

# NORTHWEST PASSAGES

FOR FRIENDS AND ALUMNI OF NORTHWEST UNIVERSITY | WINTER 2021



MINISTRY IN EVERY WORKPLACE

CAREER READINESS IN ACTION

FACULTY SPOTLIGHTS:

Phil and Brenda Rasmussen

Bob Stallman



Northwest  
UNIVERSITY

## A Kingdom of Priests (and Ministers too)

One of the most fundamental concepts in the Protestant Reformation that began with Martin Luther focused on the priesthood of all believers. Against the teaching of the Roman Catholic Church that divided life into two spheres, sacred and secular, and divided Christians into two groups, priests and laity, Luther insisted on the sacredness of all of life, in which every believer stood before God as a priest.

The essential task of a priest involves presenting sacrifices to God. Because Roman Catholics believe in transubstantiation, they believe a priest who celebrates the Eucharist offers the sacrifice of Christ's body and blood in the bread and wine. In contrast, Protestant churches usually look at Holy Communion differently, basing their doctrine on *sola scriptura*. Paul urges all believers, in Romans 12:1, to offer up their bodies (i.e., their whole embodied life) to God as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God, as our true spiritual worship. And so, every believer who offers such a sacrifice serves God as a priest.

A brief consideration of all the things Christians do in their bodies to honor God suggests that God enjoys a great diversity of sacrifices. One heals the sick as a doctor or nurse. Another serves the poor by operating a rescue mission. Another cultivates the land and feeds the world through farming. Others mine minerals out of the earth to provide raw materials for others to manufacture the various goods that supply human needs. Others raise children while others specialize in teaching them. All of these functions and myriad more fulfill the primordial mission of God for human beings to meet their needs and thus thrive on Earth by taking dominion over their natural habitat (Genesis 1:28). Fulfilling the Great Commission (Matthew 28:19-20) rescues the primordial mission.

While Protestant churches do believe in ordaining clergy members to lead the life of churches, they do not see their “clergy”



as fundamentally different from the “laity.” Rather, the clergy exists “to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ” (Ephesians 4:12 ESV). In other words, ministry is not just a kind of service performed by “ministers” upon “members,” but rather, the work God calls all believers to do for each other.

Those whom God calls to lead the churches in fulfilling the Great Commission formally indeed carry a beautiful calling—one that brings both blessing and burdens upon them. But God calls every Christian to ministry, requiring of each one the priestly offering of their work to God as a sacrifice. The leaders of Northwest Bible College in 1949 certainly saw their primary goal as that of training church leaders, but they also understood the ministry of every member and the need of the church to train professionals who would consecrate their work to God as a daily sacrifice. Today's Northwest University continues to train talented young men and women to lead the church as professional ministers, but we take great satisfaction as well in equipping all our saints (students) for the work of the ministry in nursing, education, counseling, technology, business, and dozens of other fields of sacrifice.

Sincerely,

Joseph Castleberry, EdD  
President

*Follow Dr. Castleberry's blog at [northwestu.edu/president/blog](https://northwestu.edu/president/blog).*



# Northwest UNIVERSITY

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## NU MISSION

We, the people of Northwest University, carry the call of God by continually building a learning community dedicated to spiritual vitality, academic excellence, and empowered engagement with human need.

Northwest University is accredited by:



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# Ministry in Every Workplace



**In 1934, Northwest University opened its doors as a Bible institute. Over the years, NU has grown into the full-fledged regional university that it is today. To the casual observer, it might be possible to mistake this focus on growth for a shift away from NU’s foundational beliefs. *Nothing could be further from the truth.***

While the training and equipping of traditional ministers remains vitally important, our modern world is expanding and changing now more than ever. Entire careers are developing that would have seemed impossible to us just a few years ago. These new industries need talented believers too.

In Colossians 3:23, the apostle Paul writes, “Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for human masters...” (NIV). An expansion of programs at Northwest University is an investment in the future of ministry. When students are empowered to grow in faith and in a diverse set of skills, the possibilities for Kingdom work are endless.

The following pages offer a brief highlight of a few of the many ways NU alumni are actively engaged in various forms of ministry. Equipping Christ-followers to impact people through business, education, medicine, tech, the arts, and more is the calling of Northwest University, and it has been since the first day of classes in 1934.





## Nate Furtado

Class of 2015

Post Production Specialist

### *What is your current role?*

I would describe myself as a general contractor for music artists. They will come to me with demos and ideas for songs, and they'll say, "Hey, I want to create this piece of art," and then we try to figure out what making it will look like. There are things that I can take on as a producer myself; but, I'm finding more joy in creating a network of producers and mastering engineers. As I'm beginning to step into more of an executive producer role, it seems to be playing to more of my strengths, so I really enjoy doing that. The other side of my job is for film and commercials—anything that's kind of compositional or orchestral especially. Composers hire me to elevate their mixes or their music. Sometimes I have the pleasure of engineering soloists or engineering a chamber orchestra.

### *How did you get to where you are now?*

I think the main thing was, for lack of a better term, attacking every opportunity—anything that I felt I could be passionate about. I started just doing cut downs for a composer and I said, "Hey, man, I'm an engineer. If you need me for anything other than this, let me know." I have been kind of like just scratching at whatever has been musically sustainable in a financial sense. I've just been juggling whichever things seem to be the most lucrative. That has looked like me being a tour manager, a bassist for hire, a front-of-house engineer, a producer, a mix engineer, a mastering engineer, a songwriter, etc. You kind of have to do all of that, and so over the years, as I've worked on projects, the experiences have stretched my capacities and forced me to grow. It's hard, but it's living life, and they say the glory of God is being fully alive, and I feel alive.

### *How did your time at NU impact the trajectory of your career?*

When I first went to NU, I was a business administration major, and I didn't feel a ton of peace about that trajectory. I was praying a lot about what I was going to do next. I'd heard about Creatio, so I sat down with a couple professors. I wanted to just chat with them about the program, and I shared my apprehensions. I was like, "Man, am I going to make money in music as a career?" They were honest with me about how the road is long and hard, but they also gave me a lot of examples of clear paths and success stories that inspired me to believe that I could do it. After that conversation, it was just kind of jumping out of the nest and going for it.

### *In what ways do you see God using your work?*

I often think about this with music I've been a part of and the impact it would have with a congregation. And then there's just people writing music and giving it a lot of thought, and I feel like my encounters with these people are some of the places God works. When I work with people and the art they create, there's safety that's there, there's trust, respect, and then also most importantly, love and care for people. I think that when you have those encounters, you build that rapport and you start building that relationship; I feel like that is when those doors open. For you to just share about your life and allow them to have whatever encounter that they have because, the truth of the matter is it's not anything we do. It really is just the Holy Spirit that affects people.

**What is your current role?**

I am the president and founder of The Resilient Project, a faith-based mentoring program that is working to transform the lives of youth in under-resourced communities by putting them on a trajectory to succeed. Our program matches youth with healthy supportive mentors who impart the life skills necessary for them to build resilience and reach their educational and professional goals. We provide youth with opportunities and resources that they have not been afforded so that they can overcome the many economic and social obstacles that they face. Many of the youth entering our program are full of untapped potential, and we are committed to helping them identify and develop their gifts so that they can reach their highest potential and walk in

the calling that God has for them. The Resilient Project empowers children to break the cycle of poverty by equipping them to rise above their circumstances.

**How did you get to where you are now?**

I believe that God placed it on my heart to start this ministry, and I want to be faithful wherever He calls me. We are definitely still in the developmental stages and there is a lot of work to be done, but I find a lot of encouragement in knowing that God rejoices to see the work begin, and I'm excited to see what He does through this ministry. Zechariah 4:10 says, "Do not despise these small beginnings, for the Lord rejoices to see the work begin, to see the plumb line in Zerubbabel's hand" (ESV).

**How did your time at NU impact the trajectory of your career?**

The knowledge that I was able to gain from my time at Northwest University has had a tremendous impact on the trajectory of my career. My time at NU really helped me to develop essential skills that are integral for success in business and life in general. Most of all, I am grateful for the invaluable relationships that I was able to gain during my time at NU. Three of my professors, Kim Stave, Rowlanda Cawthon, and Todd Nelson, went above and beyond to help me succeed. They each played a pivotal role in my life and were instrumental in helping to prepare me for this vocation. I'm so thankful for the encouragement, prayer, time, and resources that they have sown into my life over the

years. They have been a huge blessing to me, and I'm so grateful that God placed them in my life.

**In what ways do you see God using your work?**

My prayer is that the youth in our program will experience the love and hope that Jesus has to offer and that their lives will be transformed. We believe that every child has intrinsic value and that God has a purpose and a plan for their future. Their identity is not defined by the trauma they have experienced, and their future should not be determined by those experiences either. Every child deserves to be a part of a community that fills them with a sense of belonging and hope. At The Resilient Project, we are devoted to being a place where that hope, belonging, and healing is tangible for every child we serve.

**Nat Tillis**

Class of 2016

**President and Founder of  
The Resilient Project**



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## Dr. Jenna Engelsvold

Class of 2011

### Pediatric Nurse Practitioner

#### **What is your current role?**

I work as a pediatric nurse practitioner at Seattle Children's Hospital. I recently transitioned out of the emergency department and currently work in the Heart Center with patients who have heart conditions and will undergo cardiac surgery. I am also a clinical instructor for UW in their undergraduate nursing program.

#### **How did you get to where you are now?**

I got here with a lot of hard work and a determination to "do it afraid." There are so many points in life when we are faced with an obstacle or challenge that requires us to either face our fear or to take the easy road. For myself, I have been afraid of failure my entire life. This fear kept me from pursuing opportunities earlier in life because I didn't want to mess them up.

Thankfully, I had a mentor from my church who saw my potential and encouraged me to do what makes me afraid. After all, fear isn't reality—fear isn't real unless we make it real. So, when I decided to go back to school and get my doctorate, I knew that there would be a lot of pressure and opportunities to fail, but I did it anyway. When I changed my mindset, my life changed. I decided to constantly put myself in situations where I was very uncomfortable and I have been given so many opportunities since. God has been so faithful and has always kept His word to provide and protect me. I just had to step out and do what He called me to do despite how I felt.

#### **How did your time at NU impact the trajectory of your career?**

NU helped prepare me for hard work. The nursing program was

tough to get through, but I was able to rise to the level of the high expectations and bring that commitment to excellence into my nursing career. There was also a strong emphasis on cross-cultural healthcare which has *greatly* helped my career as many of my patients are non-English speaking or from another culture than my own. NU also helped equip me to see my work as my ministry and seek out opportunities to reflect Jesus. It was invaluable education, and I am so grateful for my experience there.

#### **In what ways do you see God using your work?**

I have the incredible opportunity of serving others in their most vulnerable moments. I have seen thousands of parents in the most painful and tragic circumstances imaginable. In times when visitors aren't allowed in the hospital because of COVID-19

protocols, I get the chance to be there with them while they are walking through life's hardest moments. I know that the Holy Spirit lives inside me, and I pray that every parent and patient senses the presence of God when I walk into the room. Even a word of encouragement or a whispered prayer makes a difference, and I know that God has used me to bring hope and uplift parents during these painful moments. God recently gave me the opportunity to go to Africa and set up medical clinics in rural Uganda where there has been zero access to healthcare. My team saw thousands saved and we were able to treat over 1,800 people. I can't wait to have more opportunities to serve on medical mission trips, and I know God has equipped and called me to do this hard work.



**What is your current role?**

This year I am teaching kindergarten at Peter Kirk Elementary in the Lake Washington School District. I have a class with 18 kids, which is an amazing class size. I teach all of the core academics, social and emotional education, and do lots of art!

**How did you get to where you are now?**

My journey has been full of detours and sidetracks, but I wouldn't change a thing. In high school I loved working with kids but thought of teaching as a "desk job," so I wrote it off. I could not have been more wrong; teaching grades K-2 is more like a one-woman show, complete with singing and dancing (if that's your thing). After doing a church internship for two years, I realized how much I

loved teaching and decided to get my elementary education degree from NU. After making connections through student teaching in LWSD, I got hired in March of 2016 before I had even graduated! My first year of teaching was very difficult, so I ended up taking a break from the classroom and subbing for two years while working on a master's degree in literacy instruction from Seattle Pacific University. Once I finished my master's degree, I jumped back into the classroom to teach first grade. I had an awesome team and a great group of kiddos. Unfortunately, that experience was cut short by the pandemic in March of 2020. The following year I had to move schools due to student enrollment, and this year I was asked to move to kindergarten at the same school. In the four years I've had my own classes,

I have moved classrooms, schools, or grades every single year. However, all of these twists and turns have formed me into the resilient, flexible, and authoritative teacher I am today.

**How did your time at NU impact the trajectory of your career?**

I loved my time at NU! The professors and directors of the College of Education were knowledgeable, kind, and up-front about the realities of teaching. One of the best things about being in the COE is that the professors don't just lecture you; they model high-quality teaching strategies in their own lessons. They also required us to do a lot of mock lessons and actually get in front of our classmates and teach. I am still good friends with some of those classmates, and it is so nice

to have teacher-friends that are also Christians, so that we can encourage one another. I am also thankful that NU has a good reputation with districts in the area, because it opened doors for me to student-teach in awesome schools and ultimately led to me being hired by LWSD.

**In what ways do you see God using your work?**

Teaching is not for the faint of heart; it has forced me to lean on God daily for patience, wisdom, and perseverance. I have seen him work through me to help kids overcome extreme behaviors. I have seen him change kids from timid or discouraged to confident and resilient learners. It is also easy to fall into the trap of pessimism and complaining, so one of my frequent prayers is to be known for being hopeful and uplifting.

**Annelisa Northway-Meyer**

Class of 2016  
Kindergarten Teacher



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# Career Readiness in Action

**Levi Davenport**, *Director of Career Development*

At Northwest University, we desire for all undergraduate students to leave Northwest University equipped and able to communicate to future employers that Northwest University prepared them well; not just with courses and degrees, but with identifiable work skills and certificates. Northwest University conducted a rigorous process in creating this initiative through many meetings to acquire input, insight, and feedback from local business owners, C-level executives, and recruiters

from Microsoft and Amazon Web Services. Along with this feedback from business leaders, Northwest University created a faculty committee to adapt the core curriculum to incorporate these core competencies in its academic requirements. One of the most beautiful aspects of this initiative is the collaboration that took place amongst faculty members and business leaders in its creation. The wholehearted support that both parties have in believing in its effectiveness affirms

career readiness as an essential element for a liberal arts education.

**This Career Readiness Initiative that Northwest University is incorporating will allow students to market their liberal arts degree in a quantifiable manner that employers understand and value.**

This initiative evolves the core curriculum at Northwest University to encapsulate the entirety of core competencies and workplace skills that employers are hoping for graduates of a university to possess. With an intent focus on incorporating internships and hands-on experience in the undergraduate curriculum, Northwest University maintains with certainty that its students can graduate with confidence knowing that their marketability in the workplace is strong. Likewise, employers can hire with confidence with the knowledge that Northwest University graduates are ready to work on day one.

Remember Nate Furtado from page 7? On top of using his degree to do amazing things, Nate is investing his time and talent in the next generation of graduates from NU. Matt Arrera, a junior in the contemporary music industry program, is interning with Nate this school year as a part of the Career Readiness Initiative.

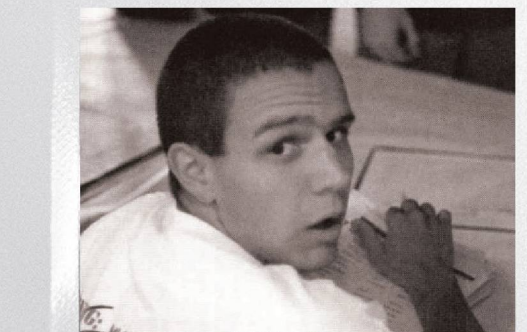
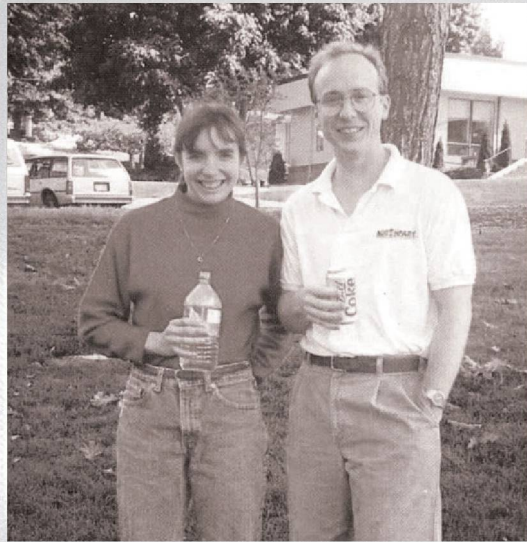
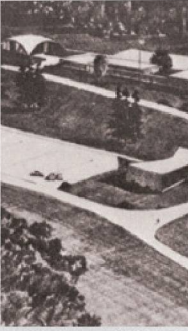


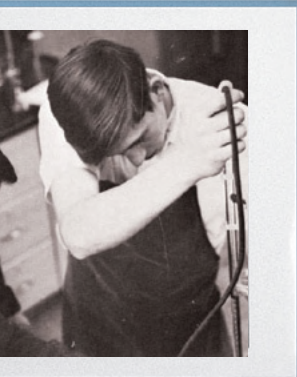
Nate Furtado and NU student, Matt Arrera, in Nate's mixing/mastering workspace.



**In my classes, I'm getting a really good, 30,000-foot view of recording concepts," Matt explained. "But working with Nate, I've been able to see somebody's actual process and how he applies these things in different ways: film scores, pop music, and working with different people. It's been really helpful to just see how he does what he does. To work at the level that Nate does, you really have to have a complex understanding of how every piece of the song works together. So learning his specific process and how everything fits together will help me be prepared for what I want to do.**

**If you are interested in partnering with Northwest University for the Career Readiness Initiative, contact Levi Davenport at [levi.davenport@northwestu.edu](mailto:levi.davenport@northwestu.edu).**

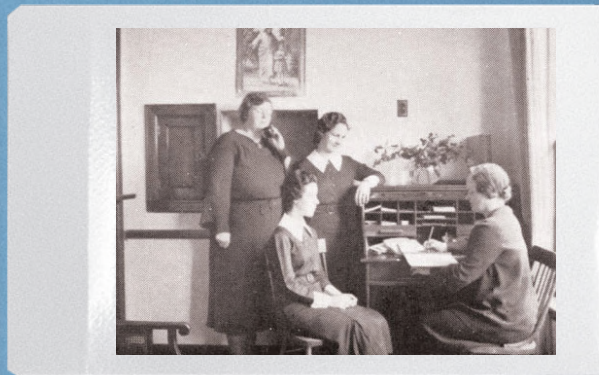
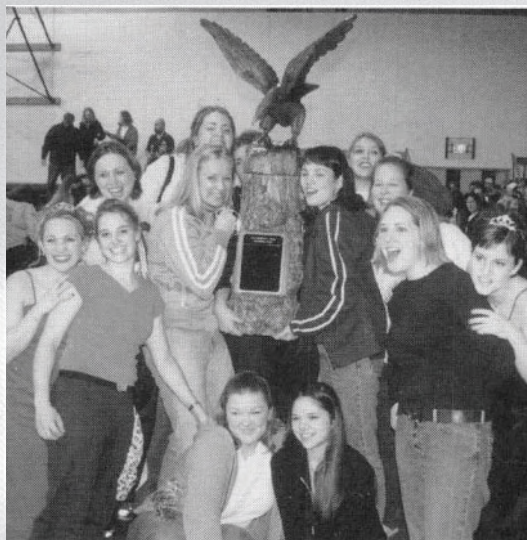




# SNAPSHOTS

*NU THROUGH THE YEARS*

Do you have any snapshots from your time at NU that you'd like to share with the community? If so, submit them to [passages@northwestu.edu](mailto:passages@northwestu.edu).





## PHIL AND BRENDA RASMUSSEN

Phil and Brenda Rasmussen's legacy includes playing a central role in shaping the culture of Northwest University. Now, after more than twenty years of faithfully serving the NU community, the Rasmussens are moving to Nashville, Tennessee, at the end of December to join the Belonging Co. Church. Phil will serve as the executive ministries pastor, and Brenda will lead the Belonging Co. College as executive director.

Phil and Brenda first met as students at NU when Phil was a freshman and Brenda was a senior. After they got married, they worked at a church together and then spent several years together at the national office for the Assemblies of God. In 2001, they began their time at NU. **"Every ministry position we've had, God has opened the door for both of us to work together," Phil remembered. "We look back on our entire career and see how God has ordered our steps as a team of ministry."**

The Rasmussens have invested in Northwest University in every way, but it's their experiences with students that they remember most fondly. "I loved my job every day because I got to work with and meet with students," Brenda said. "I just believe in Jesus and education. So being at a school where students are learning to be a teacher or a nurse, but they can still sing on a worship team or with Choralons; there aren't very many universities that offer that."

The Rasmussen's presence at NU will be greatly missed. They will be an invaluable addition to the Belonging Co., just as they have been to the Northwest community. In reflecting on their time at NU, Phil gave the following benediction: "My comments would be directed to the students primarily; that they would really, truly know what it is to love God, to love people, and to embrace their calling fully for what God has for their life. There's so much going on in the world and so much confusion. Don't be drawn by one thing or the other but stay true and stay steady as a disciple and follower of Jesus."

“ The impact that the Rasmussens have left on both Keila and me is both deep and permanent. They are some of our dearest friends and greatest mentors. The experience they helped to provide during our years at NU shaped who we have become today. We have not only learned from them during our college years, but as the years have gone by, they have been the best examples of how to have God at the center of everything. Because of them, we know that a healthy marriage and a strong family, while serving in ministry, is possible! Their impact on us will last generations.

**EMMANUEL GARZA, ALUMNUS ('12)**

“ There really aren't enough words to describe all the ways that Phil and Brenda have impacted me. I could share about when I was 19 and they covered my phone bill because I couldn't afford to. I could share about the early mornings when they prayed prayers that changed my trajectory. I could share about the late evenings where they spoke truth that transformed my identity. I could share dozens upon dozens of big and small impacts that they made, and that would be just one person out of the thousands that they've touched. There are some people who impact you because of what they said. Some people who impact you because of what they did. Some impact you because of how they made you feel. And then there are the few who impact you by the nature of who they are. That's the best way I can sum up Phil and Brenda Rasmussen.

**CHRISTIAN DAWSON, FORMER CAMPUS PASTOR AND ALUMNUS ('17)**



“ Phil and Brenda are the kind of people that change an atmosphere by bringing in joy and encouragement. They are some of the most intentional people we know and have made such a huge impact on our lives. There is no doubt that they have been some of the greatest mentors and influencers in our lives. Years later we still recall various ways their leadership helped develop us as young adults in college. Even the ways they intentionally stewarded marriage and family life is an example to us in our current season. The Rasmussens are a gift to communities, and we are blessed to call them mentors and friends for life!

**CHRISTINA AND RYAN GILBREATH, ALUMNI ('08)**



## BOB STALLMAN

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After more than twenty years as a part of the College of Ministry at Northwest University, Dr. Bob Stallman will retire at the end of the 2021–2022 school year. Dr. Stallman graduated from NU in 1979 and returned to campus in 2001 to begin his time as a central figure in the College of Ministry. He is especially known for being a pioneer in teaching Hebrew, as he blends second language acquisition with biblical language courses.

“As a teacher, I feel like I’m working in a field,” Dr. Stallman explained. “So, I’m like a farmer. I have to watch the seasons, the conditions. I can’t make anything grow on my own. For us, that looks like semesters, but now you’ve got to watch the weather. You’ve got to watch the time, you’ve got to prepare the soil, and you’ve got to plant seeds. And then you have to have a tremendous amount of patience and just keep doing good work. And trust that God makes things grow.”

Over the years, Dr. Stallman has impacted countless students. **Some of the moments he remembers as being most rewarding are those when students got to meet the real Jesus for the first time in his classes. “Jesus is the one who can take this student from immature adolescent faith into an adult faith that He can build on for the rest of his life.”**

In retirement, Dr. Stallman is most looking forward to spending more time with his family and engaging with local church ministry in fresh ways. When asked what message he would like to leave the NU community with, he said, “Our shared faith in Jesus Christ is a gift! Jesus Himself announced that he came to bring abundant life, yet paradoxically, He said He did not come to bring peace but rather a sword. At issue is the cost and character of ultimate allegiance. In our university life, work, and words, we show ourselves worthy of belonging to Jesus by loving Him more than anyone or anything else. Let us then gladly take up our cross daily and follow the one who truly bore His cross for us.”



“ I met Bob Stallman when I came back to NU to earn a master’s degree in theology and culture. That was a difficult time in my life where I was doubting myself. However, Bob was incredibly affirming of my value and coached me gently along as a scholar. One time in a Hebrew class he pinned a poster to the wall that said, “Love your students.” At the time, it was strange to me. However, I began to see how that really meant something to Bob. I’ve gone on to teach Hebrew, Old Testament, and many business courses. As situations come up in my classroom, I remember to love my students. Bob has made an impact on my life, and he has made an impact on how I have developed as a scholar-teacher. Thank you, Bob, for following your calling in Christ and for pouring into mine.

**JEREMY CHAMBERS, FACULTY MEMBER AND ALUMNUS ('14)**

“ Dr. Stallman not only created the foundation of my biblical education, he set me up for a lifetime of curiosity and love for scripture. His passion for understanding the Bible, personally and academically, was contagious, and has had a lasting impact on me—so much so, that I have begun learning biblical Hebrew through self-study, despite not being able to pursue academia at the moment. Much of my passion for biblical scholarship is due to the influence that Dr. Stallman had on me in the years I got to be his student. I could not be more grateful to have studied under his teaching and mentorship.

**AUSTIN ROJAN, ALUMNUS ('19)**



“ The number one reason I came to Northwest University was to receive a quality education as I prepared to become a pastor. I wanted a university that was biblically grounded, theologically accurate, and overall, where I would grow and be trained to become a healthy pastor. Dr. Stallman represents that level of educational quality, and I am most grateful to him for his investment into the Northwest University College of Ministry students. I can confidently say that I am a healthier and stronger pastor and follower of Jesus because of Dr. Stallman.

**MICAH LORENZ, ALUMNUS ('18)**



# YOUR NEXT MOVE.

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## When you think about the future, where does your mind naturally take you?

Most of us have at least a vague idea of where we'd like to see our lives go in the next few years. Whether it's a dream or a well-thought-out plan, one of the most common barriers to both is education. With a graduate degree from NU, your future dreams are more possible.



**Northwest**  
UNIVERSITY

*Since 1934. Kirkland, Washington.*



## Graduate Programs

### Online

- Master in Ministry
- MA in Bible and Theology
- MA in Clinical Mental Health Counseling
- MA in International Community Development
- MA in Leadership Studies
- Master of Business Administration
- MS in Data Analysis and Research Psychology
- MS in Nursing

### On Campus

- EdD in Organizational Leadership
- PhD in Organizational Leadership
- PsyD in Counseling Psychology
- Master in Teaching
- MA in Bible and Theology
- MA in Clinical Mental Health Counseling
- MA in International Community Development
- MA in Leadership Studies
- MA in Ministry Leadership
- Master of Business Administration
- Master of Education

# THE SEASON OF GIVING



Each of our students has a story. Their Christ-centered education is an important chapter in their lives—and generous donors have a unique opportunity to be a part of that story. Our students go on to become Christian leaders in every area of our communities: pastors, teachers, counselors, business professionals, health care workers, and more.

*Thank you* to the many people in the NU community who support the school faithfully. Your contributions to the Opportunity Fund bridge the gap for students year after year who need financial help to attend college. **With your help, we can continue sending out students who want to impact the world for Christ.**

As you prayerfully plan your end-of-year giving, if you feel led to contribute to the Opportunity Fund, which directly benefits student scholarships, please visit [give.northwestu.edu](https://give.northwestu.edu).

*If you would like to give appreciated stocks, charitable IRAs, or would like to talk about other planned giving options, please contact [mollie.bond@northwestu.edu](mailto:mollie.bond@northwestu.edu).*



**Dr. Mollie Bond has accepted the role of Senior Director for Development at NU.** With a wealth of experience in leadership, fundraising, and higher education, Mollie is a perfect fit to assist Northwest University as it continues to grow: “It’s an honor to join the Development team at NU. I believe, as I know you do, that educating the future workforce with Christian values and principles will bring glory to God for generations to come. I’m excited to be part of that, and I hope you are, too.”



**Dr. Mollie Bond**  
*Senior Director for Development*

# *the* PRESIDENT'S BANQUET

*Presented by the Northwest University Foundation Board of Trustees*

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February 18, 2022

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Please save the date for Friday, February 18, at the Hyatt Regency Bellevue. Since Northwest University was founded in 1934, over 13,000 graduates have been sent out to impact the world for Christ. These alumni are pastors, nurses, business leaders, teachers, and more. On February 18, those in attendance will hear some of their stories along with inspiring music from the NU Choralons. More details to come.

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## BUNTAIN COLLEGE OF NURSING

**Dr. Erin-Joy Bjorge** (dean and associate professor) presented “*Virtual Cultural Immersion Experiences and the Impact on Developing Cultural Competence Among Baccalaureate Nursing Students*” at the annual Transcultural Nursing Society Conference. She was also the keynote speaker for the Advanced Nursing and Nursing Practice Conference, presenting “*Virtual Cultural Immersion Experiences on Increasing Cultural Competence Among Baccalaureate Nursing Students.*”

## COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

**Dr. Renee Bourdeaux** (assistant professor, Communication) presented a teaching session, “Communicating Love: Renewing Your Love for Teaching and Relating Post-Pandemic,” in the Short Course division at the meeting of the National Communication Association. She also chaired two paper sessions, “Religious Discourse and Culture During Times of Crisis” and “Teaching for Transformation: Diversity and Social Justice at Conservative Christian Institutions,” in the Religious Communication Association interest group division at the meeting of the National Communication Association.

**Dr. Eve Wade** (Assistant Professor, History) published encyclopedia entries on “Christopher Barnes,” “Evelyn Carmon Nichol,” and “Lori Lightfoot” on Blackpast.org.

## COLLEGE OF BUSINESS

**Dr. Rowlanda Cawthon** (dean and associate professor) presented “Transformational Leadership: How to Lead Yourself, Your Team, and Your Organization” for the National Institute of Corrections. The three-part series included “Part 1: Leading from the Inside Out,” “Part 2: Learning to Value Your Employees,” and “Part 3: Learning to Drive Meaningful Change.”

## COLLEGE OF EDUCATION

**Dr. Jeremy Delamarter** (associate professor, Education) chaired a panel, “Adopting Liberation-Oriented Editorial Practices: Narratives from the Northwest Journal of Teacher Education,” at the conference of the American Educational Studies Association. He also co-authored “The Affective Teaching Expectations of Christian Pre-Service Teachers” that was published in the *Journal of Research on Christian Education*.

**Dr. Suzan Kobashigawa** (professor, Education and TESL) presented “Teaching in the Target Language” for New JET Training, Pacific Northwest JET Alumni Association with support from the Consulate General of Japan. She also co-authored “Promoting an Inclusive Work Place by Holding Space” which was published in *Colorado Lawyer*.

## COLLEGE OF MINISTRY

**Dr. Blaine Charette** (professor, Bible and Greek) published “Insight as a Characteristic of S/Spirit in the Gospel of Mark: Spirit and Suffering as the Way of Insight in Mark’s Gospel” and “Circumcision and Worship in the Spirit of God (Phil. 3:3): The Realization of an Old Testament Covenantal Hope” in *The Spirit Says: Inspiration and Interpretation in Israelite, Jewish, and Early Christian Texts*.

**Dr. Debbie Lamm Bray** (program dean and instructor, NU Oregon) published “Ministry Without Walls: Biblical Evidence for Women in Leadership” in the Assemblies of God magazine, *Influence*.

## COLLEGE OF SOCIAL AND BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES

**Nikki Johnson** (associate professor, Psychology) presented “How to Address Trauma and Anxiety in Adolescents” for Mountlake Terrace and Lynnwood Younglife Leader Training.

**Dr. Brooke Lundquist** (associate professor, Counseling) presented “Resiliency for First Responders” for FirstWatch Resilience Dialogues.

## CREATIO CENTER FOR TECHNOLOGY, MEDIA, AND DESIGN

The Creatio Center recently underwent significant rebranding to better reflect the additions of technology and design programs to the suite of music industry degrees that already existed. These branding updates can be explored at [creatio.northwestu.edu](https://creatio.northwestu.edu).

## OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

**Dr. Joseph Castleberry** (president of Northwest University) received the Ralph Palmen High Ground Award from C-3 Leaders for his spiritual leadership in the Seattle area at a breakfast on October 7, 2021.

# ALUMNI IN THE NEWS

## JAMES CROONE IN CHRISTIANITY TODAY

**James Croone ('14)**, adjunct faculty member and alumnus of NU, recently wrote a testimonial that was featured in *Christianity Today*. In the article, titled “My Life in Seattle’s Street Gangs Was a Dead-End Street,” James reflects on his time on the streets, his encounter with Christ, and more.

You can read the article in full at [christianitytoday.com](http://christianitytoday.com).

## SARAH CLARK-DRAKE SUCCESSFULLY DEFENDS PHD THESIS

**Sarah Clark-Drake ('17)** recently defended her PhD thesis in Virology at Harvard University on “receptor binding and antibody neutralization escape of emerging RNA viruses.”

## KYLE MARTY FEATURED IN LYNNWOOD TODAY

**Kyle Marty ('17)** is the lead chef and owner of “Flyin’ Taco,” a taco truck that routinely visits customers in Edmonds and Gig Harbor. The article, which can be found at [lynnwoodtoday.com](http://lynnwoodtoday.com), highlights Kyle’s passion for food and how he got to where he is now.

## ALUMNI FEATURED IN 425 BUSINESS’ “30 UNDER 30”

Ruthie Senanayake, Andrew Bender, and Sarah Ulrich were all included in *425 Business’* most recent “30 under 30” list, which features young business talent in the greater Seattle area.

### RUTHIE SENANAYAKE ('15)

Ruthie was recognized for her work as a social media manager at Blueprint Technologies, as well as for being the owner of her own consulting company, Ekva Consulting.

### ANDREW BENDER ('19)

Andrew was recognized for his active participation in multiple roles. In addition to his work as the Investment Solutions Team Leader at Fidelity Investments, Andrew also serves as a Brigade Communications Chief for the U.S. Marine Corps Reserve, and as an adjunct business professor at Northwest University.

### SARAH ULRICH ('18)

Sarah was recognized for her work as an employment specialist with the Refugee Resettlement Office. Her job is to help refugees seeking asylum to find work in the U.S.



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## THE NU ALUMNI ASSOCIATION: *Membership Has Its Privileges.*

If you've ever thought about joining the NU Alumni Association, there are plenty of reasons to do so. It's a great way to stay in touch with NU and your fellow alumni, and it offers real benefits you can use. Joining is simple. Just complete the online form and begin your membership privileges right away: [northwestu.edu/alumni/association](http://northwestu.edu/alumni/association).

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### Take a Free Class

NU grads have the opportunity to attend an undergraduate day or evening class totally free of charge every year.

### NU ID Card

The NU ID card will provide access to a variety of benefits—both on and off campus.

### Northwest Passages

We'll send you *Northwest Passages*, a 28-page magazine that will help you stay connected with NU and your fellow alumni.

### Alumni E-Newsletter

Stay up to date on NU news and events with our e-newsletter, which comes out several times each year.

### Eagle Fitness Center

The fitness center is located in the Barton Building. As an NU alum, you have access for \$15/month for individuals or \$25/month for family memberships.

### Library

You'll have full borrowing privileges at Hurst Library. To check out books, all you need is your NU ID card.

### Hotel Discounts

Receive discounts at Kirkland hotels when visiting the campus during university events.