# Southern Wesleyan University

**SPRING 2008** 

#### THE PRESIDENT'S PERSPECTIVE

aith in action:

Christ's reach extends beyond the campus

#### By David J. Spittal, president Southern Wesleyan University

The list of heroes recorded in the book of Hebrews provides strong evidence that faith in God, combined with action, creates a force that will transform lives and change our world.

These men and women of faith are identified not only by their unshakable faith but a faith that compelled them to action on the front lines of service and discipleship. Their faith in action truly changed the world and continues to challenge us even today.

Scripture records that Jesus "went about doing good" and called his followers to do the same. He later urges his followers "to not become weary in doing good." The example of Christ and those who followed him clearly indicates that faith is not to be idle or apathetic, but instead actively and persistently involved in efforts to meet the needs of people.

We are clearly not to be of this world but we are not to isolate ourselves from the needs of the world. If our faith is to be alive, engaged and fully activated in the world, we are compelled to fulfill acts of service ministry and compassion. Southern Wesleyan University has a rich heritage of ministry and service. Its mission statement clearly affirms its responsibility to prepare students for compassionate service. As a university we are committed to help men and women mature in their faith but also to go, as scripture commands, to serve the community and world.

The influence of our university is based upon a reflection of the academic and professional achievements of our graduates. But even more significantly, our influence is evidenced and known through the lives of those who live by faith and seek to transform lives.

Our faculty, staff and students actively demonstrate their faith through community projects, as well as service and volunteer organizations. Many serve through international mission and ministry trips. Their commitment to serve the world extends the ministry of the university beyond the boundaries of the campus and into the hearts of those they serve.

## FOCUS CONTENTS

#### Spring 2008

Focus Magazine is published four times a year by Southern Wesleyan University, Central, SC

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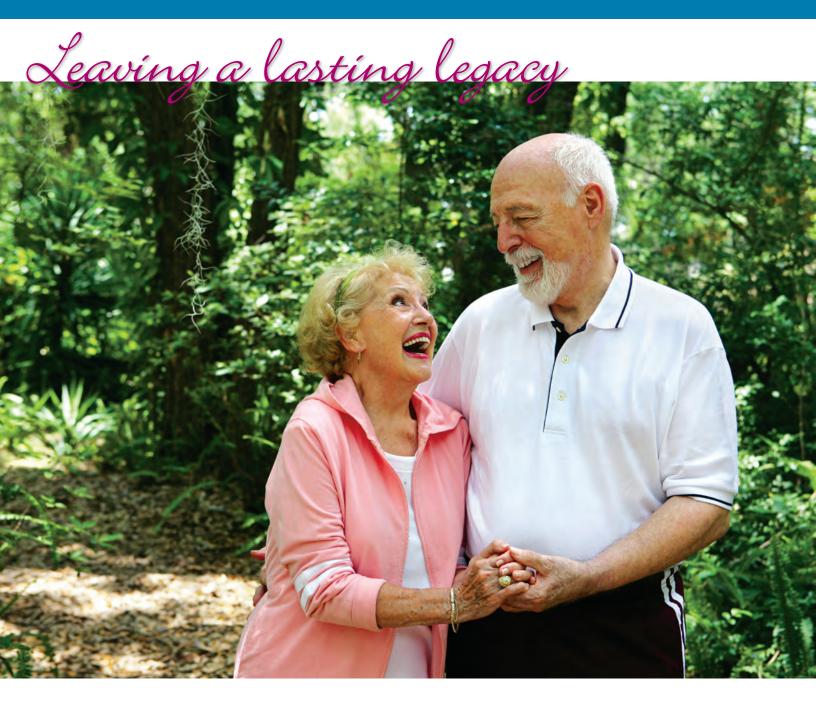
#### 'Santa' comes early for Southern Wesleyan University

Wal-Mart of Central recently donated \$1,000 and two Christmas trees to Southern Wesleyan University. At left, Towanda Peppers, personnel manager at Wal-Mart in Central, presents the check to Rev. Jim Wiggins, vice president for development at Southern Wesleyan University. The funds will be used to provide academic, scholarship and student program support.

#### On the cover

Southern Wesleyan University is dedicated to reaching out to Christ and reaching out to its community. The university and its graduates serve Christ by serving others.





#### Let us help you review your will

Have you moved to another state since your will was drafted?

Have tax laws changed since you last reviewed your estate plan?

Do you need to explore the use of a trust?

Have your charitable interests changed since your will was drafted?

Does your present estate plan provide for management of property in case of disability prior to death?

Would you like to learn how to leave a lasting legacy at Southern Wesleyan Univerity?

#### SOUTHERN WESLEYAN university

To recieve a free copy of our brochure, "Your Guide to Basic Estate Planning," contact James Wiggins, vice president for Development, at 1-800-282-8798, ext. 5013, or jwiggins@swu.edu

#### 4 FOCUS SPRING'08

#### Stay in touch: SWU needs your zip + 4

Postal regulations will change after November of 2008, and Southern Wesleyan University will not be able to send you mail unless we have your complete zip code.

The new definition says that a complete zip code includes 9 numbers. An example of a complete zip code is 29630-1020.

Please contact the SWU development office with your complete zip code as soon as possible, in order to continue receiving information from Southern Wesleyan University. Also, if you know of someone who has recently stopped receiving our information, please have them call us or go online to submit their correct address.

To update your zip code, please call the development office at 864-644-5008 or 1-800-282-8798, ext. 5008. Also, you may visit the SWU Web site at www.swu.edu and click on "Subscribe to Focus Magazine online" to update your address.

## A call to give: Phonathon dials toward goal

The 2007-2008 Southern Wesleyan University Phonathon is underway. As of February 5, \$32,274 has been pledged with \$19,359 already paid. The goal for this fiscal year is \$65,000, and callers need your help to reach it.

Student callers will be contacting alumni and friends throughout the spring semester. As they raise money for the Promise Fund, which supports student scholarships as well as academic and student programs, you are asked to prayerfully consider giving a donation. Each and every alumni and friend can make a difference in the lives of so many students. You are urged to answer the call and support the Promise Fund.

If you are interested in giving to the Promise Fund, but would rather not receive a phone call, simply send a gift in the envelope enclosed in this issue of Focus. On your check memo line, please be sure to note "phonathon."

#### How to give

To donate to the Promise Fund, use the enclosed envelope, or contact Mary Costello at (864) 644-5004, e-mail mcostello@swu.edu, or contact Erin Fellers at (864) 644-5006, efellers@ swu.edu. To call toll-free, dial 1-800-282-8798, ext. 5004. If you would prefer to give online, please visit our Web site at www.swu.edu and click on the "Making a Gift" link.

#### Promise Fund is halfway to meeting its mark

Thanks to the steady support of alumni and friends, the Promise Fund has successfully passed the halfway point for the goal of the 2007-2008 fiscal year. With continued prayers and support, the fund will reach the goal of \$360,000. As of February, donors have contributed \$221,977 to the Promise Fund.

Please prayerfully consider supporting Southern Wesleyan University by contributing to the Promise Fund. Every donation is helpful and allows Southern Weslevan to provide the best education possible for students. A large percentage of the student body receives financial assistance from the Promise Fund. Without this support, many students would not be able to attend SWU.

Faculty and Staff: \$17,420

**Corporations/ Businesses:** \$34,460

**Alumni:** \$54,123

Friends: \$54,898

**Churches/Organizations:** \$16,305

Foundations: \$200

Trustees: \$41,346

Matching Gifts: \$3,225

Total: \$221,977

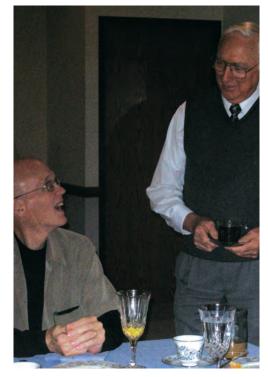
#### Cabinet members serve up appreciation

Southern Wesleyan University raises support for the Promise Fund in many ways. One such way is through the support of SWU employees.

At the beginning of every fiscal year, all employees are encouraged to support the Promise Fund, which provides student scholarships and lowers the cost of attending Southern Wesleyan University.

In November, all SWU departments that have 100 percent of their members giving to the Promise Fund during the current fiscal year are entered into a drawing for a chance to win a homemade breakfast prepared by the development office and served by members of the university's cabinet. The cabinet is composed of vice presidents from across the campus. Providing this breakfast is one way that the development office staff thanks employees for their support.

The breakfast was served on Jan. 7, in the Mitchell Conference



Vice President for Development James Wiggins, speaks with Dr. Chuck Mealy, director of conference and housing services, during the breakfast.



Room at the university's campus in Central.

#### Marking a milestone for new students

Beverly Cleveland of Westminster presents her son Jeremy with a medallion during a Passing the Mantle ceremony on Jan. 11 in Founders' Hall at Southern Wesleyan University's Central campus. The medallion is symbolic of students starting a new season in their lives spiritually and academically. During the ceremony, Dr. Joe Brockinton, vice president for student life, urged the new students to be strong and courageous and to trust God as they face the future. Rev. Ken Dill led a blessing of students and parents, and the group "Sing with Unity" led in musical worship.

#### Chapel and fine arts center progresses

Southern Wesleyan University's new Faith Newton Hobson Chapel and Fine Arts Center is under construction and each day brings the project closer to its August completion date. The new facility will feature a 1,200-seat chapel. To make a contribution toward the completion of the project, please use the envelope enclosed in this issue of Focus and note "capital campaign" on your check. For details on naming opportunities in the building, call Mary Costello at 1-800-282-8798, ext. 5004, or e-mail mcostello@swu.edu. Dedication for the new facility is scheduled for October.



#### SWU graduates urged to lead, stay grounded in faith

Winter graduates received their diplomas at Southern Wesleyan University's campus in Central on Saturday, Dec.15.

The speaker for the morning ceremony was Dr. Thomas Phillippe, an expert in religious and business matters. He urged the morning graduates to become Christian leaders and make an impact on the world.

"Christian leadership is something I believe in with all my heart," Phillippe said. "In every age there comes a time when leaders should come forth."

Dr. Phillippe has served as pastor, evangelist and denominational leader in The Wesleyan Church, and has also served as an associate evangelist for the Billy Graham Evangelistic Association and participated in crusades throughout the world.

In 1970, Phillippe resigned his church to organize Nationwide Management, which owned and managed health care and retirement facilities. His company grew to include 28 facilities, day care centers and a home healthcare facility.

The speaker for the afternoon ceremony was Dr. Lee Kizer, associate professor of business at Southern Wesleyan University.



Religion graduate Raquel Welsh, center, smiles at her fellow graduates as Southern Wesleyan University Registrar Rock McCaskill, background, informs the students about the graduation ceremony.

Using an electrical plug as a visual aid, Kizer urged graduates to stay "plugged in" and to allow God's power to work through them.

"God has appointed a place for you. My encouragement to you as you go to that new place is to stay plugged in. If you do that, the power of God will course through you and cause you to accomplish His plan and His purpose," said Kizer. Kizer has been a member of the SWU business faculty since January 2002. He previously served as supply officer with the United States Navy and was a special agent with the Federal Bureau of Investigation for 17 years. He has also served as a full-time minister and pastored for 17 years in two assignments through the Evangelical Presbyterian Churches in Asheville, N.C., and Birmingham, Ala.

#### **Business networking**

Southern Wesleyan University's School of Business will be hosting networking events in the following locations:

#### **Charleston:**

April – will include a tour of the South Carolina Port

#### Greenville:

May – will include a tour of CU ICAR campus

For details, call Carla Whitlock at 1-800-282-8798, ext. 5014, or e-mail cwhitlock@swu.edu. More information will be coming your way soon.

#### FEATURE



Nick Shorter on his graduation day at Southern Wesleyan University.

Southern Wesleyan gr

Two years ago, Nick Shorter stepped out on a limb, took a risk and enrolled in a master's degree program at Southern Wesleyan University.

In December, Shorter earned his master's degree in management from the university and says taking time to pursue his degree was well worth it.

"It's not an easy program. It took a lot of hard work," he said, noting the amount of reading, homework, research projects and team projects required to earn his degree. "One of the best things about the management program at Southern Wesleyan University is that it's well-rounded. The courses focus on people and how to manage businessrelated issues," Shorter said.

Shorter is risk manager for the City of Sumter, working to be sure that



Shorter flips through paperwork at his office in Sumter.

employees of the City of Sumter are safe. Sumter has more than 500 employees and Shorter is in charge of keeping up with safety requirements. With employees such as police officers, firefighters and public service employees, Shorter strives to keep the workplace safe, comply with OSHA regulations, handle workers' compensation and manage the wellness program.

"We really want our employees to have a safety mindset," Shorter said. "They are the city's greatest asset."

Southern Wesleyan University's master's of science in management program consists of 18 months of classes that meet one night each week. Students are also required to meet with their study group one other time during the week. Classes are offered at the university's main campus in Central and also in Columbia, Greenville, North Augusta, Charleston, Greenwood and Spartanburg. Shorter attended classes in Columbia.

During his studies, Shorter grew close to those in his class as they tackled group projects and classroom challenges together. His study group members included Leann Crim, Shannon Shetrone and Tim Russell.

"You really get to know your classmates during 18 months," he said. "We grew together. When we prayed together, it gave people a chance to open up. That's not going to happen at a secular school."

Shorter earned a bachelor's degree in interdisciplinary studies from the University of South Carolina in 1986. When he began working on his master's degree, he was employed

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by the S.C. Vocational Rehabilitation Department in Columbia.

Shorter's first class was Organizational Behavior, led by Dr. Lee Kizer, one of Shorter's favorite professors. Kizer opened the class with a prayer and Shorter knew he had made the right choice for his education.

"This was the right place that God had planned for me," he said. "The education was top-notch. The spiritual aspect was icing on the cake. It magnified the experience and made it even better."

Shorter said he was impressed with the quality of professors at Southern Wesleyan University and the personal career experiences they shared in class.

"Professors shared their real-life experiences and related them to our course material. They've lived these things," he said.

"I highly recommend SWU to anyone interested in furthering their education," Shorter said. "It requires hard work and dedication from your family. In my case, my wife Pam was my silent partner and she allowed me to dedicate time to school."

He encourages other potential graduate students from Sumter and the surrounding area to consider attending Southern Wesleyan University.

"It is well worth the trip to the Columbia learning site," he said.

Today, Shorter is happy to be living and working in his hometown of Sumter. His wife works for a bank down the street and they often meet for lunch. The Shorters are active members of Westside Baptist Church in Sumter.



Shorter in front of his office building, the Historic Sumter Opera House.

#### **SPORTS**

#### SWU women's soccer has historic season

Southern Wesleyan University's Lady Warriors soccer team enjoyed a historic 2007 season as they won 13 games, the most in the program's history.

Four of those victories came against teams who defeated the Warriors during the previous season, including three against Southern States Athletic Conference opponents.

Head Coach Tom Price, who just finished his third season at SWU, reflects on the season:

What were some highlights that stand out to you from this past season?

Price: Winning 11 out of 12 games, including seven in a row was pretty special. We had five conference victories during the seven game winning streak that really solidified a SSAC tournament berth for us. Of those seven consecutive victories, the highlight game had to be our 3-2 overtime victory on the road at Shorter.

You had several players receive accolades for their performance this season, but the most decorated was Stefani Patterson. What can you say about her play this season?

Price: Stefani was our offensive spark, especially in the first half of the season when she scored in our first six games and eight of the first nine. She led us in goals and was ninth in the SSAC and 19th in the NCCAA in goals per game.

You are losing four players to graduation: Elisabet Gunnarsdottir,



Women's soccer team members are, from left, front row, Carissa McNab and Sierra Threatt; second row, assistant coach Renee Atcheson, Caitlin Blake, Rosy Escobar, Miranda Kee, Clarissa Fawver, Rachel Southern, Megan Hill, Katie Sullivan and head coach Tom Price. On the back row are manager Mary Erickson, Jessica Hubbard, Lisa Turner, Jenna Henderson, Katla Gudjonsdottir, Stefani Patterson, Elisabet Gunnarsdottir, Jackie Tubb, Liz Kiraly, Christina Webb and assistant coach Justin Peterson.

Liz Kiraly, Stefani Patterson, and Christina Webb; what can you say about those four players and what they have meant to both you and the SWU Women's Soccer program?

Price: I have really enjoyed working with all four of them. I have really appreciated their dedication to the program as Christina and Liz were here the year before I arrived and Elisabet and Stefani were part of my first recruiting class. It has been great to witness them maturing into quality young women of integrity.

How do you see the future of the program, especially after such a tremendous season?

Price: The future is promising, although we lose the four seniors who were all starters, we return seven starters so that should give us a lot of stability. Megan Hill will be ready to go after red-shirting this past season and she should bring an immediate impact.

SWU Women's Soccer award winners include:

**Rosy Escobar:** NCCAA South Region 1st Team



Lady Warrior Stephani Patterson takes the field.

#### Jenna Henderson:

NCCAA South Region 1st Team **Jessica Hubbard:** 

SSAC All-Academic Team

**Liz Kiraly:** SSAC 2nd Team All-Conference, SSAC All-Academic Team, NCCAA South Region 1st Team

Stefani Patterson: NAIA All-Region XIII 2nd Team, SSAC 1st Team All-Conference, SSAC All-Academic Team, NCCAA South Region Player of the Year, NCCAA South Region 1st Team Katie Sullivan:

SSAC All-Academic Team

Sierra Threatt:

NCCAA South Region 1st Team Jackie Tubb:

SSAC 2nd Team All-Conference Lisa Turner: SSAC All-Academic Team Christina Webb: SSAC All-Academic Team, NCCAA South Region 1st Team

#### SWUPY Awards to celebrate Warrior Athletics

After a successful inaugural event in 2007, the SWUPY Awards return to the Central campus of Southern Wesleyan University on April 29, 2008, at 9 p.m. in Folger Fine Arts Auditorium.

The SWUPY Awards is an evening for the athletic department and campus community to celebrate the past year of Warrior Athletics. Last year, teams were chauffeured to the semi-formal event in an 18-passenger stretch SUV limousine. All those in attendance "walked the red carpet" into the auditorium as four searchlights spiraled into the sky.

Twenty-two awards will be handed out to student-athletes and teams based on their accomplishments athletically, academically and socially. Winners are chosen based on a combination of a vote by the head coaches, an all-campus online vote and a final review by the SWUPY awards committee.

All winners, with the exception of the Team Academic Award, will receive a SWUPY Award trophy.

Hosting the event for the second consecutive year will be Mike Gillespie, baseball head coach and athletics webmaster, and Derek Schmitt, volleyball head coach and sports information director.

Schmitt, who serves as the coordinator of the SWUPY Awards is very excited about this year's event. "It will be a great night celebrating the outstanding student-athletes that are dedicated to Warrior Athletics and Southern Wesleyan University."

To follow the 2008 SWUPY Awards, please be sure to refer to www. swuathletics.com for updates before the event and a review after the event. For details, contact Schmitt at 1-800-282-8798, ext. 5304 or dschmitt@swu.edu.



## SWUPY AWARDS

Male and Female Newcomer of the Year

Male and Female Student-Athlete of the Year

Male and Female Supporting Role of the Year

Male and Female Performance of the Year

Male and Female Athlete of the Year

Male and Female Team of the Year

Mr. and Ms. Warrior

Student-Worker of the Year

Fan of the Year

Coach of the Year

Warrior Appreciation Award

**Champions of Character Award** 

Courage Award Dr. C. Keith Connor Spirit Award Team Academic Award

## Student follows campaign trail

Phillip Fritts, a Southern Wesleyan University junior from Burlington, N.C., majoring in communications, recently presented Republican presidential hopeful Mike Huckabee with a Southern Wesleyan shirt. Fritts also met and was photographed with candidates Ron Paul, John McCain and Mitt Romney.

#### **HEADLINE**



Great teachers do more than just teach. They mentor, inspire, and care about the young lives they touch on a daily basis. Southern Wesleyan University celebrates its education graduates and AGS education students whose dedication in the classroom was recently recognized.

Jill Clark, a 2007 North Augusta master's of education graduate and a native of McCormick, S.C., was named the 2008 Teacher of the Year for the Lincoln County School system in Georgia, as well as teacher of the year for elementary grades.



Clark is a fourth-grade teacher at Lincoln County Elementary School. For Clark, earning a master's degree from Southern Weslevan

University fulfilled her lifelong goal as an educator. She began her career as an after-school coordinator for the McCormick County School System's ARK program. Clark also taught at McCormick County Elementary School and Washington-Wilkes Elementary School.

Clark is a member of the school improvement committee at LCES as well as the Professional Association of Georgia Educators. She is also a member of Double Branches Baptist Church where she sings in the choir. Clark and her husband Chris have three children: Noah, 5, Shelby, 3, and Lorali, 1.

Lisa Gilliard was named 2008-2009 Teacher of the Year at Grove Elementary School in Piedmont, S.C. A first-grade teacher, Gilliard is a December 2004 graduate of Southern Wesleyan University, earning her bachelor of science degree in elementary education and early childhood education. Gilliard became interested in teaching while working with children at her church and in community groups. She looks back on her SWU education and says it prepared her to handle a variety of situations encountered in the classroom.



Gilliard also recently completed her master's in elementary reading and literacy via Walden University. She is certified in elementary

early childhood and elementary education. This is her second year of teaching at Grove Elementary. Gilliard says it brings her joy when a child learns fundamentals such as reading. Prior to teaching at Grove, Gilliard taught second-grade at Taylors Elementary.

Her husband Marvin is a police officer with the Greenville City Police Department.

Brian Maddux, a 2005 education graduate of Southern Wesleyan University, was named Teacher of the Year for 2008 at Woodmont High School in Piedmont, S.C.

Maddux works with students, many of whom are Down's Syndrome and have low IQs. Maddux is also an assistant women's basketball coach.



Maddux entered the teaching field in his late 20s. He previously worked with a group home and also spent approximately seven years working for the South Carolina Department of Disabilities and Special Needs. Maddux commented that he "kind of fell into teaching" after someone he met at the Special Olympics told him about the education program at Southern Wesleyan. Maddux received a bachelor of science degree in special education/mental retardation and learning disabilities from Southern Wesleyan in 2005. He credits his professors at SWU for their supportiveness and patience, saying those years made for a good experience.

Nicole Scott, a North Augusta AGS master of education student, was named Teacher of the Year at Wrens Middle School in Wrens, Ga.



Scott has a background in electronic engineering and worked in manufacturing. While training employees at her plant, Scott began

to realize her true calling was in education.

Scott enrolled in Georgia's Teacher Alternative Preparation Program (TAP), to become certified to teach in the state's public schools. In 2004 she became a sixth-grade teacher at Wrens Middle. Scott also coaches a girl's basketball team at her school, sharing with others the game she enjoyed playing as a youngster.

After a few years of teaching, Scott felt a need to expand her horizons and gain more experience. She discovered the master's degree program in education offered at Southern Wesleyan's North Augusta location as an attractive alternative that fit into her schedule of teaching and being a single parent.

#### Southern Wesleyan graduate in latest "Chicken Soup" book

Even on the coldest of days, a good story can warm the heart and soul.

For Ann (Massey) Coogler, a 1987 Southern Wesleyan University alumna, writing has been therapeutic, both for herself and an ever-increasing audience. Since Coogler began sharing her life experiences through the written word, she has gained a growing audience through newspapers, magazines and books.

Coogler recently authored a story that will be published in an upcoming edition of the best-selling "Chicken Soup for the Soul" book series. The new book, scheduled for release in February 2008, will be titled "Chicken Soup for the Soul: Celebrating People Who Make a Difference." Her story, entitled "The Jersey Blanket," will appear in a book section called "Headlines You'll Never Read." "Everybody has a story. Through one kernel of a story, whether your own or someone else's, you can make a flower out of it," Coogler said.

The story Coogler authored is based on her grandmother's nurturing care for a baby boy after his mother died in childbirth. The baby was born prematurely and was in poor health. The father approached Coogler's grandmother about taking the baby in and nursing him. At the same time she was also nursing a baby daughter, who was Coogler's aunt.

Without divulging too many details before publication, Coogler said, "I try to weave the story into how my grandmother influenced this child until his adulthood."

Once a teacher at Westminster Elementary School, Coogler now focuses on her writing and has published numerous articles in



Ann Coogler

books and magazines. She was also named poet laureate for the Walhalla Sesquicentennial celebration in 2000. Coogler appears in the Seneca Daily Journal/Clemson Messenger as a guest columnist and freelance writer.

## Religion graduate participates in HIV/AIDS roundtable

Mike Hilson, second from left, senior pastor of New Life Wesleyan Church in La Plata, Md., and a 1990 religion graduate of Southern Wesleyan University, participated in a roundtable discussion Dec. 13 with officials from the White House, Department of State and other international nongovernmental agencies to discuss the faith-based community's role in fighting HIV and AIDS. Also pictured are Robert Zachritz, Director of Advocacy and Government Relations, World Vision; Jo Anne Lyon, Founder and CEO, World Hope International; and Heidi Metcalf, Vice President, Geneva Global. The session was "Faith-Based and Community Solutions to Combat HIV/AIDS."

#### 2008 General Conference of The Wesleyan Church

A Southern Breakfast is a great way to start the day! Southern Wesleyan University's Alumni Association invites all alumni and friends to a buffet breakfast in Orlando, Florida, on Sunday, June 8.

> Time: 7-8:30 a.m. Cost: \$10 per person

Call to reserve your ticket today: 1-800-282-8798, ext. 5384 or e-mail jcrain@swu.edu.

Seating is limited. Please R.S.V.P. by May 26.

#### **ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT**

#### NEWS FLASHES

#### **'73**

Joe Moorefield was recently named the assistant vice president for student services at Brunswick Community College. Moorefield has served BCC since 1990 as the director of counseling and athletics. In his new position, he takes care of child care assistance for students, oversees students with special needs, supervises financial aid, admissions, registration, athletics and student activities.

#### **'91**

#### Kenneth Scott Drury,

Southern Wesleyan University's 2007 Young Leader Awardee, has just been named by World Hope International to the organization's newly-created role of major gifts officer. In his new role, Drury will build existing relationships and create new opportunities for WHI to further its mission.

"God is at work through World Hope International and I am excited to join what He is doing. World Hope International represents a unique opportunity to be part of God's transforming and empowering work to alleviate suffering and injustice around the world." Drury said. "I look forward to building relationships with those already committed to the mission of World Hope and inviting others to become partners in its life changing vision.

Drury, his wife Elizabeth, and the couple's four sons will relocate to the Washington, D.C. area.



**Deborah Hendrix** of Lexington, S.C., is an appraiser with the Integra Realty Resources. She recently was designated a Member of the Appraisal Institute (MAI), joining 91 other S.C. appraisers.



**Maj. Marcus Scott** is in the Army Reserve signal unit out of Augusta, Ga. He recently returned after a year's deployment in Baghdad, where he was stationed in the Green Zone at Prosperity Forward Operation Base. Scott is now the postmaster of the Westminster Post Office.

Scott played basketball on scholarship at Erskine College in Due West and received his master's degree at Southern Wesleyan University in Central.

He lives in Anderson with his wife, Jackie, and has three children.

#### **'04**

**Rupal Shah** has accepted a position at Harvard University's School of Public Health to conduct tuberculosis research as a Research Associate in the Department of Immunology and Infectious Diseases. She will pursue graduate studies at Harvard.

#### **'06**

#### Katie (Holcombe) Kirkpatrick and her

**KIREPATTICK** and her husband Tim are officially the new directors of the Hope Center in St. Martinville, La. It is the second poorest city in Louisiana. They recently bought an old Victorian home and hope to open it as a transitional youth program in August of this year. They are also praying about leading a trip from their church to Zambia later this year.

#### **'07**

William Garland, Jr. has been named vice president of First Reliance Bank of Lexington, S.C. He has more than 15 years of experience and is an active member of the community.

#### **'08**

Julie Plummer is the director of public relations for Trident Health System, which includes Trident Medical Center in North Charleston, Summerville Medical Center and Colleton Medical Center as well as Moncks Corner Medical Center and diagnostic centers throughout Berkeley, Charleston, Colleton and Dorchester counties.

#### Student

**Mary Ashley** of Honea Path received the Corey White Award from the Anderson County Human Relations Council on Sept. 8 for her work with disabled children in the Belton-Honea Path area. She is a freshman at Southern Wesleyan University majoring in special education. Ashley is the daughter of Dr. Julia Barnes of Honea Path and Allen Ashley of Honea Path.

#### WEDDINGS '07

**Ronald Craig Brown** and Lindsey Nicole Carver were married Dec. 8, 2007.

### BIRTHS



Jim and **Janet Carriker Green** are the proud grandparents of their first grandchild, Elizabeth Ann Green, born Nov. 6, weighing 7 lbs. and 15 oz., 20 inches long. Elizabeth is the daughter of Jay and Ann Brittian Green.





Miles Louis Visher, weighing 7 lbs., 12 oz. and 19 or 20 inches, was born to Lance and Marian Visher, on Nov. 30. Proud grandparents are **Buddy** and **Joan Rampey**.

#### **'94**

Zachary Wayne Lemons was born on Dec. 5, 2007, to **Derrick** and **Paula (Preusz) Lemons**.

#### OBITUARIES Professor -1946-1953

**Gordon Cary**, passed away Nov. 6, 2007, in Bartlett, Tenn. The funeral was held in the Westside First Wesleyan Church in Colorado Springs, Colo., on Nov. 11.

Professor Cary served Wesleyan Methodist College (now Southern Wesleyan University), Central, S.C., from 1946-1953. He served as dean of theology and director of Christian service at the time he resigned. He later became part of the ministry of Focus on the Family.

#### **'36**

#### Francene Cude Elliott,

Columbia, S.C., Sept. 2, 2007. Mrs. Elliott's husband was Marling Elliott, a longtime professor at Southern Wesleyan University, who preceded her in death.

#### '56

**William Fred Hubbard**, Pickens County, S.C., August 9, 2007.

#### Southern Wesleyan University/www.swu.edu

Plan to attend the

2008 Alumni Awards Banquet

May 10, at Southern Wesleyan University's campus in Central. Banquet seating starts at 5 p.m. in Founders' Hall with dinner served at 5:30 p.m. Tickets: \$15

The following awards will be presented after dinner:

- Young Leader
- Professional Excellence
- Alumnus of the Year
- Hall of Fame Inductees

Nominations for each award are to be received in the Alumni Center by April 5.

For details, contact the Alumni Center at 1-800-282-8798, ext. 5384, or e-mail jcrain@swu.edu

Save the date

2008 SWU Homecoming

Sept. 26 & 27

For details, call 1-800-282-7898, ext. 5384

#### Southern Wesleyan gets "active"

Southern Wesleyan University is dedicated to helping people reach their dreams – in mind, body and spirit. In an effort to encourage health and wellness for its employees and the surrounding community, Southern Wesleyan is sponsoring the Activate Pickens County program in cooperation with the Pickens County YMCA.

Activate Pickens County is a free year-round wellness program that targets youth and adult obesity-related illnesses. The program provides participants with weekly health and wellness tips, a Web-based physical activity log and an opportunity to attend various health lectures throughout the year. Southern Wesleyan University serves as a weigh-in site for its employees and the Central community.



#### Annual Ladies Conference

#### "Transformed Through the Storm"

Join us at Spring Maid Conference Center, Myrtle Beach, S.C.

March 28, 29 & 30

Conference rates start at \$120 per room for four people.

Special Speaker: Julie-Allyson Iran

To make reservations, please contact Joy Bryant at 1-800-282-8798, ext. 5385.

In cooperation with S.C. Wesleyan Women

> Register online for your free subscription to Focus magazine. Go to **www.swu.edu** and click on *"Subscribe to* Focus Magazine."



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#### Southern Wesleyan University offers Fine Arts season

#### February 4 - José White String Quartet

This award-winning quartet, based in Aguascalientes, Mexico, will present literature by Mendelssohn, Shostakovich and other Latino composers. Their nine-state tour brings them to Folger Fine Arts Auditorium for a free concert beginning at 7:30 p.m.

#### February 14 - Chris Vadala and the SWU Jazz Ensemble

Woodwind jazz artist Chris Vadala returns to Southern Wesleyan University in concert with the SWU Jazz Ensemble. Bringing a virtuosic level of jazz, Vadala presents classic and contemporary jazz on saxophone and flute with the support of the SWU Jazz Ensemble under the direction of Greg Day. This free program will begin at 7:30 p.m. in Folger Fine Arts Auditorium. Vadala will present a free master class on Friday, Feb. 15, at 9:30 a.m. also in Folger Auditorium.

#### March 6 - University of Georgia Faculty Woodwind Quintet

The Georgia Woodwind Quintet maintains an active schedule performing woodwind chamber music from the early quintets of Danzi and Reicha to 20th-century compositions. Their concert begins at 7:30 p.m. in Folger Fine Arts Auditorium. Admission is free.

#### March 13-15 - SWU Student Productions presents: "Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat"

Come enjoy the musical adaptation of the Biblical story of Joseph and the "coat of many colors." The show begins at 7:30 p.m. each night in Folger Fine Arts Auditorium. Tickets are \$7 for adults and \$5 for seniors and students with ID. SWU students admitted free with ID. Call (864) 644-5293 for reservations.

#### March 17 - Dr. Gregory Broughton, Tenor

Dr. Gregory Broughton is associate professor of voice at the Hugh Hodgson School of Music at the University of Georgia. He is in demand as a recitalist and soloist for operas and oratorios. As a member of the American Spiritual Ensemble, he has toured Spain, Brazil and throughout the United States. The free concert begins at 7:30 p.m. in Folger Fine Arts Auditorium.

#### April 5 - The Jazz Ambassadors

The United States Army's premier touring jazz orchestra has received acclaim both at home and abroad performing America's original art form, jazz. The 19-member big band has performed at jazz festivals throughout the world. The Southern Wesleyan University performance begins at 7:30 p.m. in Folger Fine Arts Auditorium. The concert is free, but tickets are required for admission. Call (864) 644-5191 for reservations. There is a limit of four tickets per reservation.

#### **April 13 - SWU Music Majors Formal Recital**

Southern Wesleyan University music majors are featured in this Sunday afternoon performance in Folger Fine Arts Auditorium. The concert begins at 3 p.m. and is free.

#### April 14 - SWU Music Majors Honors Recital

Southern Wesleyan University music majors who are selected by audition are presented in this evening performance in Folger Fine Arts Auditorium. The concert is free and begins at 7:30 p.m.

#### April 24 - SWU Jazz Ensemble

Bring on the jazz! The Southern Wesleyan University Jazz Ensemble will drive the hall into a frenzy with a light, powerful and energetic evening of swing, rock, funk and Latin music. The show begins at 7:30 p.m. in Folger Fine Arts. Admission is free.

#### **April 27 - Spring Masterworks Concert**

The choirs of Southern Wesleyan University will present "Un après-midi de musique Français" featuring the music of several French composers culminating in the performance of Maurice Duruflé's beautiful Requiem with chamber orchestra. The concert begins at 3 p.m. in the Easley First Baptist Church at 300 East First Street in Easley, S.C. Admission is free.

#### May 1 - SWU Wind Ensemble

The Southern Wesleyan University Wind Ensemble will feature the symphonic music of Gustav Holst and other composers in this final concert of the spring Fine Arts Series. The concert begins at 7:30 p.m. in Folger Fine Arts Auditorium.

#### Folger Fine Arts Auditorium is located on the university's campus in Central, S.C.

For event details, e-mail jdill@swu.edu or call (864)644-5294 or 1-800-282-8798, ext. 5294, or go online at www.swu.edu.