

T sagu Today

NEW COLLEGE FINDS A NEW HOME

HAGEE COMMUNICATION CENTER OPENS

ALSO IN THIS ISSUE

A craftsman's art: SAGU receives new Steinway
Music that heals: professor's journey from
a Buddhist home

Homecoming 2013: A photo review
Alumnus records tenth album

The logo for 'The Harvesters Christmas' is rendered in a white, ornate, gothic-style font against a dark purple background. The word 'THE' is small and positioned above 'HARVESTERS'. 'CHRISTMAS' is below 'HARVESTERS'. The letter 'H' is particularly large and decorative, with flourishes extending upwards and to the left. A small, stylized Christmas tree is integrated into the design on the right side, between 'HARVESTERS' and 'CHRISTMAS'.

THE HARVESTERS CHRISTMAS

GET THE CHRISTMAS ALBUM TODAY!
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The background of the 'Campus Days' section is a vibrant, abstract painting. It features bold, expressive brushstrokes in a wide array of colors including red, orange, yellow, green, blue, and purple. On the right side, there is a stylized, abstract face with blue skin and a wide, open mouth, appearing to be part of the overall composition.

CAMPUS DAYS

MAR 20-21, 2014

OCT 30-31, 2014

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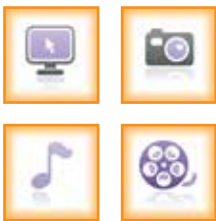
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T^{sagu} Today

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As you read, watch for these icons indicating special content available only online.



16 Hagee Communication Center all-access gala photo gallery

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your moments

Add your info to future editions of SAGU Today. Tell us about marriages, career achievements, additions to your family and more.
sagu.edu/update

About Today Magazine WINTER 2013 · VOL 17 ISSUE 2

SAGU Today is a publication of Southwestern Assemblies of God University, a non-profit institution of higher learning.

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Statement of Purpose: The purpose of Southwestern Assemblies of God University is to prepare undergraduate and graduate students spiritually, academically, professionally and cross-culturally so as to successfully fill evangelistic, missionary and church ministry roles and to provide quality educational and professional Christian service wherever needed throughout the world.



Kermit S. Bridges, D.Min.
President

Join us in this momentous effort

There are still a number of items remaining to complete the new Hagee Communication Center. Will you join us in making SAGU history? The items below are a few examples of where your gift can make a difference.

Visit www.sagu.edu/meetaneed for a full catalog of areas where your large or small gift will make a difference.

President's perspective

Season's greetings! I trust you are enjoying the cooler weather and experiencing a joyful holiday season with family and friends.

Fall 2013 has been a momentous occasion for SAGU. Friends who joined us for Homecoming participated in the first all-access event in the new Hagee Communication Center. The Homecoming Gala allowed Lions the opportunity to see the facilities in action. Students demonstrated green screen in the television/recording studio as alumni watched through the viewing window. Musicians performed on new Steinway grand pianos as guests enjoyed the melodies. Theatre rehearsed for an upcoming Shakespeare performance in the new black box theatre.

Soon, the main performance hall will be utilized for an abundance of live events. And on the arms of many of the chairs in the hall will be plaques in tribute to folks who helped make this extraordinary facility a reality.

We will pay special honors to Dr. John and Diana Hagee on December 11, 2013, for their generous contribution to the communication center. Dr. Hagee has championed this ambitious project since it was little more than a dream and a prayer.

I am pleased to report that SAGU reached a record number of students living on campus during the Fall 2013 semester. The 1,000 students in on-campus housing is not only a record, but it is just 39 beds shy of our maximum capacity. We are already in the planning stages to meet this need and to be in position to accommodate future growth.

If you have been following our SAGU Today magazine consistently, you likely notice that this is the third issue to spotlight one of SAGU's core colleges. We have already published issues highlighting the College of Bible and Church Ministries and the College of Business and Education. In this issue we spotlight the College of Music and Communication Arts. Please take time to read "Lions in the Field" on page 20 to see what young alumni are doing with their degrees from this college.

As you encounter future college students who are pursuing music or communication arts, please encourage them to apply to SAGU. There are abundant opportunities in the field and SAGU now has a variety of remarkable resources to prepare these students to fulfill their callings. ■





Irby McKnight

*Vice President for University
Advancement*

“For God so loved that He gave...”

The heart of God is love. Because of His heart of love, He gives. God gave us His very best – His Son.

At Christmas we celebrate this gift given. Although it's appropriate to exchange gifts at Christmas with family and friends that we love dearly, would it not also be even more important to give back to our Heavenly Father in celebration of His greatest gift?

I have always enjoyed giving to Christ's kingdom on His birthday. I challenge you to decide to give a gift to His kingdom in celebration of Christmas as well.

SAGU is of tremendous importance to the scope of what Christ is doing in His kingdom around the world. **Would you consider giving a remarkable gift to SAGU for Christmas this year?**

At www.sagu.edu/meetaneed, you will find a full catalog of needs that could be given this Christmas. Please take a moment to review and give a gift of love to SAGU to remember the greatest gift of love ever given – Jesus Christ. ■

sagu LECTURE SERIES

Catch all
SAGU Lecture
Series at
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NOW PLAYING - UNEARTHED: A Biblical Archaeology Seminar



**SAGU Lecture Series:
Return To Narnia**



**SAGU Lecture Series:
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UNEARTHED: TOMBS AND ALTARS
MIRACLES: THE AUTHENTICITY OF NEW TESTAMENT ACCOUNTS
PENTECOST IN NORTH TEXAS

sagu 



SAGU offers theatre education EC-12 program

SAGU began offering a Bachelor of Arts in theatre education EC-12 in Fall 2013. The degree meets TEA theatre EC-12, ACSI theatre education EC-12 and ACTS theatre EC-12 certifications.

SAGU College of Music and Communication Arts Dean Del Guynes shares, "This degree will provide greater marketplace opportunities for our graduating theatre students. We will still offer a communication arts - theatre degree,

but if a student wants to pursue a career in theatre, they will have added opportunity to do so by qualifying to teach in the public school system with our theatre education degree."

Core studies of the new program include Fundamentals and Theories of Acting, Advanced Theories of Acting, History of Drama, Directing for Theatre, Oral Interpretative Performance, Drama as Ministry, Drama Group I and II, Music/

Drama Workshop, and Play Production I and II.

Guynes continued, "Hagee Communication Center's new black box theater will make it possible for us to host activities outside of our own theatre program. One possibility is Texas UIL - One ACT workshops and competitions. This would help SAGU become part of the Texas UIL system for participation and placement of university theatre graduates." ■

Board of Regents approves doctoral program proposal

The SAGU Board of Regents approved a proposal to raise SAGU's classification level to offer doctoral programs, the first being a Doctor of Ministry (D.Min.) in leadership and communication. Pending approval from the university's accrediting agency (Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools), SAGU plans to offer courses in Fall 2014.

The Doctor of Ministry in leadership and communication will provide academic, leadership, homiletic, and media instruction to be effective communicators in a media-saturated society. The 30-hour graduate program will offer three hours in fall and spring and six hours in summer to serve students who are actively engaged in ministry. The program will combine online instruction with campus seminars to connect students with top-tier leaders. Prerequisites for admission are a Master of Divinity and three years of full-time ministry. ■





Professor trains chaplains at USARPAC homiletics conference

Associate professor Dr. Jeff Magruder was the keynote trainer and facilitator at a homiletics conference hosted by the U.S. Army Pacific Command (USARPAC) May 16-19 in Oahu, Hawaii. More than 60 military chaplains attended the training event.

USARPAC Chaplain (Colonel) Dugal

said, "Over the past decade our chaplains have been in the trenches nurturing the living, caring for the wounded, and honoring our fallen. Their pulpit skills deteriorated along the way. Dr. Magruder was a tremendous help in preparing us to return to our chapel and pulpit ministries."

Nelson de Freitas selected as Director of World Ministries

During Summer 2013, SAGU announced Nelson de Freitas as the Director of World Ministries.

SAGU President Kermit Bridges shared, "The administration considered several excellent candidates throughout this process. Following the interview with current World Ministries Director Chad Germany, it was clear that God was leading the de Freitas family to SAGU."

De Freitas earned an Associate of Arts in computer science from St. Petersburg, Fla., and graduated from Southeastern University in Lakeland, Fla., with a Bachelor of Arts in pastoral ministries.

In 1989, the AG Peninsular Florida District ordained de Freitas, and in 1991 he became an Assemblies of God missionary. He graduated from CINCEL Spanish Language School in 1993. Since 2007, de Freitas has been



attending AGTS (Springfield, Mo.) through the Costa Rica Study Center.

De Freitas has served as advisor to the Dominican Republic National Missions Department (NMD), co-director of King's Castle Children's Ministries (KCCM) for the Dominican Republic, and co-director of the Dominican Missions Bible Institute. De Freitas is also the founder and developer of CIMA del Rey, the Caribbean Institute for Missions Advancement. ■

SAGU alumnus runs 26.2 miles for Boston

On April 18, alumnus Samuel Cabrera ran 26.2 miles in honor of the victims and families affected by the April 15 Boston marathon bombings.

Cabrera ran down Dale Mabry Highway in Tampa Bay, Florida, carrying an American Flag and wearing a shirt that read "Beep for Boston." In a record-breaking 92 degrees, Cabrera ran for seven hours, 32 minutes, and 54 seconds.

Cabrera said, "By running I wanted to create an awareness towards how precious life is, and how we sometimes take it for granted."

He continued, "That was the first time I had ever run more than eight miles. I was in so much pain, but I thought to myself that the pain I was experiencing is nothing compared to the physical and emotional pain the city of Boston and the entire nation is enduring."

Cabrera does not have direct relations to anyone in Boston. But after the tragic events, he felt compelled to finish the race that others were not able to. His inspirational act caught the attention of ABC News and Fox News in Tampa.

Cabrera graduated SAGU in 2011 with a Bachelor of Arts in sports management and an Associate of Arts in Bible. He is studying to become a certified trainer so that he can launch his own fitness organization. ■

SAGU recognized as Military Friendly School

SAGU was again recognized as a Military Friendly School® by Victory Media, the premier media entity for military personnel transitioning into civilian life. This marks the second consecutive year that SAGU received the honor. The 2014 Military Friendly Schools® list honors the top 20 percent of colleges, universities and trade schools in the country that are doing the most to embrace America's military service members, veterans, and spouses as students and ensure their success on campus. ■

Ancient studies students uncover Philistine fragment

On July 12, 2013, SAGU students Kristen Flake and Joseph Palacio uncovered a Philistine pottery fragment at the Tell es-Safi excavation site in Israel. The SAGU team, led by SAGU adjunct instructor and Penn State doctoral candidate Eric Welch, spent four weeks at the excavation site along with over 100 other volunteers from around the world. An exhibit of the 2013 excavation is on display in the newly renovated Ellis Archive Center.

SAGU junior and ancient studies major Kristen Flake says, "To be able to take what I've learned in the classroom at SAGU and then actually practice it in a hands-on environment was priceless. I also had the opportunity to learn one-on-one from some of the best archaeologists and biblical scholars from around the world."

In July 2013, previous to taking the trip, Flake and Palacio earned credit hours from SAGU while taking "History and Material Culture of the Biblical World," an intensive, hands-on course. They learned the basic skills of archaeological excavation and documentation during the day and participated in lectures and field trips

in the evenings.

The SAGU team excavated the massive city wall, which is approximately 4,500 years old. "The wall was built before most of biblical history but had a very long lifespan. It may even be a part of the fortification system that King Uzziah is credited with breaking through in 2 Chronicles 26:6," says SAGU instructor Eric Welch.

Most scholars identify Tell es-Safi, located approximately halfway between the Israeli cities of Jerusalem and Ashkelon, as biblical Gath. Gath was the hometown of Goliath, the famous Philistine champion defeated by David, who became king of Israel. Achish, king of Gath, also played an important role in David's life.

Welch, who now serves on the senior staff of the excavation, has been back to Tell el-Safi every year since his first trip to the Tell in 2006. Welch says, "I have a passion for biblical archaeology and seeing others experience it first-hand."

Plans are already underway for a SAGU team to return to Tell es-Safi in 2014. ■



Alumna Karina White named Teacher of the Year

Faculty and staff at Finley Junior High School in Waxahachie, Texas, selected alumna Karina White as the 2013 Teacher of the Year.

White says, "I have desired to teach since childhood. I enjoy showing students how to become better communicators and better writers. I love teaching at the junior high level. I can't see myself teaching anything or anyone else."

Teacher of the Year is awarded annually to a Finley Junior High teacher who stands

out for excellence. Faculty and staff nominate teachers and vote on the nominees. Each year, a Secondary Teacher of the Year is chosen from the Waxahachie Independent School District's (WISD) secondary school Teacher of the Year award recipients.

White has taught at Finley for 13 years. She began teaching at Finley as a technology teacher in Fall 2000 upon graduating from SAGU. She now teaches seventh and eighth grade English. ■

National merit scholars choose SAGU

National Merit Finalist Lucy Soerens and National Commended Merit Scholar/ National Achievement Scholar Angela Antoine began attending SAGU in Fall 2013.

Angela Antoine graduated from Victory Baptist Academy in Weatherford, Texas, with a 4.22 GPA. She earned a 208 (equivalent to 2080) on her PSAT and a 2300 on her SAT. She is a 2013 National Commended Merit Scholar and was one of 800 in the U.S. to earn the National Achievement Scholarship awarded to outstanding Black American high school students.

Antoine wanted to find a Christian college close to home. She decided to attend SAGU after attending a chapel service during Camp-U. She is double majoring in communication arts and music ministry and minor in creative writing.

She plays piano, cello, and violin and hopes to join one of SAGU's traveling music groups during college. After she graduates college she intends to enter journalism/radio journalism or public relations and become a worship leader.

Lucy Soerens graduated sixth out of 592 students from Belton High School in Belton,

Texas. Soerens earned a 218 (equivalent to a 2180) on her PSAT and a 2110 on her SAT. She is a 2013 National Merit Finalist.

Soerens has been visiting the SAGU campus for North Texas Fine Arts since she was in middle school. She decided to attend SAGU because of its reputable music program and All-Steinway status. She is majoring in music education with a specialization in piano and minor in digital media arts.

The National Merit® Scholarship Program is an academic competition for recognition and scholarships that began in 1955. High school students enter the National Merit Program by taking the Preliminary SAT/ National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test—a test which serves as an initial screen of approximately 1.5 million entrants in the U.S. each year – and by meeting published program entry/participation requirements.

Of the 1.5 million entrants, 50,000 with the highest PSAT/NMSQT® qualify for recognition in the National Merit® Scholarship Program. About 15,000 semifinalists are notified that they have advanced to finalist standing. ■

Criminal Justice offers crime scene training



SAGU Criminal Justice enhances students' academic experience by teaching how to properly process crime scenes in professor Bruce Stayments's Criminal Investigations course. Through the course lab, SAGU students learn how to collect, preserve, package, transport, and document physical evidence left at a crime scene.

SAGU professor Bruce Stayments explained, "Criminal justice is a hands-on, people-oriented opportunity. It is necessary to give the students a realistic look and experience at what we are talking about in the theoretical. Hands-on learning is vital in criminal justice, and I think it is one of the best ways to learn."

Criminal Justice student Jose Hernandez said, "Being in a Christian environment is an added bonus – the professors really care about your education and future. Professor Stayments is great at what he does and his experience and wisdom is so helpful. The demonstrations we conduct help tremendously in understanding the classroom material."

In Stayments's four years at SAGU, the program has doubled in size and regularly partners with the Waxahachie community by networking with different law enforcement agencies, correctional institutes, victim service organizations, and probation offices. ■



National Merit Finalist Lucy Soerens (left) and National Commended Merit Scholar/ National Achievement Scholar Angela Antoine (right)



Student film 'Under the Sun' premieres on national television

Student film "Under the Sun" premiered on NRB-TV network's DirecTV, Sky Angel, ROKU, and other affiliates on Saturday, June 22 to a potential 32 million viewers from across the nation.

SAGU assistant professor and "Under the Sun" executive producer Rob Price says, "Since 2008, the network has shown all our award-winning student productions, including 'Breaking News,' 'Murdoch,' and 'To Every Nation: The Mission TEN Documentary.'" He continued, "The exhibition window of broadcast television is exciting and positive news for SAGU's expanding Digital Media Arts program."

"Under the Sun" was written by SAGU senior Taylor Johnson and directed by 2012 graduate Krystle Sonmore. Previous SAGU student films have received a number of awards. The team for "Murdoch" received three awards at the WorldFest Film Festival in Houston, Texas. The film won a Gold Award (2nd place) for all Short Film Cinematography and two Platinum Awards (1st place) for Short Film Editing and Short Film Screenwriting. ■

SAGU literacy program celebrates 10th anniversary



The SAGU/Shackelford Literacy Lab celebrates its tenth anniversary this year. Senior-level elementary education majors from SAGU provide literacy support

and instruction for students grades K-2 at Shackelford Elementary School of the Waxahachie Independent School District.

SAGU assistant professor Paula Manley shared, "The program gives elementary education majors an opportunity to plan and implement instruction in a supervised setting while providing literacy enrichment activities in students' small groups."

The SAGU/Shackelford Literacy Lab program began in Fall 2002. Since launch, approximately 180 SAGU students have participated in the program, serving more than 500 elementary students. ■

Volleyball qualifies for NCCAA Central Regional Championship in challenging conference

SAGU volleyball qualified to compete in the National Christian College Athletic Association (NCCAA) Central Regional Championship in Bethany, Oklahoma.

The team has won honors from the Sooner Athletic Conference (SAC), one of the toughest National Athletic Intercollegiate Association (NAIA) divisions – a conference that has produced 32 national tournament teams in the last eight years.

Founded in 1978, the current membership of the Sooner Athletic Conference consists of Oklahoma Baptist University, the University of Science and Arts of Oklahoma, John Brown University, Oklahoma City University, Wayland Baptist University, St. Gregory's University, and Mid-America Christian University. ■





Football Lions make history with 4-win streak, winning record

The SAGU football team concluded their season at home with a riveting win over #24 ranked Bacone College. In the final seconds of the game, the Lions clinched a come-from-behind victory that gave the team their first-ever 6-4 record on the heels of making history with a first-ever winning season. After beginning the season 0-2, the Lions won six of their last eight games.

SAGU Head Coach and Athletic

Director Jesse Godding said, "I am very proud of how this team fought back from a 2-4 start. We had some great senior leadership that continued to give effort and pursue greatness physically and spiritually."

Godding has advanced the program in recent years with three four-win seasons. With only six seniors graduating, the team is young and the future continues to look bright for the program. ■

Local soldier signs with cross-country

Specialist Brad Beimler, a 91st Bravo wheeled vehicle mechanic, enlisted in the Army Reserves at the beginning of his senior year of high school in 2011. He joined the Army with hopes of becoming an Army Ranger. After retirement he wanted to become a Texas Ranger. But, while touring with Foundations of Life Assembly of God his senior year, he felt a call to music ministry – and a desire to attend SAGU.

During high school, Beimler was awarded the Indians' Runner of the Year trophy. Running track and cross-country in high school prepared him for basic training. During his training, he was recognized for the highest PT in AIT. He was also the Future Soldier of the Quarter, Soldier of the Cycle and was awarded the Army Achievement Medal.

SAGU Cross-country Coach Jason Covarrubias contacted Beimler soon after the university launched its new cross country program. Beimler was the first to sign to the new team. ■



SAGU hires head baseball coach



SAGU hired Sam Blackmon as the new head coach of the baseball program. Blackmon's arrival comes as SAGU joins the Sooner Athletic Conference, the premier league in the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA).

"Our goal was to find an individual who could stand up to the task ahead, provide mature, proven baseball leadership, and demonstrate spiritual guidance for players in previous coaching experiences," shared SAGU Athletic Director Jesse Godding.

Blackmon was the coach of East Texas Baptist University's baseball team from 2006 - 2012 and University of Dallas from 2001-2005. Blackmon's Crusaders teams were nationally ranked during the 2002 and 2003 seasons. Blackmon coached for 10 years at four high schools. During this time, his teams won nine district titles and advanced to three state tournaments. He was named District Coach of the Year in seven of ten seasons. His combined career won-lost-tied record as a head coach is 375-280-3 (.570). ■



A Craftsman's Art

She was created to play. Trained by skilled musicians, she had a refined and crafted sound. After a year of preparation, she was ready to be heard – every note perfect, every movement with emotion.

In a world of mass production, Steinway & Sons takes pride in the antiquity of craftsmanship – building pianos the same way they were made more than 100 years ago. Each piece is hand crafted and finely tuned, giving each its own personality and unique sound.

From the drying of the wood to final inspection, each grand piano takes a year to build. Four hundred and fifty craftsmen install more than 12,000 parts and spend countless hours fine-tuning. The action for a single key is made of more than 57 individual parts.

The rim, constructed from hard rock maple, is shaped by hand and set in the conditioning room to rest for the next stage of construction. If the wood does not

set correctly, the rim may not be able to withstand the 20 tons of string tension. Each wooden piece that is added to the rim is hand scraped by hundreds of carpenters. Steinway uses seven types of wood for more than 20 piano pieces to ensure durability, stability, amplification, flexibility and shape retention.

Once the frame is completed, the Sitka spruce soundboard is custom cut and fit to the case, and then removed and placed in the conditioning room. After ten weeks, the soundboard is sealed and glued to the top of the inner rim.

Craftsmen begin the arduous task of plate fitting. The plate flange supports 45,300 pounds of string tension. Maple dowels are drilled into the soundboard to hold the plate. The plate is hoisted until it is at the precise height or bearing. Once the

In 1974 Charles purchased a Steinway grand piano. He continued playing the piano until the end of his life... After hearing that SAGU was an All-Steinway institution, he left SAGU his 1970s Model L Grand Piano.

plate's bearing is perfect, it is anchored.

After plate fitting, stringing begins. Each string must have precise pressure and height above the plate to strike a correct sound when the hammer hits the string. Hammer and keys are installed. Lastly, the piano is brought up to pitch, pre-tuned and fine-tuned. Steinway is the last piano company in the world to still use aural tuning.

If imperfections are found in the piano once it makes it to the first floor of the factory, it is scrapped. While factory-produced piano companies may build 100 pianos a day, the New York Factory averages 4.

Steinways are a favorite among jazz performers like Harry Connick Jr., Diana Krall, and Jason Moran; world-renowned classical pianist Lang Lang; and Grammy award-winning singer-songwriter and composer Billy Joel.

SAGU is one of a small number of All-Steinway schools in the world – a distinction already garnering attention. The honor in particular captured the attention of Charles William Schisler.

Charles Schisler was born into a musical



family in 1916, in Macomb, Illinois, to Glen and Hattie Schisler. His father owned a music store and taught music. Charles' father taught him to play the baritone, trumpet, organ and piano.

After graduating from high school Charles studied radio and television at the National Radio Institute in Washington, D.C., and at Johns Hopkins in Baltimore.

He then went into business with his father when the family moved to Orlando, Florida, and opened a music and radio business.

Charles played trumpet in a Big Band while working in Long Island, New York, and during college played baritone horn for the University of

Florida Concert Band.

Charles received his BSE and MSE from the University of Florida. He had almost finished his Ph.D. in bio-medical engineering at Duke University when Martin Marietta asked him to return to work. At Martin Marietta he was an electronic and microwave design engineer. He worked on the Pershing Missile System and designed electronics for several radar/missile guidance systems. During his engineering career Charles also worked on radar systems for Sperry Gyroscope Company, RCA (Radar Systems Group), and Lockheed

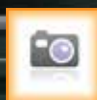
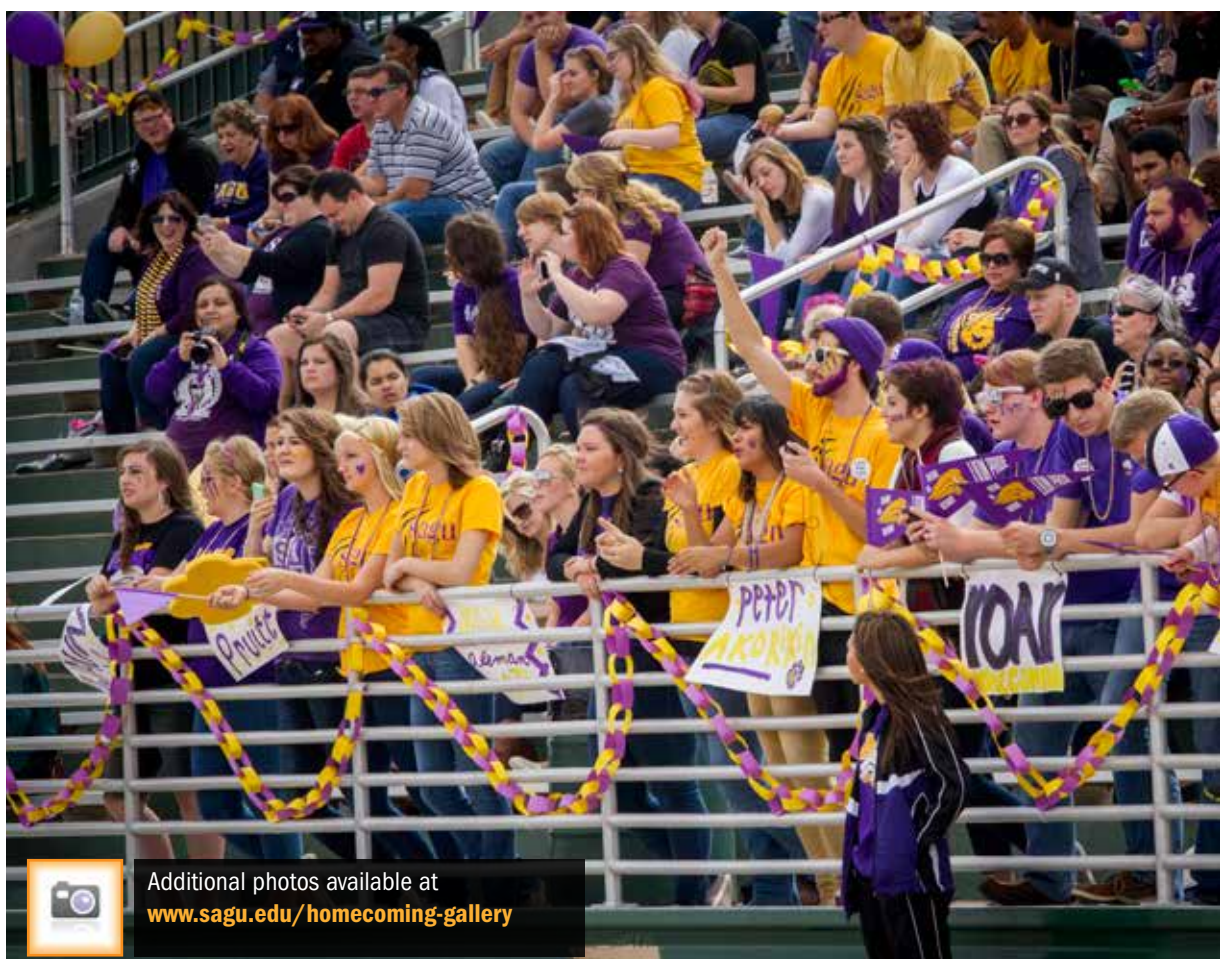
Corporation. At Radiation, Inc. he designed and planned an instrumentation and control system for the US Air Force drone aircraft used in nuclear tests.

In 1974 Charles purchased a Steinway grand piano. He continued playing the piano until the end of his life. Visitors to his cottage at The Pines retirement community were often serenaded as he played his Steinway.

In his later years Charles decided to use the profits from his investments to spread the Gospel. He partnered with several Christian ministries, primarily the Assemblies of God. Upon hearing that SAGU was an All-Steinway institution, he gifted SAGU his 1970s Model L Piano.

Charles was 96 when he passed away on April 30, 2013. Friends and family noted that he had a keen mind and quick wit. He enjoyed keeping up with his investments on the computer and exercising on his trampoline and treadmill. Charles was an accomplished musician, engineer and real estate developer. But, what meant the most to this generous and humble man, was his relationship with God. ■





Additional photos available at
www.sagu.edu/homecoming-gallery

Join us next year!

October 16-18, 2014





2013 Alumni Award Recipients



Alletha M. Barnett
Honorary Alumnus Award



Clayton Brooks
Young Alumni Award



Douglas E. Fulenwider
**P.C. Nelson Distinguished
Alumnus of the Year**



Diane Lewis
Distinguished Faculty Award



**Garland and Rebecca
Walker**
**Distinguished Alumnus
Service Award**



**Dr. Paul and Patricia
Brooks**
Honorary Alumnus Award



Krystle Sonmore
Young Alumni Award



Rev. C. Lawrence Barnett
**Distinguished Alumnus
Service Award**



1



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9



8

HAGEE COMMUNICATION CENTER CELEBRATION GALA

During Homecoming, alumni and friends received an all-access tour of the new Hagee Communication Center that opened for classes this fall. Completion work toward the black box theatre and new performance auditorium continued into December 2013.

- 1 Students utilize the green screen for broadcast in the new broadcast studio.
- 2 Alumni and friends gather in the 2-story atrium of the HCC.
- 3 Chorale practices in an upstairs rehearsal room.
- 4 Theatre students rehearse for Shakespeare in the black box theatre.

- 5 Alumni enjoy food stations throughout the Hagee Communication Center.
- 6 SAGU jazz band performs classic hits in one of the SAGU rehearsal halls.
- 7 An ice sculpture identifies the seafood spread.
- 8 President Bridges addresses attendees in the nearly completed performance hall.



7



6



CHRONOLOGY OF CONSTRUCTION



3



MAY 2012



4



NOVEMBER 2012



MARCH 2013



5



SEPTEMBER 2013

MUSIC

that **H&A**LS



"Don't let that Jesus culture brainwash you," Amanda's father spouted off as she closed the car door and walked into church.

Amanda Lee-Hing was born in Ipoh, a city 125 miles north of Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. She was raised in a large Buddhist family that regularly attended ritual ceremonies at the temple.

"My family was very superstitious. If I were to fall ill and did not get healed after consulting with physicians, I was often taken to temples to seek healing from their gods and goddesses through a medium," she recalled. "I remember drinking water filled with ashes burned from written charm. I was banned from attending certain occasions such as birthdays or weddings to avoid illnesses. All of these triggered lots of confusion, fear and nightmares."

At 10 years of age, her parents were separated and she lived with her mother and two younger siblings. As the oldest child, she felt compelled to carry the responsibility of being the head of the family should anything happened to her mother. She began seeking hope, peace and strength. A friend suggested to her mother that she bring the family to church. After one visit, her family decided that the church was too far away. Amanda wanted to return, but had no means to do so. Two years later, she encountered a Chinese book titled "The Life of Jesus" in her school library. She was intrigued by what she read and decided to ask a Christian classmate to bring her to church the following Sunday. Soon after, she accepted Jesus.

"Nothing is like peace from heaven. I remember walking into the church that Sunday. It brought an immediate sense of peace and purpose that I will not forget.

I was simply soaked with tears during the worship session. Every week without fail, I would walk into the church library and borrow a cassette of praise songs to bring home with me."

During her first year of college at Sedaya College, now University-College Sedaya International, in Malaysia, Lee-Hing began attending Calvary Church – an Assemblies of God church planted by SAGU President Emeritus Delmer Guynes and his late wife Eleanor in 1958. She came to the US as a junior in college in 1998 after to West Virginia University (WVU).

Malaysia was limited in universities with music programs. After a couple of years studying music at Sedaya, Lee-Hing needed more exposure. While she could have chosen a school in Europe, she wanted to learn more about 20th century music from the U.S.

She began playing piano when she was five years old.

She shared, "God gave me the vision to teach college level music and to use music to reach the lost. I am so passionate about the piano. The piano is the orchestra of all other instruments.

When you are composing, piano is the instrument that has the capability to produce both melodies and harmonies. When you are reading an open choir score or an orchestral score, with no access to the digital file, piano is the instrument that would give you the sound of all voices and instrumental parts."

"Music is a universal language. Music has been used in occasions such as worship, celebrations, wars and funerals. It has also

been widely used in therapies to calm anxiety, stimulate learning experiences, [and cope] with physical pain or emotional stress. When people ask, 'What kind of doctor are you?' I say, 'I am a doctor who could possibly heal your emotions through the use of music.'

About teaching at SAGU, Lee-Hing shared, "SAGU is like my family. It has been such a great privilege to teach with so many great professors. Since my son was born in 2010, I have had three post-pregnancy related surgeries. I will never forget how the administrators, faculty, staff and students covered me in prayer."

Lee-Hing is a recipient of numerous

awards and scholarships, including the 1998 WVU Performance Grant Award, 2000 WVU Outstanding Senior, 2001 WVU Young Artist Concerto Competition Winner and 2nd place

"Music is a universal language. Music has been used in occasions such as worship, celebration, wars and funerals. It has also been widely used in therapies to calm anxiety, stimulate learning experiences, [and cope] with physical pain or emotional stress."

in 2000 West Virginia Music Teachers National Association (MTNA) Young Artist Performance Competition.

During graduate studies, the Philanthropic Educational Organization Foundation of Des Moines, Iowa, granted her the International Peace Scholarship. She was also granted the Music Teachers National Association Student's Achievement Award. In 2003, she was named West Virginia



University's Chancellor's Scholar and Southern Regional Education Board Doctoral Scholar. In addition, she was selected as winner of 2007 PianoTexas International Academy and Festival Teachers Concerto Competition (in collaboration with Van Cliburn Foundation and Fort Worth Symphony Orchestra).

She has performed in the West Virginia State Chapter P.E.O. Sisterhood 42nd Annual Convention, West Virginia Public Theatre musical performances, Make-A-Wish Foundation of Northern West Virginia fundraising event, Young Artists Recital of the 2004 Las Vegas Summer Music Festival, and Teacher Recitals of the 2006 and 2007 Piano Texas International Academy and Festival. Solo appearances include performances with WVU Symphony Orchestra and Chamber Winds, as well as the Fort Worth Symphony Orchestra.

Amanda Lee-Hing received a Bachelor of Music, Master of Music, and Doctorate of Music in Piano Performance. Dr. Lee-Hing is an associate professor and Coordinator of Piano Studies, as well as faculty adviser for SAGU's Collegiate Chapter of MTNA (recipient of 2013 Benjamin Whitten Collegiate Chapter of the Year award). She is the Student Affiliate Chairman for Arlington Music Teachers Association. She was on the faculties of Washington and Jefferson College (Pennsylvania), Glenville State College (West Virginia), and WVU Community Music Program. She now lives in Grand Prairie, Texas, with her husband, Caleb, and her son, Ian. They attend Christ Church Assembly of God, Fort Worth. ■



After a solo album and nine live worship recordings, alumnus and The Oaks Fellowship (Red Oak, Texas) Worship Pastor Clayton Brooks collaborated on the Influence Resources album "One, A Worship Collective: We Believe."

In 2012, The AG Director of Strategic Relations and Oaks Fellowship congregant Justin Lathrop met Integrity Music Vice President Craig Dunnagan. Dunnagan shared with Justin Integrity's vision to create a series of projects that showcased each Christian denomination and demonstrated what God was doing in the American Church. Lathrop shared, "I suggested that they start with the Assemblies of God and they jumped on board. Naturally, I wanted my home church worship pastor Clayton to be a part. We wanted one worship pastor from each side of the US."

Brooks was asked to help write and record the Assemblies of God's first collaborative album to be released August 6, 2013. The album soon topped the

iTunes Christian and Gospel charts.

In addition to Clayton Brooks, the album features Kurtis Parks, worship director at National Community Church (Washington, D.C.), and Ryan Williams, lead worship and creative arts pastor at River Valley Church (Apple Valley, Minn.). Together, the men wrote three of the songs on the album including "We Believe" and "To Honor You."

Brooks shared, "It took about a year to write and record the album... The theme of this project has been Psalm 133 where the Lord blesses God's people to live together in unity. It was a privilege to be a part of 'We Believe' and promote unity among the Church."

The album was recorded at SAGU in March 2013 during the Seven:Fourteen Prayer Conference. The group also led worship at the Assemblies of God 2013 General Council in Orlando, Florida.

Brooks joined The Oaks' worship team in 1999 under SAGU's Worship Director

Rachel Hunter. In 2008, he was asked to become the full-time worship pastor.

He shared, "As the worship pastor at the Oaks, my focus is submitting to my pastor's vision for our church." He continued, "There is a huge difference between 'worship leader' and 'worship pastor.' A worship leader can travel and lead worship at different venues. For me, worship pastor is about more than just getting the congregation to sing. It's about being concerned about how they are doing and living on a daily basis."

Brooks graduated from SAGU with a Bachelor of Arts in church ministries in 2003. He has been the worship pastor of the Oaks Fellowship in Red Oak, Texas, since 2008. He also oversees The Oaks School of Leadership's worship internships.

Clayton is married to Andrea and they have three sons: Connor, Cayden and Asher. ■

Purchase the album at
www.sagu.edu/one



LIONS IN THE FIELD



Videographer/Graphic Designer
Glad Tidings Assemblies of God (Austin, Texas)/ MichaelBellFilms
B.A., media ministries, 2013

Michael creates digital media content for sermon series, events, ministries and promotional materials for GTAustin. He has had the opportunity to travel around the world to work for non-profit organizations and evangelists.



Assistant Media Director
Legacy Church (Albuquerque, NM)
B.A., communication arts - digital media arts; A.A., Bible, 2012

As the assistant media director for Legacy Church, Britta Brunet produces all weekly testimony and specialty videos and is one of the main graphic designers. She is also a member of Legacy's creative team.



BENJAMIN ROYBAL

Production Assistant

*ABC Entertainment Marketing
(Los Angeles, Calif.)
B.A., communications arts - digital media
arts, 2013*

Benjamin helps with promotion, integrated marketing, and pro-mercerial advertisement for ABC. He prepares all necessary material and coordinates talent for projects. He is the liaison between third-party production companies and ABC.



DANIEL DE LOS REYES

Media Director

*Northplace Church (Sachse, Texas)
B.A., communications arts - digital media
arts, 2011*

Daniel is the technical producer for all four Sunday services and the Wednesday youth service. Daniel coordinates, trains and recruits media volunteers and produces videos and online content.



BIANCA ALARCON

Assistant Producer

*ABC 7 Windy City Live (Chicago, IL)
B.A., communication arts - digital media
arts, 2012*

After an internship at ABC Channel 7 News, Bianca was hired as an assistant to one of Windy City Live's co-hosts and social media producers. She assistant-produces and coordinates all of the show's social media sites.



DAVID CROWSON

Worship & Creative Arts Pastor

*LifePointe Fellowship (Pearland, Texas)
B.S., church music; A.A., communication
arts, 2007*

In addition to his worship leading responsibilities, David manages LifePointe's video production, graphic design, marketing, website, and print materials. On Sunday mornings he oversees audio, video presentation and recording, and online streaming.



AMBER PEREZ

Music Teacher

*LaRue Miller Elementary
(Midlothian, Texas)
B.A., music education, 2010;
M.A., music education, University of Texas
at Arlington, 2013*

Amber is responsible for teaching students how to read, write, and perform music. She also teaches piano and directs an all city choir, a spring choir, and a handbell group. Her spring choir received a superior rating at The Pride of Texas Music Festival.



LAUREN WEBB

Worship and Creative Arts Pastor

*Elevate Church (Murphy, Texas)
B.A., contemporary worship, 2007*

Lauren helped plant and launch Elevate Church in March 2008. She plans and prepares all worship services, including music, lighting, sound, visuals, and creative elements. She is also the small group ministry pastor and leads the church's women's ministry.

CLASS NOTES

1930s

1 Lorraine Wise (1935) wrote a book titled "God is Real" at 95 years of age on her spiritual journey through 76 years of serving the Lord in Christian companies. She traveled worldwide with Full Gospel Business Men's Organization International. She worked alongside five active and future SAGU presidents, served Guy Shields as secretary, and later was the secretary treasurer for Southwestern in Fort Worth, Texas, and the first years in Waxahachie.

1940s

Ralph Elmore (1949) and his late wife Oneida served as missionaries in Sri Lanka, Fiji, and the Philippines. They have one son, Arne Ralph Elmore, and one daughter, Marva Grace Elmore Kubalik, eight grandchildren and 11 great-grandchildren. Oneida passed away in March 2012.

LT B. A. (1946) and Georgia (Enloe) Waltrip (1946) were married this year; eighty-five-year-old newlyweds. They were SBI High School classmates. Right out of high school, he was in the Navy for 24 years active duty. As all Navy music officers must, he went up through the ranks to be a master chief musician (E-9) and eventually retired as LT (O-3E). He and his wife now reside in Waxahachie.

1950s

Marjorie (Edwards) Stewart (1954) retired in 1995 after teaching for 36 years.

1990s

2 Aaron (1994) and Shannon (Smith) Morgan (1994) are intergenerating as South Texas missionary associates to Romania en route to becoming career missionaries to Eastern Europe, after five years as children's pastors in San Antonio. They will be working with Kidz Romania for two years helping with village outreaches, summer camps, worker training, and a children's animated TV show.

Kyle Saylor (1995) works as a film and television producer/director. Being involved in the entertainment/media business has allowed him to travel the world and work with a wide assortment of people from both mainstream and Christian productions. He has had the opportunity to produce projects with Red Bull, Fox Sports, NFL Players, Indy 500, Israel Houghton and New Breed, Sundance Institute, and dozens of others.

3 Rich Tatum (1991) was recently hired by Logos to provide leadership and direction to create a product specific to the Pentecostal/Charismatic audience. Logos Bible Software produces Bible study software that SAGU recommends for its students. He currently resides in Washington.

2000s

4 Jason (2010) and Melinda (Young) Brown (2011) are currently the children's pastors at Texas City Assembly of God.

Joshua (2013) and Elizabeth (Odom) Jans (2013) are youth pastors in Colorado, where Elizabeth is also an administrative assistant. They are putting what they learned into action and felt prepared to step into ministry upon graduation.

Brian (2000) and Lisa (Massey) Lewis (2000) planted a church in Lucedale, Miss., after graduation. They are currently working at another church plant in West Texas, with plans for a launch of a second campus in six months.

5 Jessica (Hatcher) McCleese (2004) received her Doctorate in Clinical Psychology from Regent University in Virginia Beach in 2012. She is a provisionally licensed psychologist at the Krist Samaritan Center in Houston, Texas, and is working on receiving her full licensure. She's received specialized training in sex therapy from the Institute for Sexual Wholeness in Atlanta, Ga., and is a graduate associate of the American Board of Christian Sex Therapists (ABCST). She is currently pursuing her certification through these organizations.

Gregory Miller (2010) is currently pursuing his Master of Social Work at Texas A&M University at Commerce.

6 Michelle Neumann (2012) was recently hired as an enrollment representative at AGTS. She is using her counseling skills to listen and connect with prospective seminary students to find a degree that best suits them.

7 Jeremy Picker (2001) has served churches, non-profits, bands, and events with fashion forward t-shirts and apparel for 10 years as the CEO & Creative Director for AMB3R. As a cancer survivor, he now seeks to help others that are going through similar situations.

Jon (2004) and Amber (Fultz) Reeves (2005) have two children, Jovie and Landry. Jon is writing his doctoral dissertation in New Testament at Brite Divinity School at TCU, where he graduated with a M.T.S. (2008) and a Th.M. in New Testament (2011). He serves currently as the Director of Children's Ministries at Coutts United Methodist Church in Weatherford, Texas. Amber is a 4th grade teacher for Weatherford ISD.

Celebrations

8 Devin Ferguson (2008) and Megan Cruse of Quitman, La., were married on July 27, 2013, at First Assembly of God, North Hodge, La. The couple now lives in Waxahachie, Texas, where Devin serves as SAGU's Director of Alumni Relations.

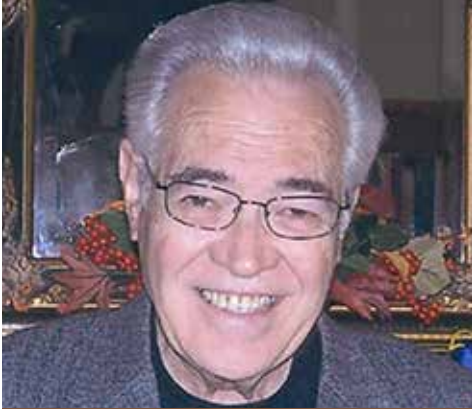
9 Ryan (2001) and LaShera McElhany (2000) welcomed their third baby girl Libbie Hardt McElhany in June. Ryan is the SAGU Marketing and Public Relations Director. LaShera is an elementary teacher at Shields Elementary in Red Oak, Texas, and is completing her doctoral dissertation.

Billy Wheeler (1963) recently celebrated his 73rd birthday and is looking forward to being reunited with his class of 1963 during Homecoming 2013.

In Memoriam

10 William L. Comstock (1958), age 78, went to be with the Lord on July 24, 2013, in Prescott, Ariz. He was born in Norfolk, Neb., on Dec. 4, 1934, to





Jory L. Waldon

Jory Waldon, age 78, passed away on July 27, 2013, in Shavano Park. He was born on August 5, 1934, in Texarkana, Ark. He graduated Southwestern High School in 1952 and attended Southwestern Bible Institute from 1952-1954. Jory later returned to SBI and taught music from 1961-1965. He was also a beloved director of the Harvester Choir growing the group from 7 to 40 students. He left an indelible mark on the lives of students, faculty, and staff alike.

Survivors include his wife Sue Carol Waldon; 2 daughters: DeLinda Nolan and husband David, and LaDonna Melson and husband Shawn; 7 grandchildren: Tory, Libby, Connor, Ally and Sophie Nolan, and Chad and Morgan Melson.

Leroy and Hazel Comstock. He graduated from SBI in 1958. He is survived by spouse Colleen Comstock; three children: Tammy Bell, Lynette Fredella and William D. Comstock; three stepchildren: Cynthia Ward, Ty Myers and Lorrie Maddux; brother Don Comstock; 15 grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren.

Roger Dewayne Fitzgerald (1982), age 53, died on Sunday, Aug. 18, 2013, in Stillwater, Okla. He was born to Clifford and Juanita (Thompson) Fitzgerald on Aug. 4, 1960, in Cherokee, Okla. He married Fran Nixon in 1982 in Lufkin, Texas. He is survived by his parents, two children: Alexander and Rachel Fitzgerald, brother Edward Fitzgerald, and sister Teresa Pope.

11 Daniel "Bud" Alexis (1965), age 74, passed away on Sept. 19, 2013, at his home in Haynesville, La. He was born on April 7, 1939, to Ballard and Mary Rosabelle Brown Alexis in New Orleans, La. He was a member of First Assembly of God Church, Haynesville, and was an ordained minister with the Assemblies of God. He was a U.S. Marine Corp veteran. He is survived by his wife of 50 years, Mary L. Brownlee Alexis; three children: Keith Alexis and wife Terri; LaDonna Alexis Thorne and husband Drew; and Bryan Alexis and wife Amy; and eight grandchildren.

James Mabry (1961) formerly of Fairview, Okla., passed away Monday, July 1, 2013, at Baylor Medical Center in Dallas at the age of 89. Mabry was born April 1, 1924, to Florence and Eric Emory Mabry in Hughes, Okla. He served in WWII as a merchant seaman.

C. Earl Dorris (1959) passed away on July 12, 2013. He is survived by his cherished wife of 57 years, Janis, three children, four grandchildren, a great-grandchild, and a sister. His parents and brother predeceased Earl. Earl served honorably in the United States Navy.

Mary Foster, age 85, passed away August 2, 2013. She is survived by her loving husband of 69 years, John Frank Foster; daughter, Pamela Sue Polk and husband, Leonard; grandchildren, Matthew Alan Polk, Trenton Scott Polk and wife Karin Liane; great-grandchildren, Trevor, Alexis, Mason, Noah, Aidan, Judah; sister, Myrtle Louise Leggett, and numerous nieces, nephews and friends.

12 James Samuel Parrish (1955), age 75, of Vista, Calif., passed away September 14, 2013. James Samuel Parrish was born to Kathleen Hood and James Parrish on May 6, 1938, in Detroit, Mich. He passed his passion for life on to his family and friends, and the greatest legacy was his love of the Lord.

C. Lawrence Barnett

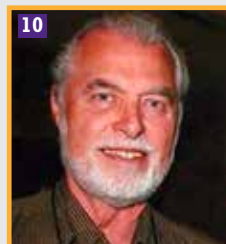
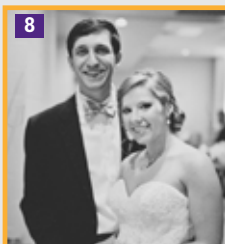


C. Lawrence Barnett, age 82, a retired minister and insurance executive, died Sunday, Sept. 22, 2013. He was born Sept. 2, 1931, in Fort Worth to ministers Cecil Rhoads Barnett and Edmonia Utley

Barnett. He graduated from Southwestern High School in 1951 and was ordained in 1956 as an Assemblies of God minister and served numerous congregations in the greater Fort Worth area and church ministries in various capacities.

Barnett selflessly gave of his time and expertise with the longtime service on the SAGU Board of Regents and other church-affiliated benevolent and educational institutions. In 1971, he was elected president of Christian Fidelity Life Insurance Co. of Waxahachie and led the company through 30 years of growth, expanding into 31 states and Medicare Supplement product lines. He was also an entrepreneur, having owned and operated multiple businesses over his career, including Bar-Tex Metal Products, Texas Graphic Corp. and Diversified Services.

He is survived by his wife of 64 years, Alletha Mae Harward Barnett; daughter Gay Barnett and husband Jon Burroughs; sons Larry Barnett and wife Janelda, and David Barnett and wife Juliana; and several grandchildren and great-grandchildren. ■





1200 Sycamore Waxahachie, TX 75165

Quick Facts

Enrollment.....2,012

Student/teacher ratio 21:1

Cost per year \$23,820

Based on full-time tuition with room and board for 2013-2014.

Cost per hour

Undergraduate on-campus.....\$565

Undergraduate online.....\$560

Graduate\$560

Financial aid92% awarded financial aid

Phone 1-888-YES-SAGU

Web page..... www.sagu.edu

E-mail info@sagu.edu

Facebook..... www.facebook.com/sagufans

Twitter @sagu

Instagram @saguedu

YouTube..... www.youtube.com/sagu

SAGUtv..... www.sagu.tv

Accreditation

Southwestern Assemblies of God University is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges to award associate, baccalaureate, and masters degrees. Contact the Commission on Colleges at 1866 Southern Lane, Decatur, Georgia 30033-4097 or call 404-679-4500 for questions about the accreditation of Southwestern Assemblies of God University.

Master's

Counseling Psychology

Counseling Psychology (Clinical) ²

Human Services Counseling (Non-Clinical) ²

Education ¹

Curriculum Development
Christian School Administration
Early Childhood/Elementary Education
Early Education Administration
Middle and Secondary Education
Principalship
School Counseling

History ³

Education Track
Thesis Track
Non-thesis Track

Master of Divinity ¹

Organizational Leadership ²

Theological Studies ¹

Bible and Theology
Children and Family Ministries ³
Intercultural Studies ¹
Practical Theology

Bachelor's

Accounting ²

Ancient Studies ¹

Bible and Theology ¹

Biblical Studies ¹

Business Administration ¹

Children and Family Ministries ¹

Church Ministries ¹

Church Planting and Revitalization ¹

Communication Studies ²

Counseling ¹

Counseling Ministries ¹

Criminal Justice ¹

Digital Media Arts ²

Education ¹

Bilingual Education ²

Elementary Education ¹

Middle and Secondary ¹

English Language Arts/Reading ¹

Social Studies/History ¹

Music Education (Instrumental, Piano, Vocal) ²

Physical Education ²

Theatre Education ²

English ¹

History ¹

Human Services ¹

Intercultural Studies ¹

Interdisciplinary Studies ¹

Management ¹

Marketing ¹

Media Ministries ²

Music Ministries ²

Music Performance (Instrumental, Piano, Vocal) ²

Occupational Leadership ¹

Pastoral Leadership ¹

Professional Development ¹

Psychology ¹

Social Work ²

Sports Management ²

Theatre ²

Theological Studies ¹

Youth and Student Ministries ¹

Associate

Bible ¹

Business Administration ¹

Early Childhood Education ¹

Education ¹

English ¹

Foreign Language ²

General Business ¹

General Studies ¹

Media ²

Music ²

Psychology ¹

Social Studies ¹

¹ Fully offered online.

² Partially offered online. Some on-campus coursework required.

³ Exclusively offered online.