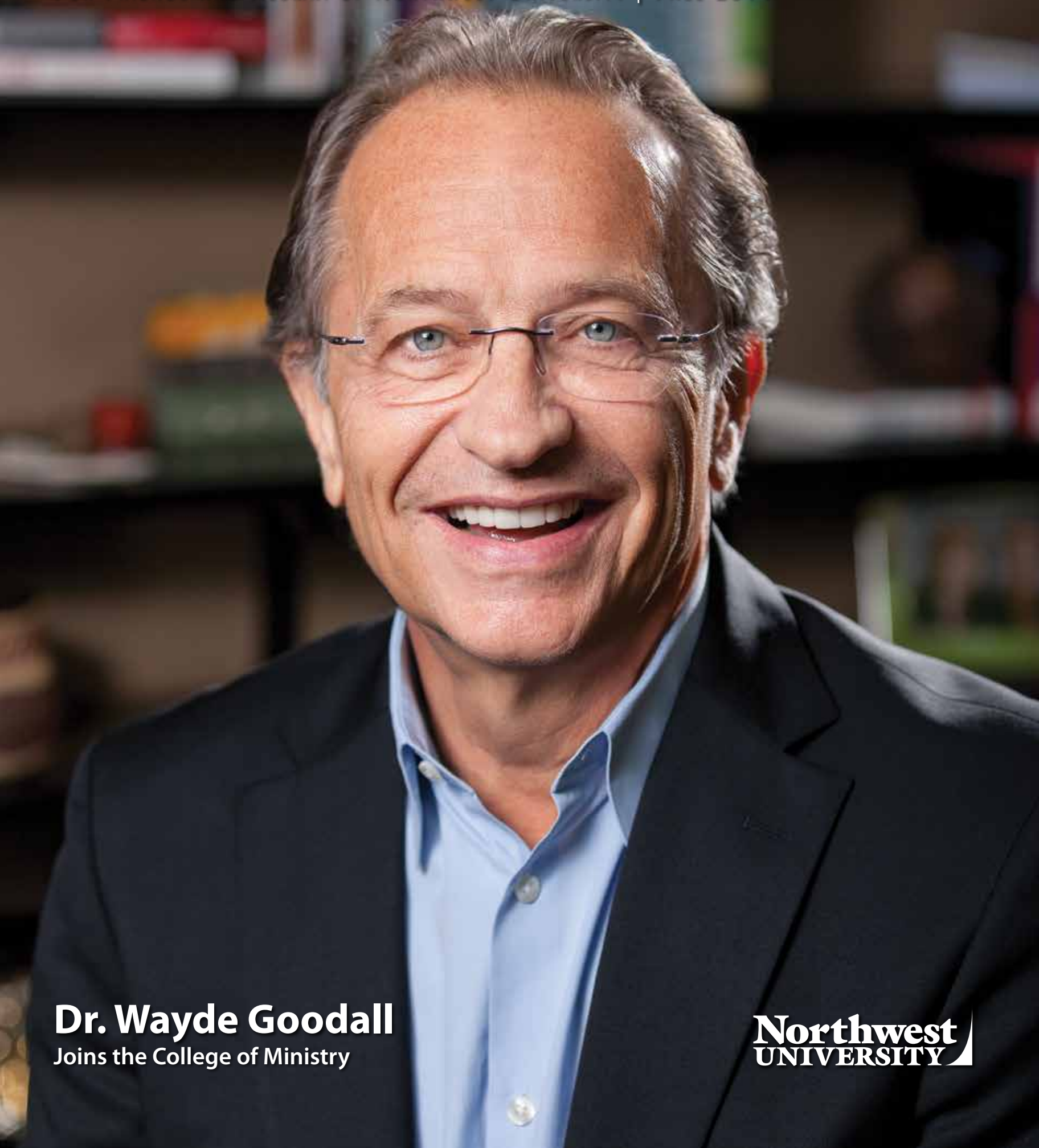


# NORTHWEST PASSAGES

FOR FRIENDS AND ALUMNI OF NORTHWEST UNIVERSITY | FALL 2011



**Dr. Wayde Goodall**  
Joins the College of Ministry

**Northwest**  
UNIVERSITY

## FROM THE PRESIDENT



Rebecca Black, a 14-year-old girl from Southern California, has become an ironic celebrity in the last few months. With a \$4,000 investment from her mother, she produced a music video called “Friday” that went viral on YouTube. The low-budget video, which celebrated weekend partying, did not become popular because it was excellent. In fact, it was derided and parodied all over the internet as the worst song in the world. People visited it in droves, mostly to “dislike” it. But they couldn’t stop watching it or talking about it. Rebecca soon found herself performing on venues like *The Tonight Show with Jay Leno* and *America’s Got Talent*. She was chosen as Choice Web Star at the 2011 *Teen Choice Awards*. She is making huge amounts of money.

Her recent response to her critics was a high-budget video called “My Moment.” The words of the song are all about celebrating one’s personal success and being in the limelight. Having seen so many young stars tragically blow themselves up in recent years, I pray that this lovely young woman will hear and heed wise counsel in the years to come.

Recently I was asked to preach on John 2:4 where, at the wedding in Cana, Jesus tells his mother “my hour has not yet come.” Thinking about “My Moment,” I contrasted what our society thinks of having your moment and what Jesus thought about his own moment. For our culture today, your moment is the time when you have finally achieved success, excellence, or fame and all the attention is on you. It’s YOUR moment. It’s the time when it’s finally all about you. According to Andy Warhol, it may last only 15 minutes. But for a moment, you are the center of everyone’s attention.

Jesus had a different concept of his moment. When he told his mother his hour had not yet come, he meant more than just saying he was not ready to become a superstar. He meant that he was not ready to reveal his full identity to the world. The Gospel of John tells us that the secret

was already getting out—that people were beginning to believe in him as the Messiah. But their expectations were all wrong. They expected the Messiah to take power, to exult in the world’s adulation, and to set the nation of Israel free from all its oppressors. They were not expecting the Messiah to die on a cross for their sins, and Jesus was not ready to take center stage yet.

### *Center stage for Jesus was the Cross.*

For Jesus, having his moment meant being exposed to the world as the Suffering Servant. His moment was the moment of self-giving love and service. The aftermath would include the Resurrection, the Ascension, and his final Exaltation at which every knee will bow and every tongue confess that he is Lord. All of that is part of his moment, and it is a moment that will never end. That one long moment began at the cross, where not only Jesus’ lifetime, but time itself was shattered so that eternal life might conquer death.

For those of us who follow Jesus, “our moment” can never be “all about us.” There is certainly nothing wrong with fame or success or celebrity. But the meaning of those categories has been changed forever by the fact that Jesus gave himself for us. As Paul said, we have been “crucified with Christ,” and we now live by faith in the Son of God who loved us and gave himself for us. Every moment of our life now belongs to Christ, and that means we live to serve the world he loved. If our moment has arrived, our task is to employ our power, wealth, status, fame, and our very life itself in service to human need.

At Northwest University, our mission statement declares that “we carry the call of God by continually building a learning community dedicated to spiritual vitality, academic excellence, and empowered engagement with human need.” As a place of preparation, we’re getting ready for our moment. The more we focus on Jesus, the more we understand that our moment is not about us, but about giving ourselves for others. Whether we are high school students who are finally leaving home for college, or graduates going out into careers, or professors who have finally achieved tenure, or alumni who have just landed the long-sought promotion or who have finally achieved retirement, disciples of Jesus know the moment is not about us. It’s about serving the world God loves.

Blessings,

President Joseph L. Castleberry, Ed.D.

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# FALL BEGINNINGS

Student orientation marked the beginning of the 2011–2012 academic year at Northwest University. Incoming students were welcomed by current NU students, faculty, and staff. Orientation also included a barbecue for new students and their families, a 2015 class photo, an afternoon of service in the city of Kirkland, and a night of community worship and the candlelit march. Academic Convocation signified the official start of the academic year with introductions of new faculty and an address from President Joseph Castleberry.





# STUDENT PROFILE: KYLIE SANDBERG

**Hometown:** Woodinville, Washington

**Academic Year:** Senior

**Major:** English

**Why Northwest:** I knew a lot of people who graduated from Northwest and all had great things to say about their experience. I also came to a Northwest Friday to check out the atmosphere on campus and by the end of the day I felt like Northwest was the right decision for me.

**What are you involved in at NU:** I am in Northwest Choralons and the Pursuit team, a student led, weekly worship night. I am also on a chapel worship team and the Sigma Tau Delta group, the Northwest chapter of the International English Honors Society.

**NU Highlights:** Being on the Pursuit team the past two years has been an incredible experience. I think it is such a remarkable thing when students come at the end of a long, busy school day to voluntarily spend time in the presence of God. It's a fresh, lively, sincere atmosphere.

*“Kylie is a bright, warm, compassionate young woman with an adventurous spirit.”*

**NU professors who have impacted you:** Lenae Nofziger has inspired me to follow a path in some arena of teaching. She has a very relaxed, authentic, conversational teaching style, and I found that I not only learned the material well under her, but also learned how to write, ask questions, and respond to critique well. There is great freedom to be wrong and great opportunity to be right in her classroom. I hope to be as exceptional a teacher as she is.

Also, Julia Young has tremendously impacted me. She pulled out my best work and encouraged me as a writer, a student, and a young woman preparing to enter life. I felt she wanted me to succeed almost more than I did, and I ended up exceeding my own expectations as she aided and encouraged me.

**Professor Lenae Nofziger on Kylie:** Kylie is a delightful student. Over the past few years, I've seen her grow more confident as a writer—and as a person—as she's developed a richer and deeper understanding of herself and the world around her. It's always a joy to see a student develop as she has.

**Professor Julia Young on Kylie:** Kylie is a bright, warm, compassionate young woman with an adventurous spirit and a strong will to learn and grow from both academics and life.

**Most valuable lesson at NU:** Healthy balance in all areas of life.

**Plans after graduation:** Pursue a Master in Teaching degree at NU!





# the controversy of Hell

Professors from the department of Bible and Theology reflect on the topic raised by Rob Bell's book, *Love Wins*.



APRIL 18, 2011: NU's department of Bible and Theology hosted an open forum to provide students, staff, and faculty the opportunity to examine Rob Bell's book, *Love Wins: A Book About Heaven, Hell, and the Fate of Every Person Who Ever Lived*. Bell's book generated strong responses from the Christian community, in both positive and negative ways. To guide the discussion, introductory reviews of the book were made by Professors Kowalski (center), Charette (right), and Herms (left)—brief summaries of their comments are included. What followed was a lively discussion with participants representing all areas of NU's community.



## Dr. Waldemar Kowalski

My response to Rob Bell's book, *Love Wins*, is framed in the context of the time of year our discussion is taking place: Easter. In theology we concern ourselves (among other things) with several critical questions: "Is it true?" and "How important is it?" To reverse the normal order, let's first deal with how important all this is. The teaching of the cross and resurrection of Christ is clearly a core teaching of Christianity (1 Cor. 15:3). If we lose the impact of the cross, we have forfeited the center of our faith. And if we are to accept, as Rob Bell teaches, that everyone will eventually "make it," is there any need for a cross? The Father becomes cruel and vile if he allows his Son to die needlessly, especially when the degradation and pain of the cross is considered.

There are a number of views of how the event of the cross is to be applied to humanity. Abelard's moral influence view of the atonement makes it an incredible display of God's love, removing fear of God from humanity. It certainly is that, however, the cross clearly has an objective function, as made clear in Calvin's penal substitution view of the atonement: Christ paid my debt, suffered my penalty, and truly restored me to the divinely intended relationship with God.

I must ask: is this another gospel (Gal. 1:6-9)? Having started with grace, are we now to believe that salvation for some is to be worked out by suffering for a time in hell? This is a fundamentally wrong understanding of sin itself. Sin is not first of all a wrong action: it is rejection of truth and rejection of relationship with God (Rom. 1:25). Will God override this rejection in eternity? Nothing I read in Scripture suggests this to be the case. Certainly, if this is true, why bother with being missional?! If people will eventually get there on the basis of their own suffering, why should we endanger ourselves just to (perhaps) shorten their suffering? We're talking about eternity, after all, so their time of suffering is really irrelevant, if Rob is right.

A final observation on Rob Bell's use of Greek. He is correct in some of his comments on the use of cultural language with terms like Hades, Sheol, Tartarus, and so on. These are indeed words that had an existing meaning before the writers of Scripture used them, and to use them without explanation invited misunderstanding on the part of the original audience. But Bell fails to engage

with texts like 2 Thessalonians 1:5-10, where there is explicit language of punishment and suffering without use of the words which Bell feels may be tainted. That is, the concept of hell is clearly expressed without using these ambiguous words.

Bell also fails to adequately distinguish between *aiōn* (age) and *aiōnios* (eternity—the word *aiōnion* in Matt. 25:46). The words are similar and related, but not the same, any more than the idea that a theist is the same as an atheist! In Greek, the words guilty (*hupodikos*), righteousness (*dikaio sunē*), and justified (*dikaioō*) all have the same root, but there's a huge difference between being guilty and being justified!

I like a lot of Bell's work, but on this book he and I differ greatly.

## Dr. Blaine Charette

Although Rob Bell's book, *Love Wins*, has many shortcomings, when I finished reading the book my feelings toward it were more positive than negative. I appreciate Bell's desire to keep the focus of evangelism on the positive and thus not allow the truth that God judges to obscure the fact that he is a God of love and mercy who is ultimately concerned about the redemption of his creatures.

The earlier sections of the book are in many respects quite stirring and explain why Bell is such a popular and influential preacher. On the downside, the book is weak in terms of its scholarship and will not serve as a significant or responsible contribution to Christian views on the afterlife.

One major weakness of the book is that it does not explore other positions adequately, but presents the issue in rather stark terms, as though the choice is only between hell as a place of conscious eternal torment or hell as a temporary condition from which all will be finally redeemed.

I am always of two minds with a book like this. On the one hand, it has value in provoking discussion on an important topic, but at the same time it tends to oversimplify and thus distort the topic in view. It is a fun book to have a conversation around, but it has received far more attention than it deserves.

## Dr. Ron Herms

Rob Bell is misunderstood—and perhaps this is, in part, his own doing. Just like with ancient writers whom we must read with some sense of their own setting and time, we must place Bell in his context.

He writes, first and foremost, not as a trained theologian or biblical scholar but as an American pastor wrestling with the questions of doubt and skepticism common in a western, postmodern world. He believes traditional Christianity has often been too adamant and dogmatic about topics that are better treated with humility (such as eternal destiny). Further, Bell is on a journey and has doubts—doubts about his own evangelical tradition that, he believes, has had toxic effects on, and created unnecessary hurdles to, peoples' search for faith.

Since I work with apocalyptic texts and their use of symbolic language, I affirm Bell's effort to enter discussions of heaven and hell with a measure of grace in *Love Wins*. First, as Bell re-reads biblical texts in light of the broader narrative of God's ultimate redemption and restoration of the entire cosmos, he asks the question, "Does God get what God wants?" Bell follows the ideas of N.T. Wright and others by suggesting that heaven is not "there" but "here." God's final restoration (new Creation) is very much "this-worldly"; he has plans to bring heaven to earth—it is not a place in the sky (cf. Rev. 21-22)! Bell is right on this—but he doesn't go far enough, in my view.

Biblical visions of new Creation also assume that God deals rightly (judges) with the evil that works against his loving intention. The full expression of God's kingdom is seen in how all of creation (including humanity) is rescued ("saved") from the chaos and destruction perpetrated by evil. Biblically, this evil is demonic and institutional (what St. Paul called "principalities and powers")—and humans can choose to collude with this evil. When Bell asks, "Do we get what we want?" he suggests that hell is also "here" and of our own making. He reminds us that biblical images of hell are taken from real places (i.e. Gehenna) representative of separation from God's covenant people.

For Bell, hell is not what one "gets"; rather, it symbolizes what one "misses out" on. In one sense he is right, humans can create their own misery in the here and now—but that is not the whole story. If the new Creation vision of final loss (no place in heaven on earth) were to replace common medieval visions of "hellfire," our communities of faith would be well positioned to offer an invitation to God's full kingdom (heaven on earth) to a broken, skeptical world. Bell wants to help us toward this goal—I wish he could have gone a little further in that direction!

# Start Your Online Ministry Program

At Northwest University, we now offer online classes that don't force you to study alone. Our online classes are structured so that you are part of a cohort, studying and learning with other students in a virtual, but very real, academic community.

## MASTER IN MINISTRY

Gives those with a bachelor's degree in another subject a biblical, theological, and practical ministry foundation so they can gain credentials and fulfill a calling to ministry. This degree is predominantly online. We do, however, ask you to visit our campus once each year for an orientation session/special seminar. (For those who live in the Seattle area, a "hybrid" cohort is also offered, so you can take some classes on the Northwest University campus.)

## CERTIFICATE IN MINISTRY LEADERSHIP

Provides courses that meet the education requirements for each level of credentialing for ministers in the Assemblies of God: Certified, Licensed, and Ordained. Students take just one class at a time, with an occasional overlap of two or three weeks. There are no classes in December, and the program can be completed in under two years.

To find out more, visit [www.northwestu.edu](http://www.northwestu.edu) or call **877.453.5327**.



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# Invitation to Visit Northwest University

High school juniors, seniors, and graduates are invited to experience university life.

## Northwest Friday

Experience a full day on campus and learn what it's like to be a student at NU. Guests will get to sit in on classes, attend chapel, tour the campus, and sample the food.

- November 18, 2011
- December 2, 2011
- January 27, 2012
- February 17, 2012
- March 16, 2012
- April 20, 2012

## Northwest Saturday

Can't visit during a school day? Come get a taste of what life is like at NU. Guests will meet faculty, tour the campus, and sample the food.

- October 29, 2011
- February 11, 2012

## Transfer Tuesday

Learn everything you need to know about transferring to Northwest University.

- December 6, 2011
- March 6, 2012
- May 15, 2012

## Nursing Info Session

Meet the School of Nursing faculty and tour our state-of-the-art Health and Sciences Center. Come learn what makes NU's nursing program so great.

- November 2, 2011
- January 23, 2012
- March 26, 2012

## Individual Visits

If you cannot make it to one of our visit events, we still encourage you to visit. We will schedule a personalized visit tailored to your needs.

## Overnight Visits

Come spend the night in one of our residence halls to get the full college experience. Overnight visits are available throughout the school year.

Learn more about the events and sign-up at [www.northwestu.edu/admissions/visit](http://www.northwestu.edu/admissions/visit).



# Q&A

*Dean of the College of Ministry,  
Wayde Goodall talks with President  
Castleberry about his story and his  
passion for Godly leadership.*



**Q** How did you start your career in ministry?

**A** A missionary introduced me to Jesus when I was in the Navy, stationed on Guam. I experienced a dynamic encounter with the Lord and within days experienced the baptism in the Holy Spirit. Both my salvation experience and the impact of the Holy Spirit on my life gave me a deep desire to help people—people like me who had never heard the name of Jesus. With this strong sense of need I decided to enter one of our institutions to study for ministry. I attended Vanguard University and began to learn about the Bible. I had almost no prior knowledge. I also felt that if I was going to work with people throughout my life, I needed to study psychology. I majored in both Bible literature and psychology in my undergraduate work.

My wife Rosalyn and I became youth pastors while in college and discovered that God enabled us to help young people. I realized that I needed more training and understanding so I decided to attend graduate school in counseling. I have also completed two Doctor of Ministry degrees over the years as I have pastored, and served at the national office (while creating and developing the Enrichment Office for the Assemblies of God).

**Q** Writing has been a hallmark of your ministry—how did that come about?

**A** Looking back it's quite humorous. I started to write because while serving as a youth pastor at (then) Calvary Temple in Seattle, we couldn't afford to buy clothes and "stuff" for our baby, Jeremy. I heard that I could receive \$100 for an article in *Advance* magazine, so I wrote an article, and to my amazement they purchased it for \$100. I had other ideas for articles and thought that I ought to write another and another. Over the years I've written numerous articles for many Christian magazines.

Then, while doing youth work, I wrote a book called *Dating for Christians* for Multnomah Press. Soon other publishers (Zondervan, Gospel Publishing House, New Leaf Press, and Creation House) asked me to write for them on what I would call "need issues." Also, I've been asked by the Assemblies of God to write three books that are used for various educational institutions. I am presently writing a book for Africa (pastors, leaders, churches) on Christian counseling in the local church.

Over the years, I've discovered that part of my calling is to write for the church and answer some of the difficult questions like: How can I have a healthy marriage and family? What is spiritual leadership? What is the meaning of success? How do I get the baptism in the Holy Spirit? Why do great men fall? Etc.

**Q** How did you conceive of and create the *Enrichment Journal*?

**A** While developing the Enrichment Office at the Assemblies of God headquarters, I was asked by the executives if I would transition the minister's magazine (called *Advance*) and make it a magazine that was more up to date.

As a pastor I felt that ministers, spouses, leaders, and missionaries needed a tool that gave them the practical information they were looking for to do what God had called them to do. I also wanted the magazine to offer theological truths that would impact spiritual leaders. I wanted the articles to be written by some of the best authors in the church world. I wanted to invite leaders that were interdenominational, along with additional authors within the Assemblies of God who were doing the work of ministry in effective ways. My dream for the magazine was for it to also have a practical touch that addressed such topics as: ministry balance, burnout in ministry, marriage issues, and counseling assistance. I wanted it to give Christian leaders and pastors relevant tools for ministry.

I also felt that there was an opportunity for the *Enrichment Journal* to become a top notch clergy magazine that would be utilized by other denominational groups because there was a vacuum that no other magazine was filling.

I felt that we needed to make it thematic and offer it quarterly. I wanted it to be helpful and to look attractive so that leaders would want to keep it on their bookshelves and refer back to the topic of each issue when they had questions about the topic.

After the first year of existence, the *Enrichment Journal* received the "Most Improved Christian Magazine" award from the Evangelical Press Association. The second year it received "First Place for Clergy Magazines in America." God had fulfilled the dream, and today it continues to target leaders with relevant issues of ministry.

**Q** Did you ever imagine it would find the critical acclaim it has achieved?

**A** Psalm 8:1, "O Lord, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth" (ESV) has been a focus verse in my life. Some translations use the word "excellent" for majestic. I felt that we would go for the best quality that we could afford and ask authors that are having significant impact in ministry and have a good understanding of how to write. The goal was excellence in God's name, for his glory. Also, part of the dream was, when this magazine hits a leader's desk he/she will want to open it and keep it available.

Soon other denominational groups were asking how to get the journal for their leaders. Many countries have translated it into their languages and now offer it to their leaders. My prayer was that it would be a significant help to those in spiritual leadership.

**Q** How did God orchestrate your calling to lead NU's College of Ministry?

**A** I have a deep appreciation for the universities and seminaries that have impacted my life. Throughout the years, my educational preparation has helped me to be prepared for God's call on my life. I'm interested in every type of ministry, whether it's church leadership, missionary leadership, pastoring, etc. At NU, we have the opportunity to impact present and future leaders for the Kingdom and, in particular, I feel we have one of the greatest

generations of young people ever. I wanted to be involved in leadership development for the global church.

NU is an institution that I've watched and appreciated. Coming into the College of Ministry as Dean is an opportunity to impart tools, relevancy, excellence in education, spiritual leadership principles, and principles that will prepare today's leaders for Kingdom work.

**Q** What's your vision for effective pastoral education and equipping through the College of Ministry?

**A** The academic and the practical go hand in hand. We need to prepare leaders who are academically excellent and have an understanding about how to apply truth as they offer change to people's lives.

*"We have the opportunity to develop leaders who understand the simple truth of how to change a life and impact a culture for good."*

The world is complicated. People have dysfunction, religious confusion, gender confusion, poverty, physical and emotional problems, etc. It's a global phenomenon. We have the opportunity to develop leaders who understand the simple truth of how to change a life and impact a culture for good. I pray that we will develop pastors who really understand the church and their wonderful assignment as pastor. I envision them loving the Word, studying, preparing, and having a strong work ethic with spiritual and life balance. I pray that they will be lifelong learners, continuing to endeavor to give their best to their Master.

We have one of the most outstanding faculties that I know of in our College of Ministry. These men and women are really good at what they do. We are all endeavoring to ensure that we give students the educational tools, along with showing them ways to impart their education to people in need. I want to encourage the development of healthy leaders so that they, in turn, can develop healthy churches. They are change agents, watchmen/women for cities, villages, and small and large communities. We have an opportunity to give our students the best for their incredible call.

**Q** If you could speak into the life of one struggling pastor who might be reading this, what would you say?

**A** Discouragement is one of the weapons that the enemy uses to stop a person from trying. I want to remind him/her that ministry has significant challenges but the truth we offer will absolutely change lives from the inside out. That, in turn, will change the church, the community, and even the culture.

I would also remind them that they can trust God to help them do what he has asked them to do. I say, go after your dream and bring your plans to him and ask for his favor (Proverbs 16:3). Be encouraged in the Lord. It's been said (in several different forms), "If God calls you to the ministry, don't stoop to be a king." Meaning, the call of God on your life is the most important thing for you to do. We serve an audience of ONE!





Dustin Shirley, Alumni Director

## NORTHWEST ALUMNI

### Send Us Your News

Help us—and the entire Northwest University community—keep up-to-date on what's happening in your world.

### Online Update Form

This is the easiest way to keep us updated. Just log on to our website, [www.northwestu.edu](http://www.northwestu.edu), and fill out the online Alumni Update Form.

You can also send an email to [alumni@northwestu.edu](mailto:alumni@northwestu.edu).

Or mail an update to:

**Dustin Shirley**  
Alumni Director  
Northwest University  
P.O. Box 579  
Kirkland, WA 98083-0579  
Phone: 425.889.5352

### 1940's

**Norwin Hutchcroft** ('43) passed away on August 12, 2011. Norwin and his wife **Vera (Richter, '45)** were graduates of Northwest Bible Institute at Calvary Temple in Seattle.

### 1960's

**Dr. Larry Vern Newman** ('62) recently published his third book, *The Grand Humiliation: A Theology of Meaning and Purpose* ([www.TheGrandHumiliation.com](http://www.TheGrandHumiliation.com)). [larmar56@frontier.com](mailto:larmar56@frontier.com)

**Michael Wyatt** ('69) and wife, Sheryle have left Washington state and relocated to Henderson, Nev. for retirement. They are excited to be living near their daughter! [mswyatt623@gmail.com](mailto:mswyatt623@gmail.com)

### 1970's

**Steve Hunt** ('76) is the new Executive Pastor at Calvary Temple in Concord, Calif. After pastoring for over 20 years, Steve took a "sabbatical" to work with the missionary organization, Latin American ChildCare. He is now returning to his first love—shepherding a local flock. Steve and his wife **Melodee** ('76) have two daughters and four grandchildren who live in Southern California. [stevenhunt54@sbcglobal.net](mailto:stevenhunt54@sbcglobal.net)  
[huntsfamily@sbcglobal.net](mailto:huntsfamily@sbcglobal.net)

**William Turner** ('76) now owns an online Christian bookstore ([www.inhishonor.org](http://www.inhishonor.org)), which carries Bibles, Christian books, church supplies, and even American Girl Doll books. He is looking not only for customers, but those who are willing to spread the news via Facebook and other social media. William asks for your prayers in his new endeavor. [wgturme@aol.com](mailto:wgturme@aol.com)

### 1980's

**Alan Bulger** ('85) has been the Operations Manager at Vine Maple Place since the summer of 2010. [alanbulger@juno.com](mailto:alanbulger@juno.com)

### 1990's

**Brett Beaman** ('97) asks for continued prayers for his recovery. He has hydrocephalus and had to have a shunt revision in May 2011. It was the fourth brain surgery he has had since March 2009. Please pray for God's provision as he is not able to return to work. [bretbeaman@yahoo.com](mailto:bretbeaman@yahoo.com)

**Jason** ('97) and **Paula** ('97) **Noble** became the lead pastors at Lighthouse Christian Center in Port Angeles, Wash. in April 2010. After being out of the Northwest area for 14 years, they are thrilled to be back and serving together in ministry. Paula completed her master's degree in Educational Leadership at Evangel University in May 2010. [pastorjason@lighthousepa.org](mailto:pastorjason@lighthousepa.org)  
[paula@lighthousepa.org](mailto:paula@lighthousepa.org)

**Dr. Michael W. DeLashmutt** ('97) has been appointed the Associate Dean of First Theological Degree Programs at Luther Seminary in St. Paul, Minn. In his role, he oversees the seminary's M.Div. and M.A. programs, and teaches on the leadership faculty. He and his family are excited to be back in the U.S. after spending the last nine years living and working in the U.K. [mdelashmutt001@luthersem.edu](mailto:mdelashmutt001@luthersem.edu)

### 2000's

**Lori** ('04) and **Aaron** ('03) **James** have moved to the Sacramento, Calif. area. Aaron teaches online high school and education classes for the University of Phoenix. Lori works as a family nurse practitioner and teaches nursing at Kaplan College. They have three children ages six, four, and one. If anyone is ever down their way, they would love to meet up. Their home is always open for visitors. [xlorigamesx@gmail.com](mailto:xlorigamesx@gmail.com)

**Eli Thomas** ('06) graduated from Faith Seminary in Tacoma, Wash. with his Masters of Divinity on June 27, 2011. He will be applying for ordination through the LCMS (Lutheran Church Missouri Synod). Eli and his wife,



**Jennifer (Cordle, '99)** are so excited about where God will be taking them next. [jenniferwthomas@comcast.net](mailto:jenniferwthomas@comcast.net)

**Lauren Gardner ('06)** is currently in her second year serving at ThornCreek Church in Thornton, Colo. in their Creative Arts Department. God is using Lauren to help shape creative and culturally relevant services using original content that transforms the hearts and minds of people every week. This summer she was honored to be tasked with producing a district wide event that united 83 churches in Colorado.

**Amanda Eneberg ('07)** is currently working with Youth With A Mission (YWAM), based in England at Holmsted Manor. This year she thanks the Lord for a fruitful completion of leading a Discipleship Training School (DTS) from January–June 2011. She is full of faith and vision as she begins preparations for leading another DTS in 2012 with a focus on China!

**Ridge McCoy ('08)** started an exciting new career helping families protect themselves financially and educating people about how to accumulate wealth. Ridge believes teaching people about finances is a mission and he is very excited about this new opportunity. [ridgemccoy@gmail.com](mailto:ridgemccoy@gmail.com)

**Kara Vallejo ('09)** is living in Oak Harbor, Wash. with her husband, Jeff. She opened and is successfully running a home-based business, traveling, and loving life! [kara.vallejo@yahoo.com](mailto:kara.vallejo@yahoo.com)

## 2010's

**Jamicka Jones ('10)** completed all the courses necessary to achieve her bachelor's degree. She is excited to hang her diploma on the wall after spending 14 years, off and on, and many challenges and obstacles to complete her undergraduate studies. [mrsjones092000@gmail.com](mailto:mrsjones092000@gmail.com)

**Krissa (Partridge, '10)** and **Nick ('09) Wallsteadt** were married on May 14, 2011 and now live in Sammamish, Wash. Nick is the Student Ministries Director at Timberlake Church in Redmond and Krissa works full-time in Kirkland. [krissa.wallsteadt@gmail.com](mailto:krissa.wallsteadt@gmail.com)

**Alyssa D'Amato ('11)** is engaged to be married in July 2012 and has accepted a full-time job as an auditor for a CPA firm in Edmonds, Wash. She and her fiancé are both members of New Life Church in Renton and are loving every minute of being involved there. [alysadamato@gmail.com](mailto:alysadamato@gmail.com)

**Andrew Fox ('11)** recently launched a vision to plant a church in each borough of New York City. [andrewfox68@hotmail.com](mailto:andrewfox68@hotmail.com)

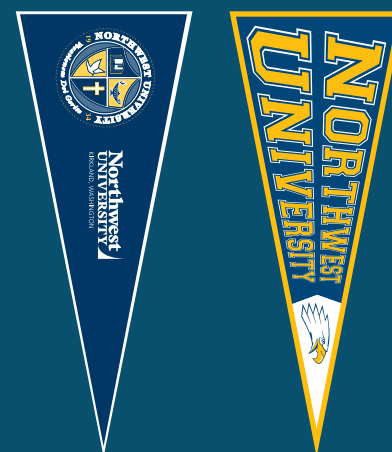
**Paul Godwin ('11)** and his wife, along with a small team from Puget Sound area local churches, returned July 21 from a three week mission trip to Japan. They spent the first 10 days doing ESL work with Osaka Christian College. Paul was the speaker at their weekly chapel and was privileged to give a Gospel message (translated into Japanese) to over 500 attending students! Their team also went to the Tohoku Region, Miyagi Prefecture, NE Japan for 10 days of ministry to victims of the March 11 tsunami. They worked and witnessed as part of a Converge Worldwide team in the city of Ishinomaki, experiencing the heat and humidity of Japan in summer, building goodwill for the church under the direction of Samaritan's Purse. [phokinos@aol.com](mailto:phokinos@aol.com)

## Future Alumni

**Bob ('89)** and **Jodee ('90) Brooks** welcome their ninth child, **Lena Anne** on April 5, 2011. Mother, baby, father, and siblings Rhett, Lauralyn, Reese, Reagan, Robby, Lacey, Rudy, and Ryley are all doing fine. Any more on the way? They'll keep you posted! [bobandjodee@gmail.com](mailto:bobandjodee@gmail.com)

**Clint ('00)** and **Eryn (Weaver, '00) Snodgrass** would like to announce the birth of their triplets, born in August. **Alton James** (5 lbs.), **Brielle LaRae** (4 lbs. 11 oz.), and **Hazel Bryn** (5 lbs., 8 oz.). They are all healthy and happy.

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Verlon Fosner

## All in the Family

*An alumni family shares food, friendship, and Jesus with the people of Seattle*

By Dustin Shirley

**“The food is real good and I even kind of like the sermons.”** I spent just over an hour with Bruce, talking about everything from the Seattle Seahawks (he doesn’t have much hope for them this year) to what it is like for him to have lived out of a car for most of his life. As we stood in line to receive our dinner, he told me about how he likes to come to the Community Dinner because he really enjoys the food, the music, and likes to hear a bit from the Bible. He is one of many regulars what comes every week to one of the five free meals provided at the Ballard, Fremont, Greenwood, and Bitterlake (two) locations where Verlon Fosner and Westminster Community

Church reach out to the hurting and hungry in their own neighborhoods.

Verlon (class of ’81), his wife Melodee (class of ’10—LEAP, maiden name Davis), and all three of their children Lindsay (class of ’05), Courtney (class of ’07, married name Phillips), and Brent (class of ’09) work with volunteers from the church to feed hundreds of people every week. And as Bruce informed me, it is not all about the food. The atmosphere is not one of the needy divided from the helping, but one of family where everyone sits together, talking loudly over live music and eventually quieting down to hear a 10 minute encouraging word from the Bible and prayer. It felt like a family get-together rather than a charity.

The purpose behind Community Dinners is to go into an impoverished community and show God’s love first in providing food and friendship, then



Lindsay Fosner



Courtney Phillips (center)



Melodee Fosner



Brent Fosner

in Scripture. Verlon explains, “We had contented ourselves with character-based Christ-likeness when, in fact, we were called to behavior-based Christ-likeness.” He gets a huge smile on his face when he talks about the early Christian churches and how they, “met around food and talked about Jesus.” The vision of the church is to have 27 dinner churches throughout the Seattle metropolitan area in urban areas built around “walking villages” that are less fortunate.

And it is working! “We now have the ability to reach strangers on the sidewalks of Seattle and, in time, watch many of them join us to worship Christ together,” explains Verlon. From the launch of the first dinner in the summer of 2009 to today, the concept is gaining momentum, and not only here in Seattle. Verlon has been contacted by ministries around the U.S. asking, “Can Community

Dinners work in our area?” Most recently, George Wood, Superintendent of the Assemblies of God denomination, approved the dinner church model to be considered by church planters across the country, especially those planting in urban areas. To that end, the national office is assisting Verlon and the team in creating a training house in Seattle where these planters will be able to stay for a week and catch the dinner church vision. This training house is on schedule to open in January 2012

To find out more about Verlon and Community Dinners, and what they are doing to feed the needs of people in Seattle, visit their website, **communitydinners.org**. And if you are willing to have your heart changed, go to a Community Dinner and be a part of what God is doing there.

# *the* PRESIDENT'S BANQUET

Friday, November 18, 2011

Dr. and Mrs. Joseph L. Castleberry invite you to join them at the annual **President's Banquet** to support the remodel of the Northwest University Butterfield Chapel. The President will share his vision for bringing the chapel into the 21st century as a vibrant ministry center, featuring state-of-the-art media production and recording facilities.

## FEATURING: NATALIE GRANT

Guest artist, and Northwest University alumna, Natalie Grant will be performing, accompanied by 2009 GMA Dove Awards Producer of the Year, Bernie Herms. Natalie is a singer-songwriter of contemporary Christian music and has won four consecutive Dove Awards for best female artist in 2006, 2007, 2008, and 2009. Travis Lindseth and the Deeper Band will also be performing.



## LEVELS OF SPONSORSHIP:

Platinum Record Sponsor – \$10,000

Gold Record Sponsor – \$5,000

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Table (10 seats) – \$1,000

Individual – \$100

For more information on sponsorship and to register and pay online, please visit [www.northwestu.edu/president/banquet](http://www.northwestu.edu/president/banquet) or contact Dani Haynes at [events@northwestu.edu](mailto:events@northwestu.edu).

## A NEW VISION FOR THE BUTTERFIELD CHAPEL

In 2010, the Creatio Institute was launched at Northwest University; a fully accredited recording arts and music industry program, operating within the context of a full-service professional recording studio. Since that time, the Institute has established a vibrant, diverse, and growing body of learners.

Today the Creatio Institute offers degrees in music industry business, audio engineering, and church media. Our students learn from veteran music industry professionals, and practice on state-of-the-art recording equipment. We blend our classrooms and our studios, so that our students graduate with the skills and experience they need to succeed in a highly competitive marketplace.

Following through on our success, we're ramping up towards a new phase of strategic expansion—focused on building one of the best studio environments in the Pacific Northwest. With the support of our alumni and friends we'll combine powerful instruction with first-class facilities, and raise up a new generation of Christian artist-leaders prepared to "go and make disciples of all nations" (Matt. 28:19).

Our vision is to become the premier evangelical music industry institute on the west coast, combining the best academics with the best facilities. We feel called to educate tomorrow's leading Christian music artists, producers, and

worship leaders, and provide Christian young people with an alternative to a secular music industry education.

In order to help make this vision a reality, we will remodel our Butterfield Chapel and transform it into a full-scale performance sound stage. In providing our students with this kind of studio space, we'll ensure they learn in an environment comparable to the best studios in the music industry—and graduate with highly marketable skills and the highest quality portfolio of work, having experience with the same type of equipment and facilities they will encounter throughout their professional careers.

As we undertake the remodel of the Butterfield Chapel, we estimate construction and equipment costs of \$1,500,000. We're pleased to invite our alumni and friends to participate as financial stewards, helping us bring about this exciting future.

For more information about the project, please contact Eric Zimmerman at [eric.zimmerman@northwestu.edu](mailto:eric.zimmerman@northwestu.edu) or 425.889.5295.





## Would you Sell the Family Milk Cow to Pay for Another's Life Calling?

By Tim Presley

*My Mother, Ruth Esther Castleberry Presley was a wonderful nurse. Her family was very poor. Most families were in those days following the depression. But the Castleberry family was hit hard. Having lost the family farm, my grandfather, Joseph C. Castleberry, worked the land and most any paying job he could find to make ends meet. The family home had no electricity or running water. Light came from kerosene lamps. Water was carried in buckets from a distant spring. It was Mother's responsibility to milk the cow before school every morning for the milk, butter, and cream they would use. Work continued year round, but spring and summer meant everyone worked the garden to provide food for the table and more which was canned for the winter. My grandfather also cared for his parents and his wife's parents. They all lived in the small home. Six adults and four children were a lot of mouths to feed, but my grandfather met these obligations with courage and good humor. To Mom, he was a hero.*

*Despite what the family lacked in material things, they abounded in things of character. Mother said she learned about hard work in the day-to-day living of that time with her father working hardest of all. She learned of fairness from her father.*

*He loved equally and gave from what little material things he possessed equally. She learned strength and confidence from her father. He taught her to overcome obstacles in many simple life lessons. She saw his compassion and patience in caring for his aging parents. He was a person of his word and always fulfilled his obligations, both financial and personal. From his example she saw what it meant to "keep your word."*

*And she learned from him well. So, when she declared she would attend nursing school but with no idea of how to meet the school's required tuition, he saw within her strength and resolve, perhaps a reminder of a kindred passion not unlike his own. Amazing even her, he sold the family milk cow to help her fulfill her dream. This was a sacrifice for the entire family, which she perhaps felt, but as a result loved all the more and gave back with her care into future generations.*

*To all that he had instilled in her, she added the knowledge of her profession. She practiced that profession with meticulous care and compassion, discipline and concern, toughness and tenderness. Her knowledge was a huge asset since, at one time or another, she cared for all of us—Granddaddy, Grandmother, my father, my father's family—so many of us.*

*Returning to my hometown after college as I did, I've had the opportunity over the years to work with many doctors and nurses who also worked with my mom, and nurses whom she mentored as students. And I've spoken with many who benefited from her ministrations. They all agree, she was a wonderful nurse.*

*"Six adults and four children were a lot of mouths to feed, but my grandfather met these obligations with courage and good humor. To Mom, he was a hero."*

Through a generous gift from his mother's estate, Tim Presley has created an endowed scholarship fund at Northwest University to honor the lives of his grandfather, Joseph C. Castleberry, and his mother, Ruth Esther Castleberry Presley. The Castleberry Presley Family Scholarship will aid nursing students at Northwest University each year. It is the hope of the Presley family that this memorial to Granddaddy Castleberry and Mom Ruth will help each recipient fulfill his or her dream of a career in nursing. Selling that milk cow has paid dividends beyond what even Mr. Castleberry may have dreamed. Through this scholarship fund the "milk" continues to flow and eager lives worthy of their calling are skillfully prepared to serve communities into new generations.



Sarah Knight, the first recipient of the Castleberry Presley Family Scholarship 2011-2012.

"Nursing is a calling of God on my life. I love helping people and through nursing I will be able to meet the physical and spiritual needs of others. This scholarship is a financial blessing for me and I feel so honored and blessed to receive it."

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For more information contact:

Joni Welk-Campbell

[joni.campbell@northwestu.edu](mailto:joni.campbell@northwestu.edu)

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