

# The Messenger

NORTHWEST NAZARENE UNIVERSITY | SUMMER 2018

Vol. 106, Num. 2



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CHANGING THE WORLD THROUGH SERVICE  
THOUGHTS FROM THE ALUMNUS OF THE YEAR  
NIGHTHAWKS' RECORD-BREAKING SEASONS

**FOUR WORDS.** Four Values. One Message. One NNU! Transformation. Truth. Community. Service.

These four words are not terribly uncommon, nor are they world-changing in and of themselves. However, in the context of all that happens at Northwest Nazarene University, they truly work together, enabling students to become God's creative and redemptive agents in the world.

This issue of *The Messenger* focuses on the last of these four values: "Service—we believe education cultivates service. NNU teaches the importance of a life of servanthood as modeled by Jesus Christ. We learn to lead by giving of ourselves to God and humankind."

We are all well aware that we live in a mobile device-dependent era. Regardless of the brand we prefer, most of us feel incomplete without our smartphone, tablet, or other device and the wide array of apps and accessories designed to serve us and "simplify" our lives. Please understand, I'm not against any of these devices, despite my occasional love-hate relationship with my iPhone (I am continually amazed at its power and functionality, while simultaneously dismayed at my inability to be untethered from my email).

But these devices come with a risk. The risk is that we will believe one of our common cultural narratives: It's all about me, and I should be served by someone or something. Jesus' instruction to us was to serve others (see for example Matthew 20:20-28 and



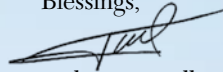
Matthew 25:31-46), which may be an even more counter-cultural concept today than when He spoke it. At NNU, we actually take Christ's instruction one step further and believe that education is not just meant to make our students smarter, but education should also cultivate servanthood within them.

As I read this issue I was fascinated that several stories referenced more than just the singular core value of service. I was reminded that in our Wesleyan context Service fits together and coexists alongside Truth and Community to result in Transformation. Inside these pages you'll be introduced to several members of our NNU family, all of whom tell their own stories of how service has affected them and the world in which they live. These stories stir my

emotions. They inspire me. They lead me to look inward and cause me to feel gratitude for the impact an NNU education has had, and continues to have, on the lives of these individuals. They remind me that NNU is here for good!

As you read these pages, I pray that you too will be moved and inspired by these stories, and I hope that you take the opportunity to reflect on the ways that you are in service to others.

Blessings,



Joel K. Pearsall  
President



**Cover:** Senior Quentin Frederick does a field test on IdaBot, NNU's autonomous robot that can perform time-intensive farm tasks.



## Loving the hopeless

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Alumnus Ron Stueckle advocates for at-risk children as co-founder of the 2017 California Non-Profit of the Year, Sunset Youth Services.



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Traveling in the World Race, McCrea Nirider served communities in 11 countries in 11 months.



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THE DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC'S PRODUCTION OF  
"LITTLE WOMEN, THE BROADWAY MUSICAL"—  
JUST ONE OF MANY EVENTS SHOWCASING NNU  
TALENT—FEATURED STUDENT PERFORMANCES  
AND AN ORCHESTRA COMPOSED OF STUDENTS,  
ALUMNI AND COMMUNITY MEMBERS.

RON AND DAWN HANG OUT WITH YOUNG ADULTS WORKING AT SUNSET YOUTH SERVICES' YOUTH-RUN RECORD LABEL, "UPSTAR RECORDS."



# Loving the hopeless

## How we're advocating for at-risk youth in San Francisco.

By Ron Stueckle, Class of 1985

**IT'S HARD** to see people you love in pain. It's also hard to just sit in it with them. Both are important. Each is an honor.

I had a good childhood. I grew up in Wenatchee, Washington, in a supportive, loving family. I knew they had my best interest in mind no matter what. I was never afraid I was going to be kicked out of the house with all of my belongings in a garbage bag. I never was ejected from anywhere simply because of the color of my skin or the way I dressed. I never had people cross to the other side of the street when they saw me. I never visited either of my parents in jail. I did not lose multiple family members and friends to street violence before I was even old enough to drive. I have very few painful childhood memories. My life was exactly opposite of most of the youth we serve.

My wife Dawn and I, together with Delvin Mack, co-founded Sunset Youth Services in 1993 to address the needs of young people in San Francisco. We are a non-profit that over the past 25 years has served thousands of young people from across the metropolis, most of them coming to terms with a loss, violence and sense of hopelessness that used to be beyond my imagination. The San Francisco Bay Area is renowned as a bastion of creativity and innovation, the place that gave rise to transformative tech

giants like Apple, Google and Facebook. With its cable cars, Victorian homes and sweeping vistas, San Francisco is also one of the world's premier vacation destinations—not to mention one of the most desirable places to live. But hidden amid the postcard views are the thousands of people living in poverty, coping with abuse in addition to the loss of homes and loved ones and a breakdown of the social safety net that most of us take for granted.

We've made it our mission at Sunset Youth Services to target the most vulnerable of these teens and young adults—those left

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**WE'VE MADE IT OUR MISSION AT SUNSET YOUTH SERVICES TO TARGET THE MOST VULNERABLE OF THESE TEENS AND YOUNG ADULTS—THOSE LEFT BEHIND BY FAMILIES, SCHOOLS, THE COURTS AND EVEN CHURCHES.**

behind by families, schools, the courts and even churches. One example is the story of Mateo.

At about 6:00 a.m. one Friday morning in December a couple years ago, we got an urgent call from Mateo's girlfriend. "His brother might be dead," she cried, rousing us from sleep. Dawn and I rushed to pick him up and take him to the house his brother shared with about 10 other people.

As we approached, we could see an unmistakable white van parked in front. Mateo let out an almost inhuman moan. Close to a year earlier, his father had been found dead in a cardboard box in a grocery-store parking lot where he had lived (and where Mateo and his brother had also lived for many of their formative

years), so for Mateo a coroner's vehicle had become an all-too-familiar sight. We pulled up, and he jumped out of the car with my wife. They raced up the stairs, only to find his brother lying in a body bag. The coroner unzipped the bag, and Mateo slumped to the floor, lying over his brother, pounding his chest. "Wake up, brother," he cried. "Get up. Come on. Wake up."

Mateo's brother had died of an overdose of Klonopin, an anti-anxiety drug that can be highly addictive. Usually those who sell it don't use it too, but that had not been the case with Mateo's brother. "They bagged my brother up and took him out like a dog," he later sobbed on the phone to his girlfriend. "I don't have any more family."

In the weeks and months that followed, Dawn and I spent a lot of time acting as Mateo's surrogate family, helping him process what he'd been through, sitting with him in the midst of his pain.

We play this role all too often. Circumstances vary greatly, but people's need to be in positive relationships does not change. People's need to be heard and felt does not change. People's need to have their pain understood does not change.

As an agency, we've come a long way. Sunset Youth Services provides case management to high-risk young people—everything from crisis counseling to career guidance to justice-system navigation—trying to help youth and young adults stay in school, find jobs, and leave and remain out of the justice system. We've developed a digital arts program that enables young people to create their own music and videos, explore healthy self-expression and pick up marketable job skills. Our family support programs provide individual support counseling, parenting classes and a food pantry.

We wouldn't have reached any of those milestones without building long-term relationships with young people like Mateo, whom we had known for more than half a decade before his brother's overdose. Before that, Mateo had lived in such a way that his choices and difficulties put his life in danger, both at his own hands and at the hands of other people. His brother's death helped him recognize the importance of people in his life, like his daughter, and made him want to be a better father. We invested time, much of it unstructured, trying to lead by example and just being with him in his struggles to become a better parent.

During this time of growth, Mateo made the decision to face the legal consequences of his choices by completing a detox program. A big part of my job at Sunset Youth Services is helping people navigate social and service-providing systems they find impossible to understand or which they don't even believe they have the right to access. This includes anything from courts to health care, housing to job training, family support to systems navigation.

One of the biggest challenges we face is rising income inequality, and its consequences are especially devastating in the area of housing. An influx of wealthy technology industry employees has sent Bay Area home prices soaring, which makes it hard for even middle-class

families to afford living in the area and has helped fuel a surge in demand for low-income, government-subsidized housing. We have many more people who are homeless, couch surfing or staying wherever they can find a roof over the heads. Some of these are teens who were abused or kicked out of their homes and end up having nowhere to go.

Some of the obstacles we encounter are ones created within like-faith systems. At its heart, Sunset Youth Services is a faith-based organization, and our model is a man who gave up his life for those who are broken and in the depths of pain, for the people who had no standing in society. Our job is not to convert or proselytize, but to serve people from throughout the city without regard to race, religion, sexual orientation or any other characteristic. We sometimes encounter skepticism from people who are concerned that, because we're Christians, we will discriminate. We saw this recently when we were applying to work with a local young adult court. Before we could come to an agreement, the director said to us, "I noticed on your website that you're faith-based. I need to tell you that that term sends a red flag. Can you please unpack that for me some?" I explained that our faith was our motivating factor. I told her my faith told me how to live. It didn't tell me to tell her how to live. What it required from me was to love people. Because she and others had seen our work over the years and that sentiment rang true, we were able to forge an alliance.

While much of my work involves investing in the lives of individuals and their families, it also involves trying to change the underlying policies and structures that contribute to injustice and inequality. For example, I sit on San Francisco's Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council, a body that helps set policy for the city's Juvenile Hall, helping decide how grants are disbursed to ensure that kids are treated well. I formerly co-chaired a group called the Juvenile Justice Providers Association, which engages in advocacy. Our lobbying resulted in a change to the previous policy whereby probation officers alone decided who could visit an incarcerated youth; now there's a procedure in place for deciding whether an advocate or family member has the right to a visit.

Another time, I worked with a group that included a police commissioner, the chief of police, other youth workers and a representative of the Police Oversight Committee. We were able to achieve a change in Police Department General Orders so that law enforcement can no longer house youth in the same cells as adults or question a minor without a parent or lawyer present. Our work also led to the creation of a "Know Your Rights" campaign, helping young people better understand laws. I also served on the San Francisco Police Chief's Youth Service Provider's Forum from 2009–12, tasked with educating police and helping define the Police Department's policy on interacting with juveniles in various settings.

I have wanted to challenge the status quo from early on, and this impulse was nurtured at Northwest Nazarene University. Both inside the classroom and



*The founders of Sunset Youth Service accept the 2017 California Non-Profit of the Year Award.*



*Ron teaches a teenager how to run live sound at a festival.*

outside, NNU taught me how to think and question and search for the truth. I studied philosophy under professors who thought hard and questioned, giving me the freedom to do the same. But my path from NNU to Sunset Youth was not straightforward. Right out of college, I explored a career as a professional musician, touring with a band called CCQ and doing session work in Southern California. During this time, I met Dawn.

In Southern California, we attended Anaheim First Nazarene Church, where we got our first taste of working with youth. When the youth pastor left, the church offered us the position, and we decided to accept. It was during our time in that position that our heart for youth at risk awakened. We lived next door to the church, which was located in a neighborhood where many recent Mexican immigrants lived, and we began to volunteer at a school for homeless kids. As our call to disconnected and marginalized young people became clearer, we found ourselves outside of the typical youth pastor context, so when we had a chance to move to San Francisco, we took it.

Soon afterward, Sunset Youth Services was born, tracing its roots to the schoolyard of our local, ill-resourced middle school, where we began volunteering during the lunch hour. “Show up during lunch, and let’s see what you can do,” the dean of students told Dawn, Delvin Mack (the other co-founder) and I. The following day, we showed up with little more than a willingness to serve and a giant red rubber ball. “No one is going to want to play with us,” we joked, feeling stupid as we waited for the bell to ring, but sure enough once lunch started, students teemed onto the yard and raced over to us, asking, “What are we going to play?” The game of choice was a variant of dodge ball, and before long,

students were engrossed in school-wide lunchtime tournaments. Every day, the kids would ask whether we were coming back the next day—a clear reminder of the importance of consistent commitment to the kids—and the red ball became a symbol of the ability to make a big difference even with meager resources.

Twenty-five years later, the hard work continues—sometimes resulting in triumph, and often resulting in setback and heartbreak. Mateo still wants to be a better father to his daughter, but he has relapsed into drug use and sales again and has spent more time incarcerated. I’m often asked how I keep from becoming discouraged. The truth is, in this line of work, you don’t avoid discouragement, which is where my faith comes in. I love because I have been loved. There’s nothing I can do to out-grace the grace I’ve received.

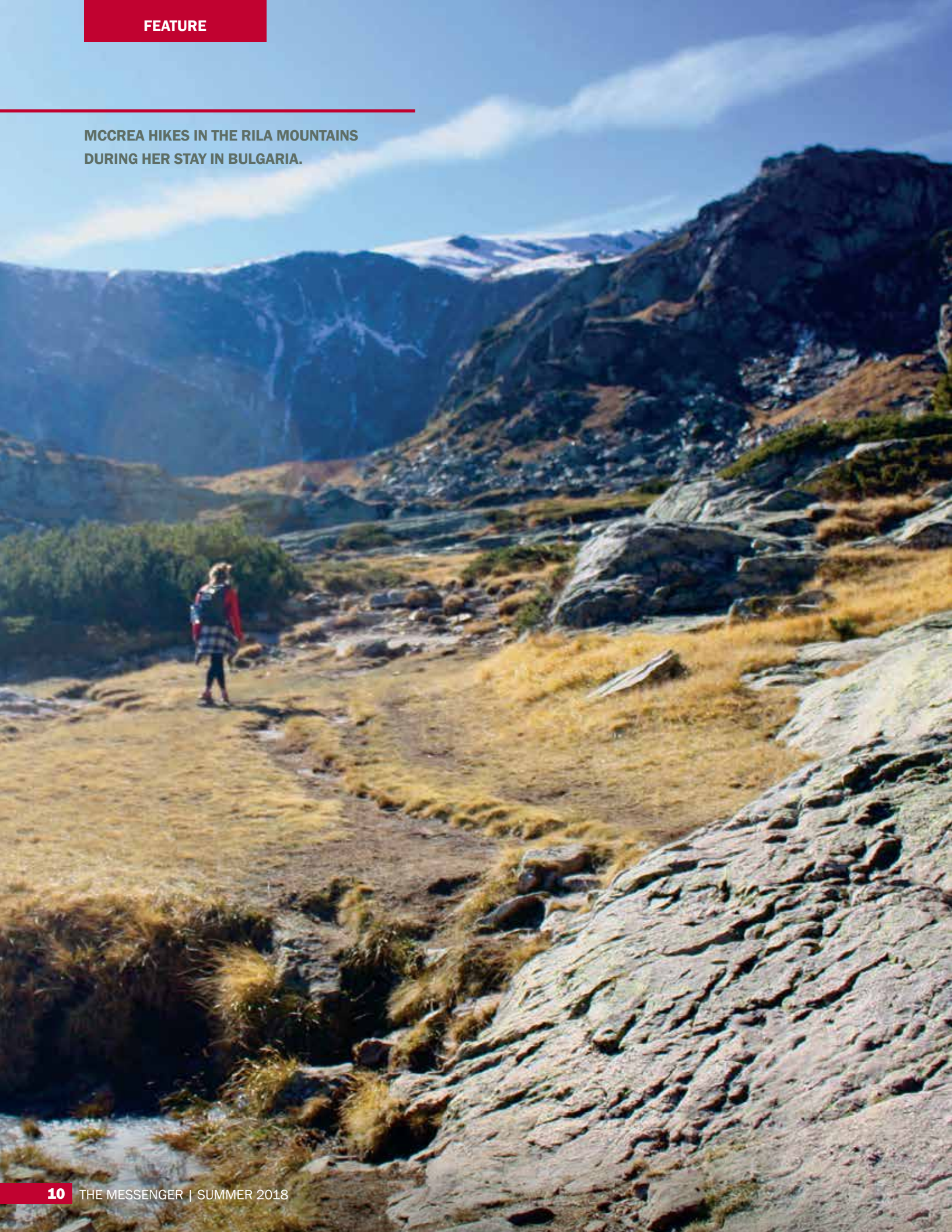
We have been asked many times over the years if our main focus is the street violence, the poverty, gangs, or broken lives and families. The answer to all of those is no. They all matter deeply and require much attention; however, the heart of the true focus can only be to love, to sit with others in their pain and give it the dignity it deserves. The story is over for some, but it is not over for Mateo. It is not over for too many to count. It is not over for us, either. Being done is not an option. 🔥



*In 1993, Ron co-founded Sunset Youth Services, a non-profit organization that has successfully transformed the lives of over 6,000 low-income, at-risk San Francisco youth. This organization was named the 2017 California Non-Profit of the Year and received the 2018 San Francisco Peacemaker award.*

Learn more at [SUNSETYOUTHSERVICES.ORG](https://www.sunsetyouthservices.org).

MCCREA HIKES IN THE RILA MOUNTAINS  
DURING HER STAY IN BULGARIA.



# Serving the nations

## What I've learned as a modern disciple.

*By McCrea Nirider, Class of 2016*

**ONE OVERCAST** early October day, I stepped off a mini bus in Burgas, Bulgaria, yanked my 65 liter pack off the bus followed by my day pack, and walked with my six teammates into a hostel boasting an abundance of character. This was the start of the third of my eleven months overseas, during which I would travel to eleven countries. In each country, the organization I traveled with, the World Race, connected us with different organizations to serve alongside. These were organizations or churches already on the ground doing kingdom-bringing, justice-seeking work. Our job was to contribute and to refresh those serving there long term. This journey would take me to eastern Europe, southern Africa, and southeast Asia. It would introduce me to countless individuals from backgrounds as diverse as the vast distance I traveled and would radically expand my understanding of the world around me.

A couple thousand years before I set out on my journey, Jesus sent his first disciples into the world to proclaim the good news of his kingdom, to love people really well, and to bind up the brokenness they encountered. “Take nothing for the journey,” he told them. “No staff, no bag, no bread, no money, no extra shirt.”

Frankly, I find that irresponsible, so, even after a genuine attempt at minimalism, I looked a lot different than the original twelve did when they set off. I took no staff, but I did take a bag—my aforementioned 65 liter pack—and I hardly walked into a travel day without snacks that would last at least twice the planned travel time. I opened a Charles Schwab bank account with enough money for at least a few awesome adventures on days off and the occasional meal or cup of coffee outside my allotted three to five dollars a day for food. I later found out that I valued my library of good books and the ability to make toast and really good coffee over extra shirts, but I started out with plenty of those, too. On top of all of that, there were probiotics and antibiotics and one fancy bar of soap, a tent, a sleeping bag, a pad, a pillow, and pictures of everyone I loved back home.

These items, still, are relatively minimal in comparison to the expectations that had snuck into my heart. They were expectations of service that asked nothing and imposed nothing. I knew the months would shape me and change me forever, but I was there to give, not to take.

By this early October afternoon, I felt I was growing proficient at the journey format: travel a lot (hopefully without hang-ups), arrive later than expected, connect with hosts who would guide my team through the month, give my heart for three and a half weeks, repeat. But this month there was no host to greet us, no meal prepared for our arrival, only a shabby hostel that was home to the occasional backpacker passing through and couple of refugees hiding from the authorities. It was my team's job to find the hosts this month, to make the connections so that future teams like mine could partner with and serve alongside the people already bringing the kingdom in Burgas.

The month started slowly—a lot of time spent networking in a perfect little coffee shop with my favorite angsty barista who always wanted to know why on earth we'd come to Burgas—but picked up as the month wore on and one connection led to another. By the end of the month, my team was splitting up into two or three groups almost every day to meet with potential contacts or join new friends in various ministry opportunities. There was the pastor to many other pastors who was so concerned about our sandaled feet in mid-October that he offered to get us socks, the young couple leading a Young Life-style ministry for Russian-speaking Bulgarian youth (a weekly event that my favorite angsty barista frequented), the German missionaries who invited us into their home and spent most of their days pouring love into foster children who had aged out of the system, and all the people I never met but my teammates did.

On our final Sunday in Bulgaria, my teammates Emily and Grace and I were set to travel a few hours outside of the city to two potential contacts: a Turkish Roma church and the Youth With a Mission leaders. Our travel would include a 4 a.m. taxi ride and a train ride that we hoped would arrive on time at the station, where we hoped to find a taxi to take us to the church. If not, we would walk the rest of the way. After church and meetings, we would do the same in reverse, optimistically arriving back in Burgas by 10 p.m. Over dinner with a new friend named Christina, a 20-something accountant we met through church, we shared our plans. She listened, expressed large amounts of concern, assured us of the train's unreliability, and then offered to drive us herself. Later, as we discussed our options, I expressed my hesitations. Perhaps she had felt some level of obligation. We



*McCrea and her teammates make connections at a Turkish church in Sliven, Bulgaria.*

had a budget, and I had itinerary-planning skills for times like this. My teammates countered that this would be a great opportunity to get to know a local more. Plus, what if something did go wrong with the train and we missed our meeting? The latter convinced me, and when we took the train at the very end of the month and arrived at our destination four hours late, I understood Christina's concern.

Sunday came, and Christina picked us up at the undersized studio apartment we had left the hostel for, and a comfortable, uneventful car ride took us to Sliven. No longer surrounded by high-rise apartments, trendy coffee shops, floral gardens, bakeries, and grilled corn stands on every other corner, we instead found single-lane dirt roads, outdoor markets, street dogs, and unfinished homes. The church was unmarked, but the stream of people flowing into the one-room, one-level cement structure in front of us led us to our destination. After we met the pastor and his family, the service began. Worship was a mix of Turkish and Bulgarian, sometimes changing in the middle of the song, and always loud and lively. After the service, we were prepared to meet with the pastor, share our purpose and find out how future World Racers might partner with the church. As the service closed, however, the sanctuary was quickly transformed into a dining hall. Tables appeared, and dishes full of home-cooked Turkish food seemed to float in. The congregation had left, but the teens filed back in. Unbeknownst to us, the pastor had told them we'd be sharing with them. The three of us quickly decided what we'd share, and Christina volunteered to translate.

I couldn't tell you what Grace, Emily, or I talked about. It was probably full of truth and challenging in an encouraging sort of way, but it doesn't matter because when Christina asked to share, her words were the only ones that mattered. She told her own story, how she had been caught up in the pressures of culture—finding a man for her security, marrying in her teenage years, being the type of woman society taught her she should be—until she met Jesus. That's when she learned she was worth more than a man's affirmations or a marriage and that life was for so much more than being a slave to culture's expectations. We didn't know she said those things until later when we got to ask her to tell us in English, but we knew it resonated because, as we sat with the pastor to eat, the teens hung around to talk with Christina.

After our meal and another successful meeting, we began the drive back to Burgas. The sky filled with oranges and pinks as Christina expressed her desire—no, the deep need—to return. She had often dreamed of and hoped for a chance to step outside of her comfort zone and serve but hadn't known what that looked like or if she was capable. She was already dreaming up ways to build meaningful connections and had already talked with the pastor about potential opportunities for partnership between the young adults at her church and the teens at his.

My joy mixed with Christina's, and then was softened by reality. I had almost excluded her from the trip because of my own pride and need to remain self-sufficient. Had I remained stubborn, the church and the YWAM base would still have become a future contact for the World Race, but Christina might not have discovered her potential for impact, and a relationship between churches would not have been

formed. On that day in October in Bulgaria, the greatest gift I gave the kingdom was allowing someone to give me a ride.

It was then, at the end of month three, that Jesus' words started to mean something more. Instead of seeing impractical simplicity, blind faith, and irresponsible unpreparedness, I saw deep humility. Jesus tells his disciples, past and present, to give away love lavishly, to use gifts and authority and preparedness to serve practically, and to find solutions to address the brokenness around us, and he asks us always to remember that sometimes there are more important things than tasks being accomplished and goals being reached. Those things usually look a lot like the people around us.

They look like Christina, overflowing with gifts and desire to give but needing an invitation and a word of encouragement. They look like Sophoan, a travel guide who helped us get unstuck at the Cambodia-Vietnam border after a visa mix up. A Christian in an almost entirely Buddhist nation, his faith was encouraged by the stories he heard of our journey on our drive back to the embassy. They look like a young Romanian who volunteered to translate to practice her English and met Jesus as she translated the Gospel and testimony of Racers. They look like Willie, my host in Botswana who had lost one of his daughters to malaria months before. We were his first team since, and he loved us as his own, working round the clock to make our off-the-grid experience feel like home, only to tell us through tears on our last night that our being there gave him back something he had lost in his grief—his heart for serving the people of the village for Jesus.

Seeking justice, bringing the kingdom, and serving the nations looks like a lot of things. It looks like programs and practicality and planning and empowerment. It also looks like a humility that leaves space for others to join the journey, to find out or to remember that they, too, were created and transformed by divine love and made for a life of giving it away. 🕯️



*McCrea developed a passion for missions while attending NNU. She went on two NNU on a Mission trips to Haiti and was a part of creating the Ripple Effect, an educational and fundraising campaign to solve a water problem they had witnessed in Haiti. After graduation in 2016, she joined the World Race and served in eastern Europe, southern Africa, and southeast Asia.*

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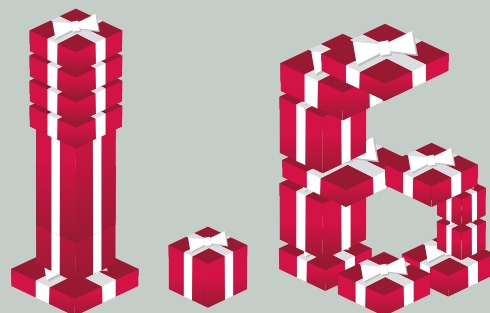
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**"AT NNU, I LEARNED WHAT IT LOOKS LIKE TO SACRIFICE SUCCESS IN THE EYES OF THE WORLD FOR SERVICE TO GOD'S KINGDOM," SAID DOROTHY ACKERMAN ('13). "THE JOY AND FULLNESS OF LIFE I SAW EVIDENCED IN MY PROFESSORS' LIVES HAS HELPED ME REMEMBER TO KEEP FOCUSED ON THE LORD AND LOVING OTHERS INSTEAD OF JUST CLIMBING THE LADDER OF SUCCESS."**

**WHILE AN NNU STUDENT, DOROTHY WAS ON A RESEARCH TEAM WHOSE PROJECT WAS TESTED ON NASA'S REDUCED-GRAVITY AIRCRAFT (PICTURED). SHE HAS CONTINUED PURSUING RESEARCH IN CHEMISTRY, GRADUATING FROM VANDERBILT UNIVERSITY LAST APRIL WITH A PH.D. AND CONDUCTING RESEARCH FEATURED IN THE ACS INFECTIOUS DISEASES JOURNAL. AS A POSTDOCTORAL FELLOW AT THE NATIONAL CANCER INSTITUTE, SHE IS NOW RESEARCHING HOW CARBOHYDRATES FOUND ON CANCER CELLS CAN BE USED TO DIAGNOSE AND TREAT CANCER.**



*Read more about Dorothy at*  
**[NNU.EDU/DOROTHY](http://NNU.EDU/DOROTHY).**





NNU PASTORAL SCHOLAR-IN-RESIDENCE AND SENIOR PASTOR AT COLLEGE CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE SCOTT DANIELS CONNECTS WITH CURRENT STUDENTS.

# Choosing God's story

## How I found my identity in service to Christ.

*By Dr. Scott Daniels, Alumnus of the Year, Class of 1988*

**THIRTY YEARS AGO,** sitting in chapel as a student in the same sanctuary where I now preach every Sunday, I heard Tony Campolo say these words, "I am convinced that the self is not an essence waiting to be discovered through philosophical introspection. Quite the contrary! I believe that the self is an essence waiting to be created! We create who we are through the

commitments we make. And without commitments we have no identity."

Dr. Campolo was describing the existential crisis he had witnessed among his undergraduate students for several decades. "There's a whole generation out there trying to find themselves," he proclaimed. And then he added jokingly, "And they are all looking for themselves in the same places: Arizona, Southern California, or Boulder, Colorado." The biblical text for his message was the great call to discipleship from Jesus in Matthew's Gospel: "All who want to save their lives will lose them. But all who lose their lives because of me will find them."

Those words of invitation from the Lord resonated with me and my peers as we faced our late adolescents crises.

We were all desperately trying to find an identity through various experiences, while our truest sense of identity (that found only in Jesus) was waiting to be developed through commitment and service to Christ and his kingdom.

I initially responded to that call by serving the church and specifically the youth of the church. I immersed myself in preparation for long term pastoral service and in youth ministry.

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**WE WERE ALL DESPERATELY TRYING TO FIND AN IDENTITY THROUGH VARIOUS EXPERIENCES, WHILE OUR TRUEST SENSE OF IDENTITY WAS WAITING TO BE DEVELOPED THROUGH COMMITMENT AND SERVICE TO CHRIST AND HIS KINGDOM.**

First in the Treasure Valley and then in Seattle, I started to form my identity in Christ through students like Robin, Traci, Matt, Danny and Jenny. While preparing for a life of ministry in seminary, I discovered that I might also be able to serve the church through continued study and through the preparation of others for ministry. Work with youth morphed into living life among college-age students and helping them

discover the mission and ministry of service that the Lord had prepared for them. Along the way, God has continued to expand my reach of service to the marginalized, to the parentless, into diverse cultures, and (in ways I never imagined) beyond borders.

Looking back thirty years later, I realize how prophetic and timely the Lord's words through Tony were for me. In those decades, I hadn't discovered selfhood, but by grace God had



*Partnering with Nampa First Church of the Nazarene, a Cornerstone class cleans and paints a house that will be used as a low-cost medical clinic.*

formed his identity in me through service to my family, to the church, to various communities, to people who are now like family, and to hundreds of students and colleagues.

In the midst of graduate studies in ethics, another truth captured me that has shaped my understanding of life and service. The most well-known statement of ethicist Alasdair MacIntyre is this: “I can only answer the question, ‘What am I to do?’ if I can answer the prior question, ‘Of what story or stories do I find myself a part?’”

For MacIntyre, one thing humans cannot do is escape the storied nature of our existence. People will always live into and out of a story. So, what story do I find myself in? This is a question of ultimate significance. Does this story have purpose, or is it meaningless? Is this story accidental or purposeful? Is the story I am in likely to have a hopeful or tragic ending? What role do I play in this story? These and countless other questions connected to the great story we each find ourselves in shape our decisions and give direction to our service.

The cultures of our world offer all kinds of stories (the Scripture refers to them as “gods”) for people to live into. The “Accumulation Story” offers meaning through wealth and prosperity. Many in our world pursue purpose through the many forms of the “Sensuality Story.” One seemingly beautiful but dangerously idolatrous story is the “Nation or Culture Story.” I think a slippery but increasingly popular story is the “There isn’t a Story Story” (which is still a story). Like the polytheists of old, most people probably actually live fragmented pieces from many of the world’s defining narratives.

Obviously, the kingdom message Jesus offers to people is not only a truthful but also a hopeful, meaningful and transcendent story. However, in the hyper-individualism of our own culture I fear that for many people the Christian story becomes just one more fragmented piece of their patchwork quilt of narratives. Shaped as we are by individualism and isolation, we become

convinced that our story is the primary narrative, and Jesus becomes one more character in our story. I sometimes describe this as the “condiment option.” Like mustard spicing up a hotdog, we are actually living the success or sensuality story, but we are convinced it will go better with a little bit of Jesus sprinkled in.

The gospel, however, does not invite us to discover how God fits into our story. Rather, the Scripture calls us to discover our meaning as we become characters in God’s story.

I find it an inexpressible blessing to be back in the Northwest, getting the opportunity to serve Northwest Nazarene University and its surrounding community. For me, the unique gift of Christian education to the church and the world falls specifically in these two areas: the invitation to service and the call to enter God’s story.

I feel the challenges placed upon today’s young people are especially acute and make the need for places like NNU uniquely

valuable. This generation, so desperate for identity, has two overwhelming forces working against them.

The first is the continued push for young people to begin the discovery of their identity by throwing off every shaping authority in their lives. This has left a generation without roots, without history, and without a defining story. Every time I see the commercials for an ancestral DNA company, I chuckle just a bit. Only our rootless culture would need to send hair samples and \$65 dollars in to a company so we might discover what story we are a part of.

The other force is the ever-increasing ability to shape our consumption and our experiences in personalized ways. The ability to have my own personalized playlist, video queue and shopping sites shapes most of my experiences through preference. The personalized world is a world of constant consumption and comfort, but it is rarely a world of stretching and service. Those who try to find themselves through constant consumption will lose themselves.

NNU stands at the crossroads for today’s young people searching for identity in a world where it is too often impossible to find. No matter how rigorous, an education that is directed toward self and pointed toward a false and idolatrous story will never be able to give true meaning and purpose. Only an education that also invites the one enlightened to find oneself by giving oneself away and to discover a life lived within the great, glorious, and hope-filled story of God’s redemption of creation can offer formation as well as information.

It is a privilege to be back roaming the halls, classrooms, and sacred spaces that helped me find my identity in service to Christ and, inviting others, in the words of one of my heroes, Dietrich Bonhoeffer, to go and live by first learning how to come and die. 🔥

# 2018 Alumni Award Recipients



## Scott Daniels Alumnus of the Year

Dr. Scott Daniels ('88) is the senior pastor of College Church of the Nazarene in Nampa, Idaho, and the pastoral scholar-in-residence at NNU. As the pastoral scholar-in-residence, Dr. Daniels enhances the student experience at both the

undergraduate and graduate levels. NNU's Wesley Center has special teaching and preaching events for the Northwest region that include messages from Dr. Daniels and faculty from the STCM. Moreover, he provides regular consultation to the STCM in strategic planning and implementation of education both to students at the university and its broader constituents. He is also an advocate and representative of NNU and our STCM programs in his speaking and preaching activities.

His career has been spent rooted in both the local church and

academe. Prior to his current positions, Dr. Daniels was dean of the School of Theology at Azusa Pacific University and the senior pastor of Pasadena First Church of the Nazarene in Pasadena, California. He is also a frequent speaker at conferences, seminars and college campuses and has contributed to several books, magazines and journals.

Dean of the School of Theology and Christian Ministry Dr. Brent Peterson noted, "Dr. Daniels embodies how the local church and academy can come together for powerful Christlike transformation. We are so thankful to NNU and Dr. Daniels for making this relationship possible. We know this will be a blessing to NNU students, faculty, and our broader constituents."

Because of his contributions to the Church and higher education, Dr. Scott Daniels was selected as the 2018 Alumnus of the Year.



## Lisa Nordstrom Professional Achievement

The 2018 Professional Achievement recipient, Lisa Nordstrom ('93), has built her regulatory law career over the past two decades. She serves as lead counsel at Idaho Power Company, represents the company before Idaho

and Oregon utility regulators, and has argued appeals before the Idaho Supreme Court. Prior to joining Idaho Power, Nordstrom had a similar role for PacifiCorp as a deputy attorney general for the Idaho Public Utilities Commission. She also served as adjunct faculty for NNU's MBA program.

Beyond her career, Nordstrom volunteers for a variety of organizations that support children and law-related education. She is past president of the Family Advocates' Board of Directors and represents guardians ad litem in its Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) program to argue for the best interests of abandoned, neglected or abused children in foster care. This work has led her to appointment by Governor Otter to serve on Idaho's Children at Risk Task Force and by the Idaho Supreme Court to its Child Protection Committee. Nordstrom also volunteers as a mentor to Concordia School of Law students and as a judge in Idaho's High School Mock Trial Competition.



## Kenton Lee Leon Doane Young Alumnus

Kenton Lee ('07) is the founder of Because International, a non-profit organization formed in 2009 committed to leveraging innovation to develop projects to improve daily life for people living in extreme poverty. Their first project,

which was invented by Lee, is The Shoe That Grows, a shoe that expands five sizes. Since the production of the first prototype in 2013, over 150,000 pairs of shoes have been distributed to kids in over 100 countries. The shoes are also starting to be produced where they are being used most; thirty thousand pairs have been produced at a factory in Ethiopia, creating over 50 full-

time jobs in the area. The second project Because International is developing is Bednet Buddy, a free-standing bednet.

Lee has been featured by the Today Show, CBS Evening News, Forbes and other media outlets. In addition to his work with Because International, he is a keynote speaker. He has also worked as assistant director of Campus Life at NNU and pastor of The Table Church of the Nazarene. Lee earned a BS in Business Administration and Religion at NNU (2007), a Master of Organizational Leadership at Regent University (2009), a Master of Nonprofit Management at Regis University (2009), and a Master of Divinity at NNU (2012).



JARED CALLAHAN, A PASTOR AND FILMMAKER FROM PALO ALTO, CALIFORNIA, CAME TO CAMPUS TO RECEIVE HIS MASTER OF DIVINITY DEGREE. HE VALUES THE GOOD QUESTIONS AND CHALLENGING TEXTS HIS NNU PROFESSORS PROVIDED.

“IF WE CAN ASK GOOD QUESTIONS, THEN WE ARE LEADING PEOPLE DEEPER INTO SCRIPTURE, DEEPER INTO OUR NEIGHBORS, DEEPER INTO TRUTH,” SAID JARED. “THE MORE I GET TO KNOW HUMANS, THE MORE I GET TO KNOW GOD AND SEEING THE WAYS THAT GOD IS SO VAST AND SO VARIED. THEREFORE, ASKING QUESTIONS IS THE MOST HOLY THING WE CAN DO.”



Hear more from Jared  
at [NNU.EDU/JARED](https://nnu.edu/jared).



# Alumni News

Catch up on classmate updates and recent additions.



**Dr. Loring Beals -53-** released his fifth nonfiction book, “Seven Summers: Adventures Studying Flammulated Owls in Idaho’s Sublett Mountains,” which highlights research discoveries and adventures during summer field studies with ten former students. Among the positions he has held in the field of science, Dr. Beals worked as a chemistry and biology professor at NNU (1956–1959). Currently, he is a consulting forensic toxicologist, a position he has held since 1976. In 2018, he had his sixth testimony reviewed by the Idaho Supreme Court.

## 1960s

**Dr. Allen Johnson -68-** is a monthly columnist for the Tri-City Herald in Kennewick, Washington. His columns, books and photography can be seen on his blog, [booksbyallen.blogspot.com](http://booksbyallen.blogspot.com).

## 1970s

**Robin Gilbert -79-** was hired as the Payette School District’s new superintendent.

Gilbert has more than 20 years of administrative experience and holds an Ed.S., M.Ed., and BA from NNU. In her personal life, Gilbert is passionate about athletics and personal fitness; she runs in marathons and is a nationally ranked competitive water skier.

## 1980s

**Kevin Bauder -81-** and his wife, Peggy (Whaley), are living in beautiful Oceanside, California, where Kevin is the president of the church counsel at San Marcos Lutheran Church.

**Brint Montgomery -89-** has been named full-time director of Southern Nazarene University’s Veterans Educational Transition Success (VETS) Center for Excellence in Bethany, Oklahoma. He has taught at SNU in the School of Theology and Ministry’s philosophy department for 22 years. He still enjoys offering the occasional philosophy class to perplexed students.

## 2000s

**Amanda Cooper -04-** was selected to serve as the disability integration advisor for FEMA’s elite Incident Management Assistance Team in January 2017. From August to November 2017, she led the response and recovery for

people with disabilities during Hurricane Harvey.

**Ben Forrest -05-** has taken a new position as associate dean at Liberty University and had two co-authored books published: “Surviving and Thriving in Seminary: An Academic and Spiritual Handbook” and “Good Arguments: Making Your Case in Writing and Public Speaking.” He also co-edited a text entitled, “Biblical Leadership: Theology for the Everyday Leader.”



This April, **Dr. Jeren Rowell -83-** was elected the 11th president of Nazarene Theological Seminary (NTS). He served in churches in Nampa, Idaho, and Chicago, Illinois, before pastoring the Shawnee Church of the Nazarene in Kansas from 1991 to 2005, when he was elected Kansas City district superintendent. He has served on the NTS board since 2005 and was its chair from 2009 until earlier this year. Dr. Rowell also has served as an adjunct professor for both NTS and Olivet and has authored several books and numerous articles on pastoral theology and practice.

**Nate Munoz -05-** is the interim principal of South Albany High School in Albany, Oregon, as of July 2018. He began working at South Albany High School in 2016 as an assistant principal.



**Dr. Paula Kellerer -85-** has been named the 2018 L.E. Wesche Outstanding Educator. Her experience ranges from classroom teacher, principal, assistant superintendent, and chairperson of several state-level education committees to dean of educator preparation programs at NNU. In 2017, she was selected as superintendent of the Nampa School District. Dr. Kellerer now oversees administration and supervision of the district's instructional programs and services, with an emphasis on collaboration, innovation and choice.

**Beronica Salazar -08-** was honored by George Fox University with the 2017–18 Faculty Achievement Award for Excellence in Teaching. Salazar is an assistant professor of counseling and clinical director of the school's clinical mental health counseling program. She holds a Ph.D. in counselor education and counseling from Idaho State University, a master's degree in marriage and family counseling from NNU, and a bachelor's degree from Boise State University.

## 2010s

**Charlene Robertson -13-** has accepted a new position as the director of accounting services at the Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium (ANTHC). The vision of ANTHC is to ensure that Alaska Natives are the healthiest people in the world. Robertson looks forward to serving the Alaska Native population.

**Oscar Diaz -15-** is the associate pastor for Hispanic ministries at Karcher Church of the Nazarene in Nampa, Idaho. In this ministry, he is offering free English classes for Spanish-speaking adults. Diaz also works as the partner success coordinator at Because International.

**Peter McPherson -15-** was appointed as chief deputy superintendent by State Superintendent of Public Instruction Sherri Ybarra on May 5, 2018. In this position, he will oversee day-to-day management of the State Department of Education. At NNU, McPherson has earned an education specialist degree in

educational leadership and administration and is currently pursuing a doctoral degree.



Detective **Jessica Marley -12-** was promoted to the rank of sergeant, making her the first woman to hold this position in the Idaho Falls Police Department. She has worked in this department for 16 years. Marley has previously been a member of the SWAT team, worked in warrants as a detective and been recognized as an Officer of the Year with the Crisis Intervention Team. She holds a Master of Social Work degree from NNU.



## Marriages

- 1** **Kristi (Ingle) -97-** and **Matthew Brown** on February 14, 2016, in Issaquah, Wash.
- 2** **Kelsey (Martin) -17-** and **Shaun Hall -15-** on May 28, 2017, in Woodburn, Ore.
- 3** **Elizabeth Ellis Cushman -96-** and **Kevin Snell** on November 10, 2017, in Nampa, Idaho

## Births and Adoptions

- 4** **Connor Jackson Danger** on December 10, 2016, to **Kristi (Ingle) -97-** and **Matthew Brown**
- 5** **Joshua Dale** on May 30, 2017, to **Molly (Bales) -04-** and **Robert Fleming**, joining Elizabeth and Emma
- 6** **Levi M.H.** on July 17, 2017, to **Malia Keene-Johnston -01-** and **Shane Johnston**, joining Noah and Micah
- 7** **Kellen Bryan** on October 9, 2017, to **Amanda** and **Andrew Ellestad -08-**, joining Kylan
- 8** **Adeline Jane** on April 8, 2018, to **Chelsie (Collins) -12-** and **Kyle Kaschmitter**

## In Memory

- Alice Wetmore** on January 29, 2018, in Olathe, Kan.
- Larue Miller Born -30-** on January 10, 2018, in Sequim, Wash.
- Eileen Reeves Wheeler -36-** on August 29, 2017, in Toutle, Wash.

- Grace Yoder Woodbeck -44-** on November 10, 2017, in Battle Ground, Wash.
- Howard Zink -46-** on February 15, 2018, in Eugene, Ore.
- Marvin Kissee -47-** on January 21, 2018, in Boise, Idaho
- Sarah (Steffan) Shippy -47-** on March 1, 2018, in Clifton, Va.
- Maxine Fritz -48-** on January 17, 2018, in Oregon City, Ore.
- Joan (Crisp) Gewecke (50)** on March 18, 2018, in Coeur d'Alene, Idaho
- Patricia (Lasater) Bolerjack -51-** on February 1, 2018, in Yukon, Okla.
- Dr. Gene Hovee -51-** on April 3, 2018, in Green Valley, Ariz.
- Harlan Mills -51-** on January 7, 2018, in Prosser, Wash.
- Earl Embree -52-** on February 27, 2018, in Yakima, Wash.
- Doris (Mahl) Jessee -52-** on March 5, 2017, in Rocklin, Calif.
- Fred Edwards Jr. -53-** on November 19, 2017, in Nampa, Idaho
- Melvin Laws -53-** on October 28, 2017, in Nampa, Idaho
- Kathleen (Nordmo) Rictor -54-** on December 9, 2017, in Ocean Shores, Wash.
- Edwin Wallace "Bud" Wheeler -54-** on December 10, 2017, in Vancouver, Wash.
- Quincy Angier -56-** on December 2, 2017, in Portland, Ore.
- Milton "Mick" Dean -56-** on January 10, 2018, in Eugene, Ore.

- George Ferguson -56-** on August 12, 2017, in Pulaski, Tenn.
- Joy Michel -56-** on January 21, 2018, in Bloomington, Minn.
- Ellis Miller -57-** on October 3, 2017, in Nampa, Idaho
- George Dale Orkney -59-** on March 7, 2018, in Cave Junction, Ore.
- Joan (Ogburn) Carrol -60-** on May 2, 2018, in Martinsville, Ill.
- Gwen (Kalbfleisch) Nettleton -61-** on June 12, 2017, in Boise, Idaho
- Carroll Carlson -65-** on November 27, 2017, in Anacortes, Wash.
- Jesse Embree -67-** on February 27, 2018, in Forest Grove, Ore.
- Lester Chambers -68-** on January 26, 2018, in Statesville, N.C.
- Wanda (Kinkead) Henry -69-** on March 10, 2018, in Centralia, Wash.
- Vernon Carpenter -70-** on October 2, 2017, in Nampa, Idaho
- William Moore -71-** on January 14, 2018, in Emmett, Idaho
- Jeff Hanway -84-** on March 9, 2018, in McLean, Wash.
- Paul Emerson -86-** on December 30, 2017, in Nampa, Idaho
- Joel Livingston -92-** on February 7, 2018, in Liberty Lake, Wash.

**-year-** indicates graduation year  
**(year)** indicates matriculation year



# HOMECOMING 2018



**HOMECOMING & FAMILY WEEKEND**


11/8 – 11/10

[nnu.edu/homecoming](http://nnu.edu/homecoming)





EMILY MAXFIELD, ZURI TANAHUVIA AND DANIEL BINKLEY HELP PREPARE HOUSING AT A SEMINARY IN THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC. BESIDES WORKING ON THE CONSTRUCTION SITE, THE NNU ON A MISSION TEAM EVANGELIZED ALONGSIDE LOCAL MINISTRIES.

 Follow [@nwnazarene](https://www.instagram.com/nwnazarene) on Instagram to see what else is happening at NNU.



## Becoming ATS accredited

In June, NNU's Graduate School of Theology was granted initial accreditation by the Commission on Accrediting of the Association of Theological Schools (ATS). With more than 500 master's-level theological graduates, NNU's Graduate School of Theology is the first institution in the history of ATS to offer all of its Master of Divinity and Master of Arts programs exclusively online.

"This is a historic event for both ATS and NNU," shared President Joel Pearsall. "Congratulations to the Graduate School of Theology on this achievement. It is a privilege to join the other institutions recognized by this marker of quality and integrity."

After a thorough review of NNU's self-study and artifacts and a comprehensive site visit report, the ATS Board of Commissioners granted NNU initial accreditation for seven years—the maximum length possible.

Learn more at [nnu.edu/ATS](http://nnu.edu/ATS). 🔥



## Contributing to the Photo Ark

In April, National Geographic Photographer and Speaker Joel Sartore came to Idaho to photograph animals from Zoo Boise and NNU as part of the Photo Ark—Sartore's multiyear project to photograph all captive species and promote wildlife conservation. Currently, the Photo Ark contains portraits of over 8,000 species, but there are about 12,000 species in captivity.

Sartore added two species to the Photo Ark by photographing NNU's Fringe-limbed Treefrog and Rocky Mountain Tailed Frog. "I was happy that the frogs we maintain could be used yet again for promoting conservation," said Dr. John Cossel, chair of the Department of Biology. "This is really what it is all about—providing students with meaningful, important learning and research in the context of real life issues, and ultimately, helping spread the message of stewardship and creation care."

Learn more about NNU's frogs at [nnu.edu/frogs](http://nnu.edu/frogs). 🔥



## Breaking ground

NNU remains—and will continue to be—student-centered by providing top-notch facilities for academics and athletics. This summer NNU broke ground on two major projects: the Student Commons and a turf soccer field.

"Northwest Nazarene University is very fortunate to have had financial support from alumni and friends that have enabled us to upgrade our facilities and add to the landscape of the campus," said Carey Cook, Vice President for Student Life.

The turf field will be completed for play in August and is in phase one of a process that will eventually see lights installed in 2019. The new Student Commons has a projected move-in date of December 2019.

See the progress on the building at [nnu.edu/Student-Commons](http://nnu.edu/Student-Commons). 🔥



## Partnering with ICOM

Due to a need for more physicians, especially those serving in rural areas and for underserved populations, NNU and the Idaho College of Osteopathic Medicine (ICOM)—the first medical school in Idaho—have signed an agreement known as the Guaranteed Interview Program.

Through this program, ICOM will reserve up to ten interview spots each year to give qualified NNU students the opportunity of possible admission. “NNU’s agreement with ICOM is a significant beginning to the growing relationship NNU has with Idaho’s medical school,” said Dan Nogales, Dean of the College of Arts & Sciences at NNU. “Building the pipeline to create more physicians to serve Idaho is crucial for the future health of our great state.”

Read more about this partnership at [nnu.edu/ICOM](https://nnu.edu/ICOM). 🔥



## Creating solutions

For their senior design project, Pedro Biazon, Esteban Cano, Curtis Garner, Cole Logemann and Hannah Thomas created a Roomba for the lawn.

Building this Micron-sponsored system from the ground up, this team ensured the robot can successfully perform necessary tasks to operate on its own. This robot navigates and mows the lawn, calculates if it has enough battery charge to finish mowing, returns to its charging station when necessary, and maintains safety by only cutting grass.

Although anyone would be able to use this robot, Curtis explained, “It is important to create this because it could be used to help elderly or disabled persons take care of their own lawn if they are unable to do so themselves.”

Read more about this project at [nnu.edu/robot](https://nnu.edu/robot). 🔥



## Studying in Europe

Twenty-six students and four faculty and staff members traveled to Europe in May after engaging in semester-long courses Christianity in Europe and Art and Architecture. This trip combined work in the classroom, student research and cultural experiences.

Dr. Brent Peterson, one of the faculty members on the trip, shared, “While it is humbling to see amazing art and buildings, the most powerful connection is the time to engage the people of Europe with all their beauty and cultural flair.”

Along with the educational and cultural experience, students served with All Souls Church in their ministry to many of the homeless in London and with Nazarene churches in London, Versailles and Frankfurt. The group also met with multiple alumni ministering with Kirche in Aktion in Mainz, Germany.

Read more about what students are doing at [nnu.edu/students](https://nnu.edu/students). 🔥



# Facing down trials

**Jackie Mahowald inspires many by overcoming devastating circumstances.**

*By Craig Craker, NNU Sports Information Director, Class of 2002*

**TWO WEEKS** into her freshman year in 2015, Jackie Mahowald thought she had a bad case of heartburn. It hurt enough that she got up during class and left.

A day and half later, the pain hadn't gone away, so Jackie went to see the school nurse, who recommended she go to a local urgent care. After some preliminary tests, Jackie was sent to the emergency room, where she underwent an X-ray, a CAT scan and blood work.

The doctor then came in and delivered news that would turn Jackie's life upside down. She had cancer. Specifically, it was Hodgkin's lymphoma, with a large tumor in her chest. "I was kind of in shock," Jackie said. "I didn't realize what was happening, I don't think. It didn't hit until about a week later."

Her childhood friend, Kelsey Jones, was by her side and drove her north toward home in Spokane the next day, meeting her dad halfway.

Jackie was forced to withdraw from school, including giving up her spot on the NNU track and field team. She underwent chemotherapy and radiation at Spokane's Sacred Heart Medical Center.

Dealing with cancer at a young age is hard enough, but the fact that her mother, Kim, had passed away from breast cancer less than two years earlier made the diagnosis even harder to handle.

"It definitely made me question why this is happening again,"

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**"WITNESSING HER FAITH AND STRENGTH THROUGH THAT ENTIRE JOURNEY IS SOMETHING I WILL NEVER FORGET."**

she said. "We had already dealt with so much. So, why me? I think it was harder on my family than me. Being an outsider is different than going through it. I had this weird peace knowing it would be fine—watching them watch me go through it ... I know they really struggled with that."

During the previous 18 months, the Mahowald family had dealt with so much. After her mom had died, Jackie's grandmother passed away a few months later. Then an aunt passed away a year

after her mom. Then Jackie suddenly was diagnosed.

"It was a pretty crazy year," said Jeff Mahowald, Jackie's dad. "It was over the top. I never want to repeat that. Then having that kind of thing happen to one of my kids? I couldn't explain how it felt, watching her have to go through all of that, while there was nothing I could do. I wanted to fix it, but all I could do was watch. It was hard for sure."

Through it all, Jackie leaned on her relationship with God. Growing up in a nondenominational church near Spokane, she never let the many tragedies in her life get her down. Being an active participant in Young Life and a weekly Bible study with one of her teachers at Lakeside High School in Nine Mile Falls, Washington, helped her through the process.

"She is probably one of the most inspiring people I've ever encountered in my personal life," said Kayloni Perry, who taught Jackie in high school and was her track and field coach. "Witnessing her faith and strength through that entire journey is something I will never forget."

"Through every battle she has faced, from losing her mom and going through cancer herself, to having to leave college, her faith in Jesus never ceased to grow. She never doubted who He was or what He had to offer her."

Jackie had two months of treatment in Spokane before she was cleared to start working out again. She called up Perry and asked if she could volunteer to help with the track team at her old high school. Every day Jackie would work out and train to get ready to re-enroll in college in the fall and then help the Lakeside athletes afterward.

In the meantime, the coaching staff at NNU tried to maintain contact with an athlete they had barely gotten to know since she was in school such a short time.

"Our heart was with her," NNU Track and Field Coach John Spatz said. "I felt like my obligation to her was that, because she is one of our track kids, we would do everything we could to make sure she still felt connected to the team."

"We sent her warmups and shirts—all the stuff the freshmen would get. We stuffed some boxes with candy for when she was in treatment and then stayed in contact with texts and emails just encouraging her."

That extra effort was a relief for Jackie, who didn't know what to expect from NNU or whether she would still have a track and field scholarship waiting for her.

She returned to Nampa to start her freshman year over again in the fall of 2016 and competed for the indoor track and field team that winter. She moved into the top ten in program history in both the long jump (seventh) and triple jump (third) her first season back.

Jackie, a sophomore, has continued to improve this season,

setting the school record in the indoor triple jump at the GNAC Championships and then recording the third-best triple jump outdoor mark in school history.

"This year she is above and beyond what she was doing even in high school," Spatz said of Jackie, who won two Class 1A state triple jump titles in high school. "She has won so many events this year or been in the top two. She has really made her presence known with her ability and her attitude. It has just been a really good year for her."

It's been a good year outside of athletics as well.

Jackie helps run a weekly Young Life meeting for Nampa high school students. She was hired as the Student Government Association's athletics liaison for the 2018–19 school year. She will represent the university in the summer ministry group Witness, going to church camps and visiting youth groups throughout the summer.

She does all of that while participating in a year-round sport and majoring in nursing, one of the most time-intensive degrees at NNU.

"She is always working hard," teammate Elise Snowden

(Medford, Ore.) said. "She has a really good perspective on life, and I feel blessed to see her grow so much this year. She is always chasing after being her best self."

Jackie plans on following in her mom's footsteps as a nurse, though she plans on going into pediatric oncology.

"I feel like I know what they are going through," she said, "and can connect better with them and have better empathy."

This fits the type of person she is—someone who is always trying to help others.

"She is encouraging and uplifting," Perry said. "She is bubbly and spunky and a fun person to be around. It doesn't matter when or where she is, she can light up a room." 🍷



# Nighthawks Season Highlights



## WOMEN'S SOCCER

The women's soccer team (11-7) enjoyed the best season in program history, setting the record for most wins in a season (11), most conference wins (7), most shutouts (9) and first playoff berth as an NCAA Division II team. Mary Trigg, in her fifth year as head coach at NNU, was named the GNAC Coach of the Year.



## WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Women's basketball (22-5) had a record-setting season, finishing with the most wins in a season since the school moved up to Division II in 2001, the longest winning streak (13 games) and their first regular-season conference title since 2000. They also made the 13th trip to a national tournament since the program began in 1974 and the first since 2013.



## SOFTBALL

Nighthawks softball (31-23) had the best season in program history. They set records for wins in a season, conference wins in a season, first regular-season conference title, first postseason berth, first conference tournament berth, first GNAC tournament title and first national tournament berth.



## VOLLEYBALL

The Nighthawks (25-5) advanced to the regional semifinals of the national tournament, tying the deepest advancement in an NCAA postseason tournament in program history. This is the third time in the last four years that NNU's volleyball team has played in the national tournament and its fourth time as a NCAA Division II program. They finished second in the GNAC regular season.



## NIGHTHAWKS SCOREBOARD

**BASEBALL:** 19-31

**MEN'S BASKETBALL:** 13-13

**MEN'S GOLF:** Placed 4th at the GNAC Championships, Henry Bernard finished 10th Individually

**WOMEN'S GOLF:** Placed 6th at the GNAC Championships, Stephanie Miller finished 11th individually



No matter how you follow Nighthawks Athletics, we've got you covered. Get scores, stats, schedule information and the latest news online at [NNUSPORTS.COM](http://NNUSPORTS.COM).



Social Media fans, "like" us on Facebook at [NORTHWEST NAZARENE NIGHTHAWKS ATHLETICS](https://www.facebook.com/NORTHWESTNAZARENE).



## TRACK AND FIELD

Track and Field had outstanding performances resulting in new school records and national berths. Ellie Logan (javelin) and Payton Lewis (pole vault) competed in the national championships for the third and eighth time respectively. Associate Head Coach Nick Collins was named the USTFCCA West Region's Assistant Coach of the Year, and John Van Beuren set outdoor school records in the shot put, discus and hammer throw and indoor records in shot put and weight throw.



**FROM PROVIDING LOCAL REFUGEES WITH PRESCRIPTION GLASSES TO SERVING ON A MEDICAL MISSION TRIP TO TANZANIA, PROFESSOR OF NURSING JANE WEIS CREATES OPPORTUNITIES FOR HER STUDENTS TO MEET NEEDS IN UNDERSERVED POPULATIONS.**

**“EACH TIME THE COMMUNITY HAS ASKED FOR HELP, THE NURSING STUDENTS HAVE GIVEN THEIR TIME AND TALENT,” SAID PROFESSOR WEIS. “THE STUDENTS CONTINUALLY AMAZE ME WITH THE GENEROSITY OF THEIR SPIRIT.”**



*Read more about the nursing service projects at [NNU.EDU/WEIS](http://NNU.EDU/WEIS).*

## Undergraduate Areas of Study

### APPLIED AND LIBERAL STUDIES

Applied Studies +  
Humanities \*  
Liberal Studies +  
Math & Science\*  
Social Science\*

### ART

Graphic Design +\*  
Photography \*  
Studio Art +\*

### BIOLOGY

Biology +\*  
Pre-Medical +  
Pre-Physical Therapy +  
Wildlife/Ecology +

### BUSINESS

Accounting +\*  
Business  
Administration +\*  
Economics +\*  
Global Business +\*  
Management +\*  
Marketing +\*

### CHEMISTRY

Biochemistry +  
Chemistry +\*  
Environmental  
Chemistry +

### COMMUNICATION STUDIES

Broadcasting \*  
Communication +\*  
Mass Communication  
(Film Studies) +  
Media Production \*  
Public Relations +

### COMPUTER SCIENCE

Computer  
Graphic Design +  
Computer  
Information Systems +  
Computer Science +\*

### EDUCATION

Elementary Education +  
Secondary Education +  
American  
Government/  
Political Science  
Art  
Biology

Chemistry  
Communication  
Economics  
English  
Health  
History  
Kinesiology  
Mathematics  
Music  
Physics  
Psychology  
Spanish

### ENGINEERING AND PHYSICS

Engineering +  
Agricultural  
Engineering  
Computer  
Engineering  
Electrical Engineering  
Mechanical  
Engineering  
Engineering Physics  
Physics +\*

### HISTORY AND POLITICAL SCIENCE

History +\*  
International Studies +  
Political Science +\*  
Pre-Law

### KINESIOLOGY

Athletic Training +  
Kinesiology/Coaching +\*  
Outdoor Recreation +  
Sport Management +

### LANGUAGE, LITERATURE AND CULTURAL STUDIES

Chinese Studies +  
Creative Writing +  
Cultural Studies \*  
English +  
Literature \*  
Professional Writing\*  
Spanish +\*

### MATHEMATICS

Mathematics +\*

### MILITARY SCIENCE

Military Science \*

### MUSIC

Acting \*  
Music Industry +\*  
Instrumental +  
Music +\*  
Piano +  
Theory/Composition +  
Voice +  
Worship Arts +\*

### NURSING

Nursing +

### PHILOSOPHY

Philosophy +\*  
Philosophy  
and Religion +

### PRE-PROFESSIONAL

Pre-Chiropractic  
Pre-Dental  
Pre-Medical  
Pre-Optometry  
Pre-Physician Assistant  
Pre-Veterinary  
Medicine

### PSYCHOLOGY, SOCIOLOGY AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE

Criminal Justice +\*  
Cultural Anthropology +\*  
Psychology +\*  
Pre-Counseling  
Scientist/Practitioner  
Sociology \*

### RELIGION

Bible \*  
Biblical Languages \*  
Biblical Studies +

Children's Ministries \*  
Christian Ministry +\*  
Christian Theology +  
Evangelism \*  
Family Ministries +\*  
Intercultural Ministry  
(Missions) +\*  
Parachurch Ministries \*  
Pastoral Ministries \*  
Philosophy  
and Religion +  
Social Justice +\*  
Theology \*  
Worship Leadership \*  
Youth Ministry +\*

### SOCIAL WORK

Social Welfare\*  
Social Work +

+ majors \*minors

## Graduate, Adult and Professional Programs

### BACHELOR OF ARTS/BACHELOR OF SCIENCE

Accounting  
Business  
Christian Ministry  
Elementary Education  
RN to BSN

### MASTER OF ARTS (MA)

Missional Leadership  
Pastoral Ministry  
Spiritual Formation  
Youth, Children &  
Family Ministries

### MASTER OF DIVINITY (M.DIV.)

Missional Leadership  
Spiritual Formation  
Youth, Children &  
Family Ministries

### MASTER OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION (MBA)

Accounting  
Business Administration

### MASTER OF EDUCATION (M.ED.)

Curriculum, Instruction  
& Innovation  
Educational  
Leadership: Building  
Administrator

### EDUCATION SPECIALIST (ED.S.)

Educational  
Leadership: Building  
Administrator  
Educational  
Leadership:  
Superintendent  
Educational  
Leadership: Director  
of Special Education  
Educational  
Leadership:  
Organizational  
Development

### DOCTOR OF EDUCATION

Educational Leadership  
(Ed.D.)  
Educational Leadership  
(Ph.D.)

### MASTER OF SCIENCE IN COUNSELING (MS)

Clinical Mental Health  
Counseling  
Marriage, Couple and  
Family Counseling  
School Counseling

### MASTER OF SCIENCE IN NURSING (MSN)

Family Nurse  
Practitioner  
Leadership and  
Education

### MASTER OF SOCIAL WORK (MSW)

Social Work

## NNU Online

### BUSINESS

Accounting (AA)  
Business (AA, BS,  
MBA)

### CORE DEGREE REQUIREMENTS

### EDUCATION

Elementary Education  
(AA)  
Secondary Education  
(AA)  
Curriculum, Instruction  
& Innovation (M.Ed.)

Educational Leadership  
(M.Ed., Ed.S., Ed.D.,  
Ph.D.)

### LIBERAL STUDIES

Liberal Studies  
(AA, BA)

### MINISTERIAL COURSE OF STUDY NURSING

Nursing (RN to BSN,  
MSN, MSN FNP)

### THEOLOGY & CHRISTIAN MINISTRIES

Christian Studies  
(AA, M.Div.)  
Christian Ministry (BA)  
Pastoral Ministry (MA)

Missional Leadership  
(MA, M.Div.)  
Spiritual Formation  
(MA, M.Div.)  
Youth, Children &  
Family Ministries  
(MA, M.Div.)

# Engineering with a purpose

**Josiah Radcliffe helps build communities of belonging around the globe.**

*By Anna Lee, Class of 2004*

**“I LOVE THE PLACE** and the people. PNG is home, and the people of PNG are my family. In Papua New Guinea, the phrase to refer to someone of your same tribe or language group is *won tok*, meaning speaking the same language; on a deeper note, it means that you identify with and hold a responsibility to those who are your *won toks*. The people of PNG are my *won toks*,” says senior Josiah Radcliffe, a mechanical engineering major, who grew up as a missionary kid in PNG.

Although PNG will always be home, Josiah found in NNU another community to prepare him academically, personally and spiritually. When Josiah was in high school, he developed a passion for engineering while observing the construction of a hydroelectric power system at Kudjip Nazarene Hospital. NNU’s Dr. Stephen Parke and two student engineering teams participated in aspects of that project, including designing a water distribution system. During that time, Josiah made connections with NNU that would eventually lead him to transfer here to pursue his engineering degree.

His journey at NNU has recently come full circle with an engineering mission trip to Myanmar, where Josiah helped design and install a water distribution system for the Kachin Nazarene District Training Center. Much like the teams he met in PNG while in high school, he was now on a senior design team himself working on a similar type of project with two other students, Jonathan Fulwood (Meridian, Idaho) and Anysja Manzer (Melba, Idaho). “Over the course of the fall semester, my team and I designed a water distribution system and a plan for completing it that included piping networks, storage tanks and an elevated storage tower,” he explains.

Josiah, Jonathan and faculty advisor Dr. Parke traveled to Myanmar to put the system into action. “We gave the tower plans to the contractor in Myanmar in November so that they could complete the tower by the time we arrived in January. The goal was to install the water pumping and storage system and the first components necessary for the piping network to be used as the compound expands.”

Josiah continues, “The biggest highlight was being able to successfully install a well pump and water storage tanks and to see the residents go from drawing buckets of water up from the well several times a day to utilizing the running water system that we were able to install for them. On the last day we were there, the new students who were going to be trained to be pastors were just arriving, and it was a blessing to meet them and see how the work we had been doing was going to be used for furthering the work of the Gospel in Myanmar.”

Dr. Parke also noted the incredible impact the project had on the community in Myanmar. “This trip was the culmination of two years of senior project teams’ work. The students started the design from scratch and left Myanmar with functioning water and LED lighting systems in place. I am so proud of their diligence and commitment.”

Parke continues, “It was especially cool to see Josiah take on a leadership role and to be able to pass on to another community the same type of gift that was given to his in Papua New Guinea.”

Both NNU’s community and its challenging engineering education have been highlights for Josiah. He says, “NNU’s unique Christian liberal arts education has been an amazing environment, challenging me to continue to put my faith and education in communication with each other. It has tied each strand of my journey together, showing me how interconnected life, faith and learning really are.”

Now that Josiah has joined the *won tok* of NNU, he will remain a part of the tribe of the university wherever he goes from here. Those next plans include looking for a job locally and then pursuing graduate school to study aerospace engineering next spring.

“There are so many incredible experiences that I’ve had here at NNU that it would be difficult to name all of them, but every one of them is intricately tied to the community, the family of the NNU students, faculty and staff. NNU has been life-changing, and I will always look back on my years here with many fond memories.” 🍷





ALUMNUS AND ART PROFESSOR MIKE BARTLETT AND RECENT GRADUATE KORTE ZICKEFOOSE ARE THE GRAPHIC DESIGNERS BEHIND NNU'S NEW MASCOT.

WHEN ASKED HOW IT FELT TO BE INVOLVED IN CREATING THE NIGHTHAWKS DESIGN, KORTE REPLIED, "I WAS STOKED. NOT ONLY WOULD I GET TO DESIGN WITH ONE OF MY PROFESSORS, BUT ALSO FOR AN INSTITUTION THAT I CONFIDENTLY BELIEVE IN. MY EXPERIENCE AT NNU HAS BEEN INCREDIBLY FORMATIVE, AND I SAW THIS AS A WAY I COULD GIVE BACK TO THIS COMMUNITY."

📖 Learn more about the creation of the Nighthawk at [nnu.edu/Nighthawks](http://nnu.edu/Nighthawks).





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**THE NIGHTHAWKS SOFTBALL  
TEAM CELEBRATES AFTER  
WINNING THE 2018 GNAC  
TOURNAMENT TITLE.**

*Photo by Tyler Kanoa*

