Faithful Partners

During the past nine months since being inaugurated as president of Kentucky Christian University, I have had the privilege of becoming acquainted with a wide array of individuals who are deeply passionate about the University’s vibrant educational ministry. Although I am an alumnus (’87) and have enjoyed a 14-year tenure as a KCU employee, my appreciation for the degree to which a sense of ownership of KCU exists among many good and Godly people has been deepened appreciably.

I am constantly reminded that I am shepherding a ministry that is about more than corporate inputs and outputs, hierarchies and structures; the educational ministry of KCU is made possible through an intergenerational tapestry of generosity, prayer, dedication, and sustained efforts. You will notice in this issue of The Voice a theme of partnership.

Partnership is the fruit that accompanies significant work; it is validation of a mission worthy of investment. Partners invest their combined efforts toward the common good; at KCU that common good is to educate students for Christian leadership and service in the church and professions throughout the world. The expression of partnership is also multi-faceted. I begin every day knowing that dear partners are praying for me and for God’s blessing on the educational ministry of KCU: my wife (and life partner), Debbie, Tom and Nancy Burbrink, Keith and Topsy Keeran, and Loran and Cokie Dace to name a few. I am proud to strain against the yoke alongside dear friends who care deeply about KCU’s ability to touch the world in the name of Jesus.

The couple featured on the cover of this issue of The Voice, Keith and Norma Adams, are but one example of sustained and faithful partnership.

As I assumed the presidency and began the process of becoming intimately familiar with the University’s stewardship partners, I noticed that Mr. and Mrs. Adams sent regular, monthly gifts to the University. These gifts, while modest by most standards, over time have resulted in tens of thousands of dollars used to help educate students for Christian leadership and service! Although they grew up in nearby Huntington, West Virginia, neither Keith nor Norma attended KCU. Both attended Marshall University and Keith went on to complete a masters degree in engineering at Stanford University. Keith served in the Navy during WWII before coming home and marrying Norma in 1948. He then went on to a successful private sector career as an engineer.

Interestingly, Keith told me they came to know and appreciate the educational ministry of KCU through having known ministers who received their training there, and said, “We grew up thirty minutes away and had never heard of the place until we moved to Florida!”

While Keith and Norma have accomplished much their lives have centered on two important values, faith and family. They continue to serve as loving and dutiful parents to their four sons (Russell, William, Phillip, and Glen) and likewise, they have consistently served the Lord. Keith and Norma are members of Central Christian Church in Ocala, FL where their preacher lovingly refers to them as “Mr. and Mrs. Special.”

I hope you enjoy this issue of The Voice. You will see several portraits of partnership and perhaps the Lord will impress upon you the desire to invest as a partner in the life-changing and kingdom-building educational ministry of KCU.
In the course of administering my duties as KCU’s Vice President of University Advancement, I frequently engage in conversations regarding our sources of revenue and expenses. I enjoy these opportunities for exchange because it is important for our friends and alumni to understand the facts regarding this important information. There is a common misconception that KCU is able to “pay its bills” from student fees; primarily room, board and tuition. The fact is, it “costs” thousands of dollars more per year to educate each student than they can afford to pay in tuition and fees. The charts to the left illustrate this important point.

The budget for Kentucky Christian University for the 2010/2011 fiscal year is $13,927,477. The combined total budgeted revenue from Tuition/Student Fees/Room and Board is $11.3M, or 83%. This leaves over $2.5M, (approximately $4,500 more per student) in necessary additional revenue in order to meet budget. The majority of this additional revenue comes in the form of private gifts from individuals, churches and grants. One can quickly deduct that were it not for supportive and committed stewardship partners, KCU would not be able to keep the cost of a college education affordable.

On the expense side of the equation two areas should be noted. First, reference the section of the chart entitled “KCU Student Aid (scholarships).” Although KCU is a very reasonably priced private college (see graphic on page 4), we know that many families struggle to afford to send their students; therefore KCU invests $3.1M from our annual operating budget to assist families with college costs. In this sense, we refer to these scholarships as “unfunded,” meaning they are not provided by sources from outside the University, such as foundations or agencies. This significant expense is arguably the best reason for supporting the general fund with private donations. Simply put, students need these scholarships and without the help of our friends and alumni, they would not be available.

Note the expense category entitled “Instructional” expenses. This could be called the “cost of delivery” of our educational product. The relative low level of this expense demonstrates that KCU is diligent in keeping costs under control which translates into lower costs for our students.

We say thank you to the hundreds of donors, both churches and individuals, who support the KCU general fund with unrestricted gifts. You are helping to underwrite the cost of every KCU student’s education and making it possible for many to afford a college education who may not have been able to otherwise.
The Value of a KCU Education

“Value” is a word so often used in today’s culture that it seems to have almost lost its significance. From fast food meals to airline tickets, clothing to cars, “value” is a word casually thrown about by advertisers in an attempt to convince consumers that their product is the obvious choice for a discriminating shopper. At Kentucky Christian University, one of our core beliefs is that the “value” of a KCU education should be readily apparent to students and their families. Instead of a simple adjective used in an advertising catchphrase, KCU seeks to infuse value into every aspect of our educational ministry. Families who recognize the value of a KCU education consider factors such as those highlighted below.

Curricular Diversity
The curriculum at KCU is diversified with degrees granted through eight schools: the School of Arts and Sciences, the Sack School of Bible and Ministry, the School of Business, the Keeran School of Education, the School of Music, the School of Social Work and Human Services, The Yancey School of Nursing, and the School of Graduate Studies. KCU provides “big university” opportunities with the intimacy of a Bible college.

Graduate Tuition Scholarship Earned Through Undergraduate Study
Students who complete four years of undergraduate study at KCU earn a full tuition scholarship in the KCU Graduate School. Regardless of the undergraduate major obtained, students may complete a Master of Arts degree with the benefit of a full tuition scholarship!

Demonstrated Academic Rigor and Results
The educational programs of KCU demonstrate superior results. For instance, over 90% of Yancey School of Nursing graduates pass the rigorous NCLEX certification exam on their first attempt. Also, KCU graduates are exceptionally well-prepared for graduate school with 85% of alumni applying to graduate school being accepted to their school of first choice. Importantly, 89% of alumni who pursued graduate study rated their KCU academic preparation as “good” to “excellent.”

Exceptionally Well-Qualified Professors
75% of full-time faculty members hold the highest degree in their teaching field (typically a doctoral degree).

“I went to KCU because it is an accredited Christian university with outstanding academic programs and is an ideal place for learning and growing academically and spiritually.”
– Kudakwashe Mashindi

“I went to KCU because it offered a positive atmosphere, professors who truly cared about me as a person, an excellent choir, the opportunity to play volleyball and Christ as the center of my education.”
– Caitlin White
Quality Instruction
83% of KCU classes are taught by full-time faculty! As a teaching university, KCU’s educational environment is one in which the primary responsibility of every faculty member is to teach, guide, and mentor students. Part-time instructors are used sparingly.

Cost
Compared to the average cost of all private colleges, KCU is the least expensive private college in Kentucky and well below those in neighboring states.

![Cost of Tuition/Room/Board](chart)

Intercollegiate Athletic Programs
KCU offers many opportunities for student athletes interested in intercollegiate athletic competition, including men’s and women’s basketball, men’s and women’s soccer, men’s and women’s cross country, women’s volleyball, and the newest addition to the athletics lineup, football.

Heart, Mind, and Soul
Above all else, KCU seeks to educate students for Christian leadership and service in the church and professions throughout the world. At KCU, who a student becomes is just as important as what they become. While the University has grown, expanded, and developed much over the years, it has maintained the heart of a Bible college with a pervasive intent to prepare the next generation of Christian leaders to touch the world in the name of Christ.

Accredited Programs
KCU is regionally accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools, and boasts three programs holding professional accreditations: the Yancey School of Nursing (Council on Collegiate Nursing Education), the School of Social Work and Human Services (Council on Social Work Education) and the Keeran School of Education (Kentucky Education Professional Standards Board).

Safety and Security
The campus of KCU has, by God’s grace, never experienced an incident of violent crime. From ID card-activated building locks to a newly installed emergency warning system on the campus, the safety and security of our students is of paramount importance. In exit surveys conducted with each graduating senior, every student expressed satisfaction with the degree to which they felt safe.

Dynamic Campus Culture
The “college experience” moves beyond the classroom and is supported by an energetic, exciting environment. KCU supports a vibrant living and learning community aimed at developing the whole person for a lifetime of Christian leadership.

Campus Health Services
King’s Daughters Medical Center, a nationally-recognized Top 100 Hospital, operates an urgent care facility on our campus. For less serious issues, students receive excellent care from the Office of Health Services staffed by a full-time campus nurse.

“I chose KCU because of the great reputation the faculty and staff has among students and the care demonstrated by their words and actions.”
— Erich Nischan

“KCU stood out to me for several reasons, the main one being that the degree program I wanted to achieve was a passion for the professor leading it.”
— Katherine Wagner

1 Source: KCU Alumni Survey conducted by the Office of Institutional Research.
2 With the exception of two Kentucky “work schools,” who do not charge traditional tuition.
3 Kentucky Christian University is accredited by the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools to award 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 Kentucky Christian University.
4 Graduating student exit survey conducted annually and analyzed by the Office of Student Services.
5 Source: Thomson Reuters

Comparison data provided by AIKCU – Association of Independent Kentucky Colleges and Universities. Costs based on 32 credit hours.
Spent just a few minutes with Mary Frances Swartz and you immediately get a sense for why she was a successful educator of children. Frankie, which is the name she is quick to point out she is called by her closest friends, taught first graders in the Forest Hills School District of Cincinnati, Ohio for 33 years. Her affable, light-hearted spirit is simply captivating and her engaging, effortless manner of socializing puts all visitors to her home immediately at ease.

Frankie, an only child who never married, grew up in the small eastern Kentucky town of Olympia where her father ran A. Swartz and Son, the local general store originally established by his mother. Frankie recalls working and helping around the store as a young girl and how it was a popular gathering place for all the “locals” in the area. “If those old folks were around today, why they would be able to solve all of the world’s problems,” quipped Frankie.

Perhaps her most endearing memory growing up is her years at Olympia Christian Church. Her father and maternal grandfather were elders in the church and their family life truly centered around the little congregation. “I remember the great revivals at Olympia and oh, the wonderful speakers that came from Kentucky Christian College.” It is the young men that came from that little Bible college that seems to most endear Frankie to KCU. “I remember those wonderful young men who came and preached for us. Men like J.W. Jordan (KCU ’49), A. J. Grimmett (KCU ’49), and then there were Professors such as Lester Pifer and Tom Gemeinhart. And, though he was not from KCU, who could forget Wayne B. Smith? David Pieratt (KCU ’52) came nearly every summer for a revival. He was one of my favorites. We could not afford to pay much, but we fed them, put gas in their car, often gave them items of clothing and provided rooms for them in our homes. Willard Johnson (KCU ’62) was one of our own from Olympia.”

Frankie is a 1954 graduate of Morehead State University and retired from teaching in 1987. The years have not slowed her down. At 78 years young she is active among her friends and local church family at Slate Valley Christian Church in Owingsville, Kentucky, where she has played piano for nearly 14 years. When contacting her to make arrangements for this article, it was clear I would have to wait, as her social calendar was booked until the following week!

This wonderful partner has supported Kentucky Christian University financially for over 25 years. Her monthly gifts, though modest in size, have been consistent and over time have grown into thousands of dollars in support of the Christian educational ministry of KCU. When asked about the driving force behind her faithful, sustaining gifts there was no hesitation in her voice, “I just think back to all those young preachers and professors from KCU who ministered sacrificially to our little congregation in Olympia. As I have said, we couldn’t pay them much of anything. I suppose that in some way I want my gifts to show my appreciation for what KCU has done for me and the contribution it has made to my own Christian heritage. I want to see more young people educated to do the same for others.”

On a shelf in the Swartz home is a small plaque. It reads, “Teaching is a work of the heart.” I would add: so is the sacrificial, generous support of our dear friend, Frankie.
On April 1, 2010 Kentucky Christian University, Carter County Schools and Lewis County Schools received a $350,000 grant from the USDA’s Rural Utilities Service (RUS) to enable the delivery of University coursework to local high school students.

The grant is a natural progression of the Out of the Blocks program implemented by KCU in 2007 through which Carter County students earn up to 18 credit hours of accredited university coursework before graduating from high school. While the current program involves Carter County students studying on the campus of KCU, the RUS grant will allow for college coursework to be delivered off campus via interactive video to Carter and Lewis County students.

Carter County Schools Superintendent Darlene Gee notes that, “upon being named Superintendent of Carter County Schools, I was eager to provide challenging academic offerings to Carter County students. Having an excellent local university with an increasing emphasis on community involvement has proven to be an excellent resource and I am proud that we were able to work collaboratively with KCU to benefit our students and I’m excited to see this concept expanded to our Lewis County neighbors.”

Students who complete college level coursework while in high school gain the advantage of having learned to complete rigorous academic study and entering college with advanced standing. They and their families also appreciate the significant cost savings of the severely discounted tuition.

The $350,000 grant will be used to install state-of-the-art interactive video equipment in classrooms in Carter and Lewis County schools, as well as at KCU.

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Ralph & Jewell White Nursing Scholarship

On April 16, 2010 Jewell Sparks White of Ashland, Kentucky visited the KCU Yancey School of Nursing and presented President Metcalf, Larry Monroe, Vice President of University Advancement, and Abby Beck, Dean of the School of Nursing, with a check in the amount of $200,000, establishing the Ralph and Jewell Sparks White Nursing Scholarship. Mrs. White had this to say about her gift: “I’ve come to realize how important good nurses are to our quality of life and I want to do something to help and encourage young people to become nurses. What better place to do this than at Kentucky Christian University where nurses are receiving a Christian nursing education.”

Jewell was greeted by nursing faculty and several students who offered their personal thanks and hugs.

The late Ralph White was a successful contractor in the tri-state area. We thank God for Mrs. White, a dear partner of KCU, for her generous investment in the lives of students in the Yancey School of Nursing.
In Memory/Honor
Gladys C. Ackley
By: Judy Calvert
Loretta Dixon
Helen Broxon
By: M/M R. Richard Broxon
Virginia Cavish
Martha Davson
Jane Fleischaker
M/M David L. Frederick
Sharon Goble
Jeanette Heckinger
Martha Lillard & Friends:
Alice, Becky, Carol, Cheryl, Evie, Jane, Joyce, Nancy, & Susan
Patricia McCane
New Burlington Church of Christ
Cincinnati, OH
Southeast Christian Church
Louisville, KY
Wilma Steveman
Margaret C. Stelzer
Barbara Venkel ease
Everett Burke
By: Mary Anna Marshall
Edith Hodgers Butler
By: M/M Michael Marshall
Jean Creamer
By: M/M Lor an Dace
Lucille Feeback (HONOR)
By: Martha Taylor
Robert Gray
By: M/M Lor an Dace
Mrs. Wilma Gray
Freddie Griffith
By: Clara Griffith
Nola Griffith
Kenneth L. Hill
By: M/M Raymond Griffith
Richard “Dick” Jenkins
By: Victoria L. Snyder
Sam P. Jones
By: Arnold’s Creek Christian Church
Middlebourne, WV
Louise Landman
By: Betty Hosler McCoy
Mabel Malick
By: Elizabeth Boyd
Cora Gaither
Dr. & Mrs. Jeff Metcalf
M/M Larry Metcalf
M/M Clifford Petrey
M/M Carlos Wolfe
Stephen Wolfe
Anne Wollmann-Storey
Mr. & Mrs. Leonard Marshall
By: M/M Michael Marshall
D. L. McDavid
By: Myra Richmond Henry
Miss Alice Morgan
By: M/M Alva Ray Russell
Delilah Brock Morrison
By: Ralph E. Morrison
Dr. Donald A. Nash
By: Beattyville Christian Church
Beattyville, KY
M/M Herbert Campbell
Commercial Bank of Grayson
M/M Lor an Dace
Joseph Dixon
M/M Kerns Eggleton
First National Bank of Grayson
Donald Griffith
M/M John Jordan
LaVern Kams
M/M Terry Marshall
McDonalds of Grayson
Dr. & Mrs. John Mink
James E. Nipper
Mrs. David F. Pieratt
M/M Alva Ray Russell
Saltair Church of Christ
Bethel, OH
Victoria L. Snyder
M/M Mark Strother
University of Kentucky
Robert E. Wickline
M/K eth R. Dixon
Robertta Pacheco
By: M/M Alva Ray Russell
David Pieratt
By: M/M Alva Ray Russell
Dorine Purtlebaugh
By: M/M Alva Ray Russell
Mary Sanders
By: James E. Nipper
Mrs. David F. Pieratt
M/M Alva Ray Russell
William J. Sheasman
By: M/M Alva Ray Russell
Edna Baughman Smith
By: M/M Alva Ray Russell
Jacob L. Thomas
By: Eloise H. Pitts
Mrs. June Walters
By: M/M Lor an Dace
M/M A. Ray Russell
Mrs. Elva Young
By: Susan Adkins
Beattyville Christian Church
Beattyville, KY
Charles Carter
M/M Gene Cocanougher
Mary Ruth Cole
M/M Lor an Dace
M/M R. W. Ellington
Sylvia Giese
Nan Griffith
Gerald Hoffer
M/M John Jordan
Donna & Del Junker
Lynda Martin
Patrick Massie
Roger Rankin
M/M Ralph Reec e
M/M Wallace Rendel
Norma Rogers
M/M David Rosenbaum
M/M Vyron A. Smiley, Jr.
June Cole Terry
Michelle E. Waggoner
M/M Brad Walden
Elaine Wesley
M/M David Williams
Joseph Young
Dr. L. Palmer Young
Andrea Damron Memorial Scholarship
By: Oak Grove Church of Christ
Grayson, KY
Dick Damron Memorial Scholarship
By: Oak Grove Church of Christ
Grayson, KY
Denny & Cheryl Deborde Scholarship
By: David Deborde
John E. Eggleton Scholarship
By: M/M Paul Eggleton
M/M Arthur G. Hurst
Essick Memorial Scholarship
By: M/M Billy Essick
Linda White
David & Ruth Gray Memorial Scholarship
By: Sandi Johnson
Dr. Charles Gresham Memorial Scholarship
By: Janelda Gresham Mitchell
Oak Grove Church of Christ
Grayson, KY
Ard Hoven Scholarship
By: Vicki L. Hoven
Keith P. Keenan Ministerial Scholarship
By: Art Bush Ministry, Inc.
Mike & Mary Jo Leavitt Memorial Scholarship
By: Harmony Christian Church
Elwood, IN
Janet Stacy
Trenton & Ellen Merricks Ministerial Scholarship
By: M/M Trenton Merricks
Eryb & Lorraine Messimer Scholarship
By: Dr. & Mrs. Jim Messimer
M/M Ronald Messimer
Mr. Wendell Messimer
Carol Phillips Memorial Scholarship
By: Oak Grove Church of Christ
Grayson, KY
William Peeples Scholarship
By: William Peeples
Lee Snyder Memorial Scholarship
By: Ruby N. Truitt
Southland Manufacturing Scholarship
By: Dr. & Mrs. Jack Dyer
Spence/Reid Memorial Scholarship
By: Dr. Leonard Knight
Wick H. Struther Scholarship
By: Commercial Bank of Grayson
Ralph & Jewell White Nursing Scholarship
By: Jewell Sparks White
Bethany Wray Taylor Scholarship
By: M/M Barry Taylor
Dr. L. Palmer Young Scholarship
By: William A. Clem
Norma Rogers
Gifts of Estate & Trust:
Maude Belle & William B. Brown Memorial Trust
Edward Isaacs Family Trust
Estate of Frances Kindelberger
Estate of Christina H. Ross
Other Gifts: Annuity & Scholarships
M/M Tom Bender
Phillip & Carol DeMotte
Mrs. Rose McCann
New Lisbon Christian Church
New Lisbon, IN
Mrs. Mary Sweany Raycraft
M/M Robert A. Sealock
Mrs. Helen D. Stevenson
Lora Suttles
Union Christian Church
Hodgenville, KY
M/E El Wallace
M/M Bobby Waters
Wellsburg Christian Church
Wellsburg, WV
M/M Guy Weaver
M/R. William Wittmann

Please Note: We have made every effort to ensure the accuracy of this information. Should you discover an error, please accept our sincere apology and bring it to our attention so that we can correct our records.
KCU’s approach to estate planning stewardship is centered on a tool known as a Living Trust. Here are just a few of the benefits of a Living Trust:

- The Living Trust can keep your estate from going through the high costs and delays of probate.
- The Living Trust gives you complete control over your assets.
- The Living Trust does not become a public document after death, unlike a common Will which is subject to probate.
- At the time of death, whomever has been named at the time a Living Trust was established will immediately take over control of assets and distribute them to exact instructions. There are no required waiting periods to pass on to an estate.
- A legal “Guardian” can be named in a Living Trust to care for minor children at the time of death. Additionally, a “Conservator” can be named should you become disabled.
- Assets are easily placed in the Living Trust by changing the title on stocks, real estate, bank accounts, etc. Once in the Trust, property is titled in the name of the Trust. Assets in the Trust remain within your control – you enjoy them, sell them or do with them what you choose, as you are the owner of your assets, as Trustee of your Living Trust.
- Living Trusts are completely revocable and may be amended at any time in your lifetime.

KCU has developed a free, no obligation 60 minute seminar that explains in detail the benefits of a Living Trust. To discuss how this Living Trust Seminar can benefit you and others in your church, contact Larry Monroe, Vice President of University Advancement at 606-474-3282 or by email at lmonroe@kcu.edu.

“Estate Planning Stewardship”

Nearly 60% of Americans die without a will or an estate plan of any kind. This can be difficult to imagine when considering that end of life planning can include such critical areas as determining care of minor children, medical options and the dispensing of assets in ways that most honor the intentions and priorities of the deceased. Estate planning is important and need not be complicated or intimidating.

“Kroger Card Users Speak Out”

Join the growing list of KCU friends and alumni supporting Christian higher education with their grocery, pharmacy and gas dollars. Kroger will send 4% of every dollar spent to KCU!

Go to www.kcu.edu/kroger for details and to request your free card(s). You may also call 606-474-3282 for additional information.

“We love this program. It’s very easy and quick to load money on the card and it helps us stick to our grocery budget.

Another special thing about the program is that I don’t see it as a ‘fund raiser’ because we aren’t being asked to give money to KCU or sell anything for KCU. I like knowing that 4% of our grocery and gas money goes to KCU and it feels good knowing we can contribute to the Christian education of students. Offering this program was an excellent stewardship decision. Thank you for giving us this opportunity.”

**Jeff and Paula Durbin**

“My Kroger card is loaded and ready to use tomorrow for Senior Discount Day. I can hardly wait. Can you send me some more applications for my friends? I can easily hand out a dozen or more!”

**Glenda Petrey**
Who doesn’t get excited about a “buy one get one free” offer? Doubling the impact of any investment means a lot and gifts to Kentucky Christian University are no exception.

Did you know that with an employer sponsored Matching Gifts Program you can often double or sometimes even triple gifts to KCU? In fact, in the last several years friends and alumni of KCU have generated over $115,000 in matching gifts to the University from their employers! This benefit is often available to retired employees as well.

Check out what KCU stewardship partners Larry and Patsy Stowers have to say about matching gift programs. Larry is retired from Eli Lilly and he and Patsy are the parents of KCU alum Julie Stowers Waldrip (’93).

“By using the Matching Gifts Program at Lilly the impact of our individual gifts to KCU are greatly increased. We are retired, and as is usually the case, there are limits to how much Lilly will match, though the impact to KCU is still terrific! In the case of active employees, the impact of gifts can easily be doubled or possibly tripled.

Matching gifts are not only a great benefit to KCU and an encouragement to the individual donor to give, but these programs also give the sponsoring corporation the opportunity to be good public citizens in supporting worthy organizations such as educational institutions, cultural organizations, and health organizations. We encourage every KCU stewardship partner who works for, or is retired from a corporation to find out if they can take advantage of a Matching Gifts Program.”

To find out if your employer offers a Matching Gifts Program contact your Human Resource Department. A partial list of companies offering this benefit can also be found on the KCU website at www.kcu.edu. For assistance completing the necessary matching gift forms provided by your employer contact the KCU Business Office at 606-474-3209.

The following is a partial list of the corporations that have provided matching gifts to KCU:

The President’s Circle is comprised of people who support the Christ-centered educational ministry of KCU through gifts to the general fund.

Members commit to: pray God will work through the lives of KCU students, faculty, staff, alumni and stewardship partners; promote KCU by encouraging family, friends, and associates within their churches and communities to explore the University and the opportunities it offers; and, provide consistent financial support of at least $600 per year to the KCU General Fund from which over $2M dollars annually goes to student scholarships.

Members receive a beautifully crafted pin for their respective level of annual giving:

Information about the President’s Circle can be obtained at www.kcu.edu or by calling or emailing Larry Monroe at 606-474-3282 or lmonroe@kcu.edu.
First Christian Church of Salem, Illinois: A Sending Church

First Christian Church of Salem is a Covenant Church among KCU’s top 20 supporting churches and is located in a city of less than 8,000 with a county-wide population of approximately 40,000. Phil and Kim Martin are both 1985 graduates of KCU and have been serving the Lord at FCC for over 20 years. The Martin’s son Kyle is a 2008 graduate of KCU.

Just inside the front door of the First Christian Church (FCC) of Salem, Illinois on the wall adjacent to the Welcome Center are 17 framed photographs. It is an area Senior Minister Phil Martin refers to as “The Wall of Timothys.” One of the photographs is of Phil, himself a Timothy of FCC.

It all began in 1964 when a few visionary church leaders decided to follow the example of the Apostle Paul who, after meeting a young man named Timothy during his second missionary journey, took him along with him and later sent him out as a minister of the gospel. These church leaders resolved to send out “Timothys” from within their own congregation and help make it possible for them to attend a Restoration Movement college by providing tuition assistance.

To date, FCC’s investment exceeds $250,000 for over fifty students, thirty-seven in the past fifteen years. Eleven Timothys currently serve churches full-time, two are on staff at Christian universities/colleges, three are in mission work and one is working for a Christian children’s home. Of the thirteen students currently supported, twelve plan to enter full-time ministry or mission work.

FCC’s commitment goes far beyond their financial support. Members also encourage young people to consider a Christian vocation. Phil speaks to this encouragement and how it impacted him personally by saying, “I can recall as a young person having adults encourage me to enter Bible College and become a preacher. I think that too often the focus is on our kids getting a degree that will lead to the most lucrative career. The words of encouragement I received so many years ago helped persuade me to enroll at Kentucky Christian University. I am pleased to say that this kind of encouragement continues in this church today.”

Thank God for “Sending” Churches!

Covenant Churches receive several program benefits including, but not limited to: a $2,000 scholarship for qualifying students attending KCU, two free passes to Summer in the Son, and a 50% discount for full time staff attending the KCU Graduate School. For information about qualifications or becoming a Covenant Church, contact Al Serhal, Director of Church Relations at 606-474-3298 or at aserhal@kcu.edu.
I remember distinctly the spring day in 1998 I first became acquainted with Thomas L. Scott. I was serving as the leader of KCU’s regional accreditation reaffirmation process for the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS), and then-president Dr. Keith Keeran and I were meeting in his office concerning the upcoming visit by a team of expert evaluators. One of the points of vulnerability we discussed was Young Library, and the situation was exacerbated by the sudden resignation of the director of the library. A palpable sense of tension and anxiety was interrupted by a tap at the door. “Sorry to interrupt” said Dr. Keeran’s administrative assistant, Terri Waggoner, “but I thought you might want to see this.” She then delivered the day’s mail which included a resume and application for employment from Thomas L. Scott, an accomplished librarian from Michigan who felt the Lord’s call to serve in an educational ministry, and the man who would spend the next 12 years applying transformational leadership in turning Young Library into a source of institutional pride. It was one of a series of recurring instances which have served as spiritual markers in the life of Kentucky Christian University — God raises up the right individuals to serve at the right time.

Under Mr. Scott’s able leadership, Young Library has become a model of efficiency, robustness, and customer service. KCU’s Young Library may be nested on a small campus in eastern Kentucky, but Mr. Scott quickly set about creating a “library without walls” to serve the needs of learners on the KCU campus as well as across the world. Mr. Scott led the digitization of the well-worn card catalog, secured hundreds of thousands of online resources, including membership in the nationally acclaimed Bowen Central Library Project administered by the Appalachian College Association, and oversaw the creation of a Web interface to allow for library research and acquisition unbounded by operating hours.

As much as we will miss Mr. Scott’s professional acumen, it is his collegial nature that will prove most difficult to replace. We have all become accustomed to his notes alerting us of materials which may be of personal interest; spoiled in the near immediate response to requests for learning resources; and, importantly, we have all become accustomed to the gentlemanly, articulate, and thoughtful manner in which he invested his efforts to ensure the success of those around him. Well done, Mr. Scott!
Bachelor of Arts
Willie Grills
Kenneth Harbolt
Michael Harris
Ian Jones
Jacob Miller
Brian Neyhart
Christopher Sinnett
Huguen ST Jean
Jodi Thomas
Keven Widener

Bachelor of Business Admin.
Andrew Costilow
Luke Dixon
Nicole Glover
Katie Koester
Ronnie Smith, Jr.
Joanna Stillwell
Caitlin White
Mark Woods

Bachelor of Science
Daniel Adams
Lindsey Alexander
Ashley Baldwin
Megan Becker
Amanda Bridget
Tiffany Brown
Natalie Bush
Kari Campbell
Candice Carpenter
Kristin Clark
Nicole Cobb
Vernon Dickens
Stacy Dreiling
Breanna Dunfee
Nicole Eggleston
Anna Ferris
Cassandra Furco
Demarius Gulley
Whitney Hays
Kristin Hecht
Kara Hedges
Rachel Hunt
Austin Hunter
Michael Johnson
Abbigayle Keller
Tyler Martin
Leslie Melvin-Boardman
Jana Merrill
Jena Miley
Bradley Montgomery
Rachel Morris
Sarah Morris
Shaina Nailleux
Katee Neltner
Aimee Nicks
Erich Nischan
Jessica Phelps
Youvika Pierre-Gelin
Sean Plank
Emily Prosise
Amanda Sally
Shadow Skaggs
Michelle Smith
Amanda Speakes
Heather Stacy
Bryan Starr
Jerrie Stephens
Michael Turner
Nicole Vance
Leah Vuyovich
Katherine Wagner
Katrina Weldy
Elizabeth White
Shaun Whitt
Stephanie Wood
Erin Younkin

Bachelor of Social Work
Amy Carr
Kudakwashe Mashindi
Kendra Pigg
Kelli Young

Master of Arts
Kurtis Charlton
Juan de Leon-Gutierrez
Ryan Duncan
The graduates at this year’s commencement were especially honored by the presence of one of Kentucky’s favorite and most influential persons. Wayne B. Smith has endeared himself to countless people across the country and he is one of the most loved and respected people in the Commonwealth of Kentucky. His life and ministry has literally touched thousands of people from the humblest residents to the power brokers in the governor’s office. He has been a friend to the poor, counselor to the rich, and the conscience of decision-makers. Former Kentucky Governor Ernie Fletcher may have said it best, “He’d uncover our sins and inconsistencies and cover them with the love of Christ in the balm of laughter.”

It is no wonder that when the University wanted to name its 2.8 million dollar Center for Christian Leadership, that it would name it for an outstanding preacher and Christian leader with unquestioned integrity and someone whose love for people was not restricted to those who would love him in return. Wayne B. Smith was the only name ever considered by the University Board of Trustees. The naming of the “Smith Center” happened in the year 2000 and the building which now houses the Keeran School of Education, the Sack School of Bible and Ministry, the School of Business, and the Graduate School was dedicated on May 4 of that year and carried a mortgage of $1.275 million.

During this year’s May 8th commencement, Wayne Smith delivered a celebratory address to the graduates in the presence of an enthusiastic audience of family and friends and then assisted Chancellor Keeran with the burning of the mortgage on the Wayne B. Smith Center for Christian Leadership.
With very little fanfare this year’s senior members on the KCU Lady Knights basketball team have put their imprint on a familiar term - “Student Athlete.”

With story after story in the national media about low graduation rates and even lower GPAs for athletes it is refreshing to recognize athletes who are indeed serious students. Consider these four Lady Knights and their GPAs as examples: Kristin Hecht 3.67; Kelli Jo Young 3.60; Heather Stacy 3.68; Ashley Baldwin 3.20 (in Nursing, arguably the most rigorous academic track at KCU or anywhere for that matter). Those are some impressive academic achievements and, they can play basketball with the best. Hecht was a First Team All American twice and the NCCAA II National Player of the Year in 2010. She was also the National Tournament MVP in 2009. Stacy and Young were very instrumental in the last two championships while Baldwin finished her career with 500 assists, 5th all time for the Lady Knights.

In March of 2010 these four ladies joined a very select group when they won their fourth consecutive national basketball championship. Fewer than 20 athletes anywhere have accomplished this feat. Add this to their academic accomplishments and one could say they are “Super Seniors” – all four graduated in four years. These ladies have contributed significantly to the success of the KCU team, both on the basketball floor and in the classroom. Congratulations to these outstanding KCU students and to the KCU Lady Knights basketball team.
KCU Students Connect with Churches and Camps

Student Ambassadors

The 2009/2010 academic year saw the kickoff of the Student Ambassador Program, initiated by President Metcalf and designed to engage premier students as representatives of KCU both on and off campus.

Ambassadors assist with on-campus high school events including Sneak Preview, Bible Bowl, and Days of Future Knights. Off campus, Ambassadors travel in five teams representing KCU at churches, conventions, rallies and other youth related events. Each team is made up of two males and two females and includes students who preach, lead music, drama and share personal testimonies. Members are selected based upon their ability to effectively represent Christ and the University.

In the course of their travels Ambassadors naturally engage high school students contemplating their own college plans and as a result play a key role encouraging young people to check out KCU. In the first five months of the program, the Student Ambassadors averaged two weekend trips per month which resulted in 401 high school student interest cards and 19 enrollment applications!

Camp Teams

Over the years, Kentucky Christian University has served countless summer camps and Vacation Bible Schools through the Outreach Teams of Destiny and VIP (Voices In Praise) which were considered by many to be among the finest small vocal ensembles at any collegiate level.

Over the past five years KCU has been fielding teams comprised of students from almost every discipline taught at the University, trained to meet the ever changing needs of Christian camps. Each team has a member qualified to lead worship; provide messages ranging from full sermons to campfire devotions, and every member is equipped to help campers find Christ and establish a closer relationship with Him.

The fine young men and women comprising KCU’s Camp Teams truly represent the very heart of Kentucky Christian University by their dedication to “the Great Commission.”

For information about scheduling a KCU Outreach Team for your church or camp or other youth group function contact: Vickie Marshall (606)-474-3127 or vmarshall@kcu.edu.

2009 The Bridge

Leaders Impacting the Next Generation

Church Planting

Now in its fourth year, The Bridge continues to inspire KCU ministry students. This year we host some of the Country’s most distinguished leaders in church planting. During their time on campus, these leaders will be sharing their hearts with students by preaching in chapel and lecturing in class sessions. This year’s speakers include:

Bobby Duncan (September 7–9): Minister, Journey Church, Cynthiana, KY.
Brian Jones (October 5–7): Lead Minister, Christ’s Church of the Valley, Philadelphia, PA.
Paul Williams (October 12–14): Veteran Church Planter, Chairman of The Orchard Group and Editor at Large, Christian Standard.
Phil Claycomb (November 2–4): Director of Dallas, TX-based Nexus Church Planting & Leader Care.

All sessions of The Bridge are open to the public. For more information, contact Jane Shick at 606-474-3253 or jshick@kcu.edu.
“SECOND CAREER” PARTNER

“You don’t know me, but we have a mutual friend, Leroy Lawson, who suggested that I give you a call” began the telephone conversation between Dr. Stan Archer and then-president of KCU, Dr. Keith Keeran. Dr. Archer was spending his early retirement years on a farm in South Central Kentucky, but as a microbiologist who had navigated a successful career in allergy testing and treatment, felt restless and “still had something left in the tank.” Dr. Archer contacted a minister friend, Mr. Lawson, and said, “I’m trying to find out what God wants me to do next.” Knowing his professional and academic acumen, and his proximity to the KCU campus, Mr. Lawson suggested he contact the University. “Could the University use a fellow with a Ph.D. in microbiology? I have been fortunate enough to retire comfortably so salary is not an issue, I just want to serve the Lord.” Within months, Dr. Archer had relocated to Grayson and had joined the ranks of the KCU faculty!

With the gusto that carried Dr. Archer to a successful entrepreneurial career, he has taken the KCU academic community by storm! He has quickly become a student favorite both in and outside the classroom. In response to a question about his experience thus far, Dr. Archer says:

“It is the students that make this University so very special, their authenticity and their passion for Christ. It is the faculty–student interaction of a small campus. We know each other, we help each other, we challenge each other, and we even have fun together! It doesn’t end when the class period ends; more often than not, that is just when it starts. It is hard work, but rewarding beyond anything I have ever encountered. I often thank God for Leroy Lawson and his counsel to go to Kentucky Christian University!”

We are thankful God led this special “second career” partner to the educational ministry of KCU! “

Faith Promise has long been a part of the KCU tradition. This year, the campus community gave over $22,000 during weekly Chapel offerings. These gifts went to cross-cultural ministry endeavors led by several KCU Alumni. Projects included helping to build wells in Mongolia with Team Expansion, assisting with a church plant in New Zealand with the Hutchisons, funding a film project about Jesus for the Burmese through Good News Productions, and partnering for some important disaster relief with the Hands & Feet Project in Haiti.

We’re anxious about the opportunity to have the National Missionary Convention, scheduled for November 18-20 in Lexington, Kentucky. Hope to see you there!

Can You Dig It?

During a majority of the month of May, Dr. Ralph Hawkins, Professor of Bible & Archaeological Studies, and his wife Cathy, a student in the KCU Graduate School, and undergraduate Ministry student, Zach Cool, traveled to Jordan where they participated in an archeological dig.

The excavation took place at Tall Jalull, the largest mound in central Jordan, thought to possibly be the site of Biblical Heshbon, the Amorite capital of Sihon against which the Israelites fought in Numbers 21. The Bible describes Heshbon as having multiple “pools” (Song of Solomon 7:4). In 2009, a water channel was found at this location that connects a reservoir on the upper mound to a network of pools in the lower city which may reinforce the site’s identity as Biblical Heshbon.
KCU Senior Receives Presidential Award

Chris Sinnett, 2010 Bachelor of Arts in Biblical Studies and Humanities graduate, received a national service award from President Barak Obama. This recognition was for outstanding volunteer service to the local community. As part of his major, Chris completed a required internship as a volunteer at the new Grayson public library where he helped design a bookmobile service for the community and currently serves as Director of the Bookmobile Project.

In presenting him with the award, Director of Library Services Jussie Minor cited Chris’s “outstanding service and unwavering commitment” to the advent of public library services in Carter County. “Chris’s passion for learning, reading, and study in numerous fields was a perfect fit for the broad education offered in the KCU Humanities Program,” says Program Director Dr. Charlie W. Starr. Chris begins studies toward a Masters of Arts in English at Morehead State in Fall 2010 and also hopes to do a Masters of Library Science in the future.

Partnering in Service

As Faculty Marshal, Dr. Mitch Marshall challenged his faculty colleagues to partner with the KCU Maintenance Department in painting a dormitory (West Hall). During the two weeks following the close of the spring semester, Dr. Marshall led a highly educated painting crew that prepped and painted the entire facility. A special thanks to Dr. Marshall for “marshaling the troops,” and saving the University around $12,000 in the process! Thanks, also, to the following volunteer faculty partners: Dean Brand, Diane Caudill, Miranda Davis, Dennis Durst, Bethany Dyer, David Fiensy, Karen Ford, Wes Golightly, Anna Kautzman, Fawn Knight, Leonard Knight, Jeff Metcalf, and Perry Stepp.

KCU Undergoes Accreditation Reviews

By Dr. Perry L. Stepp, Vice President for Academic Affairs

The past year at Kentucky Christian University may be described as a season of accreditation. The University has gone through a successful accreditation visit from its regional accreditor, the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS) and two of our academic units, the Social Work program and the Yancey School of Nursing, have successfully completed accreditation processes at the program level.

Accreditation gauges and validates how well we educate and do what institutions of higher education are supposed to do. It’s like an audit, or a health checkup for the whole school. It confirms the things we’re doing well, and it shows us where we need to improve and how to go about making necessary improvements.

The team from SACS visited KCU in March 2010 following an exhaustive review of compliance materials by an off-site committee in November 2009. The committee analyzed every area of campus life and curriculum, including finances, dormitory life, professors’ credentials, library, and classes required for our degrees. There is work to be done in following up on the accreditation visit, but given the thoroughness of the process, we are extremely pleased with the outcome of the visit.

In October 2009, an accrediting team from the Council on Collegiate Nursing Education visited our campus. In the exit conference, where the committee reported findings, the team was unreserved in their praise for KCU and the Yancey School of Nursing. So impressed was the review team that they offered no recommendations for improvement while recommending that the program receive full accreditation for a ten year period, the most positive recommendation they can give!

Finally, the Council on Social Work Education visited KCU in April 2010 to conduct a decennial review of the Social Work program. The program was rigorously assessed and, while the official outcome of the visit has not yet been released, all indications point toward an extremely positive outcome.

All these accreditation processes going at the same time has made the past year somewhat stressful, but it brings great benefits to KCU allowing us to be the best we can be, and do all things with excellence.
KCU Students Partnering Abroad

Professors David Messer and James Sapp led a group of six students to the Dominican Republic focusing on Orphanage Outreach. The team "ministered" in many ways by visiting: the Mother Theresa Foundation; centers for drug/alcohol and physical rehabilitation; the federal prison; other social agencies in Monte Cristi; and, a school where they were able to teach English classes. During four days of clinics in the impoverished banana plantations, students helped a team of 60 doctors, dentists and medical students who saw between 70-120 men, women and children daily. Living among the orphans and seeing true abstract poverty was a life changing experience for every student. The memories will live in their hearts forever. ✩

Members of the Lady Knights soccer team traveled to Hawaii to conduct a V.B.S. clinic and hold revival services at the Central Oahu Christian Church. Coach Al Serhal and Dr. Stan Archer (Professor of Biology, Chemistry at KCU) led the team with coach Serhal doing the revival preaching. The trip included a visit to the Sunset Beach Christian School, where KCU Alum Eleanor Otake (‘62) has served for over 40 years. There were plenty of opportunities for site seeing as well as some quality time on the beautiful beaches of Hawaii. ✩

KCU student Joshua Rouse, who practically grew up on the mission field in Haiti led ten KCU students to the island with an organization called Northwest Haiti Christian Mission (NWHCM). The team took a V.B.S. program to remote areas and worked with NWHCM’s orphanges, medical programs, sports camps, prison ministries and feeding programs which serve over 20,000 people daily. Josh saw the group’s impact and how they grew closer in many ways. “It was amazing to see the impact we had in such a short amount of time. We grew closer to one another and to Christ as we matured in our relationship with Him.” Josh would like to return to Haiti with another group in 2011 and encourages more students to go saying, “This trip will change your life.” ✩

Dr. John Wineland, Professor of History and Archaeology led a group of KCU students on a trip to the Holy Land. The trip began in Amman, Jordan, continued to: Tell Hasban; Mt. Nebo; Madaba; the lush green hills of Jordan to Karak; Petra; and, Israel. Once in Israel the group visited: Masada; Qumran, the region where the Dead Sea Scroll were discovered; Jericho; and, spent a night atop the Mount of Olives. A highlight was time spent in and around Jerusalem which included Bethlehem, Caesarea and a boat ride on the Sea of Galilee. This life changing trip will be remembered by these students for the rest of their lives! ✩
KCU Fall Homecoming 2010 welcomes KCU alums Mark Stuart and Will McGinniss from Audio Adrenaline along with the Know Hope Collective. The Collective, featuring Mark, Will and some of their favorite emerging voices of worship, have put together an evening that will not only bring back the Grammy award winning sounds of Audio Adrenaline, but will also encourage audiences of all ages with stories of hope and mission, and lead them into an intimate and unforgettable night of worship. Join us Friday night, October 8, 2010 in Nash Chapel.

We’re still putting together all of the details for this great weekend, including special guests, KCU athletic events, Alumni banquet, golf outing, reunions, Alumni bonfire, a motorcycle ride, crowning of 2010 Fall Homecoming Queen, and lots more.

The events will conclude on Saturday as the KCU Knights football team takes on the University of Virginia-Wise. Watch for more Fall Homecoming details as they develop through the E-Insider and the KCU website. Mark your calendars and join us October 8-9! 🎉

North American Christian Convention
July 6-9 • Indianapolis

We’ll be there to not only enjoy the convention, but to connect with many of you! Only able to come for a day? Why not make that day Wednesday the 7th. Our annual KCU Alumni & Friends reception will take place at 8:30 pm in the Hyatt Regency ‘Regency Ballroom’ (connected to the Indiana Convention Center). This reception is always a great time of fellowship, reconnecting with old friends, and meeting new faces. Stop by booth 201 and say hello! 🎉
Announcing Patron Knight, the partnership program for alumni to help you connect with your alma mater’s ministry of Christian higher education.

We continually hear alumni almost apologizing for the fact they cannot give more to KCU - “I can’t afford to give much to KCU and besides, how could my meager gift possibly help?” Sustained gifts to KCU, regardless of the amount, can make a very big difference in the lives of KCU students.

Patron Knights, with God’s help pledge at least $25 per month in unrestricted gifts to support the KCU General Fund from which over $2M are paid annually in student scholarships.

Experience the joy of becoming an active financial partner with your alma mater as a Patron Knight.

One of the highlights of my day is seeing new names appear on the list of Patron Knights! The fact is, it “costs” KCU thousands of dollars more per year to educate each student than they can afford to pay in tuition and fees. One of the most common misconceptions, though, I encounter is the general assumption that only wealthy individuals are able to provide meaningful support. Nothing could be further from the truth, and I am thankful that the Patron Knight program provides the opportunity for KCU to communicate the value of modest monthly giving. Your commitment as a Patron Knight serves not only to provide meaningful resources to the general fund (even relatively modest monthly gifts are important, valued, and significant), but also create a true sense of partnership as we work together to train the next generation of Christian leaders. I thank you for prayerfully considering joining me in this partnership and look forward to seeing your name appear on our Patron Knight list! 😊

For more information about the Patron Knight program:
Larry Marshall, Director of Alumni Services
606-474-3277 or lmarshall@kcu.edu

Got Memories?

We know you have many great stories of your time at KCU. We want to hear your stories, and possibly share them in future publications. Why not take a moment to send us one of your favorite memories about your experience in the foothills of the Bluegrass state?

You can do it several ways: first, why not share it on Knightline, our very own Alumni website? There’s a spot on the front page for you to share your thoughts, and it’s a great way for the rest of the Alumni family to enjoy your stories. If you haven’t joined, it’s easy. Just go to www.knightline.ning.com and sign up! You can also email your story to alumni@kcu.edu, or simply mail them to Alumni Office, 100 Academic Pkwy., Grayson, KY 41143.

We look forward to hearing your great stories, and hope to print a few of them in the future! 😊

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In Loving Memory

Cletis Bagby ('84) November 18, 2009
Kenneth L. Hill ('63) April 9, 2010
Hugh Jarrett ('56) September 24, 2008
Ruby Maggard (Former Staff) February 4, 2010
Pamela (McClain) Messer ('76) May 14, 2010
Debbie (Dawson) Pickens ('80) May 19, 2010
Marjorie June (Peters) Purtell ('51) February 9, 2010
Denver Sizemore ('42) March 2, 2010
Keith Tennant ('56) February 28, 2010

Welcome To The Family

2010 ALUMNI T-SHIRT

Each year, we provide an Alumni T-shirt to our graduating seniors. This year’s design has received rave reviews, so we’re making these shirts available again to our alumni family at large.

Orders will be taken through July 26. Cost is $12.50 (add $2 for 2x and up) and includes shipping. You can order your shirt on the Alumni page at www.kcu.edu. Prefer to send a check? Simply mail it to KCU, 100 Academic Parkway, Box 733, Grayson, KY 41143. Attn: Alumni Office. Make sure to attach a note with name, shipping address, and size!

KCU Alumni Scholarships

We’re thrilled to offer two scholarships to students of our Alumni family. The Alumni Dependent Scholarships are given to both new and returning students. Scholarship amounts are $3,000 (over four years) for students whose parent(s) attended KCU, or $4,000 (over four years) for students whose parent(s) are KCU graduates. A limited number of these scholarships are available, and application details are available for download on the Alumni page at www.kcu.edu.

Please Note: Deadline to apply is February 1, 2011

Courtney (Meaige) ('02) and Devon Maestri a son, Will, 8/4/09
Dan and Heather (Cole) ('02)
Margraff a son, Gabe, 8/9/09
Leslie (Arnold) ('98) and Eric Menix, a daughter, Haley Jane, 4/23/2010
Tim ('04) and Katie (Giese) Yankey, a daughter, Ava Elyse, 4/17/2010

Brandon ('05) and Krista (Kehrer) ('05) Dunaney, a son, Spencer, 2/27/2010
Tyler ('08) and Stephanie (Furstoss) Jones a daughter, Evelyn, 8/23/09
Michael ('06) and Stephanie Kandray ('06), a daughter, Adah, 9/8/09

Welcome

To The Family

Dr. Donald A. Nash
October 11, 1913-December 9, 2009
Beloved Husband, Father, Professor, Minister, Mentor, and Friend
Dominican Student Earns Graduate Degree

by Dr. David Fiensy, Dean

As Juan Eliezer DeLeon Gutierrez understands it, God has been pointing the way to Kentucky Christian University for quite a while. He was born in the Dominican Republic and grew up under the teaching of his father who has had a ministry there for the past forty years.

At age 15 he traveled to Costa Rica to pursue mission work. While there, someone gave him a KCU t-shirt. That was his first encounter with the institution where he would eventually earn his M.A. in New Testament. He also met one of our KCU alumni there, Aaron Arnold. These influences caused him to seriously think about KCU later on.

After graduating from college, Eliezer was looking for a place to do graduate work. His friend Sung Bauta (KCU M.A. 2009) was already enrolled in the KCU Master of Arts degree program. Under his influence, Eliezer was convinced to attend KCU.

Eliezer says that he was also attracted to the KCU graduate school for two other reasons: the great scholarship opportunities; and, the convenience of the modular and online classes. Once he arrived on campus he began to identify other benefits of the graduate program, “When I started taking the classes,” he adds, “I enjoyed the intellectual challenge and being exposed to many new ideas.”

His thesis title was: The Historical Reliability of the Resurrection Account Presented in the Emmaus Story. “I always wanted to study the resurrection of Jesus more closely but I needed to narrow down the topic. So I chose the Emmaus story,” explains Eliezer.

Eliezer, his wife, Amanda, and their son, hope to continue living in Missouri where he will enter Ph.D. work next year. After that, Eliezer wants to return to Dominican Republic to found and teach in a Bible college.