lot of help from Drs. Mike Bechtel '94 and Christine DeVries, launched the "Stavat-Home Learning Series," which featured "Bech for a Sec Biology Lessons" with Bechtel and his classroom animals and "Chemistry Experiments with Dr. DeVries" (and sometimes her children).

Visit wartburg.edu/stay-at-home to see all the videos!

DRIVE N

BY STEPHANIE ROBBINS BOEDING '99 PHOTOS SUBMITTED

Wartburg College recently recognized five outstanding alumni for service to their communities. The Young Alumni Award honors graduates from the past 15 years who are living the four pillars of the Wartburg College mission statement: leadership, service, faith, and learning.



Amy Tucker '10

Tucker, of Fayette, graduated from Wartburg with a degree in community sociology and went on to study educational leadership and policy studies at Iowa State University, earning a master's degree in 2012. But it was her work in leadership, which she minored in at Wartburg, that she would come to be known for.

Her heart for assisting students found expression in her work as a graduate assistant with Destination Iowa State, a welcome program for the university's new students. In 2012, she was named the Outstanding Graduate Student in the region by the National Orientation Directors Association. Her career in higher education then took her to Upper Iowa University in Fayette, where she became director of student activities in 2012. In that role, she developed a diverse offering of student activities and managed more than 30 college clubs and organizations. In 2015, she became the director of academic success at Upper Iowa, overseeing efforts to support students in meeting their academic goals and chairing the school's early alert program. In recognition of her work for students, the Iowa

Student Personnel Association awarded Tucker its Outstanding New Professional Award in 2015.

Tucker's leadership and service extend into the Fayette community, as well. She helped start the Fayette Community Garden, is a member of Friends of the Fayette Community Library, volunteers with the local mentoring program for at-risk youth and the Fayette Recreation Board, and helps organize volunteers for park beautification during Fayette Appreciation Day. In 2017, Tucker was tapped to fill an open city council seat, and in 2017 and 2019 she won re-election to that post, where she uses her platform to improve her community. She was awarded the Fayette Mayor's Award for her work in implementing the community garden.



Ben Brannaman '09

Brannaman, of Lisbon, used his degree in business administration to start a career in nonprofit fundraising with the University of Iowa Foundation. There he was part of the development team that completed a \$50 million campaign for Iowa's first free-standing children's hospital. A highlight for him was working with Wartburg College Dance Marathon to sponsor a room in the new Stead Family University of Iowa Children's Hospital, which opened in 2017.

Answering a calling to work with Christian ministry, Brannaman became director of development for the Eastern U.S. with The Navigators, an organization focused on sharing the gospel message, developing disciples through relationships, and encouraging spiritual growth across life stages. In July 2019, he became area director of donor relations for Compassion International, a child-advocacy ministry focused on releasing children from extreme poverty in 25 countries around the world.

Brannaman uses his skills in fundraising to benefit his community, too. As the school foundation president, he raised thousands of dollars to make sure each building had what it needed to see every student succeed and then brought in more than \$200,000 to help fully fund a project within the school's new performing arts center. When the community of Mount Vernon was raising funds for a new community center, Brannaman's leadership helped raise over \$2 million to get to the goal.

He also has used his expertise on the development committee at Bridgehaven Pregnancy Support Center in Cedar Rapids and serves as the philanthropic adviser for Eastern Iowa FCA. He's also the race director of his local Heritage Days 5K.



Chikemma (Nwana) Ezirim '11

Ezirim, of New Jersey, graduated summa cum laude from Wartburg in 2011 with a degree in computer information systems. From Wartburg, she took her talents to New York, where she worked with Credit Suisse, a large Wall Street firm, and earned a "Raising the Bar" award as she managed the buildout of various technology platforms for trading and loan origination. She joined Goldman Sachs in 2014, co-leading their expansion efforts into Latin American markets.

In addition to her demanding career, her Christian faith has led her to continue a calling to help others. While at Wartburg, Ezirim and another Nigerian student were awarded a \$10,000 grant from Davis Projects for Peace to build a water well in rural Nigeria. That project, called Water for Life Nigeria, would benefit more than 5,000 people. Ezirim continued with WFLN until 2019 as CEO. Her desire to meet the needs of Nigerians led her to be involved with another nonprofit, Empowering Minds for Tomorrow. As executive director, she leads the organization in its mission of empowering underprivileged children by improving their learning environment to prepare them for future success.

To improve her leadership and organizational skills, Ezirim earned an MBA in 2018 from Kellogg School of Management at Northwestern University. Since 2018, Ezirim has worked as a manager of corporate strategy and development at Xandr, Inc., a digital advertising and media company owned by AT&T. She is responsible for overseeing key strategic initiatives, formulating plans and approach, building partnerships to achieve mission-critical company initiatives, and launching enterprise products. At Xandr, she has founded a public speaking club under Toastmasters International and hosted a two-day SHE Summit conference livestream to engage global workplace conversations around women's issues.



Kristin Granchalek Pavelec'05

Pavelec, of Madison, Wis., who earned her Wartburg degree in elementary education and business administration, went on to earn a master's degree from the University of Wisconsin-Madison in educational leadership and policy analysis. She also has earned certification to become a K-12 principal or director of instruction.

As a fourth-grade teacher in the Middleton-Cross Plains School District, Pavelec's leadership and service are evident even outside of the classroom. She has served on several teams, including School Improvement, Nonviolent Crisis Intervention, and Science Curriculum Renewal. She has served as a mentor for new teachers and co-teaches with special education and ELL teachers to create an inclusive, welcoming environment. She has embraced learning about new technology to foster learning and student engagement, sought out training about culturally responsive practices, and steps into the role of substitute assistant principal on days when her support and leadership is needed.

Pavelec might be even more busy during her annual summer break than the rest of the year. For several years, she has directed her local Camp Invention day camp, bringing STEM concepts to life for children through the nationwide program. Under Pavelec's leadership, which includes managing 240 campers, hiring and managing staff, and communicating with parents, the local program has grown to become the largest in Wisconsin.

She also is director of the Vacation Bible School program at St. Luke's Lutheran in Middleton, creating a faith-building program to serve 200 children and managing more than 100 volunteers. Pavelec also has served on St. Luke's senior pastor call committee, dedicating many hours to identify the next faith leader at the church.



Trevor Carolan '11

Carolan, of Phoenix, Ariz., studied at the University of St. Thomas School of Law in Minneapolis after earning his bachelor's degree in political science.

At St. Thomas, he received a Dean's Award in Immigration Law and Immigration Clinic and was named Family Law Student of the Year. Carolan also found time for music while in law school: He was organist for the St. Thomas More Chapel Choir and for several years was the bass section leader in the Cathedral Choir at the Basilica of St. Mary in Minneapolis. As a member of the semi-professional Schola Cantorum, he twice performed in Europe, singing for His Holiness Pope Francis and Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI at the Vatican.

After earning his juris doctorate in 2014, he became a judicial law clerk in Minneapolis. In 2018, he became a federal judicial law clerk in Phoenix for a federal district court judge with one of the highest civil case loads in the country. He also is the associate director of music and organist at All Saints' Episcopal Church & Day School. In 2018, Carolan was named an E. Power Biggs Fellow by the Organ Historical Society. And Europe beckons again; this fall, Carolan plans to serve as organist-in-residence at St. Patrick's Cathedral in Dublin, Ireland.

In addition to his law career and passion for music. Carolan volunteers with the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals Court Works Program, where he mentors youth in the federal legal process and helps students prepare for moot court competition. He also teaches financial literacy to students through the national C.A.R.E. organization. Through immigration clinics, he assists children and young adults in completing their legal paperwork. He also has served his alma mater as a member of the Wartburg College Alumni Board from 2014 to 2018. 💖

Wartburg names new health and human performance center for Liz and John Wuertz

BY KATIE KREIS '19 PHOTOS SUBMITTED

wo longtime Wartburg College boosters and employees will be honored with the naming of the college's new health and human performance center.

The Wartburg College Board of Regents recently approved the naming of the Wuertz Health & Human Performance Center to honor Elizabeth (Liz) and **John '73 Wuertz**. Liz was instrumental in the development of women's athletics at Wartburg, serving as

the first head coach of both the women's volleyball and track and field programs. She was named the Iowa Conference Track and Field Coach of the Year in 1983 and also spent several years as a Wartburg admissions counselor. John served as head coach for the men's track and field program and building supervisor for the previous Physical Education Center before becoming director of the Wartburg Physical Plant, a position he held for nearly 25 years.

Approval comes after the college received a \$1 million gift commitment from **Mike Murphy**, a 1989 Wartburg graduate, member of the Board of Regents, and father of two Wartburg graduates (**Megan** and **Miranda** in 2018) and one current student (**Riley**, a junior). The Wuertzes positively impacted the Murphy family and countless others at Wartburg.

"I would consider their service to and support of Wartburg College as one of the most impactive that I have witnessed," said Murphy, principal at Powerhouse Retail Services. "Not only as dedicated employees, but also as loyal fans and volunteers."

Murphy's gift is in support of the college's larger Health & Human Performance project, a \$3.7 million addition and renovation to the Wartburg-Waverly Sports & Wellness Center (The W). The project will feature the new Meyer Strength & Conditioning Annex, named for **Darwyn (Dar) Meyer**, a 1961 graduate who died in 2019, being built on the building's south side. The former athletic weight room on the second floor of The W will be renovated to create the health and human performance space, including two labs and several faculty offices to accommodate the new Department of Health & Human Performance. The entire project is dependent upon donors' gifts, and to date, \$3.2 million has been raised.

"Mike Murphy's generous support is a tremendous blessing, advancing this wonderful illustration of how Wartburg integrates academic and co-curricular opportunities for students," said Darrel Colson, Wartburg president. "The new home for our Department of Health & Human Performance will provide labs where students can analyze data generated by student-athletes in the new strength and conditioning center. What remarkable synergy between scientific research and intercollegiate athletics—and all for the benefit of Wartburg students."



The new space will allow for integration with student-faculty research opportunities in exercise science, health and fitness, and physical education.

"We've spent a lot of time with the architects poring over every detail, so it is super exciting to be moving forward with the construction," said Ed Westen, chair of the health and human performance department. "The lab and classroom spaces are going to be excel-

lent. They will be outfitted with all of the necessary equipment for both research and teaching, along with some technologies that one would certainly not expect to see at an institution of our size."

Construction has begun to ensure the project is completed prior to the 2021-22 academic year. The addition is expected to be finished by February 2021, with the Wuertz Health & Human Performance Center renovation completed by May 2021. Woodruff Construction, general contractor, has selected **John Mallen**, Northeast Region president and a 2011 Wartburg graduate, to oversee the project.

"The new addition will be a great enhancement, both in function and appearance, for our entire athletic department," said Rick Willis, director of athletics. "The updated and larger space, fully equipped with state-of-the-art technology, will benefit the development of all our student-athletes."

The college's goal is to complete fundraising by Dec. 31, 2020. Those interested in supporting the Health & Human Performance project can call the Development Office at 319-352-8495 or donate online at www.wartburg.edu/give.

§ 9



KNIGHTS NEWS

HERBERT HILDEBRANDT, Ann Arbor, Mich., has published the articles Hedonic and Utilitarian Platforms in Senior Living Environments and Silo Mentalities in Your Residential Facility? in McKnights Senior Living.

1965

GAIL KAHL LANGLEY, McCoy, Va., is president of Vatell Corporation, Christiansburg.

SCOTT WHITCOME, Waverly, retired from Fidelity Bank and Trust, formerly State Bank and Trust, after 41 years in the financial services industry.

1980

TERRY CLARK, Chicago, authored the book None but the Righteous.

DAVID ROD, Northfield, Minn., retired after 34 years as a captain for American Airlines. He was chairman of the Pilot Occupational Health Committee for the Allied Pilots Association.

1984

JOHN MORRISSON, Carol Stream, Ill., retired as a banker after 32 years with HSBC.

1985

DR. KATHERINE JANSSEN KLAASSEN, Broken Arrow, Okla., is practicing telemedicine with general psychiatry clinics in Wenatchee, Wash., and the Veterans Affairs Medical Center in Spokane, Wash., and serves on the hospital ethics council.

1989

ROBIN DOEDEN, Arlington, Texas, is director of development and strategic partnerships at Momentous Institute, Dallas.

ALAN FEIRER, Winterset, leadership trainer and owner of Group Dynamic, was awarded the 2019 Ruby Award by Wiley Workplace Learning Solutions.

JASON '95 and AMY PACK NAGEL, Granby, Colo., celebrated their 25th wedding anniversary with a trip to Europe and the Wartburg Castle in Eisenach, Germany.

DAN DIGMANN, Mt. Pleasant, Mich., and his wife, Jennifer, were named 2019 Michigan Activists of the Year by the National Multiple Sclerosis Society.

1998

DEREK HARTL, Decorah, is vice president for enrollment management at Luther College.

1999

DR. JAMIE KLING, Portage, Wis., was promoted to associate professor at the University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health, Madison.

JENNIFER COX KURTZ, Arvada, Colo., earned a doctorate in systems engineering from Colorado State University.

2001

JEANNA LARSON, Sheldon, director of bands at Sheldon Middle School, was elected presidentelect of the Iowa Bandmasters Association. She will serve a two-year term, one year as president-elect and one year as IBA president.

Paul and SARA MCCLURE ROBERTS, Avon, Colo., announce the birth of Mae, May 19, 2019. She joins Roy, 2. Sara is vice president of marketing at Slifer Smith & Frampton Real Estate, Vail.

JANEL RAY VERTZ, Beaver Dam, Wis., graduated from the Wisconsin Association of School Business Officials Leadership Academy in 2019 and is the chief financial officer at Wayland Academy.

DANE and HILLARY ERICKSON WESENBERG '02, St. Paul, Minn., announce the birth of Crosby Robert, May 14, 2019. He joins Nora Karina, 4, and Anja Isabella, 1.

2005

JORDAN MAUS, Davenport, is a board member of the Iowa Real Estate Appraiser Examining Board. He will serve a three-year term, which began May 1.

Allen and ASHLEY JESSICK BOHNSTENGEL. Omaha, Neb., announce the birth of Aiden Allen, March 21, 2019. He joins Aubrey, 3.

TINA HINZ, Des Moines, is a communications manager at the Iowa Pork Producers Association, Clive.

RACHEL ZACCARO, Seattle, Wash., is director of product marketing at Lumen Learning.

ELIZABETH REEDSTROM ZARUBA, Mankato, Minn., is the graphic design and marketing editor at the Mankato Family YMCA.

2009

James King Jr. and JESSI PREUSSNER, Blacksburg, Va., were married Sept. 21. Jessi is a senior pre-award associate at Virginia Tech.

2010

THOMAS and NOELLE TOPITZHOFER '12 FIELDS, Blaine, Minn., announce the birth of Louisa Charlotte, Feb. 2. She joins Linnéa, 3.

Dane and AMY BANGTSON JENSEN, Clive, announce the birth of Sofia, June 5, 2019. She joins Theo, 2. Amy is a fourth-grade teacher for the Des Moines public schools.

2011

STACY HUCK, Plainfield, earned a Master of Science in nursing from the University of Nebraska Medical Center and is a certified pediatric nurse practitioner at Waverly Health Center.

ALLISON HURH PASSON, Rochester, Minn., is a web and digital content coordinator at Rochester Community and Technical College.

2012

DAVID BROOKS, Nashville, Tenn., is completing his first year of a three-year fellowship in neonatology at Vanderbilt University Medical Center.

2013

ROBIN EVANS, Davenport, earned a law degree from Northwestern Pritzker School of Law in May.

AUSTIN and MAISIE TIMP GRECO, lowa City, announce the birth of Wren Waverly on Oct. 24. Austin is pursuing a fellowship in oncology/ hematology at the University of Iowa Hospitals

Ryan Willson and **BROOKE LENTZ**, Cedar Rapids, were married Nov. 9.

2014

SERENA UGORETZ O'NEIL, Centerville, Minn., is a tax, trusts, and estates associate attorney with Spencer Fane LLP, Minneapolis.

MORGAN GERDES, lowa City, is the recreation supervisor of communications and special events for the City of Iowa City.

KATE HUFFMAN, Philadelphia, Pa., is director of development and board liaison at the Greater Philadelphia Cultural Alliance.

2017

ABIGAIL SCHAPER, Waseca, Minn., is an outpatient oncology social worker at Mayo Clinic Cancer Center, Albert Lea.

2018

MAYA WEATHERALL, Madison, Wis., is a content developer at Rippe Keane Marketing.

ERIN FOLKEN, Aplington, is an assurance associate at Ernst & Young, Des Moines.

DEVIN SMITH GEER, Rochester, Minn., is a finance analyst at Mayo Clinic.

JENNA HOLTZ, Lost Nation, is a registered nurse at MercyOne, Des Moines.

JOUIE JINNAH, Vancouver, Canada, is a graduate student in accounting at the University of British Columbia.

ERIN KEDROWSKI, Waterloo, is an inbound operations manager at Target, Cedar Falls.

EMILY LEONHART, Denver, Colo., is a data analyst at IMA Financial Group.

SHILAH STROUD, Cedar Falls, is a music therapist at Life in Harmony, LLC, West Salem,

MICHAEL YEATMAN, Waverly, is in timber management with SSPI.

ANNA ACHTER, Menomonie, Wis., is a doctoral student in counseling psychology at the University of Central Arkansas, Conway.

JOHN ASKREN, Stuart, is a graduate student in biostatistics at the University of Iowa, Iowa City.

SPENCER BARTON, Davenport, is a graduate student in museum studies at Western Illinois University, Moline, Ill.

TYLER BITTING, Keokuk, is a maintenance engineer in Dubuque and student in engineering management at the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

SOFIA BOUFFARD, Cedar Rapids, is a music therapy intern at Oral Roberts University Music Therapy Clinic, Tulsa, Okla.

KARLEE BOYLE, Janesville, is a graduate student in pharmacy at the University of Iowa College of Pharmacy, Iowa City.

AMANDA BRAINERD, DeWitt, is a graduate student in nutrition, dietetics, and sensory sciences at Kansas State University.

KIMBERLY CESPEDES, Waverly, is a graduate student in social work at Washington University, St. Louis, Mo.

BRANDAN CHILDS, Solon, is a technology designer at Design Engineers, Cedar Rapids.

ABBY DEBAILLIE, Orion, Ill., is a high school chemistry teacher at American School Foundation of Monterrey, Monterrey, Mexico.

PAIGE DEPPE, Dyersville, is a staff accountant/ finance associate at Hormel Foods, Austin, Minn.

TANNER DUFFY, Waverly, is a graduate student in the anesthesiologist assistant program at the Medical College of Wisconsin, Milwaukee.

LINZEE ESPENSEN, West Branch, is a nursing student in the accelerated Bachelor of Science Nursing program at Allen College, Waterloo.

NATALIE FOBER, Denver, is a graduate student in occupational therapy at St. Ambrose University, Davenport.

SYDNEY GALLES, Cedar Falls, is a graduate student in social work at the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

DANIELLE GERLACH, Cedar Rapids, is an associate accountant at Principal Financial Group, Des Moines.

MACI GRIFFITH, Vinton, is a graduate student in the physician assistant program at the University of Dubuque.

ALANA HARMS, Flanagan, Ill., is a Master of Divinity student at Wartburg Theological Seminary, Dubuque.

KASSIE HENNINGS, La Porte City, is a 6-12 instrumental band director at Cedar Valley Catholic Schools, Waterloo.

TYLER HOVICK, Roland, is an associate auditor at Wells Fargo, West Des Moines.

SONJA IVERSON, Oskaloosa, is a missional youth leader at Faith Lutheran Church, Golden, Colo.

HANNAH JAMES, Rochester, Minn., is a middle school special education teacher in the Matanuska-Susitna Borough School District, Houston, Alaska.

EMMANUEL JEFFERY, Marion, is a doctoral student in medicine at the University of Iowa Carver College of Medicine, Iowa City.

PAUL JORDAN, Waukesha, Wis., is a middle school social studies teacher in the Creston Community School District.

KYLIE KELCHEN, Cascade, is pursuing a doctorate in physical therapy at the University of Iowa, Iowa City.

NICHOLAS KENNICKER, Delmar, is a graduate student in post-secondary education/student affairs at the University of Northern Iowa, Cedar

GRANT KINCAID, Dubuque, is a graduate student in dentistry at the University of Iowa, Iowa City.

SHAHEEM KLUTTZ, Dundas, Minn., is a business tax services associate at KPMG, Minneapolis.

HAYLEY KROGH, Hudson, is a second-grade teacher in the Independence Community School District.

GARRETT LANE, Crystal, Minn., is pursuing a doctorate in physical therapy at Mayo Clinic College of Medicine and Science, Rochester,

ALLY LIMKE, Rockton, Ill., is a doctoral student in computer science at North Carolina State University, Raleigh, N.C.

TAYLOR LOOSE, Alexandria, Minn., is a special education teacher in the Sauk Center Public Schools.

PAIGE LOY, Cedar Falls, is a graduate student in occupational therapy at St. Catherine University, St. Paul, Minn.

MEGAN MALASKI, Lindstrom, Minn., is a graduate student in the Master of Social Work program at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor.

COLE MARTIN, Eyota, Minn., is pursuing a doctorate in biological and biomedical sciences at the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill.

PAIGE MARSH, Waverly, is a sales development representative at Holmes Murphy Insurance, Dallas, Texas.

CASSANDRA MCCLAIN, Dixon, Ill., is a tax and audit consultant at CliftonLarsonAllen.

ABBY MCKEE, Cedar Falls, is a special education teacher at Irving Elementary School, Waterloo.

JENNIFER MCLAIN, Eldridge, is a graduate student in orthoptics at Lurie Children's Hospital, Chicago.

REBECCA MILLER, Clermont, is a graduate student in medicine at the University of Iowa Carver College of Medicine, Iowa City.

LINDA NEELY, Iowa Falls, is pursuing a Master of Science in modern human anatomy at the University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus, Aurora.

ANGELINE NEO, Waverly, is a graduate student in emerging media design development at Ball State University, Muncie, Ind.

TYLER NUNEMAKER, Ely, is an associate financial planner and analyst at Collins Aerospace, Cedar Rapids.

BETHANY O'CLAIR, Waterloo, is a special education teacher in the Waterloo Community School District.

MITCHELL OHL, Independence, is a rural carrier assistant with the United States Postal Service.

JOHN PATRICK, Dubuque, is a tax associate at RSM US LLP, Des Moines.

OLIVIA PEDERSON, Mason City, is an operations manager at Target Corporation, Cedar Falls.

SAMANTHA PFAB, Dubuque, is a Master of Divinity and Master of Arts in Christian Education and Formation student at Princeton Theological Seminary, Princeton, N.J.

ALEX POLLOCK, Chaska, Minn., is a medical scribe in the Emergency Physicians Professional Association program, Bloomington, Minn.

KATIE QUINTANA, Westminster, Colo., is a nursing student in the accelerated Bachelor of Science in Nursing program at Allen College, Waterloo.

ANNA REHBERG, Omaha, Neb., is a graduate student in pharmacy at the University of Nebraska Medical Center.

JACKSON REYNOLDS, Cedar Falls, is a Master of Divinity student at Princeton Theological Seminary, Princeton, N.J.

ERICA RITTGERS, Gowrie, is a pricing analyst at Nationwide Insurance, Des Moines.

GABRIELLE ROHRER, Watertown, Wis., is a technical solutions engineer at Epic Systems,

EMILY RUSSELL, Parkersburg, is a law student at Drake University Law School, Des Moines.

JUSTIN SCHOPPE, Ames, is a graduate student in aerospace engineering at Texas A&M University, College Station.

NICK SCHWAKE, Bettendorf, is pursuing a juris doctorate at the University of Iowa College of Law, Iowa City.

MICAH SIEG, Mount Horeb, Wis., is a Master of Divinity student at Luther Seminary, St. Paul,

EMILY SMILLIE, Parker, Colo., is a nursing student at Allen College, Waterloo.

ABIGAIL STAEBELL, Hudson, is a fourth-grade elementary teacher in the Hudson Community School District.

LEVI STOCKDALE, Aplington, is a staff accountant at LattaHarris, LLP, Grundy Center.

HANNAH VAN BUREN, Cedar Rapids, is a lab technician at Northland Products Company, Waterloo.

MEGAN WAGAMAN, Springville, is an instructional strategist in special education in the Iowa City Community School District.

ANDREW WALKER, Urbandale, is a law student at the University of Iowa College of Law, Iowa City.

JACK WARDEN, Northfield, Minn., is a samples fulfillment intern at Cambria, Belle Plaine, Minn.

JENNIFER WILEY, Denver, Iowa, is a fifth-grade teacher in the Marshalltown Community School District.

SARA YOUNG, Urbandale, is a community and energy volunteer at Green Iowa AmeriCorps, Des Moines.

RACHEL ZITTERGRUEN, Chaska, Minn., is a graduate student in occupational therapy at Lewis University, Romeoville, Ill.



N MEMORIAM

1941

Rachel Brownson Hoth, Guttenberg, died Sept. 16, 2018. She was an elementary teacher and a farmer.

1942

Ruth Finck Schabacker, Waverly, died Oct. 8. She was an elementary teacher for 42 years, retiring from Waverly-Shell Rock schools after 38 years.

1942

Eunice Loots, Fort Dodge, died Jan. 5. She was a teacher in Guam, Samoa, and Hawaii.

1944

Edna Hameister Scherle, Panora, died June 27, 2019. She served with her husband as a missionary in New Guinea for more than 30 years.

Bonnie Culbertson Uriell, Waverly, died April 21. She was a teacher, retiring from Waverly-Shell Rock High School in 1986.

1945

Bernard Emkes, Seymour, Ill., died March 1. He worked in the fertilizer industry for 36 years. He was a service veteran with the Aviation Engineers during WWII. He is survived by his wife, Orpha Rachuy Emkes '46.

1946

Victor Schulz, Sheldon, died March 22. A U.S. Army Air Corps veteran, he worked for Lutheran Mutual Life Insurance Company.

1947

The Rev. William Roleder, St. Helena, Calif., died Dec. 14, 2018. He earned his degree from Wartburg Theological Seminary, Dubuque, and was ordained in 1950. He served congregations in Oregon and California. He went on to earn his Doctor of Ministry from Fuller Theological Seminary in 1978.

1948

Julia Roese Hersom, Pomeroy, died Dec. 29, 2019. She was active in the Women of the ELCA and was a Sunday school teacher.

1949

Gertrude Zahn Allen, Algona, died Nov. 21, 2019. She was a teacher.

Elois Giesler Goerz, West Lafayette, Ind., died Feb. 13. She taught and was an office worker at Ancilla College, Donaldson.

Keith Koch, Cedar Rapids, died March 23, 2019. A U.S. Air Force veteran, he earned the rank of lieutenant colonel after 30 years of service as a reservist. He went on to practice law and taught and coached in the Cedar Rapids school district. He is survived by his wife, Donna Gundacker Koch '50.

1953

The Rev. Conrad Guetzlaff, Clear Lake, died Jan. 19. He earned a Master of Divinity degree from Wartburg Theological Seminary, Dubuque, and was ordained in 1957. He served parishes in Ohio and Iowa.

Richard Rowray, Coralville, died April 14. He earned a master's degree in guidance and counseling from the University of Northern lowa, Cedar Falls, and a doctorate in student personnel administration from Michigan State University. He served as dean for enrollment and student services at Ball State University, Muncie, Ind., and later worked as a senior consultant at ACT, Iowa City, before retiring.

1954

Howard Bose, Dumas, Texas, died Aug. 25, 2019. A U.S. Army veteran, he earned a master's degree in education from Texas A&M University. He was a farmer and teacher. He went on to serve as a coordinator at Amarillo College and a GED administrator. He is survived by his wife, **Evelyn Dreier Bose '54**.

Betty Hartman Lau, Waverly, died May 1. She taught in rural Bremer County schools and then farmed with her husband near Readlyn for many years.

1955

Janice Will Anderson, Hayward, Wis., died March 22. She earned a master's degree in education from the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, and was an elementary teacher.

1956

Delores Bose Messick, Tulsa, Okla., died Feb. 10. She was a lifelong volunteer with many local organizations.

Marsha Turnquist Pasco, Spearfish, S.D., died April 10. She was a secretary and later a choir director in her husband's parishes.

1957

Florence Ketterling Gall, Louisville, Ky., died Feb. 13. She was an elementary teacher.

Karen Dettmer Weissenbuehler,

Lakewood, Colo., died May 7, 2018. She was a pastor for 30 years serving congregations in Colorado.

1958

John "Jack" Anderson, Boone, died Jan. 15. He earned a medical degree from the University of lowa College of Medicine. He went on to serve in the U.S. Navy and was honorably discharged as a lieutenant commander. He practiced medicine in Boone and served as president of the lowa Medical Society and a term as chairman of the lowa Board of Medical Examiners.

1959

Lenore "Ellen" Amelung Glassel, Washington, died April 3.

Richard Grave, Garnavillo, died Nov. 29, 2019. He was a U.S. Army veteran and a farmer. After retiring, he worked many years at G&G Services in Guttenberg. He is survived by his wife, **Diane Bierbaum Grave '61**.

The Rev. Don Wilken, Johnson Lake, Neb., died Dec. 25, 2019. He earned a Master of Divinity degree from Wartburg Theological Seminary, Dubuque, and served congregations in Nebraska and Colorado for 56 years.

1960

Janece "Bunny" Eaton Simerson, Austin, Minn., died Nov. 20, 2019. She was a registered nurse.

1962

JoAnne Niehaus Doehrmann, Williamsburg, died Nov. 21, 2019. She was an elementary music and physical education teacher.

Jerelyn Dobratz Hanson Kloehn,

Appleton, Wis., died May 1, 2019. She earned a bachelor's degree in home economics and education from the University of Wisconsin-Madison. She was a teacher.

1963

Vernetta Jonson Bennett, Manchester, died Feb. 2. She was a teacher.

1964

Nancy Keel, Muscatine, died Jan. 25. She earned a degree at the University of Denver and taught speech and drama at Muscatine Community College for 40 years before retiring in 2008.

Albin Sandau Jr., White Bear Lake, Minn., died Dec. 9, 2019. A U.S. Army veteran, he earned a master's degree in speech and theater at the University of South Dakota. He taught at Huron College.

Maryan Shipley, Charles City, died March 23. She was a teacher at Nashua Elementary School for 31 years.

Stephen Smith, Cedar Rapids, died March 11. He earned a master's degree from the University of Iowa and was a school psychologist for 30 years. He is survived by his wife, **Karolyn Hanna Smith '65**.

Durwood Thomas, Liberty, Mo., died Jan. 26. A U.S. Navy veteran, he worked in sales and management in the steel industry.

Virgil Werning, Cedar Rapids, died March 4. He was a teacher, an insurance salesman, and a farmer.

Leslie Yeager, Cedar Rapids, died Dec. 2, 2019. He attended State College of Iowa (now the University of Northern Iowa) for an English certification and was a teacher for more than 40 years.

1965

Charles Ditto, Peoria, Ariz., died Dec. 18, 2019. A U.S. Navy veteran, he retired as a captain after serving for 25 years. He is survived by his wife, **Ruth Ann Murray Ditto '65**.

Deloris Peterson Laube, Waverly, died Dec. 19, 2019. She earned a master's degree in developmental reading from the University of Northern Iowa. She was a teacher.

1966

Jeanette Burrack Wolfgram, Westgate, died March 8. She was a teacher. She went on to work as the head of admissions at a hospital and later worked with her husband on the family farm.

1968

Daniel Bomhoff, West Des Moines, died Dec. 16, 2019. He attended the University of Nebraska and earned a master's degree in social work from Washington University, St. Louis. He worked in community development, at the lowa Department of Human Services, at Heartland Area Education Agency, and at Bomhoff & Associates private practice.

Sue Siepmann Griego, Racine, Wis., died Jan. 17. She earned a master's degree in library and information science from the University of Wisconsin – Milwaukee. She was a teacher and librarian.

1969

Barbara Elliot Yaney, Gainesville, Fla., died Jan. 26. She attended Waldorf College and was an administrative assistant at the University of Florida.

1970

Steven Bauer, Waterloo, died March 21. He earned his master's degree in health care administration from Central Michigan University. He worked for Schoitz (Covenant) Medical Center as a laboratory manager and later went on to become an adjunct faculty member at Allen College.

Margaret Chantrill Schluter, Mason City, died March 30. She was a teacher for 30 years.

1971

Paul Hensel, Alexander, died Feb. 4. He was a farmer and worked at Winnebago Industries.

Gretchen Eaton White, Atlanta, Ga., died May 25, 2019.

1972

Donald Loots, Waverly, died Jan. 21. He worked for the Rabiner Treatment Center and Friendship Haven in Fort Dodge.

Michael Rasche, Moline, Ill., died Aug. 6, 2019. He was a firefighter.

1973

Arthur Adams III, LeClaire, died Dec. 30. 2019. He earned a Doctor of Chiropractic from Palmer College, where he later taught.

Dorothy Dietz Smith, Plainfield, died March 30. She was a teacher in Tripoli for many years.

1975

Larry Hale, St. Louis, Mo., died Jan. 11. He earned his Juris Doctor at St. Louis University School of Law and went on to serve as assistant United States Attorney for the Eastern District of Missouri. He later went into private practice.

1976

The Rev. Leland Uden, Chatham, Ill., died Dec. 8, 2019. He earned a Master of Divinity from Wartburg Theological Seminary, Dubugue, was ordained in 1971, and served congregations in Minnesota, Indiana, Nebraska, and Illinois. He also served for a time as assistant to the Northern Illinois Synod bishop. He is survived by his wife, Linda Thom Uden '67.

1979

Vicki Parkes Auditore, Oakwood, Ohio, died Nov. 10, 2019. She was an editor, publishing director, office manager, and marketing director. She also owned a children's bookstore.

Brian Bonte, Hutchinson, Minn., died Dec. 15, 2019. He earned a Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine at Des Moines University. He practiced medicine until his retirement in 2019. He served as county coroner and was president of the Minnesota Board of Coroners.

Patricia Dorman Howell, Waverly, died March 31. She earned a master's degree from Viterbo University, La Crosse, Wis., and taught second grade in the Waverly-Shell Rock schools for 33 years. She is survived by her husband, Mike Howell '77.

1980

David Roe, Gilman, died April 23. He worked as a carpenter and roofer.

1982

Jeannene Wilde Larson, Estherville, died

Leonard Larsen, Des Moines, died April 20. A U.S. Army veteran, he earned a bachelor's degree from St. Olaf College, Northfield, Minn., and a Master of Social Work from the University of Illinois. He was awarded an Honorary Doctor of Law from Wartburg College in 1982 and went on to work as a social worker with Lutheran Services of Iowa for 35 years, retiring as the agency's president and CEO.

1998

The Rev. Patricia Reninger Eastman,

Dunkerton, died Dec. 2, 2019. She served Methodist parishes in Waterloo, Dunkerton, and Mt. Hope until her retirement in 2019.

2009

Carina Ellickson, Chicago, died Nov. 30. She worked at Centris Federal Credit Union, Omaha, and later was a comedy writer and performer at Second City and a health aide worker.

2011

Wade Welcher, Ankeny, died Feb. 23. He was a shift supervisor at EMCO Enterprises, Des

Noteworthy friends

James Yee Kin Moy, Fort Collins, Colo., died Jan. 16. He served as vice president for student affairs at Wartburg College from 1971 to 1976. An ordained ALC (ELCA) pastor, he served congregations in New York and West Virginia and as a Navy Reserve chaplain. He held several roles in education before returning to the church, where he held positions at both the synodical and national levels, including head of multicultural ministries for the ELCA in Chicago.

Marcella McCormick, Waverly, died March 10. Marcella served as the administrative assistant for Campus Programming. She worked dutifully with the documentation of student organizations and upkeeping activity records in Jenzabar. Marcella was known widely for being gracious with her affirmations of support and love. She was a model for strength, respect, and resolve.



Dr. Maria Paula Survilla died April 25, 2020. She had recently been diagnosed with Creutzfeld-Jakob Disease, an extremely rare, incurable neurological disease. Survilla taught ethnomusicology and musicology at Wartburg and initiated many projects, including the Hearthside Series and the Humanities Think Tank. She also was a successful entrepreneur, author, executive director for the Center for Belarusian Studies, and founding member of the Waverly Chamber Music Series. She is survived by her husband, Eric Wachmann, a Wartburg professor of music, and their two children, Anton and Vaalik '23.

Her dear friend, Dr. Penni Pier, Wartburg's Grant L. Price Department Chair in Journalism & Communication, had this to say about her:

Trying to capture her essence in words is like trying to catch the light dancing on the trees; you can see it, you know it's beautiful, a gift from the universe but it is fleeting and elusive. Anyone who had the pleasure of having a class with Paula knew the brilliance of her mind. Those who served with her on committees or projects understood the depth of her character. But those of us who were fortunate enough to call her friend knew the generosity of her heart. Almost daily for 20 years she would greet me in the morning with a "hey beautiful" as she passed my office on the way to hers. I ache with the realization that, come fall, the silence will be deafening; a reminder that she is no longer here with us in body. Of all the things I will miss about Paula I think I will miss her laugh the most. If you have ever heard it, you know what I mean. A sound that bubbled up from the very core of her, it was unmistakable and remarkable; the essence of her spirit. I spent a day with Paula shortly before she left this realm; while reminiscing we started to laugh, deep hearty laughter. It was the last gift she gave to me; evidence that, despite her illness, her indomitable spark would inspire us long after she departed. At her core, Paula believed in the benevolence of the human spirit and she was a champion for all of us to be the better versions of ourselves.



mily Bingham '20 was selected by the J. William Fulbright
Foreign Scholarship Board for a Fulbright award to Germany
through the program's English Teaching Assistant Program.

Bingham graduated with majors in international relations and

Bingham, graduated with majors in international relations and German studies, will spend the 2020-21 school year in Germany, but has yet to learn where in the country she will be placed. The ETA Program places recent college graduates and young professionals as English teaching assistants in primary and secondary schools or universities to help improve foreign students' English language abilities and knowledge of the United States while increasing the U.S. student's own language skills and knowledge of the host country.

In addition to teaching, she also hopes to learn more about immigration and human rights programs in the country.

"Germany has been a leader in refugee acceptance throughout Europe. As a result of the world refugee crisis, there are many Syrians in Germany right now. That's a big interest point for me and something I am passionate about," Bingham said. "Germany has handled the situation differently than other countries, such as the United States. There are various programs for refugees throughout Germany, especially in larger communities, that accept volunteers. I want to be in a position to interact with refugees and assist with that during my year in the country."

She also hopes she has the opportunity to continue her involvement with a musical group, either vocal or instrumental. In the current year, she was a member of the college's Symphonic Band and other smaller ensembles. In the past she was a member of the college's Wind Ensemble.

Upon her return to the United States, she wants to take some of what she learned during her Fulbright year to a nonprofit assisting immigrant populations and providing refugee services. Eventually she plans pursue a graduate degree in a human rights program.

"There are various programs for refugees throughout Germany, especially in larger communities, that accept volunteers.

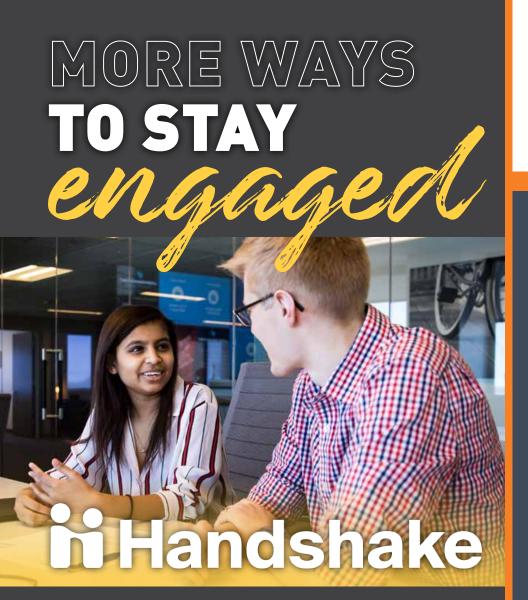
I want to be in a position to interact with refugees and assist with that during my year in the country."

- Emily Bingham '20

"I really hope I can gain a better understanding of the educational and political systems in another country. As someone who ultimately wants to work in nonprofit or do advocacy work for refugees and immigrants, I think that having experience living in a country that handles these things differently and has a different social system will be very valuable," she said.

Bingham's German ties have strengthened during her time at Wartburg, where she was able to spend a May Term studying in Germany with a Wartburg professor and other Wartburg students and five weeks interning at the Wartburg Castle, a UNESCO World Heritage site in Eisenach. The college is named for the castle, where Martin Luther translated the New Testament into German during the Protestant Reformation in the 16th century.

"I never would have had some of these opportunities had I not chosen Wartburg. It's almost unimaginable to think that I interned at the Wartburg Castle, even though I know I did it," she said. "I gave three tours to Wartburg groups while I was working there, and it was so cool to talk about the history of our school and the connection the college has with the castle."



Handshake is the #1 place college students find jobs.

Join today to recruit Wartburg students who are ready to work with you.

Help a student find an internship or job. Sign up for Handshake as an employer today:

www.wartburg.edu/handshake

THANKS TO OUR CORPORATE PARTNERS!

Gold Level Hawkeye Stages Taylor Physical Therapy Silver Level Coca-Cola

Bronze LevelFirst National Bank



Refer a student and they can receive

\$4,000 IN YOUR NAME

www.wartburg.edu/refer

Alumni Referral Award

You can help high school students take a journey of discovery similar to your own. This award will have your name on it as a testament to the importance of your involvement in the lives of our future alumni.

There's no limit to the number of students you can qualify for an award. You don't have to wait until they're seniors, either — refer a freshman to give them lots of time to think about becoming a Knight. The deadline to refer a student graduating from high school in the Class of 2021 is Nov. 1, 2020. Find out more at www.wartburg.edu/refer.

Online Book Club

All are welcome to join Wartburg's online book club to discuss a new book every month. Sign up for free at www.wartburg.edu/wartburg-college-book-club to receive advance notice about the next month's book and details about joining our special Facebook group. Each month will feature a different book, online discussion, and some form of "meeting" online.

Books selected so far:

May: We Were the Lucky Ones, by Georgia Hunter

June: *Hillbilly Elegy*, by J.D. Vance

July: The Sun Does Shine,

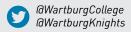
by Anthony Ray Hinton

August: *A Woman Is No Man*, by Etaf Rum

September: Climate Justice, by Mary Robinson (2020's Knight Reading)

We're social!

Wartburg College Wartburg Knights Wartburg Knight Vision



Wartburg College Wartburg Knights

Wartburg College

#WartburgWorthIt

Update your information online: WWW.WARTBURG.EDU/ALUMNI



100 Wartburg Blvd. P.O. Box 1003 Waverly, IA 50677-0903

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

NONPROFIT ORG US POSTAGE PAID WARTBURG COLLEGE

