I’m especially excited to share the theme of this magazine issue with you. Sometimes there is so much good to say about Bethel College that it can be hard to know where to begin. We hear many times from visitors that they have discovered Bethel to be such a treasure, but not everyone knows about it.

Over the last year, the college has been engaged in many brainstorming sessions, meetings and discussions about how to make the Bethel message more concise and better understood. At the beginning of our annual engagement process this past spring, our communications team facilitated focus groups with alumni, friends and staff members to gather data. Thank you if you participated.

As we analyzed the data, we believe we were able to identify cohesive, creative messaging that mirrors the essence of what you (and other college constituents) told us Bethel was, based on your experiences. It was clear that the core message doesn’t change — we are still a Christ-centered institution, but we trust that this new messaging will help us articulate it better.

It was clear to us that the message that resonated with our constituents about the essence of Bethel was that of “Spirited Connections.” This will become a theme for our communication efforts. It will not replace our motto; it is still “Forward, with Christ at the Helm.” But it will mirror the essence of what you (and other college constituents) told us Bethel was, based on your experiences.

As a part of this process, the Bethel administrative team charged the marketing and communications office to begin work on some foundational marketing strategies for the college. Perhaps you recall participating in an online survey last year to help us gather data. Thank you if you participated.

As we analyzed that data, we believe we were able to identify cohesive, creative messaging that mirrors the essence of what you (and other college constituents) told us Bethel was, based on your experiences. It was clear that the core message doesn’t change — we are still a Christ-centered institution, but we trust that this new messaging will help us articulate it better.

We believe that “Spirited Connections” positions Bethel as a lively and energetic community of faith and learning. These connections are social, emotional and intellectual — and also inspired, grounded in faith and enlivened by Christ. As an intentional, value and faith-centered community of faith and learning. These connections are social, emotional and intellectual — and also inspired, grounded in faith and enlivened by Christ.

President Steven R. Cramer, Ph.D. ('75)
The statistic was convicting and haunting. It was all we could think about — knowing that this was going on and we weren’t doing anything about it. We thought these convictions would just go away. But they didn’t. They just became stronger.

That’s how Bought At A Price was born. We were three very unorganized and unsure high school boys: Luke Kilmek ('15), Jaron Birkey and me, Kevin Brown ('15), who wanted to make a difference for God. We decided to ask three girls to join our group: Bri Pierce ('15), Cydney Lock and Kiley Koeppe. Now it was the six of us trusting in God with our convictions and gaining wisdom from other nonprofit organizations. Our goal: to bring awareness about human trafficking and raise funds to help stop it.

We started raising money through selling T-shirts and hosting concerts. The comical thing about this was that none of us had ever made a shirt before, nor had we ever really planned a concert. All we had were T-shirt sales and a booth at our church, Grabill Missionary, to help advertise and get our name out in the community.

Then Bought At A Price took off like wildfire! A few months after we became an organization, the bands Disciple and Write This Down heard what we were trying to do and called to ask if they could play at our first event. Yes, they called us! We raised more than $1,500 from that event. It takes about $21 to intercept one girl out of slavery in Nepal, and through the organization Tiny Hands International, we were able to save 75 girls. More than 200 people came to the event, which blew our goal of 100 people right out of the water. We even sold out of our second line of shirts that night.

Last summer, during a worship night, we raised more than $500 for two female missionaries who are known in Thailand for working with girls trapped by human trafficking. They came to our event and talked about their experiences and we presented them with the money. It’s so exciting to see what God is doing through this ministry.

Since then, five of our group members have gone off to college — Luke, Bri and me to Bethel, Cydney to Indiana University and Kiley to Asbury in Kentucky. But Bought At A Price is still very much alive. We stay connected through Facebook and Twitter, and are planning events and concerts for this summer as a team. A few of us are looking at Bought At A Price as a potential career. And Jaron, our sixth member, who is still in high school, got another team of high schoolers together to do events back home.

Bought At A Price is making a difference in our savior’s name. We are giving a voice to those who can’t speak for themselves. To learn more, visit our blog boughtataprice620.wordpress.com.

“In Cambodia, girls as young as 5 years old are sold to up to 10 men a night.” This was the first statistic two of my friends and I ever heard about human trafficking.

“Bought At A Price is not about T-shirt sales and it’s not about big events; it’s about our obedience to God.” – Kevin Brown
Nic Bradley (’04) is living his fifth-grade dream: running his own business and working with family.

As owner and sales executive for North Star Media Group, a company he started with his brother, Ryan Bradley, and sister, Brooke Shaw, Nic also publishes Veils & Vows, Michiana’s wedding magazine.

Though working in the wedding industry might seem like a strange fit for a business major who came to Bethel to play basketball, Nic saw the magazine as a chance to fill an unmet need in the area. When both he and his sister were planning their weddings, they felt overwhelmed by all the details involved in the planning process. They wanted to create a wedding resource that would put vendors at brides’ fingertips, all in one place. Veils & Vows does just that.

In addition to being the publisher, Nic’s role with Veils & Vows involves meeting with advertisers and handling marketing. He thrives on building relationships and helping clients grow their businesses through advertising and feature articles.

“We are here to serve — clients, brides, each other,” Nic says. His favorite scripture passage is Philippians 2:3-4: “Look to the interest of others.” And he tries to implement this in his daily interactions.

Integrating faith into business is something Nic takes to heart. It’s also something that was instilled in him as a Bethel student. “When I think of the Bethel business program, I think the way Bethel trains you is how to do business,” Nic says. He credits professors like Dawn Goellner, MBA program director and associate faculty in business, who brought real-world experience from her own life and shared it in the classroom in an effort to prepare students for a career.

In Goellner’s sales and marketing courses, Nic gained confidence and learned skills that he uses today. “She has such a love for what she does — she’s inspirational. She sparks in her students belief that they can do great things.”

The lessons he learned at Bethel have served him well in business and helped him grow as a professional. And it hasn’t always been easy. Along the way, he’s faced rejection in dealing with advertisers, made mistakes he’s had to own up to and been chewed out by clients. But these obstacles have built character and perseverance.

As executive director and publisher, Nic has helped Veils & Vows grow to include more than 80 pages — a huge step up from its original 32. Ryan does all of the design in-house, including the majority of the ads, and Brooke serves as the administrative coordinator and editor.

Though there are challenges working with family day in and day out, Nic says they have a lot of fun.

In addition to Veils & Vows, North Star Media Group has acquired another regional wedding magazine, Wedding Essentials, and has expanded its scope of services to include web development and design. “We have this great ability to influence others [through our publications],” says Nic. “At the end of the day, it’s about pointing them to Christ.”
“I think that at some point in their college career, every student needs to meet one-on-one with a faculty member,” says Dustin Heath (’12) of mentoring. In his time at Bethel, Heath has had four mentors — two students and two professors — who poured into his life. Now Heath is pouring into the lives of others.

“I’m graduating. It’s time to develop students for the next four-year class,” says Heath. Mentoring has been both a humbling and growing experience for Heath, who came to Bethel with a self-described rebellious spirit. He says it was professors like his former mentor John Dendiu, Ph.D., associate professor of religion, and current mentor David McCabe, Ph.D., assistant professor of New Testament and Greek, who invested in him, that really shaped his way of thinking.

“Dr. Dendiu helped me align things that were completely crooked,” he says. “Now I see that I am here to support the institution. There is no room for rebellion in the body of Christ.”

Heath says that discipleship is the root of community at Bethel, and through serving as spiritual life director, director of vespers and resident assistant, he has seen this firsthand.

“We have community because discipleship is valued here at Bethel,” he says.

If you go to Sufficient Grounds on any given Friday afternoon, chances are you’ll hear laughter coming from a cozy little corner in the front of the coffee shop. That’s because Assistant Professor of Biology Katie Weakland, Ph.D., and Cassie Eberly (’13) meet there every week for mentoring and discipleship. And through mentoring, they’re building spirited community.

Weakland and Eberly have been meeting for the past year, since they attended a conference together and discovered they had many things in common. The most striking commonality is their steadfast desire to grow deeper in their relationships with Christ. Through Bible and book study, as well as prayer, they’ve developed a friendship.

“We encourage each other. We pray together. We’re together in this journey to become more Christlike,” Weakland says. “It’s training and discipleship.”

For Eberly, mentoring has strengthened her faith. It’s also helped her to become a better mentor to other students. “When professors model good mentoring, I learn how to be a mentor,” says Eberly, who leads a discipleship group of four students in addition to being a resident assistant in Shape Hall.

Weakland realizes the important role she plays in students’ lives. “As a faculty member, I am blessed to follow God’s command in Titus to disciple. This is not one more thing to do. It’s an opportunity to grow; to build community on campus; to bless lives,” Weakland says.

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Around Campus

2012 Commencement
Approximately 595 students plan to participate in graduation ceremonies on April 28 and 29 in the Wiekamp Athletic Center. The speaker for both ceremonies will be Sarah Kilemi, Ph.D., director with United Nations and economic advisor/co-founder of The Village Trust. For more information about graduation weekend, visit BethelCollege.edu/Academics/Graduation.

Athletic Hall of Famers Honored
Bethel hosted the 2011 Athletic Hall of Fame induction banquet in the Wiekamp Athletic Center lobby. This year’s Athletic Hall of Fame inductees included Pablo Rodriguez (’08), a four-year letter winner in soccer; Eric Stults (’02), a four-year letter winner in baseball and a two-year letter winner in basketball; and John Urbanski (’97), a four-year letter winner in baseball.

Providing Food for Neighbors in Need
Bethel took part in Neighbors in Need, a regional food drive conducted by many local colleges and universities at different times between December and March to benefit the Food Bank of Northern Indiana. Bethel’s drive concluded with “praise and pancakes,” where students fixed breakfast and held a worship service for individuals at local homeless shelters.

Bethel Named Mishawaka Business of the Year
Bethel College was named “Business of the Year” during the Mishawaka Business Association’s (MBA) annual meeting and awards dinner in February. The event was hosted at the Windsor Park Conference Center in Mishawaka.

Bethel Hosts Job Fair
A kinesiology job fair provided exercise science, kinesiology and sports management majors a chance to meet multiple graduate school representatives, as well as potential employers in the South Bend area.

Kinesiology Job Fair
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Bethel Begins High School Tutoring Program
Bethel began an after-school tutoring program at South Bend’s Washington High School this past fall. The college hired approximately a dozen students to provide tutoring in math, language arts, science and other subjects at least one afternoon per week. The program was started in an attempt to increase multicultural experiences for Bethel students by broadening their view of the world.

Bethel Launches Online Business Degree
Bethel’s nontraditional studies program now offers its first complete degree online — a bachelor’s in business. This degree offers the same strength, quality and integrated faith as traditional on-campus offerings.

Boy Scouts Attend Camp at Bethel
Bethel hosted the LaSalle Council Winter Advancement Camp 2011 for the Boy Scouts of America. This annual event brought in 350 scouts and leaders from northern Indiana, southern Michigan and eastern Illinois. This two-day camp provided the scouts with the opportunity to earn three merit badges.

MLK Day Celebrated
Afternoon classes were canceled on Martin Luther King, Jr. Day to provide the Bethel community with the opportunity to celebrate and honor their own diversity. A celebration chapel began the day’s festivities on campus. Students, faculty and staff could watch the feature film, “The Help,” take part in seminars or the Memorial March in South Bend, or attend an MLK Celebration Concert at IUSB.

Charitable Gift Annuity
In today’s uncertain markets, this is a great time to consider establishing a Charitable Gift Annuity with Bethel College.

• Attractive rates for lifetime fixed income
• Provides a future gift to Bethel College

Contact the planned giving office for details.
574.807.7490
Steve.Matteson@BethelCollege.edu

Plan to attend the 20th annual Bethel College Golf Classic to be held on June 15 at Knollwood Country Club in Granger, Ind. For information on registering or becoming a sponsor, email Mike Lightfoot at lightfm@BethelCollege.edu.

Save the Date
The Arts

A FEW OF HIS FAVORITE THINGS
Christopher Stackowicz, chair of the visual arts department, showcased his artwork last fall in “A Few of My Favorite Things,” a Weaver Art Gallery exhibit. Complete with Stackowicz’s work from the past year — including 18 drawings, two tables, six photographs and 10 prints — the goal of the exhibit was to portray the variety of media in which a professional artist can be fluent.

VISUAL ARTS, MARKETING AND COMMUNICATION CAREER EXPO
A career expo held in February offered a chance for visual arts, marketing or communication majors to meet with potential employers. Organized by the career services office, this speed networking event allowed students to practice their interviewing skills, present their resumes and portfolios, and learn about internship and job opportunities.

VOICES OF TRIUMPH OPENS IMEA CONFERENCE
Bethel’s Voices Of Triumph was invited to perform the National Anthem and several vocal jazz selections at the Indiana Music Educators Association (IMEA) annual professional development conference earlier this year. The group was honored to open the conference. The Canadian Brass was also featured in the opening session.

— LISA (GRASHORN W’07) DIAZ

LEAVING IOWA
BY TIM CLUE AND SPIKE MANTON
JUNE 1, 2, 7, 8 AT 8 P.M.
JUNE 2 MATINEE AT 2 P.M.
TICKETS ON SALE APRIL 30
CALL 574.807.7080 FOR TICKETS
OR VISIT BETHELCOLLEGE.EDU/TICKETS

2012 SPORTS CAMPS
BASKETBALL • SOFTBALL • FOOTBALL • TRACK & FIELD • VOLLEYBALL
Register online at BethelCollege.edu/Camps.
For more information, contact the athletic office at 574.807.7425.
Camps start June 6

2012 ACADEMIC CAMPS
ENTOMOLOGY • THEATRE • SCIENCE ANATOMY • INSTRUMENTAL ENSEMBLE
SPORTS COMMUNICATION • CERAMICS • YOUTH GOSPEL CHOIR
Register online at BethelCollege.edu/Camps.
For more information, contact 574.257.3427 or Academic.Camps@BethelCollege.edu.
Camps start June 11

WFRN FriendFest 2012
June 29 & 30, 2012
Amish Acres in Nappanee, Ind.

You don’t want to miss it! This awesome two-day Christian music festival features over 16 musical artists including Casting Crowns, Crowder, Tenth Avenue North, Sanctus Real, Mandisa, Sidewalk Prophets and more. Plus, enjoy a variety of FREE activities for the whole family all weekend!

TICKETS/INFO:
WFRNFriendFest.com
or call 800.965.9324
Like us on Facebook
Facebook.com/WFRNFriendFest

TITLE SPONSOR
STAPLES RECEIVES YOUNG LIFE AWARD
Associate Professor of Writing Robert Staples, Ph.D., was presented with the Spirit of Young Life Award during the annual Young Life Banquet. Staples has been involved in Young Life for more than 40 years and helped start the program in Michiana when he came to Bethel in 1994.

HAM ARRANGES NEW PIANO BOOK

MEISTER RELEASES BOOK
Professor of Philosophy Chad Meister, Ph.D., released his newest publication in February entitled, “Evil: A Guide for the Perplexed.” The book explores challenges to religious belief raised by evil and suffering in the world, as well as responses to them from both theistic and nontheistic perspectives.

CARPENTER PUBLISHED ONLINE
Gene Carpenter, Ph.D., professor of Old Testament, Hebrew and biblical theology, recently completed a searchable electronic translation of the prophet Ezekiel for the Lexham English Bible Project. The translation is now online at Logos Research Systems, Inc. Carpenter also previously contributed to the books of Deuteronomy and Daniel.

— CHRISTY BRINK ’12

BUILDing

Thursdays are the highlight of the week for James Stump, Ph.D. That’s because he gets to spend an hour-and-a-half working with BUILD (Bethel Undergraduate Intellectual Leadership Development) students. “I come home every time and tell my wife I’m so grateful I get to do this,” he says.

BUILD is a new program for Bethel, but it’s been on Stump’s mind for many years. The philosophy professor and former Bethel administrator first dreamed up the idea for an honors program in 1998, when an editorial in the “Bethel Beacon” brought to light the fact that Bethel lacked a program for intellectually gifted students. After years of thinking about it, Stump wrote up a proposal for the program and got it approved. But by that time, it had morphed from an honors program into more of a leadership program.

“BUILD is a way to attract intellectually strong students to Bethel, provide them with scholarships and develop them into leaders,” Stump says.

In its first year, BUILD is comprised of 11 students from Colorado, Florida, Wisconsin, West Virginia, Michigan, Indiana and Russia. Many have different majors. One of Stump’s goals was to keep the program diverse so that different viewpoints would come out in discussion.

The group meets for a seminar weekly, where they engage in intellectual discussion about current events and the book they’re reading: “Christ and Culture.” In addition, they belong to three subcommittees: website, recruiting and missions. And each semester, they go on a planning retreat.

“The goal is to infect the rest of the campus with intellectual awareness,” Stump says. Ultimately, they would like to organize and run a leadership conference for high school students. Stump encourages the students to take ownership of the group, often stepping back so they can lead.

“This is a positive cohort group for the students,” Stump says. “It’s iron sharpening iron.”

— LISSA (GRASHORN ’07) DIAZ

BEHIND THE NAME

Stump’s original name for the program was, simply, Bethel Leadership Development. But “BLD” wasn’t as strong or active an acronym as he wanted, which led him to add undergraduate and intellectual, both words mark a program not too esoteric, the program which could now be called BUILD.

After nearly two semesters, Stump is excited about where the program is heading. “I’ve had a blast. This has been one of the most rewarding experiences I’ve had as a professor,” Stump says. “As long as they let me lead it, I will.”

— LISSA (GRASHORN ’07) DIAZ

Leaders
Why is sending a clear message important?
Well, for years I’ve heard people say to me that Bethel is the best-kept secret in Mishawaka and the region. Unfortunately that still is somewhat true, and I’ve always wanted to change that perception. What this does for us is, it gives us a concise message to rally around so we all have a clear and accurate way to talk about Bethel. I believe having one clear message will bring value and strength to our identity and more quickly bring us to the forefront of people’s minds.

What does this mean for Bethel?
First, I want everyone to know this doesn’t change who we are. We are still a Christ-centered institution with a spirited (Spirit-led) community of engaged learners who want to serve. But this message does help us better articulate who we are to those around us.

In addition, most colleges refresh their messaging every three to five years. This is the first time that I am aware of that Bethel has ever launched a message — a theme that incorporates the whole of what the college is about for marketing purposes. As a college, I think this is going to help propel Bethel forward in shedding the “best-kept secret” label.

Why did you choose “Spirited Connections”?
Once I heard the meaning behind it and saw examples of how it would be used in copy, that it would be used to craft succinctly the kind of phrasing that continually points back to our central message, I was sold.

The Meaning Behind the Message
A Q & A with President Steven Cramer, Ph.D. (’75)

Recently Bethel’s marketing and communications office finished some foundational marketing efforts that eventually led to some creative messaging. We believe this message mirrors the essence of who Bethel College is. That message is “Spirited Connections.” President Steven Cramer, Ph.D. (’75) explains the importance behind the messaging and what that means for Bethel College.
Entering a new season proves to be a nerve-racking experience for any college athlete, especially when faced with an extremely competitive schedule. Despite a 4-12-1 record to end their regular season last fall, the women’s soccer team used the experience to remind themselves that competing with some of the top teams in the country was a victory in itself.

“This season gave several of our underclassmen a chance to show their leadership skills,” says Head Coach Stephen Dregits. With nine of the 11 starters returning in the fall, Dregits remains positive about the tactical changes the players have made throughout the season. On top of that, he plans to bring in quality recruits for the coming season that have the ability to challenge the returners for starting spots. As of now, five girls have committed to the program in the fall, which will be Dregits’ third season at Bethel.

“I’m looking forward to seeing how the incoming freshmen adjust to college soccer,” says Dregits. “With the off-season work the returning players are doing and the talent of our incoming freshmen, next season should be an exciting year for Bethel women’s soccer.”

Despite the rebuilding year, the Pilots added some great accomplishments to their track record. Nicole Steller (’14), the leading goal scorer on the team, earned the first team All-Conference title for the second year in a row. Kelcy Heckaman (’13) transitioned to a new position (from midfield to central defender) and was one of four who received the NAIA Scholar-Athlete Award. The other three to successfully juggle athletics and academics were Shannon Jennings (’12), Danielle Behrndt (’12) and Pua Hall (’13).

— Christy Brink (’12)

Women’s Soccer Program Puts High Priority on Leadership

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— Christy Brink (’12)
SOFTBALL
After re-claiming the MCC Championship and making the program’s fifth straight trip to the NAIA National Championship in 2011, the Bethel softball team enters the 2012 season with goals of a repeat performance and a No. 12 national ranking. The task of repeating past successes will be tough with the loss of three starters, including NAIA all-time homerun leader, Katie Buecher (‘11). A strong group of returnees and several key freshmen give the Pilots the talent to fill those voids and a chance to return to its championship ways.

MEN’S BASKETBALL
Youth and injuries once again played a role in the 2011-12 men’s basketball season. The Pilots showed flashes of improved play throughout the season, but nagging injuries and inexperience in the always-tough MCC led to a ninth place regular season finish and an absence from the eight-team MCC tournament. There’s hope for the future, however, with a strong group of returnees highlighted by freshmen Zach Miller (‘15) and Matt Schauss (‘15), who led the team in scoring.

WOMEN’S BASKETBALL
After being picked to finish seventh in the MCC by the conference coaches, the Lady Pilots turned some heads during the 2011-12 season by finishing second in the conference behind only Indiana Wesleyan, the nation’s No. 1 team. The achievement earned Judy Martinez (‘90, ‘06) the MCC Coach of the Year award. After the 20-9 regular season and a two-year absence from the NAIA National Championship, the Lady Pilots returned to Sioux City, Iowa, in March, where they ended their season.

Kada Stevens (‘12) and Cassandra Natali (‘13) are going the distance in the race of mentoring some of Michiana’s at-risk students. The two track athletes and college roommates have been volunteering weekly at The Crossing Educational Center — a faith-based, alternative school — since the beginning of the 2011-12 school year. The experience has allowed the athletes to coach and bond with The Crossing students, as well as learn from them.

The pair got involved with The Crossing through Bethel’s summer retreat called SALT (Student Athlete Leadership Team), says Natali, a junior at Bethel. They are two of dozens of Bethel student athlete leaders who volunteer at schools throughout the area.

“I help teach lesson plans, and help the teacher conduct classroom lessons,” says Stevens, a senior at Bethel. Other duties include working on study guides, walking the students through quizzes and participating in family time, where the athletes get to know the students on a one-on-one basis.

“Some of the best experiences that I have at The Crossing are during the family time,” says Natali. “That is a time where the instructors read a passage from the Bible and we all talk about it. It’s a great time to hear what the students think about God and how I can maybe witness to some of them.”

The two agree that The Crossing students just need a little extra attention and push to get them going. And sometimes simply providing a listening ear can make an impact. ”The most fulfilling experience to me is when the kids open up to me because they trust me,” says Stevens, who adds that merely talking to someone can make all the difference in the world.

“The most fulfilling experience to me is when the kids open up to me because they trust me.”
— Stevens

The course has been such a good one for the athletes that they are extending their work with The Crossing from one semester to an entire school year, and possibly even longer.

”[We] have continued going to The Crossing because we just love it so much,” says Natali. “This experience is teaching me to love everyone, no matter what their past is or their ‘label.’ Many of the kids at The Crossing are so broken and I just want to be a light for Christ in a small place like that.”
— YONIKA WILLIS

SPORTS UPDATES

FOR THE RECORD

TEAM | OVERALL RECORD | MCC RECORD | STATISTICIAN’S COMMENTS
--- | --- | --- | ---
Men’s Soccer | 12-6-1 | 7-2 | After back-to-back MCC championships, men’s soccer finished in second place in 2011.
Women’s Soccer | 4-12-1 | 2-7 | Women’s soccer finished ninth in the MCC.
Volleyball | 18-16 | 8-10 | Volleyball finished seventh in the MCC and advanced to NCCAA Regionals.
Men’s Cross Country | 8th | Women’s cross country ran in seven meets with a best finish of seventh place in two separate meets.
Women’s Cross Country | 1st | Women’s cross country ran in seven meets with a best finish of sixth place at the MCC Championship.

For more sports updates, visit the official home of the Bethel Pilots at BethelCollegePilots.com.
As outdoor track season approaches, another successful indoor season comes to a close. The Bethel women’s track team finished third at the NCCAA Indoor National Championships, and the men finished fifth. Kate Carr ('14) brought home first place, earning National Champion standings in the pole vault.

Bethel sent 10 women and five men to compete in NAIA Indoor Nationals over spring break; now the Pilots set their sights on outdoor performance.

The Bethel College cheerleading squad doubled in size this season, allowing Coach Rebecca (Staples '07) Bunton to establish a more elite skill set for the team. The cheerleaders attended the Universal Cheerleading’s Collegiate Camp last year, where they received the coveted “Leadership Award.” Two stunt pairs from the squad were entered into the Midwest Collegiate Cheer Championship this spring, and the team will host a competition for Indiana high schools in April.

New faces will be seeking consistent playing time this spring for the Bethel baseball team. But even with the turnaround in experienced players, the Pilots expect to bring great competition to the MCC and postseason play. Right-handed pitcher Luke Pepple ('15), outfielder Casey Weaver ('15) and first baseman Jordan Long ('14) are the team’s key newcomers. Coach Seth Zartman ('98) looks to work out kinks in the team’s season opener set in Central Florida. Zartman anticipates team unity to pace the team to accomplish this season’s goals.

— JEFF WELSH

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<td>Men’s tennis finished sixth in the MCC and will play in seven spring matches.</td>
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For more sports updates, visit the official home of the Bethel Pilots at BethelCollege.edu/Sports.
From the Alumni Office

Plans are underway for our 65th anniversary celebration during Alumni Weekend 2012. We’re creating a variety of activities for the entire family and hope you’ll make plans to be a part of the festivities. Keep an eye on your mailbox for more information.

Also, it’s so helpful if we can communicate with you digitally. If you don’t receive our e-newsletters, why not spend a few minutes updating your personal information via the alumni update form on our website: BethelCollege.edu/alumni.

To help tell the Bethel story, we are looking for those special photographs you have in your personal collection that never made it into the yearbook. Instructions for submitting them digitally can be found at BethelCollege.edu/AlumniPhotos. Or, mail them to the alumni services office at the college address, and we’ll return them after they’ve been scanned. We look forward to seeing what you have to share.

Lois Pannabecker
Director of Alumni Services

NOTE: Alumni names in blue denote a corresponding alumni picture at the bottom of the page.

50s
Willard (‘52) and Lillian (‘51-’48) Williams live in Country Bay Village, Pigeon, Mich., where Willard minister occasionally in Bible studies and worship services for the residents. He is retired from teaching nine years ago. She resides with her husband and son in Country Bay Village, Pigeon, Mich., where Willard minister occasionally in Bible studies and worship services for the residents.

60s
Joyce (McCay ’63) Chambers retired from teaching nine years ago. She resides with her husband and son in South Bend, Ind., and keeps busy at her church, First Baptist Church of South Bend. • Kay (Moore ’67) Branch and Devon Lawrence (attd. ’63-’64) were married in Goshen, Ind., on Dec. 3, 2011. Although they attended high school and college together, they did not see each other for 48 years. After both of their spouses died in 2010, they renewed their acquaintance at a high school class luncheon. They will live the winter months in Goshen, Ind., and reside in Crawford, Colo., during the summer months. • Philip McLaren (’62) has retired after 48 years of teaching biology at several Christian colleges; 15 years were at Bethel College. He and his wife, Lynne (Hopkins ’64), recently purchased a condo in Waikisha, Hawaii, and Lynn will transition her tax business there by next year. The couple resides in Quincy, Mass. • Quinton (’64) and Carolyn Tschetter reside in southeastern Iowa where they raise five acres of cut flowers and woollies for the Des Moines Farmer’s Market and 45 local florists. Carolyn is the national secretary and Quinton is the Midwest regional director for the Association of Specialty Cut Flower Growers. Quinton is also choir director at Central United Methodist and enjoys singing in both mixed and men’s quartets.

70s
The Rev. Fr. Philip Mullen (’79) is pastor emeritus of Ascension Orthodox Lutheran Fellowship in Pensacola, Fla., where he resides with his family. • Maria (Caldes ’77) Naouss teaches English as a foreign language in Ribeirão Preto, Brazil, where she resides with her husband, Moises Ibraim Naouss, and two daughters.

80s
Nancy Casey (’80) of South Bend, Ind., enjoys her work as a traveling nurse. • Tania (Collins ’86) and Darry Grimes were married on Dec. 23, 2010. The couple resides in South Bend, Ind., where Tania is the director of Xavier School of Excellence — a charter school that serves 270 students in kindergarten through seventh grade. • Bradley Heigle (’82) was promoted to site manager with Michigan Rehabilitation Services covering Lenawee, Jackson and Hillsdale Counties and manages two offices and one sub-office. He is also serving as interim pastor at the Horton Congregational Church in Horton, Mich. He resides with his family in Adrian, Mich. • Rodney Pittman (’83) of Trucksville, Ala., is the executive vice president and director of corporate security for BBVA Compass Bank headquartered in Birmingham, Ala. He plays saxophone and clarinet in local professional bands and organizations.

90s
Tammy (DeWees ’94) and Adam Abible were married on Dec. 17, 2011. They are employed by Republic Airways and reside in Avon, Ind. • Jannen (Dran’99) Benedit, after eight years as a member of the nursing faculty at Ancilla College, accepted a student mentor position with the online school, Western Governor’s University. Jannen will be able to spend more time at home with her boys as she works with graduate students. The family resides in Grovetown, Ind. • Shelley (Wieder ’94) Claeys works as youth director at St. Croix Christian Church in the U.S. Virgin Islands, where she resides with her family. • Kathy (Bidenour ’94) Millard recently advanced to executive unit leader in her AVON business. Her husband, Lyle, works with her, and together they home school their children. The family resides in Lincoln, Pa. • Seth (’98) and Ariala (Potterger ’97) Zartman announce the birth of Lyric Ruth on Nov. 30, 2010. She joined siblings Senica (7 yrs.) and Ty (4 yrs.). The family resides in Mishawaka, Ind. • Palenameshi Petrini (’95) earned a Master of Science degree with a concentration in Early Childhood Education from Indiana University of South Bend in May 2011. She directs the Northwest Children’s Learning Center in South Bend, Ind., and finds this to be a “very rewarding way to give back to the community.”

Indiana Superintendent of the Year

Jerry L. Thacker, Ph.D. (’72) superintendent of the Penn-Harris-Madison School Corporation, was named 2012 Indiana State Superintendent of the Year by the Indiana Association of Public School Superintendents.

Winners are chosen by other superintendents who consider the qualifications and accomplishments of area colleagues. This year’s competition also considered the candidates’ ability to exert instructional leadership using limited resources.

Thacker has been superintendent of Penn- Harris-Madison School Corporation since 2006.

00s
Nicholas and Sarah (Cramer ’04) Anderson announce the birth of Phinehas Blake James on Sept. 8, 2010. They work as church planters in southern Mexico. • Jesse Bohannon (’09) of Nappanee, Ind., was promoted in the fall of 2011 to leadership coordinator at The Crossing Education Center in Elkhart, Ind. He loves his involvement with this organization, and feels continued on page 27
Men’s Soccer Reunion

Nonbold names are current students or employees.

Sailing Through Life

When Ron White ('81) first went sailing, he was instantly hooked. Only one year after buying his first boat, he was recruited for an 85-mile overnight race on Lake Michigan. In the past 20 years, White has competed in more than 70 notable races. In the past two years, he has raced six first-place titles with the help of his crew and his beloved sailboat, the Che襄ke Monkee.

White has seen more than the highs and lows of the waves over the course of the years. He has also experienced the ups and downs of racing, including the death of two fellow sailors in a tragic boating accident during a race in 2001. Some people call him crazy for continuing with his passion, but he doesn’t see it that way. “We are not thrill seekers or daredevils. We are very well prepared and we have a very close bond. The memories are priceless, the experiences life-changing,” says White.

Read the full story online at BethelCollege.edu/Magazine.

Women’s Basketball Reunion

Nonbold names are current students or employees.

connection point

“After This,” Runaway Pen Production’s newest feature film, which has made it to the semifinal round of the Nicholl’s Fellowship, a screenplay writing competition overseen by the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences. He and fellow executive producer of Runaway Pen Productions, Mikel J. Wister ('04), are working to raise the million-dollar budget for the film’s production.

Andrew resides with his wife, Darcy (Winteregg '04), in Westminster, Colo. • Dan ('02) and Heather (Pongrizer '02) Gilbert of St. Paul, Minn., announce the birth of Liliana Maris, born Aug. 31, 2011. Heather graduated from William Mitchell College of Law in December, and Dan will complete his studies there in 2013. • Jeremy Hren ('06) of Elkhart, Ind., teaches chemistry at Elkhart Central High School where he is also an assistant football coach. • Joel and Angela (Wyse '03) Hyde of Fort Wayne, Ind., welcomed their second child, Treyton Joesel, on April 10, 2011. • Jennifer Litza ('03) teaches IB Mathematics at the Anglo-American School located in Moscow, Russia. • Jamey and Angela (Thomson '03) Moore of Jackson, Tenn., welcomed their son, Isaac James, on July 19, 2011. • Stu Olson ('01) earned a Ph.D. in professional studies in multicultural education from Capella University in 2010. He and his wife, Bee, continue their work with Alliance Academy International in Quito, Ecuador.

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connection point

See more connection point photos online at BethelCollege.edu/Magazine.
In Memory

Charles Baker ('73) died on July 28, 2011. • Naomi Mae Everett ('52) of Goshen, Ind., died Dec. 30, 2011, at the age of 91. Naomi was a teaching missionary in Nigeria from 1954-1975 and served as a lay leader in the Missionary Church. She worked at Bethel College from 1975-1978. • Russell E. Graf Jr. ('70) of Elkhart, Ind., died Dec. 10, 2011, at the age of 66, after a long battle with glioblastoma brain cancer. He is survived by his wife, Marilyn Kay, a daughter, son and four grandsons. He pastored for 20 years at the Community of Christ Church in South Bend, Ind., where he was a lifelong member and also worked with youth over a span of 30 years. • Penny Lee (Halsey) '94 of Lakeville, Ind., died on July 9, 2011, at the age of 49. She was employed with South Bend Community School Corporation as a school nurse at Greene Intermediate School. She is survived by a daughter, two sons and two grandchildren.

• John Herbstler ('71) of South Bend, Ind., died Nov. 29, 2011, at the age of 57. He is survived by his wife, Karen; daughter, Andrea; son, Daniel, and four siblings. John worked for Royal Excavators after a long career in the mortgage and insurance industries. He was an active member of Community Baptist Church in South Bend, Ind. • Gary Kopfstein ('64) of South Bend, Ind., died Nov. 24, 2011, at the age of 87. He is survived by his four children, six grandchildren, 11 great-grandchildren and three great-great-grandchildren. Gary was a veteran of World War II and served in the 69th Infantry Division. He worked at Studebaker for nine years, as a TV repairman for five years and at RACD for 25 years. • David Allen Lee ('70) of LaPorte, Ind., died May 25, 2011, at the age of 63. He is survived by his wife, Cindy, his daughter, three sons and five grandchildren. He was a veteran of the United States Army and earned the rank of staff sergeant specializing in field artillery in the Army National Guard.

David worked for the Kroger Company for 42 years and was a lifelong resident of South Bend, Ind. • Grace May (Oye) '92, '94 of Oscoda, Ind., died Dec. 18, 2011, at the age of 67. She worked as a nurse for over 20 years in both professional and volunteer capacities and then transitioned into human resources with Earlyn Electronics. Grace is survived by her husband, James (’75), two daughters and five grandchildren. She was a member of Wakarusa Missionary Church. • Marilyn R. (Pankowski) '60 of Neison of LaPorte, Ind., died Nov. 17, 2011, at the age of 85. She is survived by her husband Paul E. Neison, her son, Donald, two sisters and six grandchildren. She was a member of Rolling Prairie United Methodist Church. • Betty Jane (Perry) '62 of Custer, Wash., died Jan. 3, 2012, at the age of 90. Her career was invested in education, both as a teacher and principal in the Mishawaka School System. She is survived by two sons and numerous grandchildren. • Avis Rose (Holloway) '50 of Ridge, South Bend, Ind., died July 7, 2011, at the age of 92. An elementary school teacher for 28 years, she was also an avid quilter and seamstress. Avis is survived by three sons and grandchildren. • Beulah V. (Poynter) '61 of Schwanke of South Bend, Ind., died Sept. 20, 2011, at the age of 95. She was preceded in death by her husband, Frank, and is survived by two children, 10 grandchildren, and numerous great-grandchildren. Beulah was a member of D.A.R., Altrusa International and a longtime member of the Hilltop Lutheran Church. • Christine Marie Westrip ('85) of South Bend, Ind., died Dec. 25, 2011, at the age of 81. She is survived by her husband, George, two sons, a daughter and five grandchildren. After retiring as vice president of marketing at Key Bank, she worked as a permanent substitute teacher at James Madison Primary Educational Center.

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What was supposed to be a leisurely trip to a local shopping plaza nearly three years ago, turned into a weekly volunteering responsibility for Dolores “Dodie” Beyler. It was Aug. 4, 2009, when Beyler, who lives in Walkerton, Ind., opted to “kill some time” at the Town & Country Shopping Center in Mishawaka, while her husband stayed in day care for his dementia. But the Lord had other plans.

“I felt the Lord tell me to go to Bethel,” says Beyler, “so I just turned into Bethel instead, and I said ‘I’ve come to volunteer.’” She’s been helping out in the physical plant and alumni office ever since.

Although she says she doesn’t feel a day over 42, 77-year-old Beyler has done everything from answering phones and handing out dorm keys, to shredding files and helping out at alumni events. Recently, Beyler prayed over the hundreds of chairs in the new Dining Commons and inspected each one to make sure there weren’t any problems.

“Wherever they need me, that’s where I want to be,” says Beyler. But, she confesses, “I like cleaning in the auditorium because I like to see what I find in the seats.”

Beyler does tasks that otherwise would get put on the back burner, says Miriam (Swank ’83) Wertz, physical plant office manager. “She has just been an asset. She is very faithful; she comes in regularly.”

Even though her husband is now in a nursing home in Walkerton, Ind., “Grandma Dodie,” as she’s often referred to on campus, can still be seen around Bethel on Wednesdays, helping out in whatever capacity needed. Volunteering at Bethel “is a wonderful outlet, and when I serve there, I’m serving the Lord,” says Beyler, who says as long as she can drive a car, she will continue helping out at Bethel.

Beyler is no stranger to doing God’s service. In 1997 she went to Switzerland and sang at an international choir festival; in 1998 she went to India and helped at a Bible college; and she went to Haiti with two doctors last summer on a medical mission trip. “Mission work and serving has kind of been on my heart in all walks of life,” she says. “I’ve always had a mission mind.”

— YONIKA WILLIS
APRIL
23  Annual Earl Theatre Awards
28  Nontraditional Commencement/
     Nursing Pinning Ceremony
29  Traditional Undergraduate/
     Graduate Commencement

JUNE
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1-2, 7-8  Dessert Theatre
11   Academic Camps Begin
15   Golf Outing

AUGUST
30   Traditional Classes Begin

SEPTEMBER
10 – 14  Spiritual Emphasis Week in Chapel
16   Athletic Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony

For upcoming Alumni Connection Points, see page 24.