

NORTH STAR

Volume 57 • No. 1 • Winter 2015

FOR IT IS WRITTEN

*Missionary journalist Emilie Vinson ('11)
shares her face-to-face encounter
with the global refugee crisis*



FROM THE *president's desk*

Recently, I received a note from a friend in Nashville who had been going through old family files. The note included a yellowed letter and bulletin my friend's mother had received from Otis Gatewood, the president of Michigan Christian College (now Rochester College). The letter was dated July 19, 1963, and it expressed appreciation for financial contributions made over several months "with which to train missionaries."

On the cover of the bulletin is a story about Monika Steininger (now Monika Lepoidevin) who graduated from the college and was serving as a practical nurse at Nhowe Mission in what is now Zimbabwe, Africa. Her parents were German but she was born in a concentration camp in Africa where her parents were living and working during World War II. Following graduation from MCC, she had returned to Africa to minister as a nurse.

Another article in the bulletin announced plans for Maurice and Marie Hall to serve as missionaries in Saigon, South Vietnam, within the next few months. Maurice was head of the department of missionary training at MCC at the time, and the Halls had previously served as missionaries in Paris, France. At the time of their commitment, the Vietnam war was raging and there were no congregations of the Churches of Christ in the country.

From the very beginning, training men and women for service in ministry has been an integral part of the mission of Rochester College. Graduates and current students alike are spreading the gospel of Jesus Christ across the nation and throughout the world. Some minister fulltime with churches. Others use their fulltime vocations to minister.

The feature stories in this issue of **NORTHSTAR** serve as a reminder that preparing young men and women to share the story of Jesus is still a central focus of the educational program at Rochester College. You will read about alumni who graduated from one of our undergraduate programs in Bible and ministry or our distinctive graduate program in missional leadership. These individuals serve local churches full time. In addition there are many graduates, like Emilie Vinson, who minister through a variety of vocations for which they have been prepared in the different degree offerings at Rochester College.

As followers of Jesus, the apostle Peter describes us as a holy and royal priesthood. At Rochester College we remain committed to helping all of our students find their ministry, as well as their vocation.

John Tyson, Ph.D.
President

CONTENTS



“Long ago I gave these commands to my people: ‘You must see that justice is done, and must show kindness and mercy to one another. Do not oppress widows, orphans, foreigners who live among you, or anyone else in need.’ Zechariah 7:9

ON THE COVER

Seeing a global refugee crisis up close and personal opened alumna Emilie Vinson’s eyes to strife and fear and then to peace and mercy on a recent assignment in Croatia. In this issue of **NORTHSTAR**, Vinson pens a day-by-day account of the life-changing experience, sharing her heart and shedding light on her work as a missionary journalist with Cru (formally Campus Crusade for Christ).

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

2

EVENT NEWS

4

All That Keeps Our Calendar Full

CAMPUS NEWS

7

*Center for Social Entrepreneurship
RC Ranked on List of Best Colleges in Michigan
College Receives Largest Endowment Gift
Remembering Walt Gilfilen
Stewarts Honored for Years of Service
1960s Reunion
Psychology Students*

FIELD OF DREAMS

10

*RC Preps for the Long-Awaited
Gymnasium Groundbreaking*

ALUMNI STORIES

12

*For It Is Written: Emilie Vinson
Ministry Grad Profiles
All Things Are Possible: Ron Sandison*

CLASS NOTES

21

Alumni News Updates

DONOR ROLL

22

Honor & Memorial Gifts

ROCHESTER IN RETROSPECT

23

1978: Faith & Learning



800 West Avon Road | Rochester Hills, MI 48307
800.521.6010 | www.rc.edu

*Rochester College cultivates academic excellence,
principled character, servant leadership,
and global awareness through a
rigorous educational experience that
integrates liberal arts and professional studies
within an inclusive Christian heritage.*

WRITER & DESIGNER

Liz Fulton ('11) Communication Specialist

PHOTOGRAPHER

Elliot Jones ('07) Director of Communication Services

CONTRIBUTING WRITERS

Larry Stewart ('70); Emilie Vinson ('11); Alyssa Yaakey

CONTRIBUTING PHOTOGRAPHERS

Debi Rutledge ('91); Emilie Vinson ('11); Ted Wilcox

PROOFREADERS

Lora Hutson; Cathy Ries ('73); Larry Stewart ('70)

Rochester College is committed to equal opportunity for all persons and does not discriminate in admissions, programs, or any other educational functions and services on the basis of race, color, creed, national origin, gender, age, veteran status, religion, or disability to those who meet admission criteria and are willing to uphold its values as stated in the Student Handbook. Rochester College is an equal opportunity employer and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, creed, national origin, gender, age, veteran status, or disability.

eventNEWS



1 Alumni from the '60s gathered on campus for a joyous reunion weekend in May. Read more about the reunion on page 9.

2 Students constructed their weekend home in preparation for Campus Ministry's annual Shack-a-thon in September. The group also spent time serving at Hope House Detroit, a nonprofit on the east side of the city that focuses on being in community with youth of the city.

3 Alumni, students, faculty and staff enjoyed way too much Michigan-made Guernsey ice cream, along with fun and fellowship, as they kicked off another school year at the annual Ice Cream Olympics.

4 Brad Irwin, project manager for Lake Norcentra Park, professor Mark Manry, and students from Manry's global citizenship course analyzed a map during a lab day in late September. The Rochester Fire Department and Rochester Hills Public Works Department assisted the group by releasing dye into an unmapped drain on campus to discover how water flows to Lake Norcentra.



5 Earlier in the semester, the dynamic Mundy sisters captivated audiences in Brian Freil's Irish memory play, *Dancing at Lughnasa*. In his final act before retirement, Dr. David Keller took the stage for the role of stage manager in Thornton Wilder's *Our Town*. Don't miss the shows remaining in the 2015-16 theatre season, including *A Tale of Two Cities: The Musical*. Visit rc.edu/theatre for more info.





6 What's the best way for new and returning students to bond? Chase each other down and cover each other in some colorful "paint" at Student Government's annual Paint Wars! Luckily the event is all in good fun, and even a sneak attack from your comrade (as displayed below by Danielle Fecteau and Amber Joseph) is forgiven in the end!



7 From desert terrain to snow covered mountain tops, students in Dr. David Brackney's earth science field study group had a blast adventuring their way through the West in early summer. The group explored an underground gold mine, enjoyed breathtaking views from Pikes Peak, hiked various national parks, went white water rafting down the Colorado River, and much more—all while earning course credit. One student even chose the experience over having some much needed repair work done on his car. "Zero regrets there!" he said.





8 Alumni, along with family members and friends, enjoyed a walking tour of Detroit in early October. Calvin Moore, a professional tour guide and 2013 graduate of Rochester College, led the tour. Here the group is seen taking in the exquisite architecture and rich history of the Guardian Building, otherwise known as "Detroit's Cathedral of Finance."



9 The Rochester College chapter of Psi Chi, the international honor society for psychology majors, hosted a Zombi Run on Halloween. Participants "ran for their brains" as either survivors or zombies. Proceeds from the event helped purchase helmets and gear for Back Alley Bikes, a nonprofit in Detroit's Cass Corridor that provides cycling education and services with a focus on youth development.

10 Volunteers have put in over 700 hours improving Lake Norcentra Park this year, and with their help, the park surroundings are greatly improving. Thanks to Home Depot and RC's Student Government, visitors can now enjoy park views on newly installed benches and picnic tables around the area. And the benches pictured here are just one small part of the exciting things taking place! Other improvements made in recent months include repairs to "memory lane;" refinishing stairways; enclosing pump houses around the lake; cleaning up and revitalizing the Gallaher Center terrace; adding school spirit along the pathway and wi-fi access throughout the park; fixing the shore of the once-eroding island; "daylighting" the area by removing up to 15 feet of tree limbs to let in sunlight and open up sight lines; and applying fresh coats of paint to several surfaces. Share your ideas for Lake Norcentra Park's transformation and find out how you can make your own mark by visiting www.rc.edu/lake.



11 The RC community enjoyed gathering for the Crimson Harvest Homecoming festivities in mid-November. The weekend kicked off on a chilly fall evening with the Beats & Treats event under a canopy of lights at Lake Norcentra Park. Bonfires kept the crowd warm as they enjoyed s'mores, fellowship, tunes by DJ Brett Cummins ('04) and a live band performance by Eyes on Damascus, a Christian rock band led by an RC student. After tailgating and an entertaining alumni basketball game, the men's and women's varsity teams both secured wins over Kent State at Tuscarawas.



College Launches Center for Social Entrepreneurship

SINCE ITS FOUNDING MORE THAN 50 YEARS AGO, ROCHESTER COLLEGE HAS PREPARED STUDENTS TO BE SERVANT LEADERS IN THEIR COMMUNITIES, AND BEGINNING IN THE SPRING 2016 SEMESTER, THE COLLEGE WILL SOLIDIFY THIS MISSION BY LAUNCHING THE CENTER FOR SOCIAL ENTREPRENEURSHIP.

Housed in the School of Business and directed by Jaymes Vettraiño, assistant professor of business and former city manager for the City of Rochester, the Center for Social Entrepreneurship will offer a Bachelor of Business Administration degree in social entrepreneurship to prepare students to make the world better through the efforts of government, for-profit or non-profit enterprises.

Students in the program will intern with organizations who emphasize servant leadership, social justice and sustainability. The internship program is expected to begin in April 2016.

"Rochester College is a special place," Vettraiño said. "Students are truly engaged; every day they're discovering the impact they can have in the world and are compelled to achieve that potential. The students are really concerned with making a difference and not just making a buck when they leave college."

In addition to the degree, elements of social entrepreneurship will be interwoven through nearly all academic disciplines at Rochester College and in partnership with businesses, other educational institutions, non-profits, and government entities.

Throughout the fall semester, the college has focused on identifying and creating partnerships with local, regional and national organizations who share social value and entrepreneurship as core values. As the first academic class starts in the spring semester, these first social sector partners will be the foundation of the new program.

For more information about the social entrepreneurship degree, go to www.rc.edu/cse. To contact Jaymes Vettraiño, email jvettraiño@rc.edu.



Rochester College was recently ranked #17 in a listing of the Best Colleges in Michigan by Niche, a popular online resource for various rankings and reviews. The rankings analyzed 1,164 schools using 10 factors: academics, value, professors, student surveys on overall experience, diversity, student life, athletics, campus quality, local area and safety.

According to Niche, "the top-ranked colleges are elite academic institutions that provide a good value, attract a diverse student body, and offer an exceptional college experience." RC ranked higher than several well known universities, including Oakland University, Eastern Michigan University and many competing small liberal arts institutions.



In October, Rochester College established the largest endowment in its history:

The Al and Elfrieda Oz Endowed Scholarship Fund

The couple, who were strong believers in Christian education, have provided funds for many Rochester College students through their financial support over the years. In addition to the scholarship established in 2010, the Ozs set up a trust for their grandnieces and grandnephews who wished to attend a Christian institution. Not having any children of their own, the couple appointed their niece, Sharon (Oz—'64) MacDonald, trustee of the fund. In 2012, Sharon and her husband, Raymond, approached the college about assuming responsibility for the fund, and spent the following three years petitioning the court to make the change. For more information about giving opportunities, visit www.rc.edu/give.



Stewarts Honored for Years of Service

In recognition of the generous contributions of their time, talents and gifts, Rochester College awarded employees and alumni Larry and Lynne Stewart with the J. Robert and Mary Utley Philanthropy Award at the President's Circle of Honor luncheon in October.

Larry and Lynne have been vital parts of the college community with participation in practically every area of campus at some point. Not surprisingly, when the award was announced on social media following the event, many commented that no two people are more deserving of the honor.

The couple has worked at RC for more than a combined eighty years (Larry, 43 years and Lynne, 38 years). Larry currently serves as director of alumni relations and Lynne is a teacher certification specialist.

Over the years, Larry has worked for multiple departments, including admissions, the campus store and development. He has overseen the creation of countless college publications, including course catalogs, yearbooks, the college's 50th anniversary book and this very magazine. In the early '90s, he helped lead the chorus room remodel. Now, he oversees the college's volunteer program and assists with the Lake Norcentra project.

Lynne served as a faculty member and registrar before taking her current position in the education department. She also participated in the Associates for more than 30 years, along with giving her time to various other volunteer roles.

Married in 1976, Larry and Lynne have two children; Beth (Stewart) Bowers and Kevin Stewart and two grandchildren, Sophie and Sawyer. Both Beth and Kevin graduated from Rochester College, as did their spouses, Brian and Sara (Bodine).

The couple has also faithfully served the Rochester Church of Christ for several decades, Larry as a former elder and Lynne as a children's Bible class teacher.

The President's Circle of Honor was created to honor friends of Rochester College who help the college financially. At the luncheon, donors fellowship with students whom they are helping.

RC COMMUNITY REMEMBERS

WALTER GILFLEN



Walter Gilflen, the college's third president, died May 22, 2015.

Although Gilflen's administration at Michigan Christian College lasted only two years (1978-1980), the effect of the work he completed during that time continues to be felt four decades later.

Gilflen picked up where former President Don Gardner left off by managing the final phase of the process required for approval of Michigan Christian's first four-year degree program. Just months after his arrival in Rochester, the North Central Association

approved the Bachelor of Religious Education degree.

The new president celebrated the event by retiring "Junior" from the college's name.

Gilflen also accepted a leading role in the year-long project of developing a new campus master plan commissioned by the Board of Trustees. In the fall of 1979, he unveiled a new plan that called for a layout of the college as it is in present day.

During his time at MCC, Gilflen also applied his skills as a grant writer to secure a federal Title III grant that paid for the development of a career center. Additionally, he cultivated the first major gift toward an endowment fund when he persuaded the Fairview Church of Christ to donate a land contract from the sale of its building.

The student body quickly warmed to Gilflen, as his lighthearted personality meant he did not mind getting involved in campus life.

After the 1979-80 academic year, Gilflen resigned from his role as president of Michigan Christian College and returned to Brevard Community College, where he served as an associate vice president until his retirement.

Gilflen's presidency succeeded on many points. Not only did he finish the work of Lucien Palmer and Gardner to gain approval of the college's first four-year degree, but his endowment fund proved crucial to the two presidents who followed him. Milton Fletcher would build it during the 1980s, and Ken Johnson would use it in the 1990s to transform the college according to the concepts of Gilflen's campus master plan.

In an effort to honor President Gilflen for his legacy of serving others, Julie (Summerhayes—'79) Harper is leading the charge to establish the Walt Gilflen Endowed Scholarship. The goal is to raise \$20,000 for the student scholarship fund. To contribute, visit <https://www.rc.edu/support-rc/president-walt-gilflen-scholarship/>.

ALUMNI FROM 1960s HOST THIRD DECADE REUNION

Alumni from 12 states gathered on the campus of Rochester College, May 15-17, for a reunion of students and employees from the 1960s. This year's event marked the third time a committee from the 1960s has hosted a decade reunion for the college's earliest students and employees. Previous reunions were held in 2010 and 2012 at Montgomery Bell State Park in Burns, Tenn.

"Planning our reunion was a joy and a blessing, but the reunion was a touch of heaven" said Nancy (Earwood) McLaughlin, chairperson of the reunion committee. "The ties of friendship and love have never been broken."

Guests began arriving early Friday. Several enjoyed Knapp burgers for lunch in downtown Rochester before touring Meadow Brook Hall, the 110-room Tudor mansion built by the widow of automobile pioneer John Dodge. That evening, participants enjoyed eating and visiting together before concluding with a devotional.

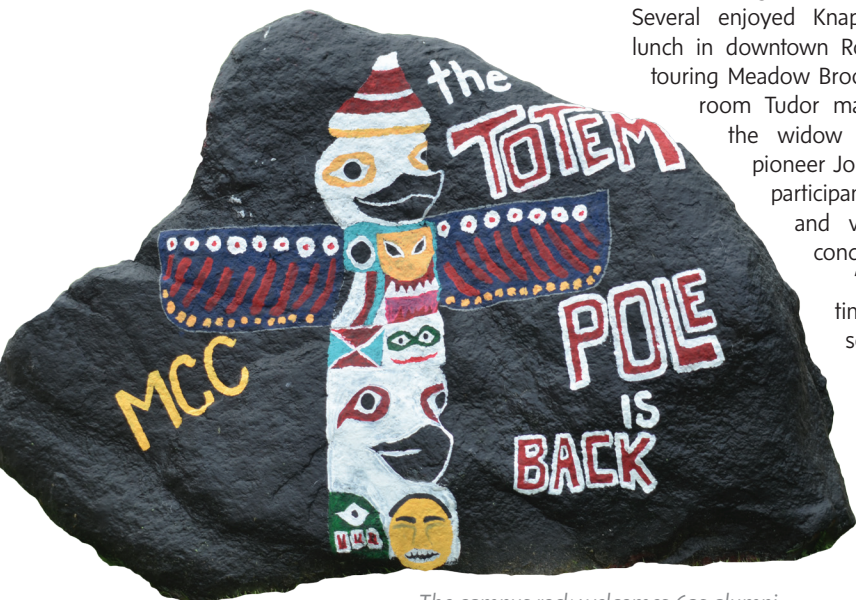
"It was a delight to spend time at the reunion with so many friends, many of whom I had not seen since we graduated," said Karen (Bennett) Kennamer of Clio, Mich. "What joy it was to laugh like we were still teenagers and yes, to share a few tears with each other."

Saturday morning started with a continental breakfast and Kibo coffee. Class members enjoyed comments by Rogers Biina, a spring graduate from Uganda, who shared information about the mission efforts of the Kibo Group and its connection to Rochester College. Morning chapel, lunch, campus tours, reminiscing sessions, dinner and an evening program rounded out the day.

“Even after 46 years, it was so easy to step back into the friends and feelings of 1969.”

"We had a fabulous time," wrote Jimmie Lynn Berg of Akron, Colo. on her Facebook page after returning from the reunion. "I saw friends I had not seen in 50 years and met some new ones on campus who were just awesome. The campus minister is a gorgeous man who sings like an angel. I was blown away by meeting some of these smart young people."

Pam Day of Dayton, Ohio, wrote to the committee: "Even after 46 years, it was so easy to step back into the friends and feelings of 1969." "Thank you for making things like this happen for those of us who have such strong emotions for what was our little home on the lake."



The campus rock welcomes 60s alumni.

Talented Young Minds

Students Chosen to Present Research at Psychology Conference

In May, nine Rochester College psychology students presented their research at the Midwestern Psychological Association Annual Meeting in Chicago.

The students each chose a subject to study for their capstone course in psychology under the direction of Dr. Robyn Siegel-Hinson, associate professor of psychology. They then submitted their papers to the MPA for acceptance and presentation at the conference.

Dr. Gordon MacKinnon, chair of the Department of Psychology and Behavioral Sciences, said, "We are very proud of our students. Rochester College has a larger number of students presenting than some major universities in the Midwest. That's a significant accomplishment for us. My congratulations go out to the students and to Dr. Robyn Siegel-Hinson for her leadership and work with these students."

MacKinnon also noted 100 percent of the RC students who sent their research papers to the MPA were requested to present.

Siegel-Hinson says the fall Psychology Seminar should be just as successful. Student research topics include music; comparing memory for color in athletes and non-athletes; the effects of athletic programs on a middle schooler's development; conflict resolution; generational effects of the media on body image; and factors that affect a juror's perception of a victim of a sexual attack. Six students have applied for invitation to regional conferences and are awaiting notification.

AT RIGHT: Students Reyenne Kaiser and Troy Wilkinson proudly stand with their projects and professor Siegel-Hinson at the MPA Conference in May.



FUTURE HOME OF THE

WARRI



WWW.RC.EDU/4TH

WARRIORS

**BREAKING GROUND
MAY 2016**

QUARTER



BUILDING SPECS

- *Projected completion by February 2017*
- *20,000 square foot facility; first of three phases*
- *Includes a regulation performance court for NAIA competition*
- *Accommodates nearly 1,000 guests*



AVAILABLE NAMING RIGHTS

- *100 permanent seating chairbacks*
- *Main bleacher seating*
- *Score table*
- *Trophy case*
- *Concession booth*
- *Players bench & bleacher seating*
- *Women's locker room*
- *Score board*



GIVING LEVELS

(includes name on permanently installed plaque in the gym)

- **PIONEERS** \$250,000+
- **CORNERSTONES** \$100,000 — \$249,999
- **TRAILBLAZERS** \$50,000 — \$99,999
- **PATHFINDERS** \$25,000 — \$49,999
- **GROUNDBREAKERS** \$10,000 — \$24,999
- **VISION BUILDERS** \$5,000 — \$9,999
- **WARRIORS** \$3,000 — \$4,999
- **4TH QUARTER CLUB** \$1,000 — \$2,999

*An encounter in Croatia
transforms missionary journalist
Emilie Vinson's ('11) feelings
from fearful to compassionate*

for it is written

TEXT BY Emilie Vinson **PHOTOS BY** Emilie Vinson & Ted Wilcox

Emilie Vinson ('11) transferred to RC halfway through her freshman year after realizing her former line of study would only rarely allow her to write. "Deep down, I am a writer," she says.

The college was a training ground for her. "My professors were passionate about my development, and I gained a great deal of experience working on RC's student magazine, *Shield*, while I pursued a degree in mass communication."

When she needed to complete an internship within her field prior to graduation, she found herself in Orlando for 10 weeks working as a missionary journalist with Cru.

"My job was to gather and write stories that showcased God's work in the world, explained the gospel and motivated others to action. I was hooked," she said.

Not surprisingly, following graduation in 2011, Vinson joined Cru's staff and returned to her team in Orlando.

Now, her role has expanded. She serves as the editor of an internal publication to 11,000 staff and alumni, coaches new writers, and travels the globe to cover stories for various publications within the organization.

When Vinson packed her bags for a recent story assignment, she planned on traveling to Zagreb, Croatia, where she would follow a typical itinerary. It would center on getting to know one Croatian woman who works for Cru on a university campus in the country's capital. Then perhaps she would do some sightseeing before returning to the states.

To some extent, things went according to plan. But when her plane touched down, Vinson also landed on the doorstep of history, and found herself face-to-face with a global refugee crisis. Here is her story:

"MY JOB WAS
TO GATHER
AND WRITE
STORIES THAT
SHOWCASED
GOD'S WORK
IN THE WORLD,
EXPLAIN THE
GOSPEL AND
MOTIVATE
OTHERS TO
ACTION. I WAS
HOOKED."

**day
one** My photographer and I landed in Zagreb around 5 p.m. tonight, after roughly 24 hours of travel. As we drove to our hotel, we learned that Middle Eastern refugees arrived at Croatia's borders today. Some are only 20 miles from where we're staying, and our story subjects tell us that the country is in a state of emergency.

I'm ashamed to realize how little I know about what is happening in my world—how intentionally I scrolled past refugee articles since pictures circulated on Facebook of 3-year-old Alan, dead, washed up on a beach in Turkey. I don't even know where the refugees are coming from, or why. The rest of the day will be busy, but I need to find some time to think through this. It's not OK.

My story subject, Petra, and her husband work full time with Cru to introduce university students to Jesus. But they've also developed a lifestyle of loving their neighbors, which has led to many opportunities to share the gospel. We're here to tell that part of their story.

One of the places Petra has worked to build relationships is within the elementary school her three daughters attend. Tonight I interviewed a teacher she works with, and I observed her interacting with a group of parent volunteers as they plan how to serve the school in the coming months. She has become friends with women here, and some of them are now in a small group she is leading.

After a dinner of Croatian pizza at 10 p.m., I am so thankful to head back to our hotel. The jet lag is catching up to me.





day
two

This morning I observe a Bible study Petra attends with other Cru staff women. The refugee situation is heavy on their minds. Responses within the country are mixed, but these women want to help. After this meeting, I interview the principal of the school where Petra volunteers to hear his perspective on the work she's doing. He is a Christian and highly values her involvement.

During the afternoon, my photographer, Ted, and I take a tram to the center of Zagreb for some cultural photography. In the evening, we observe one of the small groups Petra leads. It is made of neighbors and women she's met through her work at the school.

She uses a curriculum called Soaring, developed by Cru. Soaring is an evangelistic, life-coaching course where women identify and celebrate their uniqueness. Alongside developing deep community with each other, they consider God as their life foundation. While they're doing this, they talk about life, become closer friends, and snack on some traditional Croatian desserts, like Nutella pie. I approve.

Before bed, I spend at least an hour reading everything I can find about the refugee situation. I feel more informed, but my heart is also heavy. I'm sad that I had to be physically confronted with this crisis before I cared deeply about it.

day
three

Today we came face to face with the refugees. We followed Petra and her family to a nearby border between Croatia and Slovenia as they dropped off food and clothing donated by their church. Their three daughters brought some of their personal stuffed animals to give away to the children they saw.

There were hundreds of refugees waiting at this border to cross into Slovenia and continue north. I felt a lot of different emotions—fear, curiosity, shock. But it was incredible to be there—even just for an hour—where one of the biggest news stories in the world is happening. I hope we get to go back.

day
four

I've had some time to process our experience at the border last night. I was afraid. It frustrates me that fear was my first response—because I was close enough to look in the eyes of refugees I passed, and it's obvious they were just as scared of me.

"Are there a lot of single men traveling?" my mom asked when I called home this morning. "We hear about ISIS in the media – how they could come through with everyone else."

I've heard this fear in many places now. I've read it in news articles, seen it in Facebook posts. And I know there is legitimate concern. This is the largest displacement of people since World War II. Just like things changed in my own country when the pilgrims arrived, starving, after traveling for weeks, this migration of people will change the face of the world I know.

And yet, I'm feeling so convicted that how we respond in the face of this change shouldn't be determined by fear.

If I had any question, I just came across Zechariah 7:9: "Long ago I gave these commands to my people: 'You must see that justice is done, and must show kindness and mercy to one another. Do not oppress widows, orphans, foreigners who live among you, or anyone else in need.'"

Scripture commands us to respond with compassion.

I know this isn't what I was sent to Croatia to write about, but maybe God had other plans.

day
six

The last couple days have been busy. We've seen more aspects of Petra's ministry in her neighborhood and another small group. I was able to do more interviews, and we've gathered quite a bit more Croatian culture.

Petra's intentionality with her neighbors is challenging me to reconsider how I interact with my neighbors in Orlando. I realized today I only know one of my neighbors' names, and that's because I asked them to turn their music down because the pictures on my walls were shaking. Petra not only knows who her neighbors are, she's formed a community with them. I'm looking forward to challenging readers to do the same through this story.

We returned to the Croatian/Slovenian border two nights ago for photographs. I attempted some interviews, but without an Arabic translator, it was very difficult.

We're nearly finished gathering what we need for the story about Petra's family. About three hours east of us, there's a border between Croatia and Serbia where thousands of refugees are entering the country each day. Tonight I'm going to try to reach my editors back in Orlando. I'd like their permission to alter our schedule and spend a couple days at that border before we leave.

day
seven

After an hour-long Skype call with my editors and boss, we have permission! We'll finish our work in Zagreb today and tomorrow, and then drive east to spend 48 hours at the refugee transit camp in Opatovac, Croatia. When I'm not doing interviews over the next two days, my job is logistics. We need a rental car, a translator (if I can find one), directions, some groceries, lodging, and as much information as possible about what to expect at the border.

"...HOW WE RESPOND
SHOULDN'T BE DETERMINED
BY FEAR...SCRIPTURE COMMANDS US
TO RESPOND WITH COMPASSION."

day
eight

I think we're pretty much ready to go. In the last 24 hours, all the details for our trip to the Croatian/Serbian border have come together, with the exception of a translator. There are none available, so any interviews will be dependent on my finding refugees who speak English.

Saying goodbye to Petra and her family was difficult. That's one of my favorite parts about these trips. You arrive in a foreign country with the intention of writing a story about a stranger and how God is working through them. But by the end of the trip, you're usually writing about a friend. It's been such a pleasure to get to know them.

day
nine

The transit camp is packed. I watch buses of refugees unload at the entrance, people waiting in line for hours to be registered. Volunteers run back and forth with hot meals, water, diapers and feminine products. There are dozens of police officers keeping order. They're firm, but I've seen them show such compassion as well. One ran after a family to give one of the children a banana.

I found a few refugees who spoke some English, and most of the volunteers do as well. So, when I was not taking pictures or writing notes about what I was seeing and hearing, I was talking to refugees through a fence or following volunteers as they worked, asking questions.

God is continuing to challenge my knee-jerk reaction of fear. I watched a man get off a bus at the transit camp in the afternoon. He was Middle Eastern, muscular, with black hair cropped short on the sides, traveling alone. He stood in the registration line amid families who'd exited the same bus moments earlier.

This man is what I imagined ISIS might look like if it were standing in line, moving through Europe.

But a volunteer ran up to him, carrying a tray of clear plastic cups half full of chicken broth and noodles. And he smiled as he handed one to the man who'd just gotten off the bus alone, and the man smiled back—a smile that reached all the way up to his eyes.

And he looked a lot like one of my older brothers after that, just with a darker complexion.



day
ten

Today I met Christine, a 48-year-old mother of two from Switzerland. She's been volunteering in this transit camp for the last seven days. Each morning, she buys 200-300 kilos (between 450-650 pounds) of bananas and delivers them to the refugee compound, where thousands wait to continue north by bus. If there's time to sleep, which isn't often, Christine sleeps in the backseat of the black truck she arrived in. There are no showers in the camp, so she hasn't showered since she arrived.

We stood and talked in a field littered with tents, empty water bottles and dirty blankets dropped by refugees as they moved on. This crisis is stumping politicians, causing friction between borders and changing the face of Europe, but she's made it a personal one.

"I know they appreciate what you do," I told her as we talked.

"Well, they don't know me," she said, "but they are my refugees."

They are my refugees. I could spend a solid week chewing on that sentence. I wish we could stay longer.



"...YOU MUST SEE THAT JUSTICE IS DONE,
AND MUST SHOW KINDNESS
AND MERCY TO ONE ANOTHER..."

day
twelve

My flight home arrived in Orlando last night around dinnertime. Normally I'd take a day or two off to re-adjust to the time difference and catch up on things like grocery shopping, bills and unpacking.

But there's not time. In three days, I have an article about the refugee crisis due for Cru.org. A few days after that, my feature article on Petra's family is due for Worldwide Challenge magazine. I've also been approved to write a Christian growth article for WWC about the refugee crisis, and how we are called to respond as believers, due the same day.

Like one of my editors told me during the trip, it's not an accident that God had me in Croatia at this particular time. I'm praying that He'll use these articles to move people away from fear and toward compassion. I'm praying that He'll help us see our neighbors—whether they live next door or whether they're refugees—the way He sees them.

Because of the time difference, I was up at 4 a.m. this morning. I might as well get to work.

STUFFED SUITCASES &
STORIES WORTH TELLING

globejetting

MICHIGAN My first travel assignment for *Worldwide Challenge* took me within about two hours of my hometown. My story subject, a young woman from Michigan State University, had recently been released from prison. We explored the idea of shame. Would she hide under its weight, or would she be open about her past, risk rejection and trust God to continue using her story?

MINNESOTA My story subject, George, was a former inmate incarcerated three different times. After accepting Christ, his life was changed. Now he is employed at FreedomWorks, a nine-month residential program for former inmates. The story shows a path to recovery through a relationship with God and participation in community.

INDIA Aaron and Glory are parents to 36 children in India, 14 of whom are HIV positive. They followed God's call to take care of the many orphans surrounding them. Slowly, patiently, they introduce the children to Jesus, day by day, week by week, action by action. They show Jesus in the gentleness of their words, their physical care and their willing response to the words "daddy" and "mummy."

NEW ZEALAND Caleb is a missionary from the Maori tribe in New Zealand. Alongside his wife, Olivia, he leads a team of seven. They are committed to reaching the University of Canterbury—a campus of roughly 14,000 students—with the hope of the gospel.

ZIMBABWE Phillip is a Cru staff member in Zimbabwe, and he maintains relationships with 42 local pastors in a rural region of the country. When opportunities arise to explain the gospel or tangibly help a rural village, the relationships he's forged help surrounding congregations work together smoothly.

SAN FRANCISCO Jeanette helped lead a mission team in San Francisco this summer. The team focused on serving San Francisco's homeless population and explaining God's love on local university campuses, bringing light to dark places.



In light of the many challenging circumstances in the world today, people need to hear the message of God's love and forgiveness more than ever. Rochester College is proud of graduates like Emilie who are helping spread the good news of Jesus Christ, and we encourage those of you who have a desire to help others grow in faith to prayerfully consider sponsoring Emilie's ministry assignment. For more info on how you can partner with Cru and stay up-to-date on her work, email Emilie at emilie.vinson@cru.org.

VOCATION ON LOCATION



MINISTRY GRADS SHARE OF THEIR KINGDOM WORK



JOE CRABB // TROY, MI

Youth & family ministry major // Graduated in 2011
Student ministry pastor // Woodside Bible Church // Troy, MI

TELL US ABOUT YOUR CALL TO MINISTRY AND HOW YOUR RC EXPERIENCE PLAYED A PART IN IT.

I was at a point in the fall of 2006 where I was uncertain of what I was going to do in my life. The closed doors and other clarification as to what God was calling me to do led me to Rochester College. Several courses and professors were instrumental to my development, including Dr. Huey's wisdom as my academic adviser, Dr. Keller's kindness and grace, Dr. Bowman's humility and faithfulness as he taught the Pentateuch with such passion in the midst of his chemotherapy and Dave Blanchard's honest, relational, discipleship-minded approach to teaching. One of the things I enjoyed most about my ministry and religion professors is they clearly taught and lived out the Gospel.

DESCRIBE A TYPICAL WEEK ON THE JOB.

There are a lot of different dynamics to my work in a given week as often times I am working on specific task-oriented projects. For example, we recently had an event for 400 middle school students so my 'work' involved constructing a 3,000 square foot pallet maze and handling other event coordination tasks, overseeing a high school student leadership meeting, planning our middle and high school Christmas events, meeting one-on-one with a church leader, connecting with other staff members about upcoming church-wide events, meeting with regional directors of our Young Life and Mission of Hope Haiti projects, counseling a student, overseeing weekly programming for both middle and high school students, leading an eighth-grade guys small group, baptizing a student, managing our social media accounts and preparing for and preaching multiple messages.

HOW DO YOU SEE GOD WORKING THROUGH YOUR CHURCH?

God is doing amazing and incredible things in and through the people of His church here at Woodside. Once a month we have an all-staff meeting for our 12 campuses; it is humbling to hear stories every month of God's faithfulness and power as lives are being transformed by the gospel of Christ. One of our campuses recently built a house for a family in need, several are hosting the homeless and our students are being exposed to many opportunities to be the hands and feet of Christ. Another recent story that sticks out to me is that of an 11th grade girl who came to know Christ over the last two years. She invited three of her friends to come to our recent high school retreat, and all of them accepted Christ as their Savior. Since then, they have continued coming to our weekly gatherings as they look to grow in their relationship with Christ and understanding of God's Word.



COLE McCLURE // PORTLAND, OR

Biblical studies major // Graduated in 2014
Transitions minister // Southwest Church of Christ // Tigard, OR

WAS MINISTRY THE CAREER YOU ALWAYS PLANNED ON?

Actually, no! In the summer of 2011, I did a missions internship in Kigali, Rwanda that was coordinated by RC's GEO department. Through conversations over the course of that summer with former RC professor Dr. John Barton and a few other missionaries, as well as the leading of the spirit, I felt called to ministry of some kind. The next year I declared my major in biblical studies. I was affirmed in that decision the whole way and never looked back!

WHAT DOES YOUR MINISTERIAL ROLE LOOK LIKE?

I primarily work with young adults and older teenagers who are transitioning into college or the work force. The focus of my job is to build relationships and help guide folks into a better understanding of their role in the Kingdom of God and our church body. I spend time studying, mentoring and just plain having fun while being in community with those in this life stage. I also help with programming that seeks to bridge intergenerational gaps within the church body so that people will grow in their relationship with Christ while feeling a sense of belonging within our church.

HOW IS GOD USING YOU IN PORTLAND?

I believe there are two primary ways God is using me here. First, He is using me to lead His church in spiritual devotion. Secondly, He is using me to teach people to be more aware of what He is up to. Both have become highlights of my ministry and are things I learned at RC. The college helped to form me spiritually. Most of my experience at RC was centered around devotion to the work of Christ and allowing the Spirit to guide and lead that devotion. I am able to apply this daily in my work here in Portland. RC also taught me to approach what God is doing from an academic level. I am using this method to help make people more theologically aware. This awareness leads people to devotion and earnest searching of scripture. I believe it is one of the best anecdotes to young people walking away from the church. They tend to leave discouraged, having more questions than answers. God is using me to equip people with depth in the Spirit and knowledge of Him and His church.

WHAT DO YOU ENJOY MOST ABOUT YOUR JOB?

The best part of my job is all of the coffee! Millennials can hardly have a gathering without coffee! And of course I deeply enjoy the conversations about Kingdom work. I am part of and working with a very conversational generation. If you can get our hands off technology, we have a lot to discuss! It is a pleasure witnessing so many revelatory and eye-opening conversations people are having about Jesus, their faith, God, the movement of His Spirit and church. Doing so over coffee is an added bonus!



FRED LIGGIN // WILLIAMSBURG, VA

Missional leadership (M.R.E. program) // Graduated in 2014
Multi-vocational pastor with Williamsburg Christian Church
Founder and president of 3e Restoration Inc.
Mid-Atlantic coordinator for Mission Alive
(and writer/local activist) // Williamsburg, VA

YOU SURE ARE BUSY! TELL US ABOUT YOUR WORK.

I was given the honor of serving Williamsburg Christian Church (www.williamsburgchristianchurch.org) in October 2010. WCC is a non-denominational church family arising from the Restoration Movement. We deeply believe that in the life, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, God began His work of restoring all things. We are a community of the mentally ill, intellectually disabled, homeless, formerly homeless, addicted, recovering, wealthy, poor, widowed, married, never-been-married and divorced. We are the working, unemployed, young and old. We are private citizens and public servants. We are the wandering, confused, certain, abused, abandoned and hopeful. We are the struggling, privileged, prideful, humble, entitled and forgotten. But above all, we are learning how to be loved by the God of heaven and earth and are discovering our identity is in something greater than these categories most often ascribed to us. We know we have been broken and bruised by sin, but we also know that in Jesus we have been given new life by the holy breathe of God. We've decided to live as a committed family of witnesses to God's grace and love.

3e Restoration Inc. (www.3erestoration.com) is a nonprofit organization that grew out of 13 years of personal experience with those living through homelessness. Cultivated from the faithfulness and gracious hospitality of WCC, 3e establishes partnerships with local business and churches to help people transition from homelessness to holistic-sufficiency. We accomplish our mission as one organization with three divisions: the Housing Division, which provides shelter for those experiencing homelessness; the Consulting Division, which helps other nonprofit organizations move from transactional engagement models to relational engagement approaches; and the Restoration Division, which works to encourage, equip and empower the local church to walk in intentional relationship with our homeless friends. We believe the work of poverty alleviation is a community-wide effort and a grassroots movement—one the local church is best prepared to lead by relationally engaging the whole person. Currently, 3e has equipped several churches in the greater Williamsburg and Fredericksburg areas. In 2016, 3e is launching with a network of house churches in Dallas, Texas as they continue their practices of hospitality with a population of Iraqi refugees and other men, women and children living through homelessness. Our services include everything from mental health counseling to financial management, job readiness to addressing medical concerns and beyond.

Finally, as the mid-Atlantic network coordinator for Mission Alive (www.missionalive.org), I work with churches in that region (and beyond) to catalyze missional renewal and church planting movements.



WAYNE BEASON // DEARBORN, MI

Youth and family ministry (undergrad) // Graduated in 2008
Missional leadership (M.R.E. program) // Graduated in 2011
Preaching minister // Parkside Church of Christ
Dearborn Heights, MI

WHAT HAVE YOU BEEN UP TO IN TERMS OF MINISTRY SINCE YOUR RC DAYS?

After I finished my undergrad, I worked as a campus minister with InterVarsity Christian Fellowship in Chicago, Ill., planting campus ministry groups at colleges. After doing that for five years, I began working at Parkside Church of Christ. This year, my part-time position expanded, and I became the full-time preacher. In addition to prepping and preaching sermons, I get to spend a lot of time helping my church reimagine what God's hospitality looks like in our neighborhood. So, for instance, this week I've been working with the Catholic church down the road to set up a neighborhood food pantry in our church basement.

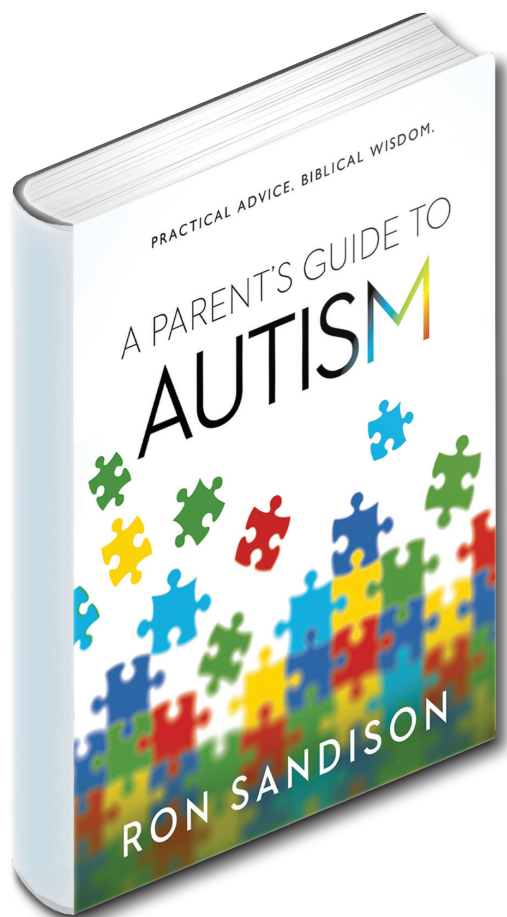
WHAT'S SOMETHING UNIQUE ABOUT YOUR CHURCH?

One of the unique aspects of my job is our location in Dearborn. Since we are located in such a diverse area, I get to interact with a variety of people, including a number of Muslim college students. Experiencing the work of God's Spirit across various cultures—not to mention the way God has been reconciling those different communities to one another—has been a highlight of my time here so far.

A moment that illustrates this was the community Block Party our church hosted this summer. We invited all of our neighbors to join us in the parking lot for food, games, music, etc. We had a couple hundred people show up (which, for a church that averages 80 people on a Sunday, was a lot!). But what really excited us was the diversity of the group that came together. We had White, Black, Latino, Arab, Christian and Muslim neighbors eating and playing together. That evening provided us with a picture of what God's Kingdom looks like and has shaped our vision for the future in this area.

WHAT CHALLENGES FACE YOUR CHURCH? HOW IS YOUR CONGREGATION WORKING TO OVERCOME THEM?

The changing demographics of our community, the shrinking of our congregation and the aging of our membership have combined to pose a pretty serious challenge for our church in the past decade or two. However, ever since I came to Parkside, I've been surprised and encouraged by the ways this congregation has risen to those challenges. The older people in our church seriously love the younger people and have blessed and supported our growing young adults group to help lead. Even though our membership is spread out geographically, I've seen people invest time and energy—over and over—into joining in God's mission in the neighborhood around our building. 'We may be smaller than we once were,' people have said to me on many occasions, 'but our church has never been healthier.'



Despite being diagnosed with Asperger's Syndrome, former Rochester College student Ron Sandison has never stopped pursuing his dreams. Sandison returned to campus as a guest speaker in chapel on Oct. 29, sharing an inspiring testimony about overcoming barriers and achieving goals.

"A famous saying about autism is, 'If you met one child with autism, you've met one child with autism,'" Sandison said. "Every individual with autism is unique and different, and as Temple Grandin says, 'I am different but not less.'"

Throughout his presentation, Sandison discussed the influence RC had on him. Although he only attended the college from 1995-96, Sandison says the time was key to his personal development and growth. He reflected on memories made during that year, mentioning how he enjoyed running track and cross country and studying scripture. Chapel goers were even more impressed to learn he had memorized over 2,000 verses of the Bible.

"Attending Rochester College gave me a greater desire to study God's word, deepening my faith and love for Christ," Sandison said. "I felt accepted by the students even though I had Asperger's and was able to use my gift of running to serve Christ."

Although he found his time at RC a period of growth, Sandison admits he hit many hardships with Asperger's Syndrome while growing up. "When I was a kid, educational specialists and doctors informed my mom that I would probably never be able to read beyond a seventh grade level, attend college or excel in athletics," Sandison said. After receiving this news, Sandison said his mother was determined to prove the doctors wrong and began focusing on developing different life skillsets such as how to foster relationships with others, become independent and prepare for future employment.

As time went on, Sandison's passion for academics grew along with him. Today he holds a bachelor's degree in theology and psychology and a Master's of Divinity degree with a minor in Koine Greek from Oral Roberts University. His alma mater also honored him with its "Overcomer Award" for conquering a learning disability with autism. Sandison has shared his testimony on "CNN" and written articles for the "Detroit News," "Not Alone" and "Autism Speaks" magazines. When he is not working full-time in the medical field, he dedicates his time to being a professor of theology.

Sandison wants his life to be used as an example that through faith, perseverance and therapy, a person can overcome autism. His strong desire to help others was the impetus for penning his own book, "A Parent's Guide to Autism: Practical Advice. Biblical Wisdom."

In the book, Sandison provides parents with an in-depth understanding of autism, while giving practical advice regarding raising children on various parts of the spectrum. Sandison also tells his own story about overcoming struggles with autism and elaborates on several related topics including: autism diagnosis, social skill, education, relationships, bullying, self-esteem and more.

"I wrote my book to encourage parents who have a child or children with autism to never lose hope but to trust in God," Sandison said. "I want my book to equip parents and give them the resources to help their child develop his or her gifts and gain independence."

Sandison says he incorporates faith into the text in two main ways: teaching biblical principles for raising a child with autism, and sharing his personal story of overcoming autism through God's grace and his mother's help.

While writing "A Parent's Guide to Autism," Sandison interviewed more than 40 experts in the autism community, and almost as many parents of autistic children.

Some of the people he interviewed include Dr. Lynn Koegel, an expert on treatment of autism and founder of Autism Research Center at University of California, and Dr. Stephen Mark Shore, professor at Adelphi University, who is internationally known as an advocate of autism awareness.

Two interviews that stand out in particular were his conversations with Jill Marzo, mother of professional surfer Clay Marzo, and Kimberly Wineman, mother of Miss Montana 2012, Alexis Wineman. These encounters reaffirmed to Sandison that children with autism can accomplish amazing milestones in life, and autism should not discourage anyone.

"I was also encouraged by Jill and Kimberly's faith in Christ and their trust that God could use their child to change the world and people's perspectives of autism," Sandison said.

Sandison's book is being released by national publisher Charisma House on April 5, 2016, but is currently available for pre-order on Amazon. It is the first of its kind—a Christian commentary on autism, written by an author with autism. For more information, visit www.spectruminclusion.com.

ALL THINGS ARE POSSIBLE

Alumnus uses first-hand knowledge to offer practical advice and biblical wisdom in book about autism

BY Alyssa Yakey

honor&memorial GIFTS

MARCH 18, 2015
—X—
OCTOBER 31, 2015

IN HONOR OF

ACE Lab

Paula Bonbrisco

Gabriel J. Bentley

Joe & Vikki Bentley

Dayton Blake

Norma Ruth Blake

Craig Bowman

Joe & Sarah Reddick

David Brackney

Brad & Tracy Irwin

Carrie Ellerbrock

Brad & Tracy Irwin

Ken & Mary Johnson

Brad & Tracy Irwin

Bruce & Dawn Jones

Elliot & Shannon Jones

Allie Keller

Joe & Sarah Reddick

Gordon and Nancy

MacKinnon

Ed & Ronda Rosenbaum

All of my students

during my years at MCC

Ken & Linda Franklin

Michael & Denise Muhitch

Ben Muhitch

Brenda Phillips

Brad & Tracy Irwin

Garth & Pat Pleasant

Doug & Janet Edwards

Rubel & Myra Shelly

Jerry & Nancy Jennings

Lynne Stewart

Brian & Beth Bowers

IN MEMORY OF

Everette & Nan Alexander

Jim & Barbara Ingram

Harold Alexander

Zearl & Betty Watson

Ruby Askew

Jim & Jaynie Vize

Jim Avey

Gary & Wendy Byram

Ruby I. Bean

Mel & Diane Storm

Edna Beauchamp

Jane Bingham

Norma Ruth Blake

Gary & Sandy Cooper

Willa Curtis

Jean Dundas

Flint Public Library

Reginald & Patricia Gaines

Mary Gartland

Frankie Hardy

John Hemingway

Brian & Tara Hofmeister

Kathy Hogard

Bill & Brenda Houk

Donald & Mary Jo Howard

Milly Jacobs

Judith Johnson

Jean Koch

Marilyn Kopp

William & Donna Kusky

Milly Leszczyaskil

Diane Martin

Richard & Betty Ramsdell

Linda Roberts

Bonita Sanabria

Jeff & Lisa Streng

Sarah Swartz

Warren & Diane Thompson

Carrie Toboado

John & Barbara Udell

Drew & Jean Webster

Gay Young

Marcel Bertholet

Shirley Alexander

Larry & Val Baker

Dwayne Birdwell

Jerry & Virginia Ebeling

Dr. Harmon Brown

Zearl & Betty Watson

Scott Carpenter

Terrill Hall

Lisa Carr

Gene & Wanda Hatcher

Michael Chumley

Zearl & Betty Watson

Ralph & Lorraine Church

Dave & Janice Church

Mike Cole

Zearl & Betty Watson

La Nelle Coppedge

Zearl & Betty Watson

Don Fugate

Dave Fugate

Walt Gilfilen

Shirley Alexander

Dieter & Marlyn Balzat

Sharon Cox

Bob & Mary Curfman

Jan Della Rocco

Barbara Ferrell

Steve & Julie Harper

Ernie Gill

Larry & Val Baker

Mae Hancock

Tom & Peggy Holland

Leo Hindsley

Larry & Val Baker

Miles House

Jerry & Virginia Ebeling

Nancy Johnson

Art & Marge Pope

James Kirkpatrick

Nicholas & Lauren Godwin

Bob Kirks

Andy & Suzy Peper

Carolyn Koshman

Art & Marge Pope

Faye Kuchenmeister

Barbara Almasy

The Bone Family

Henry & Deanna Deblouw

Fred & Barbara Delbene

George & Susan Flemming

Gasser Bush Associates

Kevin & Lisa Harris

Dorothy Hodges

Judith Hopper

K/E Employees

Mike & Patti Scrivano

Nyla Sprungor

Mary Tavernit

Dan Tegel

Lillian & Renee Tegel

Alan & Elizabeth Thebert

Dave & Michelle Weber

Dean & Darlene Williams

Mrs. Lou Lawyer

Zearl & Betty Watson

Ann Luchsinger

Steve & Julie Harper

Curtis Manor

Zearl & Betty Watson

Lorene McDonald

Linda Pace

Maureen McDonough

Art & Marge Pope

Gene & Mary Monroe

Ed & Geraldine Monroe

Kenneth Munsell

Jerry & Virginia Ebeling

Virginia Phillips

Brenda Phillips

Iva Potter

Karen Allen

Marilyn Chittick

Betty Dunlap

Doris Dunn

Gale Edwards

Becky Furness

Art & Marge Pope

Annette Riley

Joan Costello

Cheryl Riley

Joan Costello

Frank Sadler

Brad & Tracy Irwin

Bill Shinsky

Larry & Val Baker

Steve & Julie Harper

Dr. Carroll Smith

Zearl & Betty Watson

Kate Spann

Joe Spann

Jerry Tarrant

Gary Derke

Greater Lansing Church

of Christ

Howard & Joan Hagerman

Ken & Donna Slater

Sandy Tarrant

Yushin America, Inc.

Charles Thronbro

Jerry & Virginia Ebeling

George Tipps

Zearl & Betty Watson

Robert & Rosalie Turner

Theresa Turner

Evelyn Umphrey

Virginia Roach

Skillman Church of Christ

Donald & Kim Umphrey

Bob Utley

Steve & Julie Harper

David Weaver

Rick & Betty Weaver

Ryan Woods

Phil & Shelley Crews

L. B. and Laura Work

Zearl & Betty Watson

Jesse Yoakum

Sarah Yoakum

rochester in RETROSPECT



1978

FAITH & LEARNING

Bible majors unloaded books purchased for the Muirhead Library in 1978 after faculty members had scoured the shelves of Grand Rapids religious book publishers for new resources. This was one of many important steps taken by the college as it prepared for the addition of its first bachelor's degree.

Since the addition of a variety of degree programs at both the bachelor's and master's level, 333 students have completed majors related to Bible and ministry. Most are serving churches on either a full-time or part-time basis. Numerous alumni who completed other majors are actively involved in leadership roles in churches and various ministries throughout the world.

In order to better fulfill one of the key components of the college's mission, Campus Ministry introduced a new servant leadership program in chapel on Nov. 3. Impact is designed to connect students in every academic major with opportunities for service, volunteering, missions and leadership. More information about the developing program is available from www.rc.edu/impact.



800 West Avon Road
Rochester Hills, Michigan 48307

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

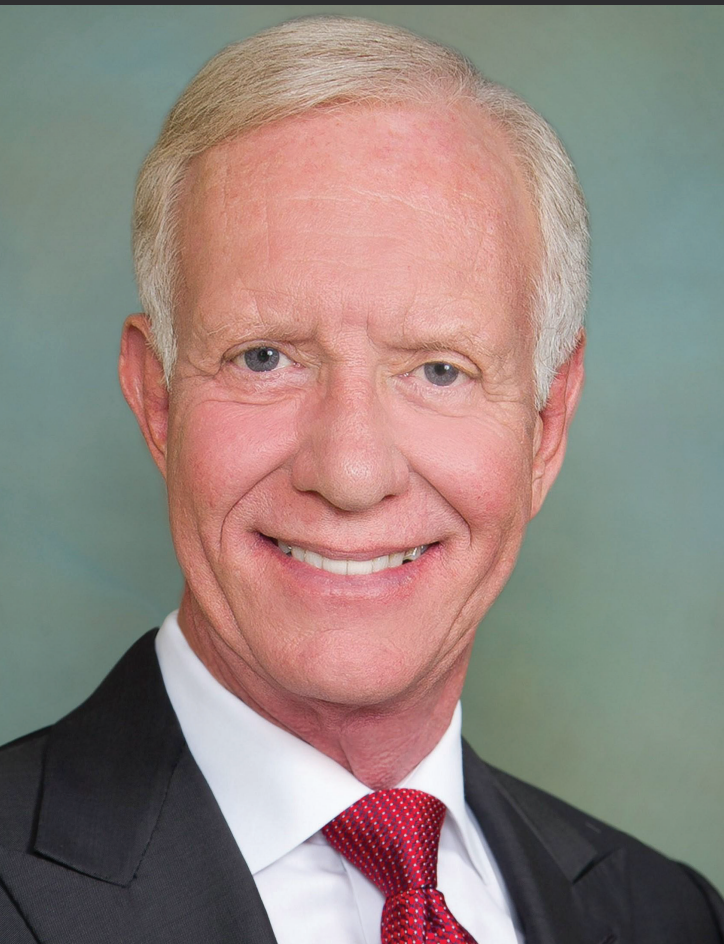
www.rc.edu

NON PROFIT ORG
PRESORTED
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Rochester College

Challenging Academics. Christian Community.



APRIL 23, 2016 • 5:30 P.M. • ROYAL PARK HOTEL • ROCHESTER, MI



Rochester College invites you to the
45th Partnership Dinner
featuring

Chesley B. "Sully" Sullenberger, III

Chesley B. "Sully" Sullenberger, III has been dedicated to the pursuit of safety for his entire adult life. While he is best known for serving as captain during what has been called the "Miracle on the Hudson," Sullenberger is an aviation safety expert and accident investigator, serves as the CBS News aviation and safety expert, and is the founder and chief executive officer of Safety Reliability Methods, Inc., a company dedicated to management, safety, performance and reliability consulting.

Clint Eastwood is currently directing the biopic of Sullenberger's life.

View a recap from the 44th Partnership Dinner,
visit www.rc.edu/pd2015

**For more information and to purchase tickets and sponsorships,
visit www.rc.edu/sully**