2010s

2010 Kevin Johnson finished graduate school in June. He received a master of public administration degree and a master of arts in international studies, both from the University of Washington. Kevin is now hoping to work in international development, focusing on water, sanitation and hygiene projects. Stephanie Reardon married Daniel Redfern, ’13, on July 20 in Mead, Wash.


2012 Chelsea Rowan married Joel Buffum, ’10, on July 26. Chelsea completed her master’s degree in mental health counseling from Central Washington University in 2014 and Joel works as the head of the sports medicine department for Memorial Hospital, in Yakima, Wash. The Buffums live in Yakima with their cat, Jesus.

2014 Josie Camarillo is attending Baylor University’s School of Social Work, in Waco, Texas.

2000s

2000 Stephanie (Herndon) Richards was accepted to Gonzaga University School of Law’s inaugural accelerated program. She began her studies in June. Luke Thomas has taught Spanish, A.P European history and A.P. human geology at Mt. Spokane High School for the last 14 years. He currently serves as a content-scoring leader for the Pro Teach Portfolio, and he also works for Washington Education Association as a trainer for the Professional Development Program. In addition to serving on Whitworth’s Professional Education Advisory Board, Luke was recently elected to serve on the Governor’s Board of Education.

2002 Matthew Colley, MIT, is an associate at the Black Helterline LLP law firm, in Portland, Ore. He earned his J.D. from the University of Washington. Prior to law school, Matthew taught English at Pasco High School for seven years. He and his wife, Jessica, welcomed their third child last summer: Lucius “Luke” Emmanuel joins Maximillian Xavier and Margaret “Maggie” Louise. Katie (Harris) married Ron Mrochko in January. Her maid of honor was Hannah Snelling, ’00, and Meg (Tilney) Bunka, ’05, was a bridesmaid. Katie has transitioned from full-time youth ministry to a professional health coach, and has assisted a few Whitworth alumni with their health goals.

2004 Logan Gage began work as assistant professor of philosophy at Franciscan University of Steubenville, Ohio, in the fall. He and his wife, Liz, have two boys and another child due in Jan. 2015. Brittany Hoback completed her master’s degree in cultural anthropology at the University of Central Florida in May. She plans to pursue further studies in the Pacific island nation of Vanuatu.

2005 Miranda Zapor Cruz graduated in May from Baylor University with a Ph.D. in religion, politics and society. In the fall she will join the faculty at Indiana Wesleyan University as an assistant professor of theology. Since summer 2013, Abigail Drollinger has lived in Battambang, Cambodia, where she works with the Sports and Leadership Training Academy. Caitlin Gregory married Pierson Lee on June 22 at Swans Trail Farms, in Snohomish, Wash. The bridal party included Katherine Scott, ’04, and Kari Kiser, ’06. The couple now live in Lynnwood, Wash. Serena (Lindquist) and Sterling McPherson welcomed their fourth child in January. Sterling recently became the director of the Program of Excellence in Addictions Research at Washington State University, in Pullman, Wash., and he was chosen to be a National Institutes of Health Fellow, with expertise in clinical trials. John Rush married Alexandra Cassini in Dec. 2012. John received a Ph.D. in economics from the University of Hawaii at Manoa in April, and this fall he took a faculty position teaching economics at Marlboro College, in Vermont.

2007 Kaley (Hawk) McCauley completed the Gettysburg North South Marathon in Gettysburg, Penn., in April. In May, she graduated from Villanova University with a master of arts in theology with a concentration in historical studies. Kaley married Ian Guy on Dec. 27, 2013, and celebrated through a church wedding ceremony on July 26 in Kennewick, Wash.
The spring forum will feature Bryan Stevenson, who heads the Equal Justice Initiative, headquartered in Montgomery, Ala. EJI challenges poverty and racial injustice, advocates for equal treatment in the criminal justice system, and creates hope for marginalized communities. Stevenson is also an acclaimed speaker on the racial biases that pervade the U.S. justice system. In a recent *New York Times* editorial, South African Archbishop Desmond Tutu referred to him as “America’s young Nelson Mandela.” We hope you’ll join us. You’ll be receiving additional information this spring.

To see Bryan Stevenson’s recent TED talk, visit www.eji.org/TED.

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2008 Kristina (Blott) married Christopher Parkin, ’05, on May 17. Christopher recently completed his sixth year teaching saxophone and jazz studies courses at Whitworth.

### DEBUTS

- **2000** a boy, Ezra, to Melissa (Zielinski) and Jason Zollner, Jan. 30
- **2001** a boy, Kincade Isaac, to Amber (Isaac) and Jonathan Ziring, May 4, 2013
- **2002** a girl, Quinna Anne, to Stephanie (Stern) and Ben Carlson, Jan. 27
- **2002** a girl, Elysia Grace, to Mary (Krogmann) and Shawn Hellwege, Dec. 5, 2013
- **2002** a boy, Renner Aden, to Jennifer (Marshall) and Brian Hunt, April 14
- **2002** a girl, Kendall Reese, to Joan (Starr) and Kipp Parker, Aug. 12, 2013
- **2003** a boy, Ezra Samuel, to Elizabeth (Marx) and Derek Carlson, Jan. 27
- **2003** a boy, Elijah, to Alaina (Howe) and Thomas Merry, Dec. 11, 2013
- **2004** a girl, Ella, to Alyssa (Burch) and Dave Dillard, March 12, 2013
- **2004** a boy, David Gregory, to Angela (Yee) Karch, Dec. 27, 2013
- **2004** a boy, Arlo Glen, to Darla (Lewis) Antoine and Elric Seelye, July 5
- **2004** a boy, Roger Nehemiah, to Tami (Turner-Keyser) and Jason Hagglund, Nov. 22, 2011
- **2004** a girl, Claire, to Jane and Lars Olson, July 13, 2012
- **2004** a boy, Kyler, to Meghan (Williams) and Keith Ross, ’11, April 22, 2013
- **2004** a girl, Kalia, to Alyssa (Burch) and Dave Dillard, Sept. 21, 2013
- **2005** a boy, Carter Mac, to Erin (McPherson) and Thaddeus Galloway, Nov. 22, 2011
- **2005** a girl, Hadley Ann, to Sara (Henning) and Robert Hudkins, ’06, Aug. 13, 2013
- **2005** a boy, Mason Lawrence, to Ilana (Miller) and Justin James, ’07, Sept. 22, 2010
- **2005** a girl, Sara Helen, to Ilana (Miller) and Justin James, ’07, Feb. 9, 2013
- **2005** a boy, Isaac, to Nicole (Parsons) and Wonchul Jung, Dec. 28, 2011
- **2005** a boy, David, to Nicole (Parsons) and Wonchul Jung, Oct. 28, 2013
- **2005** a boy, William Grant Chrysostom, to Serena (Lindquist) and Sterling McPherson, ’05, Jan. 6
- **2005** a girl, Hannah Marie, to Sarah (Lamb) and Bryce Robbert, April 26, 2012
- **2005** a girl, Emma Rose, to April (Brast) and Travis Smith, Jan. 25
- **2006** a boy, Amos Immanuel, to Teranne (McComas) and Niek Arentsen, March 11, 2013
- **2006** a girl, Charlotte, to Candy (Haxton) and Brian Birkhauser, May 29, 2013
- **2006** a girl, Elizabeth Eagle, to Mary (Eagle) and Corban Harwood, April 7
- **2006** a girl, Prescott Rose Mary, to Lara (Thompson) and Daniel Ramsay, ’09, July 10, 2013
- **2006** a girl, Ellie Jean, to Rebecca Gregerson and Dustin Strickland, Feb. 28
- **2007** a boy, Ethan Wesley, to Heather and Peter Burke, Aug. 23
2007 a girl, Sophia Grace, to Kimberly and Jonathan Holdeman, Jan. 4
2007 a girl, Autumn Olivia, to Emily (Johnson) and Jerrod Miller, March 7

DEPARTURE

1990s
1991 Laura (Seapy) Crilfield is pastor of family ministry at Central Presbyterian Church, in Towsen, Md.
1993 Kim (MacDougall) Jewett recently celebrated 20 years of marriage to Dave, '89. She is a full-time mother to four children, ages 3 to 16. Kim works part time in children’s ministries at Mercer Island Presbyterian Church and is also an independent Usborne Books consultant, selling books through www.joyfulreaders.com.
1997 Aimee Moiso is a Ph.D. student in homiletics and liturgics at Vanderbilt University, in Nashville, Tenn.
1999 David Haslet and Timothy Haslet ran the Boston Marathon for their sister, Adrianne Haslet-Davis, who lost part of her leg in the Boston bombings. Adrienne’s resilience and recovery as a dance instructor have become inspirational to many.

DEBUTS
1993 a girl, Zivia, to Sacha and Megan (Kresch) Davis, '94, Aug. 23, 2010
1994 a boy, Eben, to Kathryn Romaine and Chris Koch, April 9, 2013
1995 a boy, Will, to Heather and Chris Franklin, Feb. 26, 2010
1995 a boy, Drew, to Heather and Chris Franklin, Aug. 5, 2006
1995 a boy, Brecks Matthew, to Jennifer (Gregory) and Matthew Hirschfelder, '95, Feb. 11
1995 a boy, Dennis, to Raphaela Kim and Yeong-Wha Sawng, Aug. 12, 2003
1997 a girl, McKinley, to Jeanna (McLaughlin) Parks, Jan. 29, 2009
1998 a girl, Gianna Mayme Rose, to Hilary (Martin) and Timothy Williams, Nov. 16, 2013
1999 a boy, Ronen Jedidiah, to Coral (Langton), '02, and David Haslet, June 27
1999 a boy, Benjamin, to Amanda (Ayars) and Jay Nevin, Oct. 22, 2012

DEPARTURES
Laurie A. Wertich, '99 MIT, died May 9 in Ketchum, Idaho.

Opening the Door
By Molly Daniels, ’16

Haley Atkinson and Marissa Ranno, both ’13, shared a dorm room during their years at Whitworth. Now they share a dream and an organization. Atkinson (pictured top) and Ranno (pictured bottom) direct First Door, an after-school and summer tutoring program, now in its second year, in North Portland, Ore.

The idea for First Door arose when Atkinson, an English and peace studies major, participated in a summer program in a low-income apartment complex in North Portland. Through this program, she cultivated relationships with young students and families living in the area. “I wanted to step into life with these children,” Atkinson says. She moved into the apartment complex with the goal of providing a safe and educational place for students to come after school.

Atkinson invited Ranno, an education major, to join her in creating First Door. Ranno joined the program because “…my four years at Whitworth challenged me not only to open my eyes and see racial, economic and social inequalities, but to do something.”

The program started in a renovated garage, but soon moved to a two-bedroom apartment in the same complex. Both women say that living alongside the children and families with whom they work has strengthened the relationships they have built.

First Door’s mission is to invest in and empower students and to partner with their families, all in the hope of helping the students to flourish. “We believe that education is the first door to many opportunities; thus, our mission is to provide access to education,” Ranno says.

While their current positions with First Door are voluntary, they are working to make it a permanent program. They have considered applying for nonprofit status, and they hope to offer internship opportunities in the future. Meanwhile, they both have jobs in the community. Ranno works at Sitton Elementary, the school attended by the children in their program, while Atkinson works at James John Elementary.

To learn more about the First Door, visit www.facebook.com/firstdoorhomeworkclub.
1980s


1982 Noma Hudson is starting her 32nd year in the Longview School District, in Longview, Wash. She recently moved from her position as principal of Columbia Valley Gardens Elementary School to her current position as principal of Cascade Middle School. This is her ninth year as a principal after being a high-school English teacher for 23 years. Ruth Ann (Heddendorf) Leduc and her husband, Norm, serve at the U.S. mobilization base of Pioneers, where Ruth Ann cares for workers in Europe through personal contact, debriefing, crisis care and transition management.

1985 Natalie J. Dong is the director of The Center for Polytrauma Care, as well as the acting deputy chief of the psychology service at VA Puget Sound.

1986 Marjorie Richards went to Cuba in September as an educator with the U.S. Women and Cuba Collaboration. She experienced a rich sense of community and “the utter ubiquity” of incredible music and art. Marjorie participated in a panel discussion on U.S. and Cuban lesbians and allies. Her marriage of eight years was recently recognized by Washington State, and she will be presenting on LGBT topics for the Seattle College District.

1987 Linda S. (Washburn) DeLong’s oldest daughter is a senior at Whitworth and plans to graduate in May 2015 with a degree in elementary education. Linda is a caregiver for Visiting Angels, and her husband works for a major corporation in food management and production. They have enjoyed raising their family in a small suburb west of Portland, Ore. Paula Zeller is celebrating 25 years at the Orange County Sanitation District. She currently works at Plant 2 as a senior operator, tour guide, and a “Building Leaders for A Sustainable Tomorrow” diversity team leader. As chair of the Plant Operations and Maintenance Committee for Water Environment Federation, Paula and other professionals develop materials for operator development. She is also involved in ministry at St. Andrew’s Presbyterian Church, in Newport Beach.

DEPARTURES

1970 Gary Fuller is now retired and is busy writing fiction. Lethal Conspiracy, a thriller with plenty of terrorists and “a magnificent love story,” is his first published novel. Laurel L. Havens retired at the end of August, with 24 years of service from McKinstry Co., LLC, as a contracts administrator. The Rev. Bill McIvor retired in June as Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) clergy. His final pastorate was with the Presbyterian Church in Sudbury, Mass. Bill and his wife, Merrie, who also retired from Chelmsford High School after teaching Spanish for a number of years, moved home to Seattle in September. Deborah (Morrissey) Kamps, ‘88 M.S., died Jan. 10, 2012.

1972 Dorothy (Larson) Hay is a counselor at Liberty High School, in the Issaquah School District. This is her 25th year conducting Issaquah Singers, an all-volunteer, non-audition, four-part, 60-member choir that sings at senior living centers and civic events. Visit www.issaquahsingers.com.

1975 Carolyn (Curley) McNeil began her 40th year in teaching this fall. Her daughter, Molly, is an English teacher, and her son, John, is finishing his MIT.

1977 Wayne K. Akana is hoping that all of the Latin America Study Program friends are able to come to the 40th anniversary reunion of travels to Latin America, in July 2015 (see ad above left). Debi (Klahn) Knight welcomed a new grandson, Sebastian, born to her daughter, Clare, and Clare’s husband, Dom, on March 8.

1979 Linda K. (Withrow) Hilton received the 2012 National Consumers League Florence Kelley Consumer Leadership Award.
DEPARTURES

Thomas C. Jaeger, ’70 M.Ed., died April 16 in Spokane. Julia E. Bohman, ’71, died March 23. Julia worked for the Idaho Commission for the Blind and Visually Impaired for almost 30 years. She is survived by her twin sister, husband, brother, and extended family. Leander E. Wright, ’71, died March 15. Lee was drafted into the Army and served in Europe during the Battle of the Bulge. After his discharge, he worked in the telephone industry, where he met his wife, Beatrice Mebst. They were married 65 years. Lee is survived by his wife and daughters, among others. Elizabeth “Betty” Barnes, ’72 MAT, died June 8 in Spokane Valley. Betty committed much of her life to encouraging young people. She spent many years as a camp director for Campfire Girls. Having earned degrees from Washington State University, Eastern Washington University and Whitworth, Betty taught courses in English and history at the Community Colleges of Spokane.


1960s

1960 Ruth E. (Herman) Buchtel’s granddaughter, Madison Zenke, entered her freshman year at Whitworth this fall with the Class of 2018. Leaping Leroy A. Levesque plays senior softball and has been on several national championship teams in the past 15 years. He currently plays on a 75-years-and-older team.

1961 Nancy MacKirkle and her husband, Glenn, celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on June 20 with family and friends, at a gathering hosted by their three children. Priscilla Small is working on Coatzospan Mixtec Spanish dictionary and grammar.

1965 Dave A. Gunderson was inducted into the Softball Hall of Fame, in 2010, the Softball Hall of Fame Team of the Decade 1960-70, in 2012, and also into the University of Idaho Hall of Fame, in 2014.

1965 Glenn Jolley backpacked the Washington section of the Pacific Crest Trail solo during summer 2012; he hiked about 550 miles, from the Columbia Gorge to Canada. The next summer he backpacked solo

‘A Part of the Legacy’

By Teresa Norlin, ’11
Whitworth Annual Giving Specialist

Chances are, if you went to Whitworth, the word “community” fills you with a sense of nostalgia. (If you’re a bit of a cynic, it might also make you want to roll your eyes or cringe.) It’s a cornerstone of Whitworth’s culture, it’s what many graduates miss most about their time here, and it’s one of the alumni office’s biggest challenges.

That sense of community is difficult to echo in the alumni experience. Recently, Whitworth has been making steps to further such efforts, including the implementation of the Alumni Discovery Project. During our second year, in summer 2014, 12 student ambassadors worked all along the West Coast contacting alumni, securing interviews, meeting for coffee, reflecting on those unique conversations, and sharing stories with the university to help to strengthen the institution.

Student ambassador Marissa Stallings, ’15, spent her summer in Orange County, Calif. “One of my favorite interviews was with a woman who expressed how grateful she is for her time at Whitworth,” Stallings says. “She said that her perspective was changed here, and she now views her work in the light of service.”

This summer, we learned about many ways in which Whitworthians serve their communities. Nearly one-third of the alumni interviewed this summer reported that they donate their time and talents in significant ways, and most are involved with more than one charitable organization.

When asked about alumni who initially appeared skeptical about the project, ambassadors reported that some alums felt they had nothing to offer or believed that their story wouldn’t be interesting. The ambassadors also noted that those alumni generally overcame their skepticism and often seemed pleased to participate in the interview, feeling heard and valued throughout the process.

Amy (Thoburn) Cutter, ’12, talks about her time with Discovery Project interviewer Kirin Foster, ’15; both are natives of the Tacoma, Wash., area. “The interview allowed me to relive so many of the precious memories that made me who I am today,” Cutter says. “I felt a part of the legacy that this project documents, and I cannot wait to share my experience in other ways during the years to come.”

We hope to continue this project for many years, to extend this invitation to every Whitworth graduate, and to ensure that every unique story is told and every voice is heard. Student ambassadors understand the value of hearing every story, whether it comes from a positive or a critical place. If you receive an invitation in the future, we hope you’ll answer the call.

Visit www.whitworth.edu/discoveryproject for more information about the Discovery Project.
to the Northern California/Oregon section of the Pacific Crest Trail, from Weed, Calif., to the Columbia Gorge, a total of about 750 miles. This past summer, Glenn was scheduled to hike 225 miles of the John Muir Trail, from Yosemite Valley to Mt. Whitney. Bob Sharp received the Outstanding Professor Award in the Dallas Community College District and the University of Texas Teaching Excellence Award. He also mentors students at Whitworth six months of the year.

DEPARTURES


1950s

1955 Donald L. Dixon enrolled in Whitworth’s evening and summer programs to earn his education degree in 1962 and his master of arts in teaching in 1969.

1959 Helen (Bengtson) Nash married Wally Alder in May after having been widowed in 2011. The new Mrs. Nash-Alder and her husband are both members of Newport Presbyterian Church, in Bellevue, and graduates of Lake Washington High School, in Kirkland. Wally is a graduate of the University of Washington and was employed by Boeing prior to retirement.
DEPARTURES


1940s

DEPARTURES


Cecil Schersand, ’46, died Dec. 2, 2004, in Hollywood. He received the Purple Heart after being wounded in World War II. He worked as a masonry contractor for more than 40 years in California’s Antelope Valley. Cecil was a member of Lancaster United Methodist Church and the Disabled American Veteran Association. Roy G. Hanson, ’47, died July 26. Fred K. Merrill, ’47, died May 14. He served in the Navy during World War II and later was a principal in Chewelah, Wash. During his membership in the Chewelah Kiwanis Club, Fred built the office of Chewelah Manor, a local facility that helps seniors in the community. He is survived by his wife, Jean (Landreth), ’48, among others. Marion J. (Hansenburg) Boden, ’48, died April 14, 2009, in Newport, Wash. Alyce Taylor Cheska, ’48, died Oct. 6, 2012. She pursued an academic professional career for more than 40 years. She is credited with numerous writings, including four books and 140 research papers, book chapters, professional papers and presentations. Alyce was a pioneer in women’s physical education, holding various state and national offices.

Merrie D. Major, ’48, died Sept. 23, 2006. She was a probation officer for San Diego County and was a member of Covenant Presbyterian Church.

Katherine (Thielke) Miller, ’48, died March 1. Edith Mae (Felts) Peabody, ’48, died April 18 in Hayden, Idaho. The Rev. Lester L. Pontius, ’48, died Feb. 22. Dorothy J. (Compher) Schersand, ’48, died July 28, 2006. She was a private-duty nurse and a school nurse for Antelope Valley College during her career. She earned an R.N. and a B.S., as well as a master’s degree and a teaching certificate. Dorothy was also a health and first aid instructor. The Rev. Edward J. Underhill, ’48, died April 21. He graduated from Dallas Theological Seminary and served in various pastoral roles at Fourth Memorial Church, in Spokane, from 1959 until his retirement in 1989. Ed was an involved leader in several Christian organizations.

Sammie O. “Roy” Hirata, ’49, died Dec. 8, 2005. Edith C. (Hiskey) Salter, ’49, died Dec. 27, 2013. She was a school teacher who also gave private piano lessons in her home for more than 20 years. She was also a pianist and organist for various churches. Edith is survived by her family, including her husband of 63 years, Robert, ’51. Janice A. (Kirby) Unti, ’49, died June 30, 2013.

For more than 250 years, Vienna has been a magnet for composers and other musicians who wanted to make their mark on the world. Mozart and Beethoven were only two of many composers who came from other parts of Europe to this glorious city to create their greatest masterpieces. Please join us as we journey through some of Germany’s and Austria’s greatest music sites and most beautiful scenery, meeting fellow-travelers Haydn, Mozart, Beethoven, Wagner, Strauss, Mahler, and others along the way, and discovering what drew them all to Vienna!

Details available at www.whitworth.edu/2015tour.
Homecoming Reunions 2014