

ABOUT OUR ALUMS

Laura Aull Johnson '90 is now interim pastor Philo Presbyterian, Philo, Illinois.

William F. Lee '55 is interim pastor Lafayette church, Tallahassee, Florida.

Elaine McRobbie '79 is interim at Argentine Church, Kansas City, Kansas.

Dennis Reid '99 has accepted a new call to become Pastor of Whitfield Estates Presbyterian Church in Sarasota, Florida, effective Jan. 3, 2003.

Chuck Vorderberg is stated supply at Zion church, Helvetia, West Virginia, and at Pickens church, Pickens West Virginia.

Jim Cook '97 is still in Scotland, but is now minister of St Andrew's Parish Church linked with Monquhitter and New Byth Parish Churches in Turriff, Scotland.

Rita Cochrane '94 represented Columbia Seminary at the inauguration of Claudia A. Limbert as Thirteenth President of Mississippi University for Women in Columbus, Mississippi.

Elizabeth Lewis '01 has accepted a call as Chaplain at Shenandoah Valley Westminster-Canterbury, a continuous care retirement community in Winchester, Virginia. This facility is connected to both the Episcopal and PCUSA churches. She will be ordained January 5th by Cherokee Presbytery.

Katie Thoresen '84 is interim Associate Pastor of Kirk in the Hills, Bloomfield Hills, Michigan. She has also served on staff of Presbytery of Detroit as well as becoming a trained spiritual director. She is the Michigan coordinator for the Synod's Resource Team on Spiritual Formation and conducts numerous workshops and retreats.

Joan Quinn '00 is now Joan Martin Kleuskens. She married Philip Kleuskens November 9th at First Presbyterian Church of Bonita Springs, Florida, where she is an associate pastor.

Marty Harkey '63 is serving as Parish Associate for Senior Ministries at Central Presbytery Church in Anderson, South Carolina.

Suzan Hawkinson '84 as been installed as Pastor and Head of Staff of Wallingford Presbyterian Church, Wallingford, PA.

Ann Pittman '93 is now pastor of First Presbyterian Church, Sullivan, Missouri, having just completed two interim positions in Plainfield, Indiana and Greensburg, Indiana.

Jeannette Rodenbough '93 (D.Min) is serving as parish associate at her home church of Madison Presbyterian, Madison, North Carolina.

Gerry Voyer '85 is retired and serving as parish associate at Kirkwood Presbyterian in Bradenton, Florida.

Robert Boston '59 is chaplain at Presbyterian Home of South Carolina.

Tully Hunter '90 has been installed as Pastor of Grace Presbyterian Church in Panama City, Florida.

Shuford White '86 is now Pastor at Pace Presbyterian Church, Pace, Florida.

Lance Mullins '99 was recently installed as pastor of Howard County Metropolitan Community Church in Columbia, Maryland. **Karla Fleshman** '99 delivered the sermon at installation.

Dennis Reid '99 has accepted a call to become Pastor of Whitfield Estates Presbyterian in Sarasota, Florida.

David Turner '75 was recently promoted to Lieutenant Colonel in the US Air Force Reserves. He just spent 80 days deployed to Lackland AFB, Texas, where he was chaplain in the Basic Military Chapel, leading worship in the protestant chapel for over 6,000 young recruits.

Ed Townsend '58 has retired to Sunset Beach, North Carolina, living near **Bob Bankhead**, also from the Class of '58.

Buddy Bach '74 is pastor of First and Beaver Creek Presbyterian Churches in Kershaw, South Carolina. Beaver Creek received the Small Church of the Year award for 2001. First church received the Small Church of the Year award for 2002 for Providence Presbytery.

Thomas Cheatham '87 (DMin.) is now Associate Executive for Campus Ministry in presbytery of St. Andrew in Mississippi. This position includes campus ministry at Mississippi State University in Starkville.

Clayton Little '60 is serving as interim Pastor at First church in Parsons, Kansas.

Bill Phipps '68 has retired and is living in Clearwater, Florida.

Lynn Rubier-Capron '98 tells us she has formed a Scottish band, enjoys playing Scottish fiddle tunes on the violin, along with a hammered dulcimer player, and guitar player who also sings Scottish tunes with brogue, and a bodhran player. The band is located in Rochester, New York. The name of the band is "Thistle Werk". So far they have played three gigues and are having a great time.

Taylor Hill '67 has retired from active ministry leaving the Tampa Bay area to enjoy a slower pace in Inverness, Florida.

Libby Smith Purcell '89 and husband Joe are proud parents of Elisabeth Grace born October 22, 2002, weighing 8 lbs, 20 in. long.

Message from **Victor Feliberty-Ruberte '99** to Charlie Cousar, Catherine Gonzalez, Carlos Cardoza-Orlandi, and George Stroup with a copy to Bert Carmichael:

To those professors at CTS that shaped my present understanding of the Gospel, the Church, and God's presence and activity among us. Greetings from Puerto Rico! Lately I have been intentional in recalling memories about my theological training, spiritual formation, and community life at CTS.

After graduation from Columbia in 1999, new and challenging things have been happening in my life and ministry: I taught introductory courses on Christian Faith to college students for two years, was ordained Presbyterian minister in May of 2000, was hired as University Chaplain of the Inter American University of Puerto Rico – Ponce Campus, served as part-time Pastor (Stated Supply) at Ensenada PCUSA (a wonderful rural parish) for a year, and, more recently was appointed Dean of Administration at the IAUPR-Ponce Campus in August of 2002. Although I am no longer a Presbyterian minister, I remain in debt with CTS, the PCUSA, and especially with the four of you. Indeed I am more than grateful for your support, encouragement, guidance, and wisdom while I studied in Decatur, GA. Thank you very much!

I started to attend the Episcopal Church in the winter of 2001, just after ending my one-year term pastorate at Ensenada. I was moved to the Anglican tradition, primarily for two reasons: its liturgy and willingness in PR to deal more openly with some social issues. I was received in full communion by Bishop Alvarez in September of 2002.

Keep me I your prayers as I begin a new pilgrimage of faith, struggle, and professional and personal growth.

In the community of the Beloved, your student and fellow Christian,
Victor Alejandro

IN MEMORIAM

Caroline Love Dennis writes:

My father, the Rev. Dr. **John David Love**, a 1959 graduate of your seminary died September 16, 2002, following an extended illness. He is survived by his wife, Molly Plexico Love, two daughters and five grandchildren. His further education includes a D.Min. from Reformed Theological Seminary in 1987.

Ms. Dennis asked that we post this information for those who knew her father.

TRAVELS AROUND THE CHURCH

I share my itinerary with you, not so much because I think you may be interested in where I've been, but to let you know where your friends and classmates are and what they're doing.

Early November -

I had lunch with Bob Sharman (DMin.'99), Larry Baskin (D.Min '98) and Jim Thompson '58 in Florence, Alabama. Bob is pastor of the First church in Athens, Larry is pastor of the Florence church and Jim is retired, but obviously remains very active in North Alabama Presbytery.

Visited with Brad Walker '89, pastor of the First church in Decatur, Alabama, David Rollins, Pastor of Westminster church and had lunch with Rachel Winter '00, who is the Associate Pastor of St. Andrew church.

From Decatur I drove to Madison and visited with Libby McIntosh Rollins '97 who is serving as the interim at the Madison church.

Then to the Presbytery Camp and a delightful late afternoon visit with David '95 and Robin '96 Palmer and their two girls. They live in a beautiful setting at the camp on Guntersville Lake and obviously enjoy directing the activities there.

The following day I had lunch with John Herndon '85, pastor of Fellowship church in Huntsville. It was a privilege to visit with him and learn of the many ministries his congregation offers to the community, including a very active after-school tutoring program. John is obviously well known and respected in the Huntsville community where he serves in many capacities.

Dent Davis, our Director of Continuing Education, Jami Moss and Mike Carey from the Development office, and I had lunch with several alums in Jacksonville: Dwight Bayley '68, Tom Walker '89, the newly installed pastor of Palms Church in Jacksonville Beach, Carol DiGiusto '99 who is the associate pastor there and Richard Caldwell '69.

As I have previously mentioned, Dent Davis is making a very concerted effort to get out into the church and meet you and listen to your continuing education needs and concerns. He's also spreading the word regarding the Lilly grant to CTS and how it can benefit you in your ministry. You will be hearing more about the specifics of this program early next year.

Dent and I attended Cherokee Presbytery meeting in Austell, where Sid Gunter '81 did an excellent job of moderating. We saw many "old" friends there, including Ted Smith '86, Debbie Zarrett Wells '91, Paul Bayerl '88, Julia Wiley '97, David Grove '85, Vance Nesbit '85 (a new granddad), Jan Rhodes '70 and Jim Speed '57, who in his "retirement" has been instrumental in developing a new church in Blue Ridge, Georgia.

In December we attended the meeting of Flint River Presbytery in Americus where we talked with alums Jones Doughton, Glenn Gilstrap, Dan Graham, John Hall, Sandra Monroe, Andy Walton and Bob Smith, (who was visiting from Presbyterian College).

From there we traveled on down to the Tampa Bay area for some meetings at Eckerd College, as well as attending a meeting of Tampa Bay Presbytery. While in the area I had lunch with Bill Hull '66, a friend from my days at CTS. Bill has been the pastor for 25 years of the Kirkwood church in Bradenton, a thriving church which he started as a new church development. He and Sybil report that their family is doing well.

I had the delightful pleasure, while in St. Petersburg, to visit with Dr. Charles Logan Landrum, who at 102 years old, is our oldest living alum. We shared memories of our time in Eastern Kentucky, where he grew up, of military chaplancy days, and of the many years of his very fruitful ministry. He lives at Westminster Shores, a Presbyterian retirement community right on the bay. It was beautiful. I tried to reserve an apartment there, but of course they said I was much too young.

Thanks to Ron Cram for this:

My students in Literature for Christian Children have developed a list of books that could be used by a local church to establish a basic library for young children. The list is not exhaustive, of course--but it is a good start. I am asked all the time by churches and by parents for such a list. We used the evaluative criteria suggested by Donna Norton, and we added additional theological/developmental questions.

If any of you would like this list, please email me at carmichaelb@ctsnet.edu or Barbara Poe at poeb@ctsnet.edu. and we'll forward it to you.

CONGRATULATIONS TO WALTER BRUEGGEMANN ON ANOTHER BOOK

This January *AWED TO HEAVEN, ROOTED TO EARTH – The prayers of Walter Brueggemann* will be released. It is dedicated to his students and colleagues at Columbia and Eden Theological Seminaries. Professor Brueggemann has taught at Columbia for over seventeen years and began each class with an evocative prayer.

ABOUT BETH JOHNSON – PROFESSOR OF NEW TESTAMENT

My family of origin comes from Appalachia: Daddy's people from Kentucky, Momma's from Pennsylvania, and the most recent generation from West Virginia. I was raised in and nurtured by the First Presbyterian Church in Huntington, WV. Daddy's a retired broadcast journalist and public relations executive, Momma taught in and chaired

Marshall University's Speech Department. They are spending our inheritance on trips around the world and sitting on various boards and church committees. I'm the eldest of five children; the others are two teachers, one psychiatric social worker, and one journalist. My siblings accuse me of being the eternal student. I studied at Ohio University, Princeton Seminary, the University of Bonn, Yale University, and Princeton Seminary (again). I was ordained March 12, 1978 (while I was in graduate school) by Greenbrier Presbytery (PCUS), and was a commissioner from Mecklenburg Presbytery in 1982 to the last General Assembly of that church before reunion. I served Queens College in Charlotte for four years as chaplain and instructor in humanities, and taught New Testament for twelve years at New Brunswick Theological Seminary, a school of the Reformed Church in America, before being called to Columbia. I adopted Grace in 1989 and Sarah in 1991 in Honduras, and I married Peter in 1993 in New Jersey (okay, so most people do that sort of stuff in a different order). Pete was an RCA denominational executive, a synod executive, and then a pastor before we moved here and he became Director of Communications at the Candler School of Theology at Emory University. We have middle-school-aged kids at home, so we don't do much except supervise homework, go to band concerts, and drive the family taxi back and forth to youth events at Central Presbyterian Church in Atlanta. Grace and Sarah's elder brother Steve lives and works in New York City where he designs ticketing and subscription programs for local and regional theaters; their brother Chris died of complications from Marfan Syndrome in 2002. When we moved here our family bought Dr. Gutzke's house and our children are convinced his ghost sometimes walks the halls. We love to garden and have learned a great deal about living things in Georgia. Pete and I may pay the mortgage, but the cats Emerson and McQuinn are really Lord and Lady of the manor.

Note: Beth was diagnosed with breast cancer almost two years ago and has been an inspiration to us all, especially to others in her church and community who have more recently struggled with cancer. She has been a wonderful example of faith and hope during her many treatments and surgeries and for her, we are thankful.

Please let me encourage you to remember Columbia Seminary in your year-end giving plans. You may mail your check to Columbia Theological Seminary, Attn: CTS Box 325, P. O. Box 520, Decatur, GA 30031-9954.

STAY IN TOUCH

Please help Barbara and me stay in touch with you by emailing us any news of interest or changes in your address, life or work that you would like to share with the seminary community and other alums. If Barbara or I can be of help to you in any way, please let us know.

Blessings,

Bert

