

# FOCUS

An aerial photograph of Friends University's main building, a large red brick structure with a prominent central clock tower and multiple gables. The building is surrounded by lush green trees and a well-manicured lawn. In the foreground, a circular paved area with a decorative pattern leads to the building's entrance. The sky is a mix of blue and purple, suggesting a sunset or sunrise. The overall scene is peaceful and academic.

*Focus on  
125 Years  
of Friends*

SPRING 2024

FRIENDS UNIVERSITY



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# Focus on 125 Years of Friends

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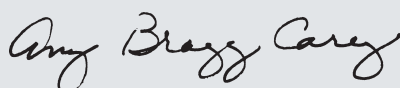
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## LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Over a century ago, a St. Louis businessman with an ambitious dream invested \$1 million in a crumbling limestone building in Wichita, Kansas, hoping to establish a Christian university there. 125 years later, Friends University stands tall. Throughout its history, Friends has withstood significant financial challenges, the tension of world events, and the risk of closure. But its community stayed resilient and committed to excellence in education, maintaining a sincere concern for every individual,

united under a guiding Christian mission. Today, Friends University is thriving. I wholeheartedly believe that the incredible saga of this university is the result of God's continued faithfulness to Friends. So, we celebrate 125 astounding years and pray for 125 more.



Dr. Amy Bragg Carey  
President, Friends University

## ON THE COVER

Friends University Davis Administration Building decorated for the 125th Anniversary celebration.

PHOTO BY STEVE RASMUSSEN

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FRIENDS  
UNIVERSITY  
1928



# Revitalization and Growth

The glory days of higher education seem to be slipping away — at least, that's the image painted by some media outlets. But for Dr. Amy Bragg Carey, she has witnessed something different in her years as President of Friends University.

Inaugurated in 2015, Dr. Carey inherited a struggling institution and a charge from the Board of Trustees: restore Friends University's financial stability and reclaim its Christian identity. It wasn't long before several other challenges emerged, including the transition of interim cabinet-level leaders and a need to update facilities in order to increase enrollment. While an ambitious task, Dr. Carey has remained focused and energized, assured by a conviction that, for this season, God has called her to Friends University.

Her presidency has been marked by a three-part vision: Revitalization and Growth, established to quell the financial and identity crises; Firm Foundation, designed to create physical and programmatic building blocks; and Vision: Flourish, intended to establish Friends as the preferred Christian university in the region. "Casting a vision as a president," according to Dr. Carey, "requires looking at the big picture, answering the questions, 'where are we going' and 'what's the plan' and then inviting people to help carry out that vision." President Carey united student leaders, board members and cabinet leaders over a strategic plan, and in less than a decade, the university has seen steady growth.

Within three years, the leadership team hoisted the university out of debt and has since invested 20 million dollars in building renovations and expansions for the Garvey P.E. Center, Riney Fine Arts Center, Casado Campus Center

*"Casting a vision as a president requires looking at the big picture, answering the questions, 'where are we going' and 'what's the plan' and then inviting people to help carry out that vision." — Dr. Amy Bragg Carey*



and the new Mechanical Engineering and Fine Arts Labs. Additionally, the endowment has increased by 20 million dollars through generous support from donors. These investments have allowed Friends to set enrollment records, increase the number of student athletes, establish the first doctoral program and develop market demand programs like cyber security, mechanical engineering and conservation science.

But it's the restoration of the Christian mission that Dr. Carey hopes will be her legacy, one evidenced in student lives transformed at Friends. She believes Friends University's Quaker heritage has helped distinguish the university. "As we put more language to that unique lane that Friends University is in, in Christian

higher education, we have determined that we will be theologically fruitful and hospitable in how we approach our Christian mission — inviting students of all faith backgrounds into this opportunity to be engaged, stretched, and strengthened in their faith." The Quaker values of respect and civility for all individuals have made way for the university's RISE Values (respect, inclusion, service and excellence), the reinstatement of weekly chapels and student-led worship services, impactful coaching, and the addition of Spiritual Life Assistants in dormitories; all of which are key steps toward renewing the university's Christian mission.

President Carey has stood on the shoulders of Friends University's Quaker founders, helping to ensure its ongoing legacy. When contemplating her impact as a leader, the President says, "I see myself as a builder. Yes, we've done physical renovations and expansions, but more importantly we've built programs, leadership teams and systems that are all strategically designed to outlast me for a long time."

In Dr. Carey's eyes, despite cultural predictions, Friends University isn't losing relevancy, it's flourishing. Friends stands as a sweet reminder of what higher education used to be and a vision of a community-focused institution, unwavering in its Christian mission, that will serve generations to come.

# Eyes Wide Open

Dr. Biff Green and his wife Binnie arrived on the Friends University campus with their “eyes wide open.” Aware of the university’s financial challenges, they kept their home in California, expecting to give the presidency “a try” for five years. But Dr. Green immediately set the university on a restorative course and in the blink of an eye, five years turned into twenty.

Dr. Green had been involved in two financial turnarounds while working at universities in Southern California. He says, “Working closely with each President gave me a foundation for how I believed small, faith-based, tuition-dependent institutions should operate,” hoping he could transfer those ideals to Friends University.

At his 1991 inauguration, the new President outlined three priorities for his tenure: Friends University must live within its means; it must find its niche and fill it well; and it must set a high priority on student retention. Reflecting on those early years, the former president recalls, “My vision for Friends University was to build on its history and create a vision that not only focused on the next 1 to 5 years but also the next 50 plus years.”

Dr. Green was energized by the idea of a financial turnaround for Friends University and spent his inaugural year outlining key goals critical to help tackle the mounting debt. With the implementation of a budget committee, the increase in innovative programs and modest tuition increases, within just three and a half years, the \$4 million dollar debt was relieved. Not only was Friends financially free, it was thriving, which left Dr. Green and his administration with a new problem; the campus was ill equipped to handle the dramatic

enrollment growth happening within the traditional student population. So, the university made plans to build.

In addition to the construction of the Olive White Garvey College of Business and Technology Building, an expansion of the William Penn Science Building, and improvements to the Whittier Fine Arts Building (now known as the Riney Fine Arts Center), the university added three new living accommodations. The J.R. and Gertrude Smith Apartments, Falcon Glenn Apartments, and the suite-style Green Residence Hall provided housing for the over 3000 students enrolled at Friends. With the new Landscape Committee, established by First Lady Binnie Green, the campus was refreshed with new trees, matching green grass, and flower beds. And what was once a circular driveway was now a stunning plaza filled with 28,175 pavers designed to mimic Alumni Auditorium’s Rose Window. Friends University was transformed into a beautiful and inviting campus that matched the grandeur of the Davis Building.

Unfortunately, however, the Davis Administration Building itself was now showing its age. Resurrected in 1886, the Romanesque building’s first floor ceiling had collapsed, revealing numerous structural concerns. A historical landmark, President Green and the Board of Trustees had to carefully consider how the building could be restored without jeopardizing its historical designation. The \$10 million dollar restoration addressed the exterior steps, crumbling limestone blocks and roof, and throughout the interior, classrooms were modernized and wainscoting was updated. Additionally, much to the community’s delight, the



*“Binnie and I believe in the camping adage, ‘leave your campsite better than you found it.’” — Dr. Biff Green*

clock tower was lit for the holidays and ringing again for the first time in years.

Dr. Green says, “Binnie and I believe in the camping adage, ‘leave your campsite better than you found it.’” That sentiment has been a hallmark of the twenty-year Green legacy at Friends University. Their efforts to rebuild, restrengthen and restore the university still resound on campus today.



# A Day to Celebrate

The saga of a private institution at the edge of downtown Wichita, sparked by a stereoscope salesman's bold dream, has turned into a 125 year legacy. Friends University celebrated the milestone anniversary with an event on September 14, 2023, honoring over a century of persistence, resilience, and faithfulness. Alumni Auditorium, clad in scarlet and silver, was brimming with former board members, alumni, donors, and state representatives. Former presidents, Dr. Biff Green (1991-2011) and Dr. Richard Felix (1979-1990) were also in attendance and were recognized for their decades of service to the university.

Former Mayor, Brandon Whipple greeted the crowd in person while

Senators Jerry Moran and Roger Marshall shared virtual greetings. The Singing Quakers led the Friends University Hymn and blessed the audience with their beloved rendition of "When I Survey the Wondrous Cross" alongside alumni of past generations.

Dallas Willard Chair for Christian Spiritual Formation, Dr. James Bryan Smith reminded guests of the founding heartbeat of the university: "It's that Quaker idea of the inner light in all people. You're a divinely designed, deeply desired, lavishly loved, sacred story of grace. You matter." This value for and investment in the whole person was echoed by Board Chair, Dr. Thayne Thompson. "We are not just an institution

of higher education," he said. "We are an academic institution committed to raising up the next generation of Godly leaders."

In preparation for the community celebration, the university invested in a few legacy pieces with special grant funds from The Council of Independent Colleges and Lilly Endowment Inc. A full-color historical timeline wall was installed on the first floor of Davis, in view along the main hallway. The permanent



*"It's that Quaker idea of the inner light in all people. You're a divinely designed, deeply desired, lavishly loved, sacred story of grace. You matter." — Dr. James Bryan Smith*





installation features highlights from each presidency in addition to athletic and fine arts achievements, building projects, student traditions and global events. A more detailed, digital version was added to a special anniversary webpage on the university's website.

A companion to the timeline wall, the celebration also showcased a preview of a new documentary, *Within Her Storied Walls*. Named after the university hymn, the film gave a brief overview of Friends University's founding history and mid-century presidents but recounted the presidencies of Dr. Felix, Dr. Green and current President, Dr. Carey in great detail. Both current and former students, faculty members, board members and staff members were interviewed for the film. The full-length edition of *Within Her Storied Walls* was then premiered at the Orpheum Theatre





in downtown Wichita on January 19, 2024, with hundreds in attendance. At the event, Dr. Carey unveiled a new scholarship in honor of founder James M. Davis, the 125th Anniversary Scholarship and announced her new strategic vision for the university, Vision: Flourish.

According to Dr. James Bryan Smith, adapting a quote from novelist Paola Coelho, "Friends University isn't a big thing, it's a million little things." The anniversary celebrations and historical pieces have been a reflection of those "million little extraordinary

things," fond memories, transformative relationships, spiritual growth, championships, performances, and graduation days, all woven into a 125 year legacy. A special thank you to the 125th Anniversary committee, led by Laura Fuller and Jessica Boone.

*See the newly installed timeline wall images on the following 13 pages.*



# 1898-1910



## Garfield University

Garfield University opened its doors in 1887 with 500 students. After graduating its first and only senior class, the university closed its doors in 1890 due to financial difficulties.

## Friends University Founding



**James M. Davis**, a businessman from St. Louis, saw an advertisement for the sale of the empty Garfield University building in the local paper and said to his wife, "Anna, I believe this is our chance to give a college to the world."

Soon after, he purchased the empty building and surrounding lots to donate to the Kansas Society of Friends, also known as the Quakers.



*Edmund L. Stanley was the first president of Friends University from 1898 to 1918*

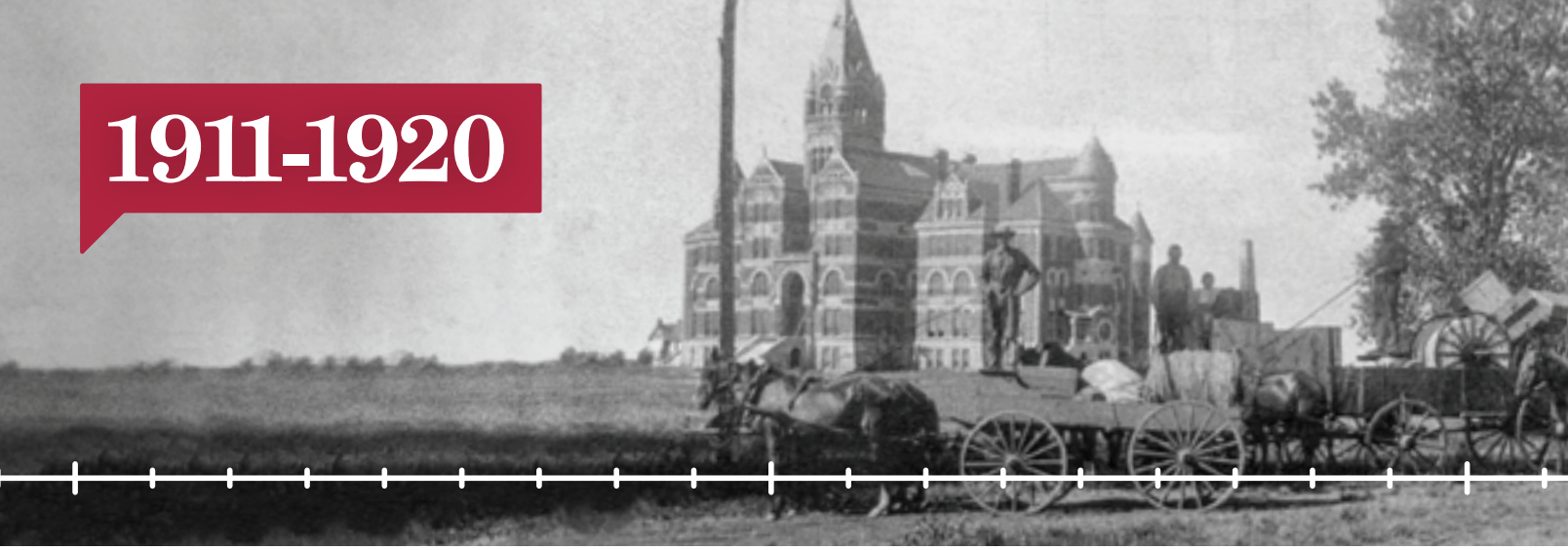


*Friends University opened its doors in September 1898 with 52 students*



- The Davis Administration Building was designed by notable architects Proudfoot and Bird.
- Football, soccer, basketball, track, tennis and baseball teams were established in the early years.
- *University Life* campus newspaper was started in 1899.
- The Art Department was added in 1908 with band, orchestra, choir, and Men's and Women's Glee Clubs.

# 1911-1920



## The Growth of an Idea



**Dr. Edmund L. Stanley** remained President until his retirement on July 1, 1918. Four days later, the board unanimously elected Dr. William O. Mendenhall to assume the presidency, with Stanley named President Emeritus.

The following year, construction was completed on a new gymnasium named in his honor.

**Dr. William O. Mendenhall** was Dean at Earlham College before serving as President of Friends University from 1918 until 1934.

*“The influence in the classroom and on the campus which surround students of Friends University are so permeated with Christianity.” – Dr. W.O. Mendenhall*



- Mr. Rengo Kamatsu arrived from Japan in 1912 and was the fourth Japanese student to enroll at Friends University.
- The National Service League of Friends University was established in response to World War I. Amid declining enrollment, students engaged in first aid and hospital work.
- The music department flourished. The Men's Glee Club toured around Kansas towns and the Women's Glee Club performed concerts.
- The Spanish flu epidemic hit Friends University in the fall of 1918. Administration decided to close until health improved among the students and faculty. Wichita was placed under quarantine the evening before Thanksgiving.
- The Edmund Stanley gymnasium was completed in 1919. It was dedicated with a basketball game between Friends University and Fairmount College (now known as Wichita State University).

# 1921-1930



## Alumni Auditorium



The year 1923 opened with the announcement that the alumni would complete the large auditorium on the third floor as a contribution to their alma mater. Construction lasted for several years. Later, the class of 1926 provided chandeliers and side lights, while the 1929 class provided window and door cases to complete the beautiful auditorium.

*“Wichita needs the small Christian college as well as the large municipal university”*

*C.Q. Chandler, First National Bank, now known as INTRUST Bank*



- Roy Campbell first used the name *Singing Quakers: The Friends University Musical Organization*, for the 1924-25 Home Concert by combining the Glee Clubs.
- Henry C. Fellow and Mark A. Reeve organized and built a museum on the fourth floor of Davis Hall (now known as the Davis Administration Building).
- The iconic Friends University Hymn was written by Dr. and Mrs. O.B. Baldwin in 1924.
- Over the years, Friends University and Fairmount College began a football rivalry, with the Friends team defeating Fairmount 26 to 3 in 1926.
- Friends University increased enrollment, doubled the library's offerings and improved facilities in 1926.
- The iconic stone entrance to Davis Hall was a gift from the class of 1928. Class gifts have been a tradition since 1925.

# 1931-1940

## Difficult Years



**Dr. David Edwards** became president of Friends University in 1934. However, Dr. Edwards' time as President was tragically cut short in 1939 when he passed away from an automobile accident just weeks before starting his sixth year presiding over the university.

**Dr. Walter Albert "W.A." Young**, a history professor and Friends University alumnus, was asked by the Board of Directors to take over administrative duties until a new president could be chosen. Dr. Young would continue serving as President until 1946.



- During The Great Depression, the budget was reduced to account for economic insecurity. One attempt included organizing the dorms into cooperatives. Students who did not participate paid 25 percent more for meals and lodging.
- Friends University operated as a Quaker institution until governance of the school was vested in an independent board of trustees in the 1930s. Since then, Friends has continued a collaborative and independent relationship with the Society of Friends, reflecting the Quaker founders' vision and values.
- The clock in the Davis Administration Building tower was a gift from the class of 1931.
- The Edmund Stanley Gymnasium was remodeled in 1936 to increase seating capacity to 500.
- U.S. President Franklin D. Roosevelt came to Wichita, Kansas to speak in October 1936. Friends suspended classes so students could attend the president's speech to a crowd of 150,000 at Lawrence Stadium.

# 1941-1950

## A Time of Unrest & War

*“You have piloted the school through seven years of world unrest and a war. The skill with which you have presented and maintained the traditional peace testimony of Friends, has won the respect and admiration of everyone.”*

*- Board of Trustees speaking to President Dr. Young*

**Dr. Charles A. Reagan**, long time head of the Mathematics department, served as President for a single year, from 1946 to 1947.



**Dr. Arthur Watson** was the second graduate to serve his alma mater as President, holding the office from 1947 to 1952.

- The boiler in the furnace room blew up on Aug. 13, 1943 causing extensive damage to Alumni Auditorium. Thankfully, no one was hurt.
- In 1944, enrollment hit an all-time low due to students being called to the front lines of World War II.
- With the return of servicemen from the war in 1946, enrollment swelled to 410 the first semester and 526 at the end of the year.
- Friends University celebrated its golden anniversary with a 50th Anniversary Chapel held in Alumni Auditorium.
- Many Fine Arts ensembles and theatre productions, including the Singing Quakers, consisted of only women for a time since the men were drafted.
- The Friends University football team had an undefeated season in 1949.





# 1951-1960

## Growth & Expansion



Dr. Lloyd Cressman became the seventh President of Friends University from 1952 to 1956. In his inaugural address, Dr. Cressman said,

*“Our first objective is to mold character and personality in students who will serve their generation, not with weapons of destruction but to save the world from destruction”*

Dr. Lowell E. Roberts, who had been head of the Bible department since 1944, was promoted to Interim President and later President after Dr. Lloyd Cressman resigned in October 1956. Dr. Roberts served as President until 1964



- Friends University received a telegram with news that Friends was re-accredited by the North Central Association of Colleges and Universities in 1951.
- Fred N. Hoyt field was dedicated on September 19, 1953.
- In 1956, the University announced “Forward Friends with Wichita,” a new expansion program which included a women’s dorm, a fine arts building, gymnasium updates, a men’s dorm, a library, a chapel, a science building, enlargement of the industrial arts and agricultural building, stands for the athletic fields and a parking lot.
- Longtime Singing Quakers Director Dr. Cecil J. Riney was named head of the School of Music in 1959.
- After 63 years as The Fighting Quakers, the athletic teams were renamed to the Friends University Falcons.

# 1961-1970

## National Recognition



**Dr. Roy F. Ray** was announced as the next president of Friends University in July 1964. Dr. Ray had been a professor in the philosophy department since 1960.

Accepting the office during a time of financial difficulty for the university, Dr. Ray created a master plan to turn things around. Dr. Ray served as president until his departure in 1972.



*The Singing Quakers were invited to sing at the New York World's Fair in June 1965 and at the White House by President Nixon for Christmas in 1970.*



*The first Focus on Friends magazine was published in 1965 and continues today as Focus.*



- Improvements totaling \$10,000 were made for the 65th anniversary in 1963.
- The University broke ground in May 1964 on the new Whittier Fine Arts Center and it was completed in 1965.
- The campus expanded with the new Edmund Stanley Library building in 1969, the groundbreaking of the new football stadium, which was dedicated as the Adair-Austin Stadium in 1970, and the dedication of the Garvey Physical Education Center in 1970.
- Model United Nations was first hosted on the Friends campus in April 1965. Approximately 260 students participated representing 70 countries.
- The Hackney Apartments (now known as the Falcon Flats) were built in 1966 to accommodate married students.

# 1971-1980



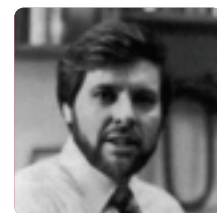
## Diamond Anniversary



**Dr. Harold C. Cope** held the office of Friends University President from 1972 to 1979. Before joining the university, Dr. Cope was the Vice President for Business Affairs at Earlham College in Indiana and Clerk of Indiana Yearly Meeting.

He was recommended for the position by his good friend, noted Quaker and religious writer, Elton Trueblood, for his business and financial acumen.

*Dr. Richard Foster, author of **The Celebration of Discipline**, was hired as writer-in-residence and professor of religion in 1979. While teaching at Friends, Dr. Foster continued writing, traveling and speaking until his departure in 1992.*



- In 1973, ground was broken and construction started on William Penn Hall, a new math and science building.
- The 75th Anniversary of Friends University and the 50th Anniversary of the Singing Quakers was celebrated in 1973 and 1974 respectively.
- The "Decade of Adventure" was launched with a \$14 million Diamond Jubilee Campaign in 1973. This campaign was a long-range plan and 10-year development program.
- The football team earned a trip to the Mineral Water Bowl in Excelsior Springs, Missouri after winning the KCAC championship in 1974.
- The Center on Family Living was established to serve the needs of the family unit in 1976.
- Delta Rho Alpha Nu, a social sorority established in the 1920s, celebrated their 50th anniversary.





# 1981-1990

## Breaking New Ground



**Dr. Richard Felix** was inaugurated as the next president of Friends University in October 1979 and made a commitment to excellence that became the hallmark of his eleven-year presidency. Spending his first two years planning and restructuring the budget, Dr. Felix would also make campus additions and improvements a priority until the end of his tenure as president in 1990.



*The house at 1936 University Avenue was remodeled to become the President's home in 1984. It continues to serve as the President's home today.*



*The College of Business, the College of Continuing Education (which is now FriendsFlex), and the College of Arts and Sciences were established.*



- A radio station was purchased to provide hands-on experience for Mass Communications majors. KSOF (the Sound of Friends) went on air in 1983 and became the radio voice of the university. The station was sold in 1991.
- In 1984, five new sports teams were added with soccer, men's and women's tennis, men's golf, and cross country.
- The first two master's programs were approved in 1986: Family Studies and Management.
- The Casado Campus Center was built and dedicated in 1989, named after long-time board member Luis Casado and his wife Vera.
- The ballet program was established with the hiring of Stan and Sharon Rogers in 1988. It would put on a production of The Nutcracker every Christmas to the delight of the Wichita and surrounding community.
- The Garvey Art Center was established in 1983.
- Alumni Auditorium was restored and improved in 1989 through the generosity of alumni and donors.
- The nationally-recognized Zoo Science program was established in 1990 alongside a new partnership with the Sedgwick County Zoo.

# 1991-2000

## Investment & Growth



**Dr. Biff Green** took office as the 12th president of Friends University in the summer of 1991. Dr. Green arrived on campus from California's University of La Verne with three objectives: Friends must live within its means, Friends must find its niche and fill it well, Friends must set a high priority of retention of students. Dr. Green served the university until 2011.

*"We take pride and a good deal of satisfaction in knowing that Friends has not only survived a century of ups and downs, but has come through with a sense of fulfillment and engaging maturity."*

Raymond & Margaret Nelson, *In the Shadow of the Tower* (1998)



- The University invested \$2 million in state-of-the-art technology which included computers and fiber optic cabling.
- The Circle Drive was replaced with the Rose Window Plaza in 1996. It took 28,175 pavers to complete the Plaza.
- Between the years of 1994 and 1999, the Davis Administration Building underwent significant restoration inside and out.
- The Olive White Garvey Business and Technology Building was constructed and dedicated in 1996.
- With a generous donation from Carl & Dixie Sebits of \$3 million, the William Penn Science Building was expanded to the north in 1997.
- A portion of the Sebits gift was used to improve the Whittier Fine Arts Building with dance studios, a band room, classrooms and offices.
- The women's soccer team went undefeated as the KCAC champions for 8 years.
- The Marriage and Family Therapy building was constructed in the year 2000.
- Friends University celebrated its centennial in 1998 with a large gathering.

# 2001-2010

## A New Millennium



The first **Friends University website** was launched in 1997 and was quite simple by today's standards.

However, in the 2000s, the website was redesigned and a new version was revealed in 2010 with many more updates to follow. Friends University took another forward-thinking step into cyberspace by joining Facebook in 2010.

**On September 11, 2001**, The United States was attacked at the World Trade Center in New York, N.Y. and the Pentagon in Washington D.C. Faculty, staff and students gathered at noon on Friday, Sept. 14, 2001 to show their support through prayer for those affected by the tragedy.



**Between 2003 & 2009**, there were significant expansions to student housing, with the construction of the award-winning Green Hall to house freshmen students, and Glenn and Smith Apartments to house upperclassmen.

- Falcon athletics saw great success with the football team's undefeated season in 2008 marking the third consecutive year as KCAC champions.
- In 2003, the 50th anniversary of Symphony of Spring (SOS) was performed by the Friends University music department.
- The Whittier Fine Arts Center was renamed as the Dr. Cecil J. Riney Fine Arts Center in honor of the Singing Quaker Director Dr. Cecil Riney's over 45 years of service and retirement in 2005.
- The Apprentice Institute was established in 2009. It hosted the first Apprentice Gathering in 2011.



# 2011-2020



## Renewed Spiritual Focus



**Dr. T.J. Arant** took office as president of Friends University from 2011 to 2014. Dr. Arant pulled from his higher education experience to build upon the university's history of excellence.

**Dr. Amy Bragg Carey** became the 14th president of Friends University in 2015, and is the first woman to officially hold the title. Dr. Carey made renewal and revitalization a priority, initiating new program opportunities for the university, a vision for growth and a path grounded in Friends University's Christian faith and heritage.

*"A Christian community of love and light, focused on excellence and innovation, providing life changing education with a pathway to the future is our objective and passion for this new season at Friends University."*

— Dr. Amy Bragg Carey, Inauguration Speech, 2015



- Martin Luther King III, the oldest son of Martin Luther King, Jr. shared his thoughts on continuing his father's dream at Friends University during the 50th anniversary year of his father's "I Have a Dream" Speech in 2013.
- In 2016, the Friends University Board of Trustees adopted a new vision and the RISE Values (Respect, Inclusion, Service, Excellence).
- The City of Wichita and Friends University partnered together to renovate the Westside Athletic Fields, the home field for the Falcons baseball team.
- The Singing Quakers toured Europe, performing in Italy and Austria during the summer of 2019. It was Dr. Mark Bartel's final tour with the Singing Quakers.
- March 2020 saw an extended spring break due to the global COVID-19 Pandemic. The university would move all operations online and postpone the 2020 Commencement ceremonies to the following year.

# 2021-2024

## Into the Future



**Friends University** came out of the COVID-19 pandemic with a clear vision for the future and a plan for campus improvement. Over the course of the next few years, the RISE Up Capital Campaign provided \$7.2 million for updates to the Riney Fine Arts Center with a new sacred Chapel space and the Garvey P.E. Center was completed in 2021 after a \$2.3 million renovation. Growth on campus also included a \$2 million addition to the William Penn Science Building for new mechanical engineering and visual arts labs along with a \$1 million investment in cyber security labs and scholarships.



*Rich Mullins Archive Room was established in the Edmund Stanley Library in honor of the award-winning contemporary Christian singer, songwriter and 1995 Friends University alumnus.*



*The RISE Up campaign alongside other outside grants provided nearly \$12.5 million in extensive renovations and upgrades for the campus.*

- The Friends University Graduate School celebrated their 35th anniversary in 2021.
- Friends University's first doctorate program, Doctor of Ministry in Christian Formation and Soul Care, started in 2023.
- Men's and women's wrestling and powerlifting teams were added, and the men's golf team was re-established.
- In June 2023, the Singing Quakers toured Europe once again, performing concerts in Spain & Portugal.



Let's recap! Friends University celebrated its Centennial in 1998 with a year of celebration, traditions, and pomp and circumstance.

The **100th** Year  
1998-1999

Friends University turned 100 years old! At the start Friends University was a strong, stable institution with 53 students and 11 courses of study. One hundred years later, enrollment grew to more than 2,700 traditional and adult students with more than 50 majors and programs of study. The University was financially sound. The campus looked more beautiful than ever. Students, faculty and staff were energized, and good things were happening across campus. While the institution may look and feel different than it did 100 years ago, the founding spirit, genuine appreciation of human worth, universal equality, and an education that incorporated integration of reason and faith, was very much alive at Friends University.

► One of the most exciting events that happened over the summer was the unveiling of the front cover of Wichita's Southwestern Bell telephone book. The cover featured a photo of the Davis Administration Building and promoted the University's Centennial. Southwestern Bell estimated the cover would be seen over 40 million times over that year.



► The Centennial Kick-off Ceremony was a historic occasion. More than 800 people came together on Sept. 21, 1998, to celebrate the beginning of the University's second century of service. The State of Kansas and the City of Wichita proclaimed Sept. 21 as Friends University Centennial Day.



In December, the lights were lit on the Davis Clock Tower for the first time which garnered so much attention and contributed to the spirit of the holidays in Wichita. The special Christmas lights were funded by several generous individuals and business donors for the Centennial Christmas celebration. The lights crew began installing the lights before Thanksgiving weekend and finished by early December. The 12,950 lights were attached to the tower by silicon to avoid damage to the building's exterior and used about 11 kilowatts per hour. The light displays also included a 42-foot arch with heralding angels at the campus gate and a lighted wreath attached to the front entrance of the Davis Administration Building.

The first ever chili cook-off was held in 1999. The event began from humble beginnings when the Talisman yearbook advisor was developing a new fundraiser as a requirement for clubs to receive funds from the Student Government Association.



▲ Another big milestone for the university in 1999 was the addition of office and classroom space to the William Penn Science Building.

Now on with the show to the next 25 years of history at Friends University as the University celebrated its 125th Anniversary this year. See where we were, where we are now and where we are going.

# The **101<sup>st</sup>** Year **1999-2000**

Enrollment on campus was increasing in the Education department with the growth of 200 more students than the previous fall. The summer teacher workshops program became the largest in the state. The fine arts department saw so much growth in their student count that they had the largest university band in the program's history. The business

department had the largest major in their undergraduate Computer and Information Systems (CIS) program with 481 students enrolled.

Following many months of planning and construction, the new Sebits additions on campus began to take shape. On October 9, during Homecoming activities,

the division of Mathematics and Natural Sciences celebrated the completion of the Sebits Hall with a formal dedication. In the meantime, construction on the Sebits addition to the Whittier Fine Arts Building (now the Riney Fine Arts Center) continued. It was scheduled to open in the summer of 2000.



With the arrival of the Year 2000, Friends University had educated students in three centuries. Friends University welcomed a new century and passed Y2K with flying colors. Students who earned their degrees in May 2000, marked their place in Friends history by becoming the 100th class to graduate from Friends.

Former Friends President Roy Ray passed away on Jan. 5, 2000. Dr. Ray served as president of Friends from 1964 to 1972. He was responsible for many of the buildings and facilities on campus including Edmund Stanley Library, Garvey P.E Center, William Penn Science building, Hoyt Football Field and Adair-Austin Stadium. Ray will be remembered as a visionary man who expanded Friends' campus and in doing so positioned the University for future growth. Dr. Ray was also a pastor and established several new churches in the Midwest during his lifetime and served in several administrative roles before becoming President of Friends University.

The very first Friends Flash email newsletter began distribution as a way for the university to stay connected to alumni and share information on events and happenings on campus. Construction continued on campus to the fine arts and family therapy buildings. The addition to the Whittier Fine Arts building (now known as Riney Fine Arts Center) was completed for the fall semester and provided an additional 12,500 square feet of space to the building.

◀ The Singing Quakers took on Australia during their 2000 tour where they sang at Christchurch Cathedral, the Cathedral of St. Andrew, and The Church of St. Andre Canberra where the Singing Quakers contributed to the introit Hosanna in the Excelsis, the anthem Come Let Us Sing to the Lord and the benediction When I Survey the Wonderous Cross.



▲ Friends University hosted the Falcon Invitational track meet at Adair-Austin Stadium marking the first invitation meet to take place on campus in recent history. Nine teams along with representatives from all KCAC schools attended the event showcasing the new track facilities which at the time were regarded as one of the premiere complexes in the Midwest. Since this meet marked the first invitational at Friends, the track coach explained that every event winner now holds the meet and stadium record until they are attempted to be broken with each annual invitational. ►



# The 102nd Year 2000-2001



◀ The Friends University English Club members created and placed a variety of items in a time capsule including Friends University memorabilia, Y2K items, pop culture items and materials documenting the recent presidential elections, scheduled to be opened in the year 2100. The items were placed in the time capsule and sealed during a dedication ceremony on Dec. 12, 2000. The capsule is stored in the library until it is opened one hundred years later in 2100.

To keep pace with educational trends, Friends incorporated online education and instruction into some of their courses. A new Electronic Commerce Management (ECM) degree completion program was established and was the only one of its kind in the area designed specifically for adult learners. The ECM program concentrated on technology and management issues regarding the creation, implementation and maintenance of e-commerce to enhance online business on the Internet.

Friends University's Marriage and Family Therapy department and Center on Family Living hosted an open house to celebrate the completion of the new building. The new facility provides 10,000 square feet of space for the Master of Science in Family Therapy (MSFT) degree program and the Center on Family Living (CFL). The CFL was established to provide family therapy services for individuals, couples and families in the Wichita community and surrounding area. The building has two classrooms,

a conference room, nine therapy rooms, four observation rooms and 12 offices.

Based on the University's 20-day enrollment, 3,266 students were attending Friends University in the spring of 2001. This was an increase of 151 students or five percent compared to the previous spring. The College of Business and Information Technology (COBIT) along with other programs continued to grow. Serving the growing number of students including traditional

undergraduate, Program for Adult College Education, degree completion and graduate studies, remained the University's number one priority.

Seven Friends University students traveled to Harvard University to participate in the annual Harvard National Model United Nations. This was the fifth year for Friends to participate in this event and Friends University was the only Kansas school invited to attend. The invitational featured college and university students from around the world as they debated topics including international security, world trade and world health organizations as well as current legal, social and humanitarian issues. Each school represented an assigned country and was evaluated based on how accurately they represented the interests and opinions of that nation. The Model UN is designed to teach students the parliamentary rules of debate while also learning more about the duties and responsibilities of the United Nations.

Each year the Friends University Campus Life office sponsored a week of sendoff for summer activities targeted for traditional students who completed their finals. Send Off for Summer was created to provide students with an opportunity to wrap up another year full of friendship and fun at Friends. The fun activities included were powder puff football, lunch on the lawn, inflatable games and much more near Rose Window Plaza.

The Davis Administration Building became part of the Wichita River Festival celebration as a featured historical landmark available for touring. The tours were sponsored by the Historical Preservation Alliance and advertised in River Festival brochures as one of four sites open for tours. The tour of the Davis Administration Building included stories of the campus when the building was first constructed, glimpses into the history of Alumni Auditorium and

descriptions of the renovation and preservations of the building.

During its eighth year, the Annual Jazz Festival proved to be a learning tool for students. Students from high school, middle school and other small colleges were invited to attend. Friends University students ran the festival, from transporting equipment to striking sets, as well as having the opportunity to work with guest clinicians and artists brought in to work with attendees. Many festivals tend to be competition oriented, but the Friends University Annual Jazz festival's intent was to be an educational and motivational experience for the students. The Tower Woodwind Quintet, composed of five adjunct faculty members, came together to formally join forces to promote the University and recruit students through performances at Friends University and entertainment for local community groups.

The Singing Quakers traveled to New Zealand and Australia where they performed in the Sydney Opera House and tried their hand at snorkeling in the Great Barrier Reef.

Friends University was the only institution in Kansas that offered a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Ballet emphasizing performing. The ballet students participated in many performances throughout the year including The Nutcracker, Christmas Candlelight Concert, Spring Ballet Performance and the Symphony of Spring.

Cross Country chased championships while competing in the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA) Championships. Friends University track and field teams maintained a busy schedule competing in the Kansas Collegiate Athletic Conference (KCAC) Championships where both teams placed second. Next up was the NAIA Outdoor Track and Field National Championships, which showcased the rising talents on the men's and women's teams.



▲ Dr. Harold (Hal) C. Cope, who served as the 10th president of Friends University from 1972-1979, died on Feb. 5, 2001. During the years Dr. Cope was at Friends, his financial experience helped deal with the mounting debt the university had due to previous campus expansion, and his Quaker values guided the school in its development. The Miller Series for Fine Arts and the Center on Family Living were both established during his time as president. He sought out Olive Garvey and encouraged her to become involved with the University, fostering a lasting relationship between the school and the Garvey family. Dr. Cope also discovered through research during his presidency that the relationship between the Quaker church and Friends University had been officially severed in 1931. Friends University enjoys an amicable, but independent relationship with the Quaker church.

# The **103rd** Year **2001-2002**

The events of September 11, 2001, left the Friends University campus and the world community grieving for the victims of terrorism. In the days after the attacks, many people were feeling unsettled and cautious. Yet amid tragedy, there were stories about people who came together to support and care for each other in extraordinary ways. Students gathered on the night of September 11 to share their fears, concerns and grief along with reading from the scriptures and praying with one another. As our nation dealt with challenging times and a softening economy, Friends University prepared itself for the challenges ahead and tried to do what was needed to help the students and community. The Friends University community also gathered at noon on Friday, September 14 beneath the American flag waving at half-mast on the flag court outside the Davis Administration Building for a prayer service. The service opened with several minutes of silence followed by prayer, a reading from the Bible and concluded with the Singing Quakers singing the "Star Spangled Banner."

Friends received a new electronic whiteboard in Lab 5 in the Olive White Garvey College of Business Building. The new Smart Board let instructors interact with any computer application with a simple touch of a finger. Instructors could also highlight key information with an electronic pen and save or print what was written and most importantly instructors could deliver high-quality presentations.

The Friends University Ballet Department and Wichita Ballet Theatre presented the full-length season favorite, The Nutcracker with six shows due to the demand to see the show.

The Fine Arts department had performances of the musical Cinderella, orchestra performances, jazz ensembles, and band concerts. The Garvey Art Center was a buzz with activity from artists creating sculptures, watercolors, and many other masterpieces. The Singing Quakers spent spring break touring western Kansas and eastern Colorado where they performed at several churches along the way.

The Lady Falcon volleyball team traveled to Hawaii for bonding, education and volleyball. It was there they earned the third spot in the KCAC conference. The Falcon baseball team assisted the elderly and physically challenged at Cessna's Operation Holiday event. For the fifth straight year, the team along with employees of Cessna Aircraft and KFDI radio worked together to feed close to 800 people at the Cessna Activity Center in Wichita, Kan. Falcon soccer had an uphill climb, being a young and inexperienced team, however with hard work ethic they surpassed other teams to become the KCAC regular season champions.



◀ The Wichita campus received a surprise on Christmas day with the cover of The Wichita Eagle featuring a striking photo of the Davis Administration Building and its holiday lighting. The Wichita Eagle found our campus and its lighting appropriate symbols to represent the holiday season and the wish for peace on earth.

# The **104th** Year **2002-2003**

On February 1, 2003, the NASA shuttle Columbia crashed in Texas. All crew members perished.

The economy, concern about the influence of the war in Iraq and job layoffs in the aircraft and other industries gave great concern for many organizations in the Wichita area. Friends University was thankful for the gifts of those who recognized the need to support the University to make an independent education affordable for students with a successful Phonathon campaign and surpassing the prior year's pledges.

The Campus Ministries new leadership started Cornerstone services on Sunday nights to encourage students to worship in community, receive biblical teachings and share their talents with other students. The students participated in small groups and were given opportunities to go on mission trips.

For the first time in 22 years since Friends University students began traveling abroad to London, there was a concern for safety due to the onset of a war between the United States and Iraq. A group of 48 students and

family members set off to London, England to fulfill a world culture credit to study abroad during spring break. The students prepared ahead of time by becoming informed, talking things out and preparing mentally for the possibility of a war and were vigilant and careful while they were away. While the London citizens seemed to be against the war, the people cared what the Friends University group had to say about the situation in Iraq and wanted the group to know they sympathized. Many of the students let the people know that the U.S. citizens were just as torn about going to war as other countries were about supporting it.



◀ The Friends University Chili Cook-off was started as a fundraiser five years earlier by the Talisman yearbook staff. During the first year, approximately five booths participated and the events committee, seeing the potential for greater community involvement, began working with the Talisman staff to expand and improve the event. Five years later, 17 clubs, organizations and departments participated in the 2003 Friend University Chili Cook-off, which also serves as an accompaniment to Cherry Carnival week.

▼ Changes were apparent on the south part of the campus with the undertaking of an \$8.5 million student housing project to provide housing for up to 192 students. The new facility met the urgent need for better student housing and completed a 10-year plan to enhance and upgrade the grounds and facilities. Construction commenced on campus in the spring for the new 60,000 square-foot residence hall with the anticipated opening the following academic year. The residence hall would be built with an apartment complex style with each unit having a living room, three bedrooms, a full or partial kitchen, two bathrooms and feature many home-like amenities, including 9-foot ceilings, double-hung windows and furniture. This residence hall is now known as Green Residence Hall.



Friends University received a positive final report from its accrediting body, the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association (NCA). They visited the main campus and the Topeka and Mission, Kansas sites to conduct a focused visit, speaking to more than 175 administrators, faculty, staff, students and board members during a two-and-a-half-day visit. The team was very complimentary of the University and its efforts with an extension to a full 10-year cycle indicating the University successfully met the requirement set forth by the NCA.

The 20th Annual Easter Egg Hunt took place on the Wichita campus when the sun snuck out just long enough for approximately 400 children to scurry across the lawn in search of hidden sweet treasures. Sadly, the Topeka hunt was cancelled due to inclement weather.

The 2003 Alumni Weekend kicked off with breakfast leading into tours of the campus. Many alumni spent time visiting with former classmates, looking through yearbooks and admiring a restored desk. Following a luncheon, alumni could attend a car show presented by the Friends Marketing Association as well as participate in a tea and garden party at the President's home guided by Mrs. Binnie Green. The weekend was not complete without experiencing the 50th annual Symphony of Spring performances.

Symphony of Spring (SOS) celebrated the 50th anniversary of performances by Friends University's music department. The department celebrated with the theme Musicals Around the World including songs from British Isles, Oliver and Finian's Rainbow. The second half

consisted of songs from the musicals *Evita*, *Miss Saigon* and *Lion King*. *Symphony of Spring* began in 1953 as a scholarship benefit concert with proceeds benefitting the music department at Friends. The concerts also helped pay for groups to go on tour. The show started small and was performed on two nights in Alumni Auditorium and grew into the singing, dancing, acting instrumentation it is today. Back in 1953, Dr. Cecil Riney was a student at Friends University and performed in the first concert and later hosted the show as the Fine Arts department chair and director of the Singing Quakers.

The Friends University Ballet and the Wichita Ballet Theatre presented the spring ballet featuring three new ballets, including Jacob House's ballet, *Traces of Love*, and Hindemith, a contemporary ballet in five movements which included live music performed by the Tower Woodwind Quintet.

The Falcon men's and women's track teams finished with strong team and individual performances at the KCAC Championships. The men's team placed second and the women's team placed third advancing several athletes to the NAIA National Track and Field meet. The Falcon baseball team finished in fourth place in the KCAC conference and third in the KCAC tournament, their first playoff since 1996. The Lady Falcons softball team were ranked third in the conference going into the conference tournament. Unfortunately, there was not a fifth consecutive title this year for the Lady Falcons. They stayed undefeated until the championship game and lost twice, finishing second in the tournament.

# The **105th** Year 2003-2004

The University began a new strategic planning process to ensure the mission of providing high-quality undergraduate and graduate education that incorporated liberal arts instruction and professional studies within the context of the Christian faith continued. The seven strategic themes to guide the development was based on input from faculty, staff, Board of Trustees members and other groups were: university identity and excellence, academic quality and programming, shaping the community of learners, technology, financial stability and integrity, external alignment, and valuing our people.

Students at the Mission and Independence, Mo. sites as well as the Topeka site competed to see which class could donate the most food items to be given to charitable outlets. The Tuesday night Topeka class collected 372 of the 578 total food items for Project Topeka community's food pantries.

Fine arts set sail with the full-length musical Titanic and created quite a splash. A cast of 57 students and large production staff rehearsed the challenging score and prepared the

show. With such a large cast and varied characters, a big part of the show's success depended upon the nearly 200 costumes and various crucial props for the performance. The Singing Quakers embarked upon their annual tour as the group traveled to Washington, D.C. and New York and performed at various locations in those areas, including the Russell Rotunda in the U.S. Senate Building, the Plaza Grounds and St. Jean Baptist in New York. In addition, the group toured historical sites and took in a Broadway show.

► The new student housing complex construction remained on schedule in May 2004. Exterior masonry work and the installation of interior sheetrock were completed. Landscape plans include more than 1,500 plants with a hardscape plaza between the new complex (now known as Green Residence Hall) and Sumpter Hall including a fire lane which will be blocked from traffic by removable bollards and the roundabouts.



► The Lady Falcons soccer team finished second in the KCAC while the men's soccer team clinched first place in regular season play. Volleyball placed third in the conference. Men's basketball rebounded this season finishing third overall in the KCAC after they were picked to end the season in last place. Falcon baseball set a goal to win the KCAC conference title and break the school record in seasonal wins. They accomplished that and more. Not only did they win the KCAC title, but they separated themselves by winning 38 games, passing the previous record of 29 set in 1996. The icing on the cake was when the Falcons put themselves in full view at the Region IV tournament by



winning and defeating the fifth-ranked team in the country. Both men's and women's track teams finished third in the KCAC championships with seven athletes

qualifying for Nationals. The 2004 softball season included a tremendous fervor for winning the conference title, which escaped the team the previous year.



▲ Green Residence Hall opened in the summer of 2004. The state-of-the-art complex and the nearby water feature dramatically enhanced the southern portion of campus and completed a 10-year plan to improve the university's facilities and grounds.

# The **106th** Year 2004-2005

The fall semester enrolled 1,029 students, surpassing the 1,000-student milestone in the traditional undergraduate program for the first time in recent years. Traditional undergraduate students represented approximately one third of the total enrollment during this time.

Students moved in to the new residence hall along Kellogg Drive in late August and the facility was dedicated during Homecoming festivities. The Board of Trustees voted to name the new facility Green Residence Hall in honor of President Biff and Binnie Green who were humbled by this honor and hoped the facility would serve students well for many years to come. Outside Green Hall, a brick plaza with engraved bricks called Circle of Friends was created as a lasting tribute to friends and family and a gathering place for student activities.

The Northeast Region consolidated the Mission, Kansas and Independence, Missouri offices into a new location in Lenexa located along I-35 and seen from the Interstate.



▲ Following the demolition of the Elizabeth Fry Residence Hall in late summer, the Board of Trustees voted to also demolish the John Woolman Residence Hall to build a new 12,000 square foot facility for the College of Adult and Professional Studies and Information Services. The new building would later be named Fry and Woolman Hall.



▲ The Singing Quakers reunion and luncheon honored Dr. Cecil J. Riney for his retirement after more than 45 years of service to Friends University. Dr. Riney and his wife Verna were presented with a proclamation by the Wichita City Council proclaiming May 7 as Dr. Cecil J. Riney Day in Wichita. The Riney's also received some beautiful jewelry and funding to take the trip of a lifetime with funds donated by Singing Quaker alumni. Perhaps the most unanticipated honor came when Friends University Board of Trustees Chair Duane Hansen announced Board approval for renaming of Whittier Fine Arts Center to the Dr. Cecil J. Riney Fine Arts Center. It was especially fitting that years after Cecil arrived at Friends as a faculty member in 1959, helped establish and name the building, his own name now graces the building. Dr. Mark Bartel was hired to follow in Dr. Riney's footsteps to lead the world-renowned Singing Quakers.



Student athletes were successful on the playing fields and courts, and academically. Ten of the 15 Friends University teams finished fourth or better in the 10-team Kansas Collegiate Athletic Conference (KCAC). The women's soccer team advanced again into the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA) tournament. Women's basketball rebounded from the previous season finishing third in the conference. Men's basketball advanced to the NAIA national tournament for the first time in school history while track and field qualified several athletes for the NAIA national track championships. The Friends Lady Falcon Softball Team earned its second straight Kansas Collegiate Athletic

Conference (KCAC) title. Baseball finished their season third in the conference. The most gratifying achievement was the record number of 39 students submitted as NAIA All-American Scholar Athletes.

Sixty members of the Singing Quakers toured Texas for a farewell tour with Dr. Riney as they sang in several churches and a stop in San Antonio, Texas where the Quakers sang "The Star-Spangled Banner" as the opening for a San Antonio Spurs basketball game. The Friends University Ballet Department presented the Spring Ballet show, which included various music styles and choreographed dance numbers.

# The **107th** Year 2005-2006



▲ Hurricane Katrina ravaged the Gulf coast and the Friends University community responded with an outpouring of support. Within days of the disaster, the University community rallied together to raise \$2,240 in cash and fill a van with supplies. The Edmund Stanley Library donated \$900 from its annual book sale. The Lenexa Education Center and Kansas City Alumni Advisory Board led a food drive collecting more than 460 food items for the Salvation Army. The Singing Quaker women got new dresses that year and reached out to the Louisiana and Mississippi chapters of the Music Educators Association to find a school to donate their old performance dresses. The Friends University community did not hesitate to help others in this disaster. Hurricane Wilma devastated Cancun and Fine Arts students held a benefit concert to support sister university and exchange program affiliate La Salle University.

Learning and faith go hand-in-hand. One of the longstanding tenets of a Friends university education is the focus on each student's total development, not just academic development. This includes students' spiritual growth and development. The office of Campus Ministries played a significant role in the lives of students and sought to build community and growth within Friends University by leading and encouraging students to live transformed lives in the grace of God. One of the most popular Campus Ministries events during this time was Cornerstone, a praise and worship service that took place on Sunday nights during the school year in the Casado Campus Center.

A new enterprise-resource planning (ERP) project called Friends and Banner (FAB) merged the University's various databases and applications into one, easy-to-access system. The upgraded information resource allowed a secure, browsers-based, internet portal to make information access from anywhere at any time accessible to students, faculty, staff, alumni and administration.

The College of Adult and Professional Studies (CAPS) and graduate school program at Friends University celebrated 20 years. For the last 20 years CAPS and graduate programs evolved to meet the community's changing needs and expanded into a diverse range of offerings. The CAPS program along with Information Services moved into the new 12,700 square foot CAPS/IT Building (now known as Fry and Woolman Hall), a space previously occupied by Woolman Residence Hall before it was torn down.



▲ Hoyt Athletic Field received a facelift and was replaced with a new Momentum 46 brand synthetic turf system. The new field replaced the ever-famous AstroPlay field which outlived its expectations. Eight years prior, Friends University was one of the first organizations in the nation to install AstroPlay material and drew about 125 visitors from other organizations and countries to come see it including the University of Nebraska.

The fall semester saw an enrollment increase. According to the 20-day enrollment report, the total enrollment for the institution was 2,798, an increase of 1.8 percent from the prior year.

The Friends University Fine Arts Department invigorated the holiday spirit with a series of festive performances. The traditional Christmas Candlelight featured the joyful serenades of the Singing Quakers, Concert Choir and the Friends Unlimited jazz choir. Dancers from the Ballet Department performed "The Nutcracker" along with dancers from the Wichita Ballet Theatre and showcased guest performers from New York City and the Houston ballet companies. Drama students took the stage in "An Acting Showcase." All that Jazz! The campus was filled with over 500 high school, middle school and college students for the 13th Annual Jazz Festival.

For more than 40 years, nearly 35 major productions took place each year in Alexander Auditorium (now known as Sebets Auditorium) and renovations were in desperate need to the facility. Renovations included a new curtain, stage floor, lighting, sound equipment and more.

Falcon football ended an outstanding year as KCAC co-champions and ranked number 10 in the NAIA national rankings. Baseball won the conference tournament and advanced to the Region IV playoffs. Men's golf earned a second place KCAC tournament finish, winning the right to advance to regionals where they tied for first place which was quite a statement for Falcon golf who had previously not made a regional tournament in years. Men's tennis finished at the top of the

conference and the track and field teams had solid performances at the KCAC championships where the ladies took fourth place and the men finished third.

Friends University reached a significant milestone in the life of the institution by reaching \$50 million in endowment and invested funds. The achievement of the \$50 million milestone was significant considering the University had less than \$2 million invested approximately 16 years prior. The endowment and invested resources are important because they provided a stable source of income and a hedge against future financial challenges along with generating income annually to help weather periods of economic instability, maintain minimum tuition increases, offer additional student scholarships, enhance programs and plan for the University's future.

# The **108th** Year 2006-2007

Summer didn't slow down at Friends University. Construction projects were thrown into full throttle when the traditional semester ended. The Dining Hall in the Casado Campus Center underwent a dramatic improvement with a new welcoming environment with themed serving stations offering a variety of foods, including sandwiches, international cuisine and grilled foods. The Garvey P.E. Center received a new gymnasium floor and seating, an expansion of the weight training facility to 5,000 square feet, and new heating and cooling equipment. The track at Adair-Austin Stadium was resurfaced. The Alexander Auditorium (now known as Sebets Auditorium) was upgraded with new flooring, house lighting, and heating and air conditioning.

The University's residential population grew substantially leaving student housing at maximum capacity. Falcon Glenn, a new apartment building featuring 25 two-bedroom upperclassman apartments opened at the corner of Glenn and Mentor streets, just two blocks from campus. All the new housing was added to accommodate the number of students living on campus.

Friends outreach programs found a unique way to clear the hurdle to take higher education to remote areas across the state by partnering with Kansas community colleges to provide people throughout Kansas the opportunity to earn a bachelor's or master's degree close to home.

Friends University Student Government Association (SGA) reorganized to prioritize students' psychological, physical and social development. SGA reorganized the duties of executive council members with two student-elected positions (speaker of the senate and student voices chair) and the programming branch of the Falcon Activities and Campus Events (FACE).

Friends University choirs toured historic and cultural sights. Concert Choir headed to Washington, D.C and Williamsburg, Virginia and the Singing Quakers went to Germany where they performed and also conducted some service projects including working at a children's camp and visiting a rehabilitation center. Travel is an important part of a student's development, and President Green and his wife Binnie were reminded of that firsthand when they traveled to Germany with the Singing Quakers.



◀ The new and improved Freddy Falcon mascot broke out of his shell on Nov. 4 before the Friends University football game. The new version of Freddy was re-emerged as a leaner, stronger representation of the Friends University Falcon. Some say he spent time at the gym going from fluff to buff!



◀ The Wichita Metro Chamber of Commerce honored Friends University's Green Residence Hall with the 2007 Keeper of the Plains Award for architectural design. This award is given annually to projects that are visually appealing in landscaping and architectural design in Sedgwick County.

Friends University athletics and music departments partnered to showcase students' musical talent and add to the spectator feel of athletic events. Football and basketball fans were treated to a new spin on an old tradition when the University's music department performed "The Star-Spangled Banner" live before each home game that year instead of a recorded version.

Falcon Athletics launched a new athletics website to give fans a full schedule of games for the week, check out scores, explore pages devoted to various teams, get basic information about the Athletic Department and sign up for athletic email updates.

Two Friends University teams made it to the national playoffs, resulting in a successful year for Falcon athletics. The Falcon football team won the title of Kansas Collegiate Athletic Conference (KCAC) co-champions and earned an automatic berth into the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA) national playoffs. Men's basketball saw success with its second trip in three years to the NAIA Division II National tournament.



▲ Concert Choir toured Washington, D.C, Jamestown, Yorktown and Williamsburg, Virginia, performing on the North Senate Park grounds outside the capital and at Old Bruton Parish Church along with exploring historical sites.

# The **109th** Year 2007-2008

The nation's economy experienced highs and lows and Friends University was like most organizations who were affected. The daily news and market reports were sobering for the health and vitality of organizations. Thankfully, Friends University was positioned with a strong, healthy endowment that helped withstand difficult financial times. The University took some precautions to help lessen any negative impact on the institution such as departments tightening budgets and found creative way to do more with fewer resources, heeded with caution regarding enrollment expectations while planning for the next year's budget, and developed a 10-year projection model for budgeting to allow for the exploration of future financial scenarios and guided long term decision making.

► Falcon fever hit an unprecedented pitch when Friends University hosted its first-ever NAIA football playoff game on Nov. 17, and the second consecutive year the team was in the NAIA playoffs. The University had only five days to prepare upon hearing the news that Friends would be hosting the first-round national playoff game. Unfortunately, the Falcons lost their playoff game against the Missouri Valley Vikings 21-34.

Friends University honored Carl and Dixie Sebitts for their exceptional involvement with and generous support of the University by renaming the fine arts auditorium Sebitts Auditorium. The Sebitts' helped fund additions to the Riney Fine Arts Center and William Penn Science Building, established scholarships for fine arts students and funded many other University needs. The surprise announcement was made during the September 20, 2007, performance to celebrate the re-opening of the auditorium after completing an \$800,000 renovation to the facility.

As one of the pioneers in the area nearly 20 years earlier, Friends University offered degree completion programs to allow students to complete course work in two years or less. The College of Adult and Professional Studies (CAPS) rolled out plans to review and revamp six Degree Completion Programs (DCP) including Organizational Management and Leadership, Business Management, Human Resource Management, Computer Information Systems, Criminal Justice, and Accounting.



Men's basketball, women's softball and several athletes in track and field competed at the national level with this being the second year in a row that both the men's basketball and football teams had advanced to the first round of the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA) Division II playoffs. Athletes once again excelled in the classroom securing the highest number of athletes in the KCAC Conference to be named Academic All-Americans for the fifth year in a row.



▲ Friends University's Singing Quakers, led by Dr. Mark Bartel toured Germany performing in a variety of venues.



◀ The Easter Bunny hopped onto Friends University's beautiful green lawns again this year at the Wichita, Topeka and Lenexa campuses to mark the 25th anniversary of the annual Easter Egg Hunt.

# The **110th** Year **2008-2009**



▲ During a time of economic instability, Friends University had a successful fundraising year with donors generously contributing \$7.7 million to the University for the 2008-2009 fiscal year. The generosity of donors and a strong endowment over the years was a clear indicator of the full support the University had so no employees were laid off, full funding for student scholarships was maintained and student services were enhanced.



▲ A new and improved redesign of the Friends website, [www.friends.edu](http://www.friends.edu) was launched in June. The new first phase of the site focused on providing external audiences, such as prospective students and the community, with information about Friends University. This new design contained about 700 new pages, not the previous 3,000, making navigation much easier. The second phase added additional interactive features and new social media initiatives to enhance the user experience.

State of Kansas residents began driving around with the new Friends University license plate to share Friends University with others in addition to supporting student scholarships.

Every year at Friends University, lives have been changed for the better. This year 39 students from Campus Ministries traveled to Houston during spring break to serve a partnership with the Center for Student Missions where they helped at 12 sites.

The Ballet Department extended a helping hand to fellow dancers in need after the loss of their homes and studio caused by the devastation of Hurricane Ike. The Houston based dance company landed at Friends University where they found housing, rehearsal space and some of them taught classes to Friends University dancers. The Friends University Community Orchestra enjoyed celebrating its 50th anniversary season in Sebets Auditorium.

Athletes on campus not only proved themselves on the playing field, but they also showed off their skills when it came time for academics with 33 student athletes earning NAIA Academic All-American honors clinching the 6th straight Conference Championship in Academics.

# The **111th** Year **2009-2010**



▲ A new 40,382 square-foot apartment building, which houses 82 students, opened on the southeast corner of the Wichita campus. The new student housing complex was dedicated on September 23, 2009, and named after J.R. and Gertrude Smith for their commitment to the Friends University mission and students.

The summer storms brought a doozy with a hailstorm on July 8, 2009, that caused more than \$6 million in damage among 30 University-owned buildings. Tennis-ball-size hail that fell for about 28 minutes totaled the roof of the Davis Administration Building (as well as other roofs on campus) and destroyed most of the Christmas lighting on campus, including the lights on the clock tower. Much to everyone's disappointment and due to the extensive damage and the timeframe of the repairs, the Christmas lighting of the Davis clock tower did not turn on this year.

The Apprentice Institute for Christian Spiritual Formation was established in August 2009 through a generous gift to create spiritually transforming educational experiences. The vision included an undergraduate degree program called Christian Spiritual Formation (CSF) and to hold an annual national conference on formation and discipleship.

To be an apprentice, a word used frequently by the late Dr. Dallas Willard, is to become an apprentice of Jesus. An apprentice has chosen to learn knowledge and skills from a master, and that arrangement is exactly what it means to be a disciple. Christian spiritual formation is the process of being transformed into the image of Christ to live a good and beautiful life of faith, hope, joy and peace, to be a blessing to oneself and all the people we live with.



▲ The Falcons made history at the 2010 Kansas Collegiate Athletic Conference Championship Track and Field meet. The women won the KCAC title for the first time in Friends University's history and the men placed second at the meet which was the best finish ever for the men's track and field team. The men's basketball team also won the KCAC Championship Tournament earning a berth in the NAIA Division II National Tournament.

Friends University jazz groups were relentless in the pursuit of musical perfection. They traveled across the United State and the world, performing at festivals, competitions, and concerts.

Falcon athletes made a good showing with the Falcon football team finishing its season ranked 15th in the nation and third in the Kansas Collegiate Athletic Conference (KCAC). Men's soccer made a strong showing at the KCAC

Championship Tournaments and a season seeded fourth in the conference while the lady Falcon soccer team finished fifth in the conference. Both men's and women's cross-country teams ran away with National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA) finishers. Friends University volleyball finished top in the KCAC Championship Tournament and for the first time in 25 years, the team earned a chance to compete in the NAIA National Tournament.

# The **112th** Year **2010-2011**



▲ This academic year announced the closing of one chapter. After arriving in Wichita at Friends University 20 years before, Dr. Biff and Binnie Green announced that at the end of the academic year, they were moving on to the next stage of life — retirement. However, not before a full year of celebrations to honor the Greens and Friends University.

Campus Ministries took 34 students on a mission trip in August to inner-city Houston. The group worked in areas including homeless shelters, tutoring services and other locations to serve the needs of the community.

With constant advances in technology, new features were updated across campus. The University purchased 224 new PCs, Information Technology upgraded PCs to Windows 7 operating system, 21 iMacs were installed in the

Mac computer lab in the Olive White Garvey Business and Technology Building, and the University's learning management system was replaced with Moodle. Along with technology upgrades, the landscaping staff was able

► The Davis Administration Building was surrounded by scaffolding to repair the roof that had been damaged by a hailstorm the previous summer.

to control the irrigation systems across campus from an iPad. A much-improved system that previously required two staff members for operation, one on the lawn to relay the control messages and the other to control the PC.

The Singing Quakers traveled to Canada this year. They also performed Gustav Mahler's Symphony No. 2 "The Resurrection" at Century II Performing Arts and Convention Center with members of the Bethel College Concert Choir and the Wichita Symphony Chorus in conjunction with the Wichita Symphony Orchestra while the Jazz Department performed all around the Wichita area.

For the second straight year, Friends University Falcon Volleyball earned a spot at the NAIA Volleyball National Championship Opening Round. Although the post season did not end how they would have liked, the Falcons went 18-0 in conference play.

Friends University partnered with the City of Wichita to lease the baseball field and stadium at West Side Athletic Field located at 571 N. McLean Blvd. as the new home field for Falcon Baseball.

As the academic year closed, it was fitting to end the year with one of Dr. Biff Green's favorite quotes that he regularly shared with students and during his parting address at the 2011 Commencement ceremony — "Do what you love, love what you do and deliver more than you promise."



# The **113th** Year **2011-2012**



◀ Dr. T.J. Arant became the 13th president of Friends University on July 1, 2011. He hailed from the east coast with 30 years of higher education experience and served as the executive vice president of Mount Olive College in North Carolina prior to coming to Friends. The official presidential inauguration was held on March 30, 2012. His focus was to find new ways to serve the Friends University mission and move it into the next tier including achieving regional and national recognition to expand the university draw and reputation.

A student partnership blossomed between Friends University incoming freshman and transfer students and approximately 125 third-grade students from Wichita's Colvin Elementary School. Service has been a foundation of Friends since its inception. This service event was designed for third graders to be immersed in the importance and excitement of attending college while being paired with a Friends student for relay races, a fine arts showcase, reading activities, a biology lesson about each schools' mascot and the opportunity to eat lunch together.



◀ During Homecoming festivities, students united to play in a Muggle Quidditch tournament, inspired by the popular Harry Potter series. A large crowd gathered to watch the players run around on broomsticks while trying to throw the quaffle through the hoops, avoid the bludgers and catch the elusive Snitch, which was a yellow-clad distance runner. Four teams named after each of the Hogwarts houses competed, with Slytherin defeating Ravenclaw in the finals.



The jazz program at Friends celebrated the 20th anniversary of the Jazz Festival with internationally known guest artists. The Count Basie Orchestra and the New York Voices performed at the Orpheum Theatre to close the momentous festival.

Friends Falcons earned a triple crown with a clean sweep of the men's and women's Kansas Collegiate Athletic Conference (KCAC) titles in cross country, indoor track and field, and outdoor track and field.



# The **114th** Year **2012-2013**

The Higher Learning Commission, the accrediting body reaffirmed the University's accreditation which certified compliance with federal regulation and confirmed the good work Friends University faculty and staff did and continue to do. The Higher Learning Commission made a special note of the dedication and commitment to continuous quality improvement by developing a culture of assessment, the ways the University built and maintained relationships, and they recognized the services offered to the Wichita area, including cultural programming for the community, therapeutic services offered by the Center on Family Living, and community service projects through Campus Ministries.

About 20 jazz students and their director had an unforgettable experience in Cuba during the Christmas break. The Friends University jazz ensemble was invited to participate in the Havana International Jazz Festival. They performed at City Hall in Cancun, Mexico, and then spent five days in Havana where they performed at

the festival. This trip served as a unique opportunity for U.S. students to visit a country where travel was only recently opened to groups desiring cultural or educational exchanges.

Gone are the days of long lines in the registrar's office since the office encompassed an online registration system, viewing grades and scheduling with technology advancements.

The softball team won the KCAC Championship during this season. Despite the odds against them, the team pulled it out and finished strong. The baseball team had a new playing field this spring as the players took to the diamond at Lawrence-Dumont Stadium in the Delano district in Wichita.



▲ The Casado Campus Center underwent an update, adding a new look and a new cafe called Jazzman's and Sandella's. The students enjoyed new sandwiches and coffee options as well as the updated seating.

► The Garvey Lecture Series welcomed the oldest son of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. to Friends University on April 19. Martin Luther King III addressed the crowd during the 50th anniversary year of his father's "I Have a Dream" speech. He shared his thoughts on continuing his father's dream. He also served on a panel for the Multicultural Community Forum that discussed ways to overcome cultural differences. This year's lecture was dedicated to Jean Kindel Garvey, who died in December 2012, and founded the lecture series along with her husband, Willard.



# The **115th** Year **2013-2014**

▼ Students and the greater Wichita community ran and walked in the 3rd annual President's Run. Race participants ran or walked throughout the Friends University campus. There was a Mascot Mile Fun Run/Walk and the Falcon 5K Competitive Race.

Men's basketball had a perfect season by winning the KCAC Championship and then made it to the national NAIA quarterfinal round.

The 2011-2012 cross country and track and field teams were inducted into the Wichita Sports Hall of Fame.



# The **116th** Year 2014-2015

Dr. T. J. Arant, the 13th president resigned his position, and an interim was placed before a new president could be found.

Friends University addresses the affordability challenge with a tuition reset strategy. In order to help with the increasing costs of tuition, the board of trustees created a strategy called the "tuition lock". Incoming freshmen were able to lock-in a tuition rate as long as they made progress toward their degree and stayed a full-time student.

The Singing Quakers took a trip to Costa Rica as a culmination of the 90th anniversary of Singing Quakers. It was the end of a year of festivities including a combined concert with the Singing Quaker Alumni Choir in November 2014.

Friends receives the Affiliate member status from the Council for Christian Colleges and Universities. As an Affiliate member, Friends University will have access to CCCU's programs and services, along with network and scholarly research on the integration of faith and learning.

► The men's and women's indoor track and field team and the men's and women's outdoor track and field teams had a great year winning the KCAC championships.



PHOTO BY JOSEPH MYERS



# The 117th Year 2015-2016

*“This inauguration marks an important juncture, a season of renewal and revitalization. There is a sense of great things to come. We celebrate new opportunities for the university, a new perspective and a new path — grounded in our faith and our heritage.”— Dr. Amy Bragg Carey*



◀ Dr. Amy Bragg Carey was inaugurated as the 14th president of Friends University on October 16, 2015, in a ceremony in the Davis Administration Building's historic Alumni Auditorium. She became the first woman to officially hold the title of president of Friends University. She is a dedicated champion of the Christian mission and Quaker heritage of Friends University. Carey's focus, she said, is building on the Christian heritage of Friends and the impact the University has on the world. “This inauguration marks an important juncture, a season of renewal and revitalization. There is a sense of great things to come. We celebrate new opportunities for the university, a new perspective, and a new path, grounded in our faith and our heritage.”

A new campus-wide prioritization process evaluated the viability of certain programs and initiatives which led to the emergence of a Revitalization and Growth plan that focused on

developing programs that satisfied market needs, established enrollment and philanthropic goals, increased co-curricular offerings, housing occupancy and retention rates.



▲ For the second year in a row Friends University won the Kansas Collegiate Athletic Conference Commissioner's Cup in 2015-2016, becoming the first school to win the trophy both twice and back-to-back in the fourth year of its existence.

# The **118th** Year 2016-2017

At Friends University, education is not just about giving students the knowledge and skills they need to succeed in their profession. It is also about helping them find their true calling so they can make God's world a better place for themselves and others. The Board of Trustees took a hard look at the future direction of the university and had to decide if Friends University was going to be a liberal arts college with a Christian history or a Christian university with a liberal arts education. They chose the latter and further adopted a new vision statement to be added to the University's existing mission statement. The new RISE (respect, inclusion, service, excellence) values are demonstrated and exemplified by Friends University's alumni, students, faculty, staff, donors, friends and programs.

## MISSION

### *Who We Are*

Friends University, a Christian University of Quaker heritage, equips students to honor God and serve others by integrating their intellectual, spiritual and professional lives.

## VISION

### *Where We Want to Be*

Friends University will provide excellent learning experiences, nationally recognized programs, and a focus on transformative education that places a special value on each person, cultivating a new generation of Christ-like leaders.

## VALUES

### *R.I.S.E.*

Core values are ideals shared by the Friends community, influencing our behaviors and attitudes:

**Respect:** Integrity, civility in our words and actions, regard for others.

**Inclusion:** A spirit of cooperation and equality.

**Service:** A commitment to servant leadership, caring for each other and our community.

**Excellence:** Giving our best to our students at all times, that we may truly walk in the light of our faith.

► Friends University received a 10-foot fiberglass replica of the Keeper of the Plains which was the 19th Keeper installed around the city and placed near Paul's Pond north of Kellogg Avenue. The Friends' replica of the Keeper of the Plains was painted by Friends University art students and highlights Native American tribal symbols that reflect the University's legacy of inclusion.



## *What We Believe:*

As a Christian University of Quaker heritage, the University looks to the life and ministry of Jesus Christ as a model and example of conduct for members of our community. We believe that we are called to “live as Jesus did” (1 John 2:6), “follow God’s example,” (Eph. 5:1-2), and as His friends, love one another in the name of Jesus (John 15:12-17).

Faith has been a part of the foundation and roots of Friends University since its inception. Weekly Chapel returned on Thursday mornings in Alumni Auditorium for students, faculty, staff, alumni, and members of the community to gather for worship, prayer and explore what it means to be a follower of Jesus. A refocus on faith led to a new Master of Arts in Christian Spiritual Formation and Leadership to provide lay people, pastors, church staff and ministry leaders the tools and resources to develop a framework for spiritual formation while growing personally and spiritually.

A new Master of Science in Cyber Security degree was established for leaders and students who are responsible for defending the critical information infrastructure of the nation’s businesses, government and military to be on the front line of defense against cyber hackers.

Special education teachers are now prepared to teach students in preschool through 12th grade with high incidence disabilities including learning disabilities, mild or moderate learning differences, communication disorders, and behavioral or emotional disorders with the addition of a licensure program specialization with the Master of Education degree.

Friends University was thrilled to have Dr. Cecil Riney back on campus as he came out of retirement and returned to Friends University after his 45 years of service at Friends to further serve as the interim chair of Fine Arts.

Falcon Athletics expanded with the addition of women’s golf and competitive cheer to its roster of existing intercollegiate athletic teams. A new pep band created a livelier and more supportive atmosphere at athletic games and for Falcon fans.



◀ HALO — Hispanic American Leadership Organization was established.

# The **119th** Year **2017-2018**



◀ Dr. Dallas Willard was an individual who impacted many people. His legacy and work in Christian spiritual formation has had a long-lasting impact far beyond his lifetime. Because of generous gifts, Friends University established a permanent endowment to continue his legacy for years to come. The Dallas Willard Chair for Christian Spiritual Formation was established and Dallas' friend and longtime faculty member, Dr. James Bryan Smith is the first to hold the chair position to ensure that Friends University continues Dallas' important work in helping future generations of students become more like Christ.

Leadership and building on many aspects of it was a focal point for the campus. The Latino Leadership program was a new initiative launched by Friends to attract and retain Hispanic students. This unique program was designed to identify and give scholarships to high-performing students of Latino descent who seek to lead and be mentored. The program was piloted this year with a two-day intensive orientation. This new program follows the change of the Spanish program to focus on interpretation and translation to better meet the demands of students and graduates in the 21st century.

▼ The Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation (CAEP) granted the Friends University Teacher Education program accreditation for its educator preparation programs. The rigorous, nationally recognized standards to ensure excellence in educator preparation programs supports the mission and values at Friends University. Excellence was also supported with the expansion of the cyber security degree program for the adult bachelor's degree population along with a partnership with INTRUST Bank to provide funding and underwriting for the Friends' cyber lab. The new lab, named the INTRUST Bank Cyber Security Lab provided the most comprehensive cyber defense training platform available for students and local professionals.





◀ Friends University Health Science professors laid the foundation for a future health science study abroad experience in Ghana, Africa, over the summer when they traveled to Ghana to build relationships with medical personnel and to scope out educational sites. The university developed a cooperative global health care course with the University of Cape Coast in Ghana to expose students to foreign health care systems and situations different from those they would study in the United States. As the main part of the course, students explored unique Neglected Tropical Diseases (NTDs) in parts of African countries and South America.

The Men's and Women's Falcons outdid themselves with a scintillating effort at the NAIA Indoor Track and Field National Championship Meet when the women's team stood tall with a fourth-place ranking in the nation, their best-ever finish in school history. The men's Falcons were not

far behind, coming in ninth in the NAIA, also the best in program history. The Lady Falcons basketball team secured their second straight KCAC regular season title marking the seventh consecutive season with at least 20 wins.

▶ The annual Jazz Festival marked 25 years of collaborating with local school bands and entertaining jazz lovers in Wichita. This year's festival showcased 40 high school and middle school bands along with community college bands, well up from just three high school bands in 1993 at the first Jazz Festival. Friends University's mission is to share the jazz program with young people in addition to attracting a wide variety of jazz musicians and singers who come to Wichita to lend their talents for student workshops.



# The **120th** Year 2018-2019

Drawing on its Quaker roots, Friends University implemented a new multicultural engagement program to strengthen a commitment to an environment of diversity and inclusiveness to enrich the lives of students such as international students, student athletes and underrepresented student populations as well as the greater campus community. Friends University's own Friendship Fields, a college program for students with disabilities, expanded its programming for high-functioning special needs adults with a four-year curriculum. Further enriching the lives of students, the Spanish department traveled to Cuba to immerse themselves in a culture they had studied during the semester by serving the less fortunate in local schools, hospitals and clinics.

A new statewide transfer policy was adopted for students transferring from any Kansas Board of Regents (KBOR) community college to automatically satisfy all the general education requirements allowing students to continue their education at a private Christian liberal arts university.

Working together and listening to one another to accomplish a common goal creates a partnership. A partnership with the Missio Alliance, an organization that unites pastors, practitioner-theologians and universities in the interest of cross-cultural and interdenominational collaboration around biblically-grounded theology, gave Friends a way to expand

the work in Christian spiritual formation programs and the Apprentice Institute. The Apprentice Institute also launched a new podcast, The Things Above, hosted by Dr. James Bryan Smith. The podcast was intended for those who want to set their minds on "things above" (Colossians 3:2) and was a great success with nearly 10,000 downloads in the first month.



▲ Hoyt Athletic Field turf in Adair-Austin Stadium got a makeover with a brand-new synthetic KTX Blitz 48 turf system with a combination of slit film and high micron monofilament fibers in one system from Kansas Turf, LLC.



◀ Friends University's Singing Quakers said "Arrivederci!" as they embarked on their European tour to Italy and Austria.

This year also encompassed a fun contest with the Alumni Councils Battle of the Hashtag contest with the winning hashtag of #myFriendsU to be posted on social media platforms. As more and more programs are online, so was the addition of a new online bookstore for students, faculty, staff, parents and others to order books and spirit wear.

Friends Opera students sang their way to a second place finish in the Division II level of competition with the National Opera Association for their production of "The Mikado".

The Falcons were bolstered by conference championships in women's indoor and outdoor track and field along with sold runner-up finishes in men's indoor and outdoor track and field and men's cross country. Also boosting the Falcons' efforts was a third-place showing in softball, men's basketball, women's cross country and men's soccer garnering 151 total points for the season to secure the KCAC Commissioner's Cup for the fourth time in five years. "We are ecstatic to win the Commissioner's Cup for the fourth time in five years," Friends University Athletic Director, Dr. Rob Ramseyer said. "This sustained success is a testament to our outstanding student-athletes, coaches, and support staff. Their commitment is evident through this consistent run within the conference."

# The 121<sup>st</sup> Year 2019-2020

**What a year!** The school year started like any other with a big twist no one saw coming during the spring semester.

Students arrived on campus in August and the campus was buzzing, students walking around, attending classes, gathering for events, worshipping in Chapel, and getting to know new friends and the Friends community. The STEM (science, math, engineering and math) program debuted two new academic programs with a bachelor's in mechanical engineering and a bachelor's in conservation science. The new programs were not only inspired by women, but also led by them and a direct reflection of the school's forward thinking Quaker roots.

Business students gained a new opportunity with a professional student organization to develop and foster business skills with Business Professionals of America (BPA). This organization offered a vast array of business disciplines and a vision to provide members with opportunities for growth through education, competition, community service and personal development while aligning with the mission and values of Friends University. BPA jumped right in after the launch and hosted a successful state BPA Leadership Conference bringing over 500 people to Friends University.



▲ Sept. 2019 Starbucks Coffee and new retail venues come to Casado.

Community partnerships bring people together to allow them to serve together. Friends University teamed up with Wichita Public Schools Northwest High School to offer high school students the opportunity to earn up to 54 college credits with the Early College Academy (ECA) thus enabling them to start college as a junior.

▶ A group of Friends University Hispanic American Leadership Organization (HALO) student delegates were selected as volunteer interns in Chicago at the 38th National United States Hispanic Leadership Institute (USHLI) Conference, the premier Hispanic leadership conference in the nation.



The Fine Arts Department announced the addition of two new Bachelor of Arts degrees in Music Theatre and Theatre and productions were in full swing. Performers shined on stage with the fall musical *Bright Star*, hit the stage with the drama *Radium Girls* and for the first ever music and dance mainstage collaboration of the operetta *Die Fledermaus*. December marked the last iconic *Nutcracker* ballet performance for the Friends University ballet program with guest dancers from the Dance Theatre of Harlem in New York City along with a live jazz band playing the Duke Ellington Orchestra's composition of *The Nutcracker Suite*.

**Then...a massive interruption in regularly scheduled programming.**

In March 2020, the world was turned upside down with the historic Coronavirus Covid-19 pandemic. Friends University students were on spring break as data was being released. Based on the reports and recommendations surrounding the Covid-19 outbreak, administration initially extended spring break and ultimately and rapidly made the decision to pivot to everything online during an unprecedented time in history.

University leaders formulated contingency plans to continue operations within newly issued regulations and guidelines to finish the semester. Faculty adjusted their courses to online platforms. Administrative offices adapted their day-to-day operations to remote formats. In-person events such as campus tours and admissions sessions were transferred to be showcased on video. Enrollment

and auditions became virtual events. Students moved out of on-campus housing. Commencement was canceled and rescheduled for a later date. Athletic and fine arts events were canceled. Though it was not the spring semester that was imagined, the Friends University community came together to complete the semester with excellence.

The nature of the uncertain times resulted in an increase of calls to the Center on Family Living (CFL) related to depression, anxiety, stress, trauma and fear. Many similar themes also rose to the surface such as lost jobs, financial stress, fear of illness, school decisions so leaning into our RISE value of service, the CFL weighed all of this and ultimately decided to suspend the cost of services for time being to serve our campus and community.

▶ On March 27, 2020, Friends University held a virtual tower lighting ceremony to relight the Davis Tower as a symbol of hope and encouragement for our community. As a faith-based community, the lighting of the tower was a way to express love and prayers to the people of Wichita and the nation during a difficult time. Friends stands firm on the RISE values (respect, inclusion, service, excellence) and as a community was committed to shine God's light to those around us and be the community we were called to be.



# The 122nd Year 2020-2021



**Resilience.** If there was one thing that Friends University learned this year, it was resilience. The administration was determined to open the doors in August and welcome students back to campus to find a new normal in-person experience for our community amid the Covid-19 pandemic. Masks, social distancing, temperature checks and quarantine were the norm, so innovation and imagination were the key to achieving the goals set forth.

While the world was pivoting in different directions during this time, the high caliber of academics at Friends University remained unchanged. Although classes were in session, faculty and students alike found themselves juggling desk spacing six feet apart, quarantine logistics, technology arrangements, and overall health and wellness for each other. Residence Life used innovative ways to house and feed students in a safe manner as instructed by the Center for Disease

Control (CDC). Every dorm room was used with overflow at Newman University and local hotels when quarantine time was needed. Hybrid learning became a new notion where students could attend in-person classes or join online if they were in quarantine or were sick.

A new school year also brought about new learning opportunities and degree programs with the addition of the CompTIA Security+ certificate with the cyber security degree program, and a new Bachelor of Arts in Criminal Justice degree for adult students. Business programs added three concentrations in Supply Chain Management with the Bachelor of Science in Business Administration degree along with concentrations in Sports Management and Project Management with the Master of Business Administration and Global Master of Business Administration.

Sometimes the best learning opportunities are hands-on lessons. The Student Led Investment Group (SLI) was given a unique learning experience to make real-world investment decisions with real money while gaining a practical application in the world of finance and also receiving credit for taking part in the SLI group. The Board of Trustees entrusted the group with \$100,000 from the Friends University Endowment and an outside party donated \$11,000 to invest funds guided under the Friends University



◀ The basketball court in the Garvey Physical Education Center was named in honor of Friends University legendary coach, athletic director, teacher and inaugural Friends University Athletic Hall of Fame Coach Jack Kater. Coach Kater was a successful coach in several sports, including basketball, track, football, softball and golf. He was known as someone who truly loved the students and encouraged them to become the best people they could be, not only in athletics, but also in life. All while winning many conference titles and championships along the way.

investing policies. Any revenue generated from the group was to be rolled into the Friends University Endowment fund to be used for future student scholarships.

Creativity is no stranger to the Friends University Fine Arts department. With the Covid-19 pandemic still surrounding us and classes set to resume, the Fine Arts department thought outside the box to keep faculty, students and staff safe. One solution was to set up large tents in a parking lot and hold classes under the big top and on the lawns of campus. Students still had the privilege to receive the same superb instruction in a new and creative setting and the campus community got to enjoy the sights and sounds of the Fine Arts classes during an unusual time.

It was an ingenious, one-of-a-kind setting for Fine Arts to present G.F. Handel's opera, Alcina, at the Sedgwick County Zoo which provided a unique, fitting, beautiful backdrop and safe environment for this enchanting production. Friends University is fortunate to have a partnership with the zoo and collaborate for the nationally recognized bachelor's degree program in zoo science. Although the exhibits were closed, several animals made cameo appearances in the show.

Friends Falcons scored a homerun with a new scoreboard sign from Lawrence Dumont Stadium for their home field at Westside Athletic Field after reaching an

agreement with the City of Wichita, funds were raised for a total renovation of the stadium, including the turf field. Men's and women's indoor track captured the KCAC Championship making it a special accomplishment for each team. The men broke through after three straight years finishing as the runner-up, and the Falcon women were the KCAC's top team for the seventh straight season in addition

to two National Champions at the NAIA Indoor Track and Field Championships placing fourth overall to continue their dynastic reign. Up next for the Falcons was the addition of a brand new sideline dance program. Success of the athletic department is a testament to the leadership of Athletic Director Rob Ramseyer who was chosen as the KCAC Athletic Director of the Year for 2019-2020.



▲ The year focused on the first phase of the RISE Up Capital Campaign which encompassed a \$2.3 million renovation to the Garvey Physical Education Center. The Garvey P.E. Center was originally in partnership with the Westside YMCA serving the university's athletic facilities needs and the YMCA in the 1980s. Since the University acquired the building, only minor improvements had been made to the space. A wall smash event was held to kick-off the start of the renovation and allow the building to be brought into the 21st century.

# The **123rd** Year **2021-2022**

Other expansions for the university were seen on the academic side with the launch of new leadership degree programs for both the undergraduate and graduate level learners with the Bachelor of Business Administration in Strategic Leadership and a Master of Science in Strategic Leadership. The addition of a Bloomberg Terminal gave students

an academic leg up to use the same platform that the world's leading banks, corporations and government agencies use to view real-time financial data, news feeds and messages. Graduate programs began in 1986 with two master's programs. Fast forward 35 years later to 2021 and nine graduate degree programs with numerous concentrations

and nationally recognized programs are offered in-person or online for professionals. The Business department also received accreditation from the Accreditation Council for Business Schools and Programs (ACBSP) which reflects teaching excellence, exemplary student learning outcomes and a continuous improvement model.



▲ This first phase of the RISE Up Capital campaign was completed. In October 2021, the Friends community celebrated with a ribbon cutting event to commemorate the \$2.3 million renovation project to the Garvey Physical Education Center. Over a five-month period, the building was transferred into a first-rate facility with four main areas that saw major improvement to add a larger training room, an expanded weight room, administrative spaces/team meeting room and a refreshed lobby. Next up, the campaign rolled into Our Next Act with phase two of the RISE Up Capital campaign to focus on renovations to the Riney Fine Arts Center.

▼ Friends University's partnership with Wichita Public Schools Early College Academy (ECA) was also enhanced with a \$13,000 scholarship for students who continue their higher education journey with Friends University post-secondary graduation. In addition to the 50-60 college credits ECA students earned in high school, they would begin college as a third-year student giving them a dramatic head start to their college career.



► Athletics introduced three new Falcon teams this season. The return of the men's golf team along with men's and women's wrestling teams. The wrestling teams concluded their season with many firsts with the men setting a seventh-place finish at a KCAC meet while the women's team completed in their first-ever NAIA National event.



PHOTO BY MATT BUCHER

The classic Louisa May Alcott book *Little Women* was adapted for the stage and song through the voices and live orchestra music of talented Fine Arts students. The storyline was fitting after a year of uncertainty surrounding the Covid-19 pandemic as the only thing we have control over when disaster strikes or heartache ensues, is how we choose to pick up the pieces and move forward. Theatre also presented the comedy *Baskerville: A Sherlock Holmes Mystery* as told by a small mixed ensemble that played more than 40 roles.

The spring season showcased the Singing Quakers Symphony of Spring concert, which has been a Wichita favorite for more than 50 years, featured the theme *Show People*, a night of Broadway, pop and Disney. The Concert Choir performed *Love Enduring* with choral selections that reflected God's steadfast love, praise and gratitude, and joy.

Falcon athletics were a heavy weight to reckon with. Men's and women's powerlifting had standout performances advancing to the USA National Powerlifting Championships earning a sixth-place national finish overall for both men and women. The Lady Falcons softball team finished the year with a historic season by capturing their second KCAC tournament championship and recording their first NAIA Opening Round victory since 2013. The men and women's indoor track team earned a combined 18 All-Americans at the Indoor NAIA National Championship Meet culminating in a season with national rankings including a 14th place tie for the men and a 21st place tie for the women.



PHOTO BY JOSEPH MYERS

▲ The traditional Candlelight Concert changed courses with a bigger and more enchanting show at Central Community Church by giving concert goers plenty of what keeps them coming back plus a few new additions. The Singing Quakers and Concert Choir sang traditional renditions along with other groups including the Falcon Chorus, Women's Choir, Flute Choir, Orchestra, Concert Band, Jazz Band, Dance and the Singing Quaker Alumni Choir all combined forces to create a holiday spirit that warmed many hearts. The show was also broadcast on PBS Public Television. ►

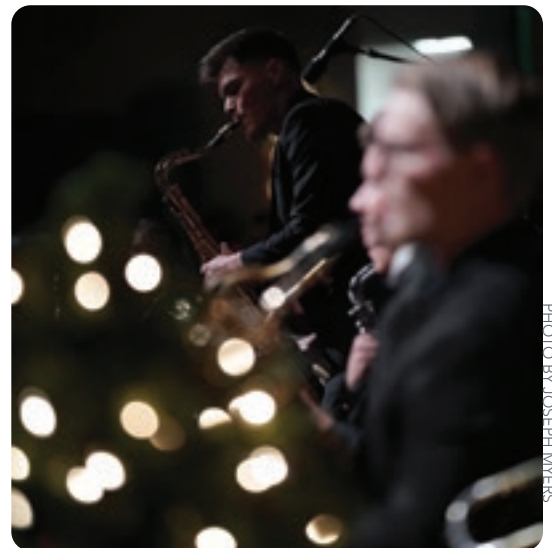


PHOTO BY JOSEPH MYERS

# The **124th** Year **2022-2023**

▼ With cyber-attacks becoming more prevalent, the need for trained security professionals is imminent. Friends University hosted an open house to celebrate a \$1 million investment in technology, labs and cyber scholarships with the help of Senator Jerry Moran who played a key role in securing a \$750,000 grant from the Department of Education with funds which were generated from the Labor, Health and Human Services, Education and Related Agencies appropriations bill for scholarships, technology and equipment. Other grants and funds contributed to the investments in the Olive White Garvey Business and Technology Building including new investments for updated connected classrooms, a new podcast studio, a Bloomberg Terminal suite and the INTRUST Bank cyber lab.



This year marked the 30th year of the Annual Jazz Festival with an evening concert. Traditions continued with this year's musical Catch Me If You Can and the Singing Quakers Home Concert. The talent of Friends University singers was highlighted with a victorious 2022 National Association of Teachers of Singing (NATS) Competition with over 20 voice students competing, the most finalists of any private school in the region and, for the first time, the most of any university in Kansas! Finalists were advanced to the NATS National Student Auditions. The year capped off with the return of a Singing Quakers European tour to Spain and Portugal.

Falcon athletes left their mark on the mat this year. The competitive cheer Falcons became two-time defending KCAC Champions thus qualifying for the NAIA National Competitive Cheer and Dance Championships where they finished 15th overall. Making their debut season, the dance team made an appearance at the championship meet finishing sixth overall. Still a newer sport on the Friends roster, women's wrestling earned first ever NAIA qualifying spots at the KCAC Championships where they placed 26th overall and the top in the KCAC.



◀ Fine Arts had a special treat when Tony Award-winning actress and singer Kristin Chenoweth came to Friends to host a master class with one-on-one instruction for a select group of students pursuing a degree in music theatre.

The Next Act of the RISE Up Capital Campaign set a lofty goal to raise \$7 million by the end of 2022 to renovate and expand the Riney Fine Arts Center. Friends University was delighted to ring in the new year announcing the second

phase of the capital campaign had secured funding through the generosity of donors, alumni and various foundations further contributing to nearly \$12.5 million in capital projects and student programming in less than two years. In

addition, a new \$2 million addition broke ground in February on the William Penn Science Building for two new mechanical engineering labs and a visual arts lab. It was an exciting time on campus with the momentum for growth and expansion.



▲ For the first time since the 2017-18 season, the women's basketball team played for the KCAC Postseason Championship. While the game did not end in their favor, Head Women's Basketball Coach Dean Jaderston said, "It's not always that a team can say they were at their very best at the end of the season, but this team can. They played so hard and maximized each other's strengths."

▼ More and more transactions and day-to-day shopping is done online. The campus bookstore shut its doors and moved fully online thus leaving an empty space in lower Casado Campus Center. The space received a facelift and was remodeled to make room for a new Fan-atics Spirit Store and the Fit-Nest work-out center for all of the Friends community to enjoy.



# The **125th** Year **2023-2024**



▶ Just as the new semester began, so did the construction of the Riney Fine Arts Center. This project was the second and final phase of the RISE Up Capital Campaign which entailed a \$7.2 million project to renovate and expand the Riney Fine Arts Center which includes a grand new entrance, updated auditorium, dance studio, black box theatre and technology enhancements and the addition of a sacred chapel/recital space. Despite the construction zone, the show must go on. Fine Arts didn't miss a beat with classes and performances held in alternate locations including Alumni Auditorium, Casado Campus Center, First Presbyterian Church and Odd Fellow Hall. ▼





◀ Highlights of the year included the Duke Ellington Sacred concert which was a combination of the jazz band and Singing Quakers. The audience was also treated to a theatrical experience in the play "He Said Yes/He Said No."

Vision Flourish was the theme for this school year. It was another year of record-breaking enrollment in the fall of 2023 surpassing the highest level of incoming students in more than a decade with a four percent increase in undergraduate enrollment.

Friends University students continued to achieve success in academics. **The mechanical engineering program received accreditation from the Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology (ABET)** along with the completion of two new mechanical engineering labs for more hands-on learning. **Friends University was also awarded a \$2.2 million Title III Part A Strengthening Institutions Program (SIP) grant from the U.S. Department of Education** designed to serve low-income students by providing funds to improve and strengthen the academic quality, institutional management and fiscal stability of institutions.

▶ The annual Apprentice Gathering's record ticket sales hosted a full house with special guests including speakers Ann Voskamp, Trevor Hudson, Ruth Haley Barton, John Mark Comer and Friends University's DMin Lead Mentor A.J. Swoboda. Patrons and guests marveled at the completed Rich Mullins Room dedicated in the Edmund Stanley Library to honor award-winning contemporary Christian singer, songwriter and '95 Friends University alumnus best known for his worship songs "Awesome God" and "Sometimes by Step."

**The first ever doctorate program was approved with the Doctor of Ministry in Formation and Soul Care (DMin)** giving students a doctoral-level program seeking to equip Christian practitioners with a comprehensive biblical, theological and practical paradigm for Christian formation and soul care in a 21st century context.

Falcon Athletics soared with regional and national recognition. The football team's winning season landed them on the NAIA Coach's Top 25 poll for the first time since 2015 along with NAIA player of the week nods. Volleyball, women's soccer and football alike scored big with offensive and defensive KCAC Players of the Week nods week after week.

Friends University celebrated 125 years of rich history and excellence with a fun filled day of celebration beginning in Alumni Auditorium with a ceremony blessed with the wise words of noted dignitaries and the delightful voices of the full Singing Quakers as they sang the Friends University Hymn and "When I Survey the Wondrous Cross." The celebration also showcased a brand-new timeline wall, a commemorative documentary, campus tours and fun for all to acknowledge this milestone. **This year also marked the 25th anniversary of the lighting of the clock tower,** a community favorite event to mark the start of the holiday season with the annual Ceremony of Lights celebration.



# *University News*

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## FRIENDS UNIVERSITY WELCOMES SCOTT FREY AS NEW CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER AND VICE PRESIDENT OF FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

Friends University is pleased to welcome Scott Frey as the new Chief Financial Officer and Vice President of Finance and Administration at Friends University. He comes to Friends with an accomplished accounting background and will be a valuable asset to ensure the financial stability and compliance needs of the university.

"Having a strong financial foundation is critical to the operations and infrastructure at Friends University," said Dr. Amy Bragg Carey. "Scott Frey's financial expertise, leadership and dedication to our mission will guide us in achieving our financial goals."

Frey holds a Kansas CPA Certificate and a Bachelor of Business Administration in Accounting from Wichita State University. He previously held the positions of



Controller, Treasurer and Secretary at Jobbers Automotive Warehouse; Chief Accounting Officer at Nationwide Hotel Management Company; Chief Accounting Officer and Vice President-Controller at WoodSpring Hotels Holdings; Chief Financial Officer at Airtechnics, Inc.; Senior Corporate Reporting Manager and Europe Finance Manager at Coleman Company; Accounting and Planning Manager at Raytheon Travel Air Company; Senior Financial Analyst at Raytheon Aircraft Company and Supervising Senior Accountant at KPMG. Scott notes "Working at Friends you quickly gain an appreciation for the many good people dedicated to the University; it's been a pleasure to get to know and work within the Friends community. " Frey and his wife have four children.

## FRIENDS UNIVERSITY WELCOMES NEW FACULTY TO CAMPUS

Friends University is pleased  
to welcome the following  
new faculty to campus

### DAVID FRY ►

David Fry is the new Instructor of Computer Science. He holds a Bachelor of Business Administration in Management and Marketing from Wichita State University, an Associate of Arts in Liberal Arts from Coffeyville Community College along with numerous computer certifications. Fry previously held the positions of network analyst/trainer and cyber instructor and National Cyber League coach at Hutchinson Community College, I.T. systems engineer II at Viavi Solutions along with several positions at higher education institutions including computer support, internship coordinator, adjunct faculty and director of campus computing at Hutchinson Community College, Cowley College and Sterling College.



### ◄ DR. EMILY JANES

Emily Janes serves as the new Assistant Professor of Marriage and Family Therapy. She holds a Master of Science in Marriage and Family Therapy from Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, a Bachelor of Science in Psychology with a minor in Family, Consumer and Human Development from Utah State University, and recently completed a Doctor of Philosophy in Couple, Marriage and Family Therapy from Texas Tech University. Janes previous teaching experience was as an adjunct instructor at Drexel University and a graduate teaching assistant at Texas Tech University her portfolio also includes research, published manuscripts, presentations, guest lectures, clinical experience and supervision experience.



**DR. CANES NICOLAS** ▶

Canes Nicolas is the new Assistant Professor of Strings and Director of Orchestra. He holds a Doctor of Musical Arts in Orchestral Conducting from the University of Nebraska- Lincoln; a Master of Music in Orchestral Conducting from Ohio University, Athens; and a Bachelor of Arts in Music from the University of Minnesota Duluth. Prior to Nicolas' new role at Friends, he was the Assistant Professor of Music and Director of Southern Symphony Orchestra at Missouri Southern State University, Visiting Assistant Professor of Music and Director of Orchestra at Southern Utah University, Director of Orchestra and Music Instructor at Wayne State college, Music Director and Conductor at the Lincoln Youth Senior Orchestra, and the Conductor and Music Professor at the Festival Summer Music Camp.

◀ **DR. A.J. SWOBODA**

Dr. A.J. Swoboda is the new Program Director for the Doctor of Ministry in Formation and Soul Care. He holds a Doctor of Philosophy in Systematic Theology from the University of Birmingham, U.K; a Master of Arts in Theological Studies from Portland Seminary and a Bachelor of Arts in Pastoral Studies from Eugene Bible College. Dr. Swoboda is also a pastor, author, co-host of the Slow Theology podcast, and serves as the Associate Professor of Bible, Theology and World Christianity at Bushnell University. He previously served as a college pastor at the University of Oregon; planted and pastored an urban church in Oregon; was the Director and Lead Professor at Fuller Theological Seminary; Executive Director at Seminary Stewardship Alliance; and taught at Southeastern University, Northern Seminary, Portland Seminary, Multnomah University, London School of Theology and LIFE Pacific University. He is the author of many books, including *The Gift of Thorns* (Zondervan), *After Doubt* (Brazos), and the award-winning *Subversive Sabbath* (Brazos).

## FRIENDS UNIVERSITY ANNOUNCES FOUR MEMBERS TO THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Friends University is excited to welcome new members, Shannon Bohm and Nathan Foreman and returning members Kim Dugger Attwater and Kevin Hoppock. They began their terms at the October 28 meeting.

### ▼ SHANNON F. BOHM

Shannon's interest in architecture started early in life, following a class study of different buildings in the third grade. This kindled interest continued during her formative years leading to a Bachelor of Architecture from Kansas State University and professional licensure in 1988. She built her career at Schaefer Architecture, starting work with the firm in 1986 focusing primarily on education projects.



As one of the first female owners in a major Wichita architectural firm, Shannon was named Vice President in the early 1990s, and President and a major owner in 2016. Over time, Shannon's career has expanded to include projects of increasing complexity, including the Wichita Public Schools Bond Issues, the National Center for Aviation Training, the new Junction City High School and the Riverfront Stadium in Wichita. Her leadership skills are most evident in the relationships she cultivates with clients, demonstrating that commitment to the owner's vision can unite successfully with good architectural design. She is not afraid to take that vision to the public and has shown herself to be instrumental in engaging the very communities that benefit most from her efforts.

Shannon believes in the importance of serving the community. She has served on various boards and in volunteer roles for organizations. Whether through a church, school, or the YMCA, she believes serving others shows love and care and follows Christian principles.

Shannon lives in Wichita, Kansas, and is married to her high school sweetheart, Mark Bohm. She has a daughter, son and daughter-in-law, and 4 grandchildren. Shannon is an avid college football fan, enjoys playing pickleball, and reading mostly non-fiction, biographies and true crime, and listening to podcasts on (almost) daily walks.



### ▲ NATHAN FOREMAN

Nathan Foreman grew up on a farm and ranch near Liberal, Kansas. After graduation from Hugoton High School, he attended Friends University where in 2002 he earned a Bachelor of Arts in Religion and Philosophy and a Bachelor of Science in Human Services/Psychology. While at Friends, he was a member of the Singing Quakers and active in Campus Ministries. Nathan then attended Washburn University School of Law where he received his Juris Doctorate in 2006.

Following graduation and passing the bar, he returned to his home in western Kansas. For over seventeen years, he has been an attorney engaged in the general practice of law, including estate planning, domestic relations, civil, contract, probate and municipal law. He worked at the Yoxall Law Office in Liberal, Kansas from 2006 until 2019, when he became in house counsel for Seward County, Kansas. In 2021, he returned to private practice at Tate, Kitzke and Foreman, LLC in Hugoton, Kansas where he is currently a partner.

Nathan has served on numerous local boards over the years including the Seward County Conservation District, High Plains Heritage Foundation, Pheasant Heaven Charities, and the Baughman Foundation. He has been happily married to his wife Sarah, for twenty years. They have four children-Abigail, Levi, Mariah, and Isaac. Nathan is an avid hunter and fisherman and loves the outdoors. The Foreman family lives just outside of Hugoton, Kansas where they enjoy the peace and solitude of country life.



#### ▲ KIM DUGGER ATTWATER

Kim has been sharing her musical gifts with Kansans for the past 30 years. She was Miss Kansas in 1990, and represented the state at the Miss America Pageant, where she received a talent award.

Kim has been a professional singer and actress for 29 years. Her work includes performing in Branson, Mo. at the Shoji Tabuchi Theater, music demo recording work in Nashville, Tenn., and performing at the Crown Uptown Dinner Theater, and Music Theater of Wichita. She worked as Musical Director and Assistant Director in numerous shows. Kim has performed with many local and regional bands including Tuxedo Junction from Dallas, a 20-piece Big Band. Kim has a Vocal Music Performance degree from Friends University.

Kim has done extensive voice over work for television and radio. She worked as a Co-host on the Morning Radio Show with Don Hall on 103.7 KEYN, and as an on-air personality for KWCH TV Channel 12. Her wide range of talent has led her to commercial roles including a national music video with Country star Craig Morgan, nationwide commercials and jingles. In addition, she has worked in corporate sales and management roles for the pharmaceutical and automotive industries.

She recently served as the Co-Chairman of a multi-million-dollar Capital Campaign for Friends University. Kim previously served three terms on the Friends University Board of Trustees along with the Creative Arts Industries Commission for the state of Kansas.

Kim is married to Paul Attwater, a financial adviser and Branch Manager for Morgan Stanley, and she has four stepsons. Together they enjoy involvement in community organizations, traveling, time at the lake, and just hanging out together. Kim loves to sing, play the piano, garden, swim, laugh, and walk her dogs, Katy and Maggie.

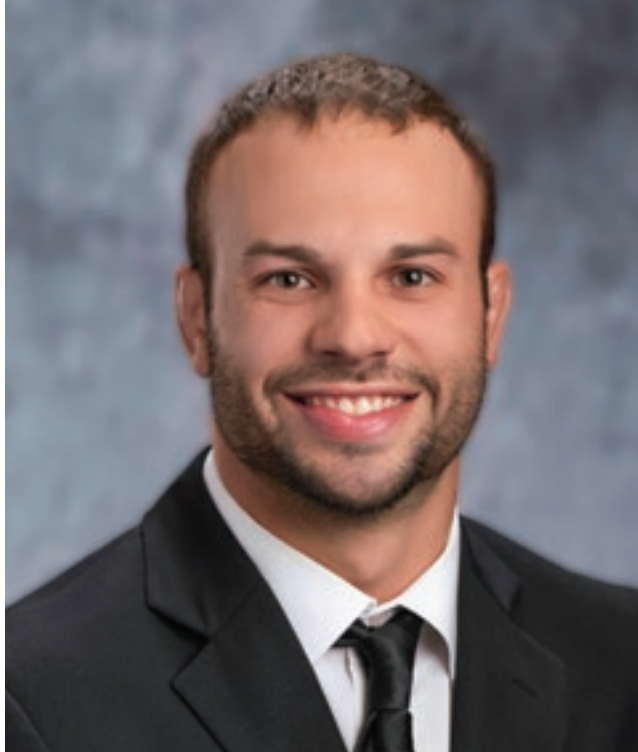
#### ▼ DR. KEVIN HOPPOCK

Dr. Kevin Hoppock is a family physician with Ascension Medical Group who has been recognized extensively for his outstanding work with patients and his leadership in medicine. He has been active in numerous medical organizations at the local, state and national level and has served as president of both the Kansas Medical Society and the Medical Society of Sedgwick County. In 2014, he was named the Kansas Family Physician of the Year by the Kansas Academy of Family Physicians. The Wichita Business Journal included him among their 40 Under 40 list in 2001 and their 40 Under 40 Hall of Fame list in 2015. Dr. Hoppock appeared on the Wichita Business Journal's list as a Health Care Hero in 2012 as a Best Doctor every year since 2009.



Dr. Hoppock actively volunteers with a number of community organizations and serves in leadership of Northridge Friends Church and Evangelical Friends Mission Board. He has served two terms on the Friends University Board of Trustees. The first from 2002 to 2011 and the second from 2013 – 2022, including serving as its Chair from 2019 to 2022. He has a great love for the University and has many family members who have graduated from Friends University.

## INTRODUCING FRIENDS UNIVERSITY NEW ATHLETIC STAFF



### TYLER MIES ►

Tyler Mies serves as the new Men's Wrestling Head Coach for the Falcons. Prior to coming to Friends, Mies was an assistant wrestling coach at Newman University in Wichita for the past four seasons. During his tenure at Newman, Mies has helped mentor four NCAA qualifiers and one All-America performer.

Mies also enjoyed a standout collegiate wrestling career at Newman, where his

accomplishments included high-level honors such as a two-time NCAA D-II All-American (2018, 2019), MIAA Freshman of the Year, Newman Rookie of the Year and Newman Athlete of the Year along with being named the 2019 Kansas Wrestling Coaches Association (KWCA) Senior Collegiate Wrestler of the Year. A testament to his evident leadership skills, Mies served as team captain of the

Newman wrestling team for five seasons.

An entrepreneur, Mies has owned Mies Detailing since 2019 and also served as Owner/COTA for an organization entitled Blue Chip Health Professionals from 2019-2022. Mies graduated from Newman University with a Bachelor of Science in Healthcare Science in 2018 and then earned his MBA in Healthcare Administration from Newman in 2020.



### ◀ TAYLOR STALEY

Taylor is the new Competitive Dance Team Head Coach. Staley is also a dance teacher at Butler Community College and Newton Performing Arts Center. She is a former dance teacher at Brooks Magnet Middle School and a performer with the Wichita Contemporary Dance Theatre. She holds a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Dance from Wichita State University.

## FRIENDS UNIVERSITY WELCOMED FOUR NEW MEMBERS INTO ATHLETICS HALL OF FAME CLASS OF 2023

Friends University announced the four inductees that were chosen to enter the Athletics Hall for Fame. The new members for the class of 2023 are Khadijah Bland, Marcus Carter, Addie Peterson and the 2013 Softball team.



### ▲ **MARCUS CARTER (FOOTBALL)**

The leading tackler in Friends University single-game (23), single-season (149) and career (337) history, Carter is a two-time first-team All-KCAC performer and earned KCAC Player of the Year honors and first-team AFCA/NAIA All-America recognition in 2013.

In addition to being a second-team all-conference choice in 2011, Carter also succeeded in the classroom and earned multiple All-KCAC Academic awards.

Following his stellar career at Friends, Carter competed for the Wichita Force, a professional indoor football team. For the Force, Carter received a Defensive Player of the Week honor during the 2019 season.

### ◀ **KHADIJAH BLAND (SOFTBALL)**

Bland was a two-time NAIA All-America performer, earning second-team honors in 2015 after being an honorable-mention selection for the 2014 season.

A two-time first-team All-KCAC pick, Bland batted .392 and slugged 10 home runs with 57 runs driven in as a sophomore before launching 14 homers and hitting a robust .426 with 48 RBIs and an .881 slugging percentage to be named KCAC Player of the Year during her junior season in 2015. Her home run total tied for 18th in the NAIA that year and she was tied for 13th in slugging. An on-base machine, Bland drew 47 walks as a junior, currently the seventh-highest single-season total in NAIA history.



**ADDIE PETERSEN (VOLLEYBALL) ►**

After earning All-KCAC second-team honors in both the 2008 & 2009 seasons, Petersen broke out in a massive way during her senior campaign and was named both the KCAC Player of the Year and Setter of the Year along with a first-team all-conference nod.

Petersen's massive contributions powered the Falcons to a perfect 18-0 KCAC record and a 32-9 overall mark that resulted in an NAIA National Tournament appearance for the program.

**▲ 2013 SOFTBALL TEAM**

The 2013 Friends University Softball Falcons blitzed through the KCAC season with a perfect 18-0 record and won both the regular season and postseason tournament titles before also winning their first game in the NAIA Opening Round tournament.

The class of the conference, the 2013 squad featured the KCAC Coach of the Year (Tony Segovia), Player of the Year (Cheyenne Stewart), Pitcher of the Year (Kelsey Garner), Newcomer of the Year (Kelli Nicholson) and Freshman of the Year (Courtney Kifer).

The Falcons finished 43-8 overall that season, their most wins in the modern-era and wound up as the No. 23-ranked team nationally in the NAIA Final Top 25 Coaches' poll.

## FOOTBALL FALCONS TOOK THE SEASON TO THE END ZONE

Midway through the season, the Friends University Falcons continued to check off boxes in a landmark season for the program by entering the NAIA Football Coach's Top 25 poll for the first time since the 2015 season. Under head coach Terry Harrison, the Falcons finished the season 9-2, with the most wins since 2008.

Moving the chains to the end of the season, Friends University Football Falcons enjoyed their best season since 2008, and the All-KCAC selections reflected just how special of a year it was. Quarterback K'Vonte Baker was named the KCAC Player of the Year, while 20 Falcons overall received all-conference honors, and senior center Keegan Martin received the prestigious NAIA Rimington Award.

The Falcons went 9-2 and finished the season with 509 points overall, the most scored in team history.





## SOFTBALL FALCONS HIT IT OUT OF THE PARK WITH WINNING SEASON

The Friends University Falcons concluded their 2023 campaign with a 35-12 record, equaling their most wins since the 2016 season. They fought through the loser's bracket with wins over two top-seeded teams but the final game didn't go their way. The 2023 season will be remembered largely for the individual achievements and milestones set, highlighted by Laila Spracklen, the KCAC Pitcher of the Year, setting the school's career modern-era strikeout record.

The Falcons also put nine players on the All-KCAC team, including six first-team selections. Carolyn Dallimore slugged 15 homers, just two shy of the school's modern-era single-season record.

The highly productive trio of Carolyn Dallimore, Laila Spracklen and Priscilla Mora were each named to the National Fastpitch Coaches Association (NFCA) NAIA All-Region III team. Dallimore is a first-team selection at catcher, while Spracklen (pitcher) and Mora (outfield) are second-team honorees for the second straight season. The Falcons were one of only 12 schools to have three representatives on the NFCA NAIA All-Region list.

As a team, the Falcons were all over the board nationally, ranking second in the NAIA with a school record 48 homers and tied for second in RBIs (338), third in runs (367), fourth in on-base-percentage (.427), seventh in slugging percentage (.524) and ninth in hits (474).

## MEN'S GOLF FALCONS CAP SCINTILLATING SEASON AT NAIA CHAMPIONSHIPS

The Friends University Men's Golf Falcons put the finishing touches on a truly remarkable season by competing at the NAIA Championships in the spring of 2023. As a team, the Falcons missed the final cut by just one stroke while freshman Trinton Nobles turned in a solid effort competing as an individual.

The Falcons, in just their second year as a restarted program, advanced to the NAIA Championship round by capturing the KCAC title by a whopping 19 strokes, including Gerardo Alemany winning the individual championship on the second sudden-death playoff hole.



## MEN'S INDOOR TRACK & FIELD FALCONS CAPTURE KCAC CHAMPIONSHIP

The Friends University Men's Indoor Track & Field Falcons brought back a KCAC championship. The Falcon Women also came away with a solid Top-three finish.

On the first day, a sweep of the Men's Long Jump helped the Men's Falcon squad take control. The Pole Vault was a points bonanza for the Falcons, with a PR and championship in addition to third place and two more pole vaulters to round out the top five.

Up next for both teams is the NAIA National Championship meet.





## FRIENDS UNIVERSITY PRESENTED ANNUAL CHRISTMAS CANDLELIGHT CONCERT

It was a joyous time as Friends University Fine Arts hosted the annual Christmas Candlelight Concert at First Presbyterian Church.

Generations of students, faculty and audiences have participated in the candlelight tradition on Friends University's campus however the production this year was moved to the more spacious First Presbyterian Church.

In addition to hearing the traditional renditions by the Friends University Singing Quakers and Concert Choir, concert goers also heard from other groups including Falcon Chorus, Women's Choir, Orchestra, Jazz Band, Jazz Vocal Ensemble, Dancers, and more. Once again, the Friends University Flute Choir provided music from the balcony as they welcomed guests as they arrived.

## DUKE ELLINGTON SACRED CONCERT – A FRIENDS UNIVERSITY FINE ARTS COLLABORATION

Friends University Fine Arts Department hosted a special collaboration with the Singing Quakers, Big Bands and Jazz Vocal Ensemble presenting Duke Ellington's Best of The Sacred Concerts at University Friends Church.

Duke Ellington, America's most prolific composer, embarked on a mission in the latter half of the 1960s to compose a religious concert to synthesize his life experience with faith and share with the world. His first sacred concert premiered in 1965 and was, in his words "successful beyond my wildest dreams." The subsequent success of the work lent its way to opportunities to compose two additional and equally impactful sacred concerts. Ellington's ecumenical perspective on Christianity is on display utilizing his legendary jazz band with a narrator, vocal soloists and a tap dancer.

Friends Fine Arts did not disappoint with a representation of fortitude and togetherness as they hit the road during the renovation of Sebts Auditorium and the Riney Fine Arts Center.





## FRIENDS UNIVERSITY FINE ARTS PRESENTED FOOTLOOSE THE MUSICAL

Friends University Fine Arts department presented Footloose, the Broadway hit musical, live on stage.

Viewers traveled on a journey with a look back in time with the neon colors, bright energy and vibes of the 1980s. Footloose's vibrant score lets the audience jam while celebrating the art of listening to the next generation while

giving them grace and guiding them with a warm heart and open mind.

Just as Ren McCormack was adjusting to a new town, faculty member Joice Henry is also adjusting to her role as Visiting Instructor of Musical Theatre. Footloose was her directorial debut at Friends University Fine Arts.

## FRIENDS UNIVERSITY PERFORMS THE TENDER LAND OPERA



Friends University Fine Arts Department proudly presented Aaron Copland's *The Tender Land* opera in Alumni Auditorium.

The opera is set on a Midwestern farm in the 1930s, told the coming-of-age tale of a young woman on the eve of her high school graduation. The score, full of beautiful music included some of Copland's best-known choral scores, "The Promise of Living" and "Stomp Your Foot."

## DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI RECOGNIZED FOR OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENTS



Distinguished Alumni for Outstanding Achievement in R.I.S.E. Values (Respect, Inclusion, Service and Excellence)

### **ROBERT MINTER**

Robert Minter graduated from Friends University with highest honors in May 1965, with a BS in Math and minors in Political Science and Physics. He was very active at Friends including playing on the football team and serving on the Talisman staff. Robert famously petitioned the then President Dr. Roy Ray for a second walkout after a basketball victory by meeting him at the airport.

After Friends, he graduated from Washburn University School of Law where he received his J.D. Degree in 1968.

After two years of legal practice for other firms, Robert founded his own company, Minter & Pollack, LC., which he has maintained for more than fifty years. His company is known for its excellence and integrity in service to its clients.

He continues to give back to his profession by teaching numerous classes on areas of his expertise. He is a frequent speaker with the National Business Institute on topics including banking, corporate, business matters and related matters and litigation involving the same.

He has given back to his community by serving on many boards. Robert and his wife Karen are busy serving their church community and hosting their famous get togethers at their house.

Robert has been married to his wife for 57 years. The two met while attending Friends University. They have one son, Vincent.



## Distinguished Alumni for Outstanding Achievement in the Fine Arts

### TRACY RESSEGUIE

Tracy Resseguie graduated from Friends University in 1990 with a Bachelor of Music in Music Education. He also holds a Master of Music Education Choral Pedagogy from the University of Kansas.

After college, Tracy was the director of choirs at Shawnee Mission East High School for 12 years and then moved to Staley High School when it opened in 2008. He served as Director of Choral Activities until his retirement in spring of 2023.

Under his direction, the choir at Shawnee Mission East toured internationally three times: Italy, at J. S. Bach Church in Leipzig Germany, and Ireland. Staley Choirs performed in Norway, Ireland, Austria, at Carnegie Hall, and Yardley Hall.

Resseguie was the founder and Creative Director of the World Choral Fest where singers from around the world premiered music from famed composer, Dan Forrest. He conducted choirs at Carnegie Hall, New England Philharmonic, and the Kansas City Wind Symphony. His choir performed the world premiere of Dan Forrest's "Arise, Shine!" and have performed with the Kansas City Symphony.

To give back to the fine arts community in Kansas, Tracy served as the R & S Men's Choir Chair for the Southwest American Choral Director's Association, chaired the Northeast District KMEA, and state ACDA boards.

He often credits Dr. Cecil Riney and his time at Friends University for helping propel him into an amazing career in music education. Tracy resides in Kansas City with his wife, Holly, and four children.

## Distinguished Alumni for Outstanding Christian Leadership and Service

### FERRIL WILLIAMSON

Ferril Williamson graduated from Friends University 1957 with a Bachelor of Arts in Economics while working many jobs to pay for college. While at Friends, he met his wife, Phyllis, and they have been married for 66 years.

After college, he worked as a salesman for various businesses and became a prolific investor. Seeking a warmer climate, Ferril and his family moved to Oklahoma in 1979 while continuing his job as a salesman. While in Oklahoma, where they currently reside, Ferril began investing in numerous ventures including farmland.

Ferril credits his parents who dedicated to Christ and took him and his sister to church every time the doors were open. As a result, he and his sister accepted Christ at a very young age. He believes this is the most important decision anyone can make.

Ferril has been very active in his church and community, serving on various church committees, as leadership in the Gideons International and Lions International organizations, and many other nonprofit advisory boards. Ferril is the epitome of living out the Christian Leadership and Service values.



## FRIENDS UNIVERSITY CELEBRATES COMPLETION OF \$2 MILLION MECHANICAL ENGINEERING AND VISUAL ARTS LABS



Friends University was excited to celebrate with a ribbon cutting event for the completion of a \$2 million addition to the William Penn Science Building which houses two mechanical engineering labs and a visual arts lab.

The project broke ground in February 2023 for mechanical engineering labs that provide state-of-the-art facilities for students to conduct relevant, real-world experiments along with a new

art lab space that visual art students can construct works of art. Designed by Shelden Architecture and built by Hutton Construction, the labs are a great addition to the Friends University campus.

"The mechanical engineering and visual arts programs are exciting places to be at Friends University right now," said Dr. Ken Stoltzfus, vice president of Academic Affairs. "It is an honor to be able to have this dedicated space to further enhance

the educational experience for Friends University art and engineering students as they embark on a transformative education that will equip them to develop the gifts and talents God has given them and then to use those gifts and talents in service to the community and world."

The Friends University mechanical engineering program holds Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology (ABET) accreditation.

*New!*

## *Doctor of Ministry in* Formation & Soul Care

[friends.edu/dmin](https://friends.edu/dmin)

Friends University's first doctoral program seeks to equip Christian practitioners with a comprehensive biblical, theological, and practical paradigm for Christian formation and soul care for a 21st century context. Learn more at [friends.edu/dmin](https://friends.edu/dmin).

## *It's more than* JUST A MUG

Join the Friends University Coffee Club today and support our students and the Falcon Community!

Help us spread the word on social media by posting a picture of your mug with the hashtag

**#FriendsUPerk**

Learn more at [friends.edu/coffeeclub](https://friends.edu/coffeeclub)



# Spring 2024 Class Notes

## IN MEMORY

"In Memory" passages with more details were submitted by family and friends. Information received after Feb. 1, 2024 will be included in the next issue. We reserve the right to edit as space allows.



**WILLIAM "BILL" C. ALLEY, '56**, died Oct. 8. He served as a pastor for over 50 years, was a licensed pilot and enjoyed building model airplanes, drawing and Bible prophecy.

**Fairy Anderson, '68**, died Sept. 7. She was the first African-American female microbiologist in the state of Kansas and an ordained pastor.

**Donald Arnold, '54**, died July 28, 2018. He is remembered for his lifetime of service as an officer in The Salvation Army.

**Lizzie Mae Banks, '05**, died Jan. 26, 2023. She worked at ADT Home Security Systems for over 10 years and was a member of Dellrose United Methodist Church.

**Coeta J. Barbosa, '69**, died March 31, 2023. She was a home economics teacher, dedicated homemaker, enjoyed sewing, crafts, music and loved cats.

**Deba Ann Barker, '94**, died Oct. 4. She was an elementary school librarian for over 25 years for Wichita Public Schools, Girl Scout Cookie leader and a member of the P.E.O. Sisterhood.

**Dale L. Barnes, '73**, died March 1, 2023. He worked at The Boeing Company, The Agency, Inc., Traeger Advertising along with volunteering at Old Cowtown and driving the horse and carriage during Christmas at Bradley Fair.

**Gerald M. Baxter, '63**, died May 18, 2023. He worked at the Marley Company, Duo-Fast Corporation, helped to plant churches, taught Sunday school and was a gifted artist.

**Rev. Dr. James T. Beasley, Jr., '91**, died Oct. 8. He was a professor in the school of social work at Colorado State University, a director of the Council of Aging and accepted the call to Pastor at New Hope Missionary Baptist Church where he served for 18 years.



**BRAD BOLDRIDGE, '09**, died Aug. 31. He worked for Neilsen, Hill's Pet Nutrition, Farmland Foods in addition to spending hours of quality time with his family.

**MARY HELEN BLANKINSHIP, '66**, died Aug. 9. She was a kindergarten teacher, school librarian and an accomplished China painter where she won many Blue ribbons at the Kansas State Fair and was presented with a Governor's Tea Cup award.



**Helen I. Bowser, '55**, died Oct. 23. With a passion for teaching others, she taught music, started a GED program in Holton, Kan. and volunteered with The Literacy Council.

**Joseph "Joe" A. Boyd, '54**, died Aug. 5. He was a teacher and administrator in Kansas public schools for forty years along with being an ordained minister in the Evangelical Friends Church.

**Shirley Lee Hensley Bradford, '50**, died Sept. 23. She was a homemaker, bank teller, high school office administrator, piano teacher and pastor's wife.



**EVA (CLARK) BRIGHTUP, '86**, died May 8 and **ROBERT "LEROY" BRIGHTUP, '58**, died Nov. 15. She worked for many years at Friends University as a key punch clerk and later retired as the planned giving assistant in the Development office. He was recorded as a minister of the Gospel by the Kansas Yearly Meeting of Friends in 1963 in addition to being a longtime Friends University religion and philosophy faculty member and department chair, university registrar, and helped launch the Master of Arts in Christian Ministry program. Both were long time founding members of Northridge Friends Church.

**Richard D. Clark, '56**, died June 3. He retired from 25 years in education where he was a teacher and administrator before purchasing the Powderhorn cabin rentals.

**Georgene Bruner Corbitt, '56**, died August 23, 2022. She was a public school teacher, a Christian education director and an artist.

**JOHN A. COLLEY, '94**, died May 13. He was the head of the English department at Bob Jones University, had a successful career as an agent with New York Life Insurance Company and was a part of many mission trips.



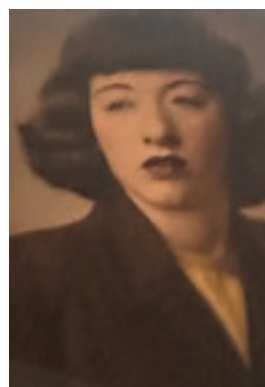
**Byron Jay "BJ" Bradley**, died July 26. He worked in aerospace at The Boeing Company and Spirit Aerosystems, Inc. in addition to an apprenticeship with Blackbear Bosin where he continued to develop his artistry in various mediums.

**James E. Bradley, '95**, died July 21. He served in the U.S. Air Force for 20 years and went on to work at the Boeing Aircraft Company.

**Lila R. Bradley, '98**, died Aug. 10. She worked for BNSF Railway and at SEMCO Energy Gas Company as the vice president of human resources.

**Lawrence A. Brownlee, '95**, died March 11, 2023. He was a handyman and enjoyed spending time outdoors at the lake or snow skiing.

**Mark S. Cannon, '88**, died July 15, 2020. He followed his lifelong passion for education and was a teacher, coach and middle school counselor.



**Dolores "Dee" Mae Howard Connett**, died Sept. 14. She spent her career as a teacher and artist and is best known for the 25 years she spent at Friends University where she served as the Department Chair of Art, Music and Theatre.

**GENEVA ELIZABETH (WEBBER) CARPENTER, '48**, died April 11. She worked in the medical field as a registered technologist, a licensed rehabilitation aide and a physical therapist.

**Harold Couchman**, died July 8. He served in the U.S. Army, built an A&W Drive-in in Larned, Kan., was a carpenter and general contractor and worked in the maintenance department of Friends University until his retirement in 1995.

**Anita "Gayle" Cox**, died Nov. 7. She was an amazing and accomplished pianist, singer, seamstress, cook, decorator, Mary Kay Cosmetics associate, ministered to congregations with her husband and was a longtime Friends University supporter.

**Vanessa (Tilley) Crawford, '96**, died July 25. She worked for the U.S. Postal Service for nearly 20 years and was active in establishing Family Promise of Greater Wichita.



**DELORES DALKE, '62**, died May 12, 2023. She served as the mayor of Hillsboro for 27 years, was President of the Hillsboro Chamber, sat on the Hillsboro City Council, started the Real Estate Center and was a founding member of the Hillsboro Community Foundation.

**Lois (Keenan) Tully-Gerber Daniels, '86**, died June 1. She was a lifelong learner and a technology manager at Kansas Electric Utilities Research Program.

**Ida V. Darnell, '15**, died Jan. 17, 2021. She was a retired x-ray technician manager.



**DAVID DEPEW, '94/'99**, died May 9. He was a valued member of the Friends University Board of Trustees and Alumni Board for many years. David was also a big part of Cessna Aircraft for 39 years before retiring as a Senior Project Engineer.

**Dr. Richard E. Davis, '78**, died July 9, 2020. He was a retired dentist in Kingman, Kan. where he practiced for 42 years and a member of the Kingman United Methodist Church.

**Mark D. Deiter, '86**, died Nov. 25, 2022. He worked in aerospace at Cessna, Beechcraft, Electrex Inc. and loved coaching his son's sports teams.

**Jerry L. "Doc" Dockins, '73**, died June 15. He worked at Aeroquip and loved baseball, fishing and spending time with his grandkids.

**Steve M. Eagan, '99/'01**, died June 21. He worked at Synchrony Financial for many years.

**Jerry L. Elkins, Sr., '95**, died Nov. 15. He served in the U.S. Navy, had a long career in banking, real estate and insurance, and was a talented trumpet player.

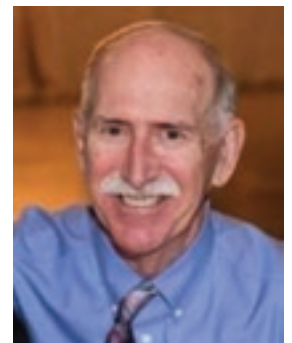
**Cleo Lee Ernst, '59**, died Aug. 18. She was a teacher for over 25 years and a church pianist and organist for over 60 years.



**Hubert E. Faulkner, '88/'90**, died March 8, 2020. He was an air traffic controller, an insurance agent and member of St. Teresa Catholic Church.

**Jean M. Finch, '72**, died March 13, 2023. She attended Seventh Day Adventist Church in Liberal, Kan.

**CHRISTOPHER L. FLATTERY, '77**, died March 24, 2023. He practiced law and was the assistant County Attorney for Pottawatomie County before joining the family business at Ottaway Amusement Company. Chris also coached junior high girls and boys basketball.



**RUTH E. FARMER, '71**, died June 14. She enjoyed raising gold and koi fish, water gardens, flowers, collecting rocks, traveling, painting and making pottery.



**NELDA K. GOODWIN, '65**, died Nov. 2. She was an elementary school teacher at Payne Elementary School for 38 years, an active member of the Northridge Friends Church and a Singing Quaker while she was at Friends University.

**Dale A. Foster, '54**, died Oct. 9. He served in the U.S. Army, worked at Boeing for a number of years and was an avid builder of all things.

**Dennis "Red" Ray Frazier, '79**, died Sept. 6. He served in the U.S. Army, loved watching basketball and football, walking in the morning, jogging, biking and discussing the Lord.

**Joseph A. Fugarino, '90**, died July 30. He started his career in the banking industry and later transitioned to safety and training for School Services and Leasing until his retirement.

**Betty A. Thompson Gordon**, died May 7. She was a high school teacher and retired Friends University education faculty member where she focused on early childhood education.

**Donald L. Govan, '79**, died June 5. He worked at Boeing Aircraft Company before being called to be a pastor and start Grace Bible Chapel. Donald was also a social worker and a faculty member at Tabor College and Kansas State University.

**Karen Greiner (Trantham), '85**, died Jan. 29, 2023. She volunteered with Big Brothers Big Sisters, enjoyed taking trips and scrapbooking.

**Michael W. Griffitt, '07**, died Sept. 17. He served in the U.S. Navy before working in aviation for 28 years at Cessna and Textron.

**Gary Halderman, '04**, died Oct. 17. He worked as an auditor and CFO at numerous hospitals in Kansas along with being involved in many orchestras and marching bands over the years.

**Alan B. Haley, '84**, died April 28, 2023. He served in the U.S. Air Force and retired after 20 years of service.

**Helen Hartshorn, '90**, died June 18. She was a teacher for 30 years in the Wichita area and her greatest enjoyment was participating in activities with her family.

**Richard G. Hatfield, '94**, died Nov. 4. He served on the board at Miltonvale Methodist Church, and enjoyed coaching, sports and spending time with his grandchildren.

**Dr. "B.B." Billy Bob Herndon, '50**, died May 5, 2021 and **Mary Louise "Lou" Herndon, '46**, died Nov. 11, 2018.

**Daniel K. Higbee, '64**, died Aug. 8. He served in the U.S. Navy before working at KG&E. Daniel loved swimming, woodworking and laughing with friends and family.

**Joyce "Maxine" Higgins, '63**, died Aug. 2. She was an accountant, Sunday school teacher and taught English as a second language.



**DAVID H. HOLMES, '18**, died Aug. 5. He worked at Cessna Factory for 26 years, enjoyed cheering for his son at sporting and school events, and was a Dallas Cowboys fan.

**Richard "Dick" Holzrichter**, died May 3. His career in education brought him to Friends University where he taught ethics and later started Hammerz and Holz Handyman Service with his son.

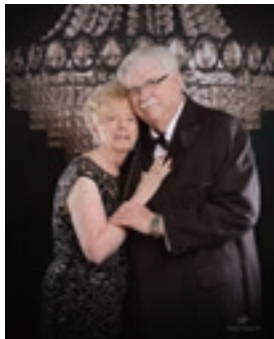


**MARTI GARLETT**, died Oct. 15. She was an associate professor in education at Friends University from 1977 to 1989 in addition to appearing on KAKE television's Romper Room show.

**David Goldberg, '91**, died Nov. 25. He was an elementary school teacher and worked in food service at The Cedars and McPherson College.

**Homer G. Green, '61**, died June 25. He served in the U.S. Air Force and later resided in Texas.

**JAMES E. HULL, '62,** died Sept. 8. He served in various ministry capacities such as a music minister, youth pastor, children's pastor, senior pastor and pioneered Joyful Harvest Church in Topeka, Kan. for 29 years.



**Lila Rae Hulse, '58,** died May 1. She was a secretary and office administrator for her husband's company and a church secretary for many of the churches she attended.



**YOLANDA HUTCHINSON-HENSON, '04/'11,** died July 2. She worked at Four County Mental Health Center, Life Source International Charter School, North Los Angeles County Regional Center along with being a Mary Kay sales consultant.

**Margo U. Imes, '91,** died Nov. 6. She taught junior high English, had two self-published volumes of cowboy poetry, and enjoyed reading, art, music and horses.

**Earlene Jeffery, '56,** died Sept. 18. She was a dedicated surgical nurse, had a passion for missionary work and was a part of the Farmerettes singing choir.



**JAMES E. "JIM" JONES, '98,** died April 18, 2023. He served in the U.S. Air Force for 21 years retiring as a Master Sergeant before he began a career working as a counselor at St. Francis Boys Home.

**David Josefiak, '83,** died May 3. He was a professional organ player most recently at First Presbyterian Church in Wichita, Kan.

**Kathy K. (Steinkuehler) Konrade, '07,** died April 25, 2023. She retired as the Director of Child Nutrition for Dodge City Public Schools after 37 years of service in addition to being the president of Meals on Wheels.



**JOHN S. LAMBROS, '08,** died Nov. 15. He was active in various organizations including Freemasons, Sons of the American Revolution, Arant Shrine and Boy Scouts of America where he achieved Life Scout with Troop 228.



**DERRY A. LARSON,** died May 14, 2023. He founded Larson and Company P.A. serving the Wichita community for 41 years.

**Mary M. Lawson, '56,** died Sept. 27. She was a grade school teacher, sang in her church choirs and was a Singing Quaker while at Friends University.

**Cecil L. Leiby, Jr. '91,** died July 1. He was an Eagle Scout and worked for Household Finance, Singster Apparel, Koch/Multivac and AmerisourceBergen before his retirement.

**Shirley Arrington Leonard,** died Dec. 23, 2022. She worked for the U.S. Federal Government in roles that afforded her to meet and work with several U.S. presidents.

**Robert L. "Goose" Long, '92,** died Aug. 4. Over the years, he worked at Funk Manufacturing, Evans Electric, Logan and Company, and Turnaround Consulting Services.



**KENNETH "KEN" LYGRISSE, '77**, died Sept. 26. He was a lifelong entrepreneur in multi-national farming, residential and commercial construction and sales. Ken also sang with several Christian groups and was a Singing Quaker while at Friends University.

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### HEATHER M. MADSEN, '07

died April 13, 2023. The deepest joy in her life was raising and loving her children.



**Diana R. Manger, '08**, died April 4, 2023. She loved her job as a medical biller/coder and enjoyed spending time with her children, grandchildren and friends.

**Donald M. Maechtlen, '60**, died Oct. 19. He served in the U.S. Army in addition to a 37 year career as a federal revenue agent with the IRS.

**Lucia Gray McFarland**, died July 2. She was a beloved Resident Life Administrative Assistant at Friends University.

**Dr. Laura Moats McLemore, '89/'83**, died July 21. She retired from teaching after 37 years in education where she served as a teacher and principal in Wichita and Hutchinson schools along with being an educator at Newman University.

**Herbert A. Mendenhall, '63**, died Jan. 4, 2023.

**Teresa L. Messner, '94/'82**, died July 13. She was the 1980 Miss Indiana and competed in the Miss America pageant.

**Kenneth B. "Ken" Moore, '10/'94**, died May 26, 2022. He served in the U.S. Army and went on to have a career in law enforcement as a patrol officer, investigator, undersheriff, sheriff, chief of police and Special Agent Army Reserve Criminal Investigation Command (CID). Ken also supported the juvenile court with family therapy and taught criminal justice classes.

### Judy M. (Landers)

**Morissette, '62**, died May 29, 2023. She was a teacher and the highlight of her life was teaching young children about Jesus.

**Donald R. Munson, '61**, died Aug. 9, 2022 and **Abilene Munson, '59**, died June 18, 2023. Donald served in the U.S. Navy before a career in education where he taught and coached middle schoolers. Abilene retired as an elementary teacher after serving Wichita Public Schools for 39 years.

**Beverly Jo Nelson, '69**, died July 5. She lived in Kingman, Kan. where she was a teacher, a member of the First Presbyterian Church and active in the Ladies Quilting Circle.

**Joseph "Joe" T. Pagan, '70**, died Nov. 10. He served in the Army National Guard, worked in construction and was a member of the Laborers' Local 3.

### DEBORAH L. "DEB" PARKER, '06

died Aug. 27. She assisted with job placement and training at Southwest Developmental Services Inc. (SDSI), Garden City Community College and Kansas Works all in Garden City, Kan.



### Kenneth D. Pennington, '49

died Feb. 12, 2023. He served in the U.S. Army and later retired as a vocal professor from the University of Maryland, College Park.

**Floyd S. Pitts, '90**, died July 30. He served in the U.S. Air Force before he was a television repairman, worked at Boeing and opened the successful Pitts Realty.

**Donald D. "Judge" Riggs, '55**, died Sept. 8. He served in the U.S. Army and went on to retire from Cessna Aircraft after 47 years. Don received the title of "Judge Riggs" for his public service as Police Judge and Municipal Judge for Conway Spring, Kan.

**Roger L. Roots, '98**, died April 24, 2023. He served in the U.S. Air Force, was a middle school science teacher for Hutchinson Public Schools, a decorated Eagle Scout and volunteered for the Bureau of Land Management.

**Icel Lee (Richardson) Russell, '61**, died March 30, 2023. She was a teacher for many years for Valley Center Public Schools, a 4-H leader and a member of the Eastern Star.

**Kathy J. Schmid, '08**, died April 19, 2023. She worked at Josten's American Yearbook, Kansas Department of Health and Environment, Kansas Department of Transportation, Juvenile Justice Authority and at Newcomer Funeral Service Group.

**Winthrop B. "Win" Smith, '93**, died April 12, 2023. He retired as a drug and alcohol treatment counselor for over 35 years and was known for his unique fish paintings with human faces.

**Myra B. Sorrell, '05**, died March 30, 2023. She was a retired minister in the United Church of Christ and worked as the Refugee Resettlement Coordinator of North Texas.



**JUDITH L. STARK, '67**, died Oct. 26. She taught special education and Spanish in Wichita Public Schools, had a career in real estate and served children in foster care.

**Arlene L. Stelting, '93**, died Nov. 3. She worked as the payroll accounts manager at Independence Community College for over 25 years, was a foster parent and served her church in various roles.

**William "Bill" Stephens**, died Oct. 23. He was an assistant basketball Coach at Friends University before he went to Southwestern College where he coached basketball and was the athletic director.

**Hazel A. Supri, '58**, died Jan. 30, 2023. She retired as a teacher and went on to work for the Coalition to End Domestic Violence.



**BRENT S. SWAFFORD, '94**, died Aug. 18. He worked for the Kansas Wildlife and Parks Department at the Pratt Fish Hatchery and was a craftsman and artist which led him to start Swafford Knives.

**Donald Thorp, '50**, died March 23, 2023. He served in the U.S. Navy, was a high school teacher, a farmer and rancher, and served on the Southwestern Heights (Kismet-Plains) School Board.

**Raphael Toney**, died Dec. 18, 2022. He was a bank manager, worked at OneEighty and was passionate about teaching God's word to all who would listen.

**Hebert Van Gieson, '54**, died May 2, 2023. He was a conscientious objector serving in Mexico and El Salvador along with serving veterans as a social worker with the Department of Veterans Affairs.

**Dr. Carol Virginia Brown Cline Vaughn, '49**, died May 3, 2023. She was an organist in the church for many years, taught piano lessons and showed hospitality to many, especially missionaries.

**REV. DR. JEROLD "JERRY" W. VOGT, '60**, died May 19, 2023. He was a United Methodist Church pastor for over 60 years who provided leadership to multiple church assignments as the District Superintendent, a mentor to ministerial candidates and helped to found Chapel Hill UMC.





**LOIS IRENE HAWTHORNE WALCOTT, '56**, died July 23. She was a teacher for over 30 years and loved to send cards to family and friends.

**Beverly Ann (Short) Warner, '56**, died July 12. She was a teacher, quilter, baseball fan who always looked for the good in people.

**Lawrence L. "Larry" Warren, '51**, died May 2, 2023. He served in the U.S. Army along with working in education at Wichita Public Schools as a teacher and guidance counselor.

**Sarah Ann Washington, '96**, died May 26, 2023. She was a substitute teacher for Kansas City, Kansas Public Schools, taught piano lessons, worked at Wal-Mart as a customer service manager and served on the board of the trustees for Kansas City Kansas Community College.

**Jerry L. Watters, '69**, died Aug. 2. He served in the U.S. Navy as a member of the USS Newport Navy Band. His love of music led him to serve as a band director in several schools in Kansas and Texas along with being a charter member of The Singing Men of Texas for 48 years.

**Lloyd E. Weishaar, '57**, died Nov. 13. He was a farmer for 67 years, served on the Argonia School Board, was an EMT responder and a Singing Quaker while at Friends University.

**Patrick C. Wilson**, died Aug. 27. His pole vault coaching career began at Southeast High School and Friends University before he spent 16 years at Wichita State University.

**Vincent P. Zabala, '06**, died July 9. He retired from Hill's Pet Nutrition and went on to work at the Walmart Distribution Center as an Environmental Health and Safety Associate.

**CDR ROGER E. ZWEMKE, USNR RET., '96**, died Dec. 25, 2022. He served in the U.S. Air Force, U.S. Marine Corps Reserve and retired from the U.S. Naval Reserve before working at Beech, Cessna and Boeing after 25 years of service.



## CLASS NOTES

**TIM BUCHANAN**, a beloved friend of the University and namesake to the Tim and Gail Buchanan Endowed Chair in Fine Arts, was named a Wichita Business Journal Executive of the Year for 2023.



## 1970s

**KAREN ASKEROTH, '75**, a decorated teacher of the year in several N.D. regions, retired from teaching after 45 years and is now the President of the North Dakota United Retired Teacher and Public Employee Association.





**CRAIG DELONGY, '73**, was named a 2023 MR Award Honoree by MR Magazine for Merchant of the Year: Specialty Store for his store John Craig.

**Grace Fowler, '70**, retired as an Emeritus professor from Palomar College after 20 years of service where she taught graphic arts and music. She spends time playing the oboe and recently relocated to Texas with her husband **James "Jim" Fowler, '70**, who is a Christian writer and conference speaker with 40 books listed on Amazon.

**Morris McCorvey '74**, appeared on the Bartlesville Radio Community Connection KWON to share about the MORRIS MCCORVEY; CREATING LEGACY event.

**Alan Paxson, '76**, retired from Chetopa Public Schools after a 47 year teaching career teaching K-12 vocal and instrumental music. He was also selected by KMEA to receive the Kansas Outstanding Music Teacher Award for 2023.

**George Yoke, '72**, and **Rachel (Pankratz) Yoke, '76**, celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary surrounded by friends and family.

## 1980s

**David Corman, '84**, accepted the position as the Director of Choir and Voice at Kansas Wesleyan University.

**Randy Doerksen, '81**, retired from Meritrust Credit Union where he served as CFO and Senior Vice President. He previously served as the CFO and Vice President at Friends University for 26 years.

**Gary A. Niernberger, '87**, works at Lion Elastomers as the Vice President of Purchasing.

## 1990s

**Cheryl Collins, '91**, was appointed by the Kansas Association of Broadcasters to serve on its Board of Directors.

**Dr. Kayla (Acebo) Hale, '94**, was named the 13th President of the University of Science and Arts of Oklahoma.

**Eric L. Richardson, '99**, published his second book titled "Core Christianity."



**ERIK SMITH, '99**, was appointed to serve as the Kansas Highway Patrol Superintendent.

**Carmen Velazquez, '93**, was approved by the Department of Justice with full accreditation through Catholic Charities to represent clients in Immigration Court.

**Maj. Gen. David A. Weishaar, '93**, retired from the U.S. Air Force after 40 years of service. Most recently he served as the state of Kansas adjutant general.

## 2000s

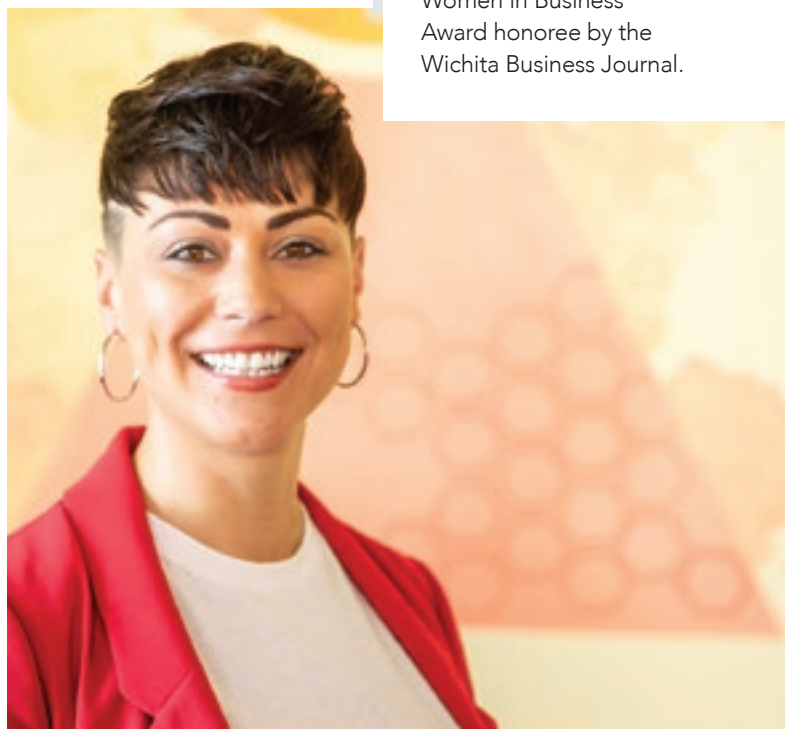
**Dan Carpenter, '04**, was featured in the online publication of the Kansas Academy of Oil Painters.

**Jeff Chaltas, '09**, authored an eBook, "The Dictionary of Human Resources and Employment Law Acronyms."



**KAREN (HOPPOCK) SMITH, '91**, designs sets for local productions and hosted her first art show featuring her watercolor and acrylic paint mediums.

**CASSANDRA BRYAN, '08**, was named a 2023 Women in Business Award honoree by the Wichita Business Journal.



**CODY CLOUD, '09/'19,**

was named a Wichita Business Journal Excellence in Health Care: August 2023 honoree for the work he does in his practice at Adult, Child and Family Counseling.

**Rev. Cindy L. Watson, '81,**

retired from First United Methodist Church as the senior pastor after serving 44 years in ministry.

**Felicia S. Welch, '09,**

received a promotion as the State of Kansas Program Administrator for Employment Services Wichita Program.

**Tina Cox, '09,** was named a 2023 Women in Business Award honoree by the Wichita Business Journal.

**Lewis Dvorkin, '01/'03,** retired and is teaching adult Bible classes and conducts premarital and couple communication classes at Trinity Lutheran Church.

**JESSE HOWES, '05,** was appointed as the warden of the Lansing Correctional Facility.

**BETHANY KENDRICK,**

**'06,** accepted a new position as the Director of Development at St. Pius X Catholic Student Center on the campus of Pittsburg State University.

**Sharee' Madsen, '02,**

accepted a position as the assistant principal at Ponca City High School.

**Gina Poisson, '04,** had a publication in Family Therapy Magazine and was featured in the Oklahoma City Indian Clinic online publication for her work as a medical family therapist.

**Stacie Smith, '05/'08,**

accepted the personal finance instructor position at Trinity Academy.

**Nathan Waters, '06,** is a Regional Account Manager Research, OEM and Pharma at Medline Industries. He is married to Erin (Fisher) Waters, '05 and they are the proud parents to five boys.

**Derek Kreifels, '03,** was appointed to the KPERS Board of Trustees.

**Shanna Legleiter, '03,** was promoted to Chief Human Resources Officer at Kansas State University.

**David Lord, '04,** guitarist, composer and founder of Air House Music, a music academy and recording studio, returned to Wichita to lead Air House Music in person.

**AARON M.**

**WIECHMAN, '01,** was promoted to Senior Vice President and Chief Lending Officer at Farm Credit Bank of Texas.

## 2010s

**Sara (Hayden) Arnberger, '15,** was featured in the Great Bend Tribune for her work as the Great Bend Economic Development President.

**Niki Avery, '10,** accepted the position as the Director of Graduate and International Admissions at the University of Arkansas.



**MIKE CLIFFORD, '11/'14**, has a new role as the Strategy Director at Reverse the Red and also being recognized in the top 50 influencers for zoos and aquariums for 2023.

**Zach Glover, '13**, was recognized by the Construction Financial Management Association - CFMA 2023 Rising Stars list for achieving success and excelling as a construction financial professional before the age of 40.

**Dr. Naomi R. Gregory, '17**, completed her studies at Cleveland University - Kansas City and is a practicing chiropractor in Arizona.

**Alex Haines, '13**, was named CEO at St. Luke Hospital and Living Center in Marion, Kan.

**Cindy Hohl, '13**, was elected as the 2023-2024 president-elect of the American Library Association (ALA).

**Morgan Holick, '16**, accepted the position as the Bible teacher at Trinity Academy.

**Yvonne Hull, '15**, accepted a new position as the Director of Development at Neosho County Community College.

**GABRIELLE JONES, '18**, served as a panelist for the documentary film "The Silent Cries of Unborn Ghetto Children."

**Victoria Kdep, '18**, was named a Wichita Business Journal Young Professional in Financial Services.

**Grayson Lyman, '11**, was named a Wichita Business Journal Young Professional in Financial Services.

**Jeremy William Lyne, '12**, completed his Doctor of Psychology degree at Fuller University.



**DR. REBEKAH MCADAMS, '18**, completed medical school at the University of Kansas School of Medicine and entered her residency at the University of Kansas School of Medicine-Wichita Family Medicine Residency Program at Ascension Via Christi in Wichita, Kan.



**Dr. Alys Otinga, '10/'12/'15**, was a guest on the Kingdom Lessons Release Blessing YouTube show.

**Angela Perez, '12**, and her husband David were married on June 9, 2023 in Wichita, Kan.

**Eileen Price, '19**, was selected as a NextGen Under 30 winner with the Kansas Department of Commerce.

**James Shurts, '18**, was elected to the Board of Directors of the Farm Equipment Manufacturers Association (FEMA). He also serves as the President of the Great Plains Ag Division.

**BLAKE STUCKY, '16**, completed his residency training at the University of Kansas School of Medicine and will be practicing with CHPG Plaza Medical Center in Garden City, Kan.



**RICK VILLARREAL, '17**, accepted a position as the offensive line coach for Alexander High School in Laredo, Texas.



**Jessica Wall, '14**, was promoted to Graphic Design Specialist at IMA Financial Group Inc.

## 2020s

**Samantha Camden, '21**, was named Program Manager for W - A Community of Young Professionals.



**MICHAEL MARX, '20**, was named a Wichita Business Journal Young Professional in Financial Services. He is an investment and planning analyst for The Martin Financial Group

**Tamara J. Steinlage, '20**, accepted a position as the Curriculum Director at Vermillion Public Schools.

**Devin Withrow, '21**, accepted a new role as the operations assistant at BJC (Baptist Joint Committee for Religious Liberty).

## FACULTY/STAFF/BOARD NOTES

**Sean Cash**, assistant professor of Marketing and assistant chair of outreach, was named Chair-Elect for Region 5 of the Accreditation Council for Business Schools and Programs (ACBSP).

**Renee Davison**, accountant, was recognized as a Wichita Business Journal 2023 Women Who Lead In Financial Services.



**BRI BOULANGER, '15**, vice president of advancement and marketing, was named a Wichita Business Journal Class of 2023 Women in Business for her career accomplishments and contributions to the success of other women.

**Jeremy Gallegos**, professor of philosophy and ethics, general assessment coordinator and division chair of theology and humanities, published a paper titled "Hume's Psychology and Artificial Virtues as Applied to Philosophical Practice" in the American Philosophical Practitioners Association Journal, Philosophical

Practice. He also published an article "Faith Education in the Digital Age" in the April 2023 issue of Didaktikos: Journal of Theological Education volume 6, issue 4.

**Stan Harstine**, professor of religion and Douglas Estes, adjunct faculty in religion, released a new podcast called "Conversations in the Gospel of John."



**DR. CHRIS HABBEN**, professor of marriage and family therapy; Kansas City site program director; Kansas City site specialized accreditation and assessment administration, was featured as a guest on the American Association for Marriage and Family Therapy (AAMFT) podcast series number 95 where he talked about addressing spirituality in clinical practice.

**Mike Jaderston**, director of campus ministries and campus pastor, was recognized as a 2023 Young Professionals in Major Companies by the Wichita Business Journal.

**Dr. Keas Keasler**, assistant professor of Christian spiritual formation and program director of Christian spiritual formation, successfully defended his doctoral dissertation along with publishing an extensive review essay of Michael Stewart Robb's recent book *The Kingdom Among Us: The Gospel According to Dallas Willard* in the *Journal of Spiritual Formation and Soul Care*.

**Dr. Chris Kettler**, professor emeritus and theologian in residence, had a published piece titled "Life in the Spirit: Communion with the Vicarious Humanity of Christ" in *Participatio: The Journal of the Thomas F. Torrance Theological Fellowship*, Volume 10, 2022.

**Dr. Shawn Knopp**, assistant professor of music education and band director, successfully defended his doctoral dissertation entitled "Finding the fit: An examination of strategies used in first and second-year beginning band instruction to cultivate a sense of belongingness in students."

**AARON KRONE**, associate professor of art and '07 alumnus, had his piece "Through the Looking Glass" displayed in Times Square in New York City along with being selected to be included in a New York City gallery. He also had an abstract piece published in *ArtAscent Journal*.



**Kassia Krone**, associate professor of composition, was named an honoree by the *Wichita Business Journal* for Women Who Lead in Diversity, Equity and Inclusion.

Head Men's Tennis Coach **Alex Lee** was selected as the first black president of the USTA Missouri Valley Board of Directors. He previously served as the first vice president.

**Dr. Cindy McGilvrey**, Friendship Fields director, accepted the 2023 Diversity and Inclusion Award from the *Wichita Business Journal* on behalf of Friendship Fields.

**Dr. Wendy Mohler-Seib**, assistant professor of theology, successfully defended her PhD thesis "Hearing and Obeying God: Mentoring Teenagers in Practicing the Presence of God."

**Teresa Molina**, assistant professor of Spanish, served as a panelist for the Kansas Multilingualism Summit. Molina also serves as the President of the Wichita Area Sister Cities with Tlalnepantla, Mexico.

**Mickey Shannon**, web developer and '04 alumnus, had a permanent photography exhibit at Exploration Place titled *Kansas Is Beautiful* based upon photos from his book with the same name. His book was also featured in *AAA Magazine* and the *Wichita Eagle*.

**ERIC SANFORD**, university registrar was recognized by the Kansas Association of Collegiate Registrars and Admissions Officers (KACRAO) for serving as the Vice President for Professional Development/New KACRAO Workshop Committee Chair for the 2022-2023 academic year.

**JERRY SMARTT**, professor of Spanish and Director of Foreign Language, was invited to be a member of the Scholarship Selection Committee of the Kansas Hispanic Education and Development Foundation.



**DR. KEN STOLTZFUS**, vice president of Academic Affairs & dean of the faculty, was named a Wichita Business Journal Executive of the Year for 2023.

**Ken Spurgeon**, assistant professor of history, wrote the script for the upcoming movie *Sod and Stubble*, an adaptation of the book with the same name. He will also be serving as the director for the film which was filmed in multiple locations across Kansas.

**Dr. Rebecca Culver-Turner**, associate professor of MFT (Wichita) and Wichita site program director, was published with her

article titled "I was simply trying to make it through the day": A collaborative autoethnography of couple/marriage and family therapy program directors in a diversity and anti-racism

peer consultation group, in the *Family Process* online publication. She also was a guest on the *Studio2501* podcast for HopeNet, Inc. where she shared back to school mental health tips.

**Brent Yoder**, associate vice president of Academic Affairs, received the Magnificent Manager Award for Peer Corps service at the Higher Learning Commission annual conference.



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