

GRACE STORY

FALL 2024



CREATED FOR
MORE



GRACE
COLLEGE

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By the time you receive this issue of the Grace Story magazine, you might have seen the new Grace branding on our website, a billboard, or one of Bob Bishop's (BS 69) semi-trailers with our new slogan, "Created for More."

We have carefully chosen these three words to attract the attention of prospective students and to say something about who we are and what we believe at Grace. Although it may appear to be just a pithy phrase, a deep theological foundation informs this slogan.

Genesis shows that God created us for a specific purpose and meaning. We were created to represent Him, to be in relationship with Him, to reflect Him, and to rule over all other created things (Gen.1:26).

When we flip to Ephesians 2, we discover even more about what we were created for and what we were not. This chapter tells us that we were not created for sin (Eph. 2:1), this world (Eph. 2:2), or Satan's lies (Eph. 2:3). In verse four, we see two words that change everything: "but God."

The story of our lives, the direction of our hearts, and the destiny of our souls are all wrapped up in those two words. But God. The hero of the story enters the scene and changes everything. Sinful men with no escape from death and judgment are met by a loving, kind, merciful, and gracious God.

The last seven verses of Ephesians 2 describe what we were created for. We were created for life (Eph. 2:5), for relationship with Christ forever (Eph. 2:6), and for good works (Eph. 2:10). This is what we want for our campus. We want students to know they were created for immeasurably more than they could ever imagine. We want them to know they are called to go on an epic journey of following Christ, with a sure ending to the story: abiding forever with Him.

This is what it means to be created for more.

As we roll out our new slogan, will you join us in praying that our students will grasp onto the "more" that is found in the rich promises of Christ?



Students, staff, faculty, and community members gathered on Monday, Aug. 12, to celebrate the brand launch with a ribbon-cutting ceremony at Grace's sign on the corner of Kings Highway and Wooster Road.

P.S. In the following pages, you will find more about how our new brand came to be; you'll discover information about our strategic goals; you'll hear about our \$27-million Lilly Endowment grant — the largest donation in school history; and you'll get to know our 2024 alumni award winners.



Drew Flamm

Drew Flamm, Ph.D.
President

To hear more about being created for more, watch Dr. Flamm's Convocation address.



Grace Theological Seminary celebrated its rebrand with a ribbon cutting of its own.

VISION

To Know Christ and To Make Him Known.

MISSION

We are a Christ-centered community of higher education applying biblical values in strengthening character, sharpening competence, and preparing for service.

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REFLECT

Enjoy reminiscing on the Grace brands of the past, and don't miss Dr. Nate Bosch's devotional on our new slogan, "Created for More."

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GRACE
COLLEGE & SEMINARY

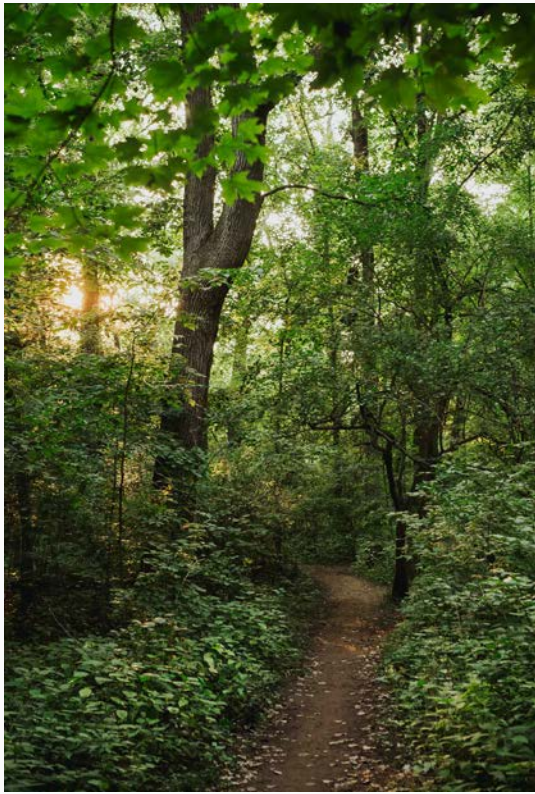
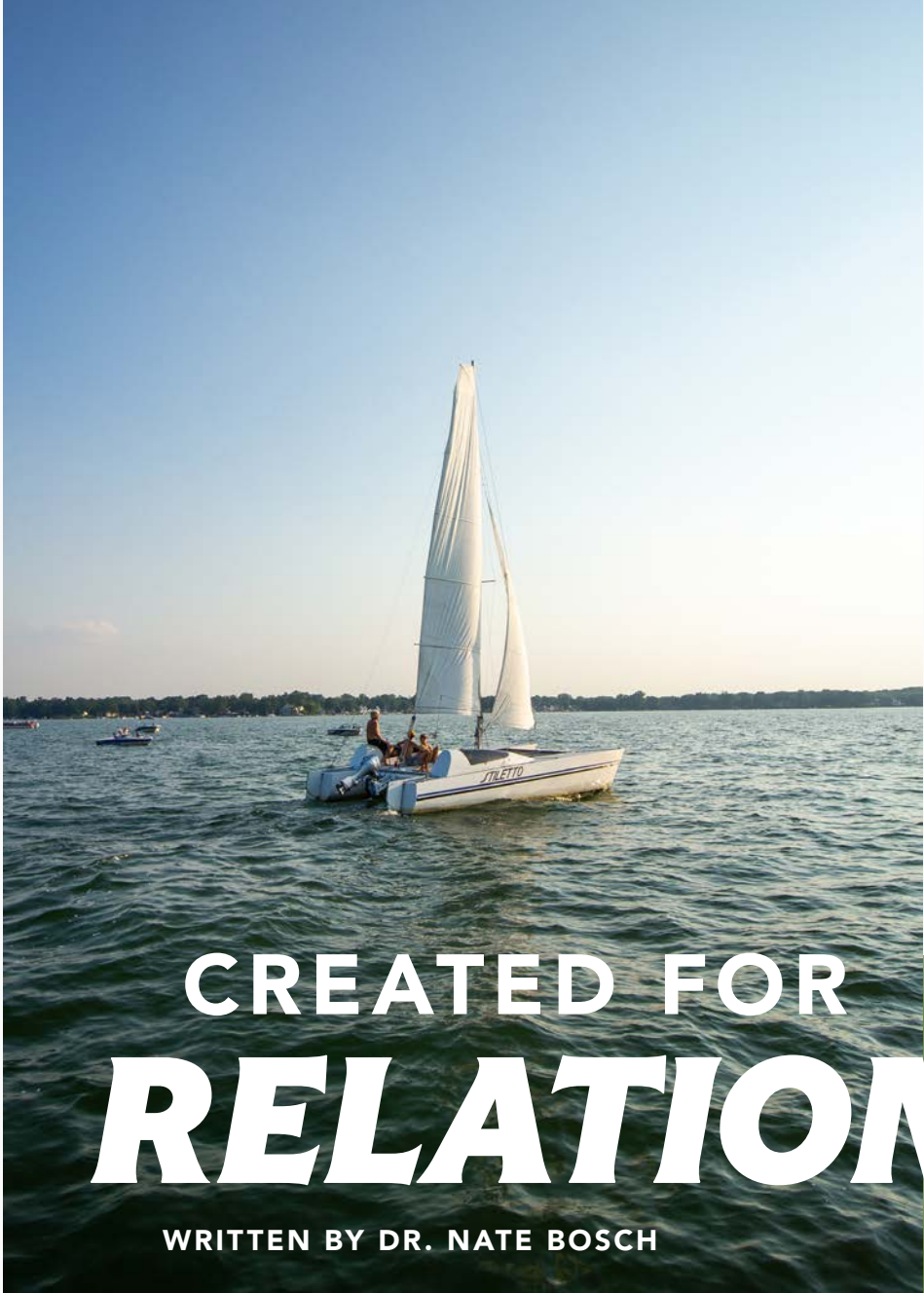


REFLECT

Grace's look has come a long way through the years! It's been nearly 25 years since we have updated our institutional logo. Before we look at the refreshed brand, let's reminisce on the Grace brand identities of the past. Pictured is Grace paraphernalia through the years. Do you recognize any of it?

Flip the page for a faculty member's reflection on this issue's theme.





CREATED FOR **RELATIONSHIP**

WRITTEN BY DR. NATE BOSCH



In my roles at Grace, I think about God's Creation

daily. I have been reading the Creation account in Genesis 1 with students for years, but I recently began to take note of some important repetitions in the days of Creation that we read: "Let there be," "And it was so," "And there was evening, and there was morning." However, there is also a phrase that is repeated and then abruptly changed at the end of the chapter. "And God saw that it was good" is repeated several times until, in verse 31, we read, "God saw everything that He had made, and behold, it was very good."

Initially, we might think the human part of Creation made it "very" good. But the Bible does not simply repeat, "and God saw that it was good," after God created Adam and Eve. Instead, the Bible says that God considered "all" or "everything" He made depending on the translation, and that is what was "very good." God is both evaluating and pronouncing His Creation as very good.

I've had the honor of teaching General Ecology, an introductory class for several science majors, each fall for the last 16 years. Ecology focuses on the connections between an organism and the physical environment around it, as well as connections between different organisms. As I explain various examples of how God's Creation is amazingly interconnected, I am impressed again each year by how this rich connectedness profoundly reflects God's very nature.

God could have created a disconnected world where various aspects of His Creation exist in isolation and

independence from other parts — imagine organisms living in self-contained bubbles without other organisms and reliance on the outside world. But He did not! Instead, God created a world full of connections — full of relationships. Plants and animals were created in relationship with each other and the physical environment around them. Humans were created in relationship with each other and, most importantly, with God. Relationships make up the "very good" of Creation.

God highly prized these relationships throughout Creation. When they were damaged through the fall, He immediately established a rescue plan to restore what was broken.

Relationships are still the most important part of our lives and are to be valued as such. Jesus identified the greatest two commandments as "love the Lord" and "love your neighbor" (Matt. 22:37-39). These ought to be our top two priorities as Christians. Can responsibly caring for God's Creation relate to these two priorities? By all means! We join God in his restorative work as we care for His Creation.

Jesus is the ultimate restorer of relationships in what He did on the cross, what He is doing in our hearts, and what He will do at His second coming. In John 10:10, Jesus said He came into His Creation for us to have life abundantly. Let us be about restoring relationships with God, each other, and the rest of Creation. Only in Him does the "good" become the "very good!"



NATE BOSCH, PH.D.

Dean of the School of Science & Engineering, Creighton Brothers
Endowed Director of the Lilly Center for Lakes & Streams

Bosch received his doctorate from the University of Michigan in the field of limnology, the study of freshwater lakes. He has more than 20 peer-reviewed publications and has been awarded the Chandler Misner Award twice by the International Association of Great Lakes Research. In his free time, Bosch loves to spend time with his wife and four kids, enjoying water sports on local lakes and restful walks in nature.

DISCOVER

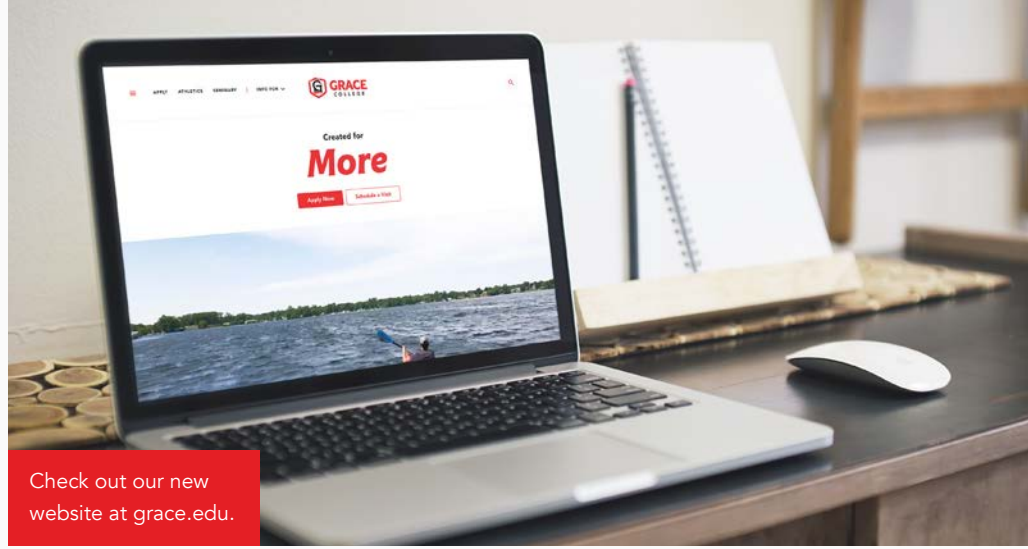
Explore the latest at Grace and discover the strategic initiatives guiding us into the future.



Grace trustee Bob Bishop (BS 69) donated the use of his semi-trailers to take the new Grace branding on the road.



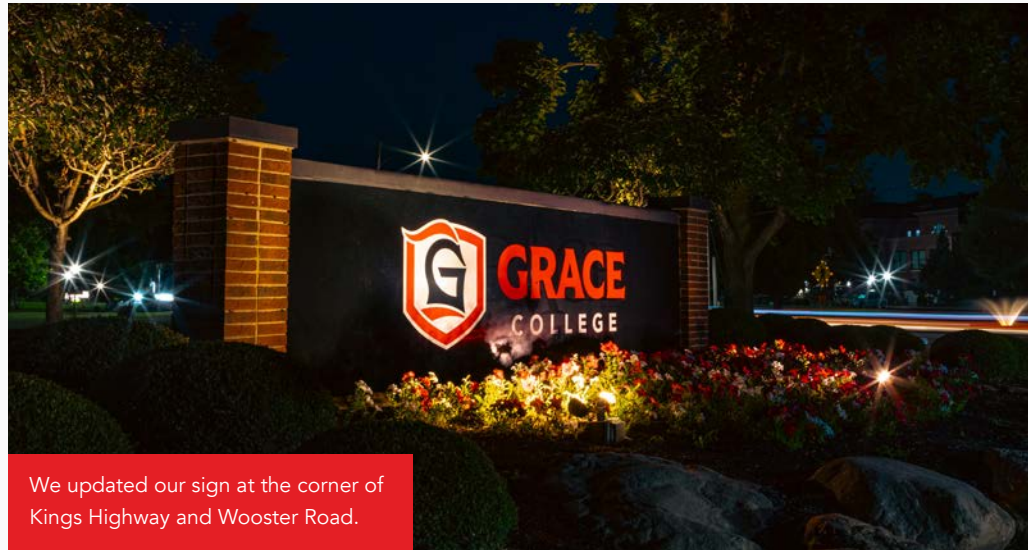
All of Grace's swag for the 2024-25 recruiting season has been updated with the new logo.



Check out our new website at grace.edu.



Grace's 2024-25 journal viewbook for prospective students



We updated our sign at the corner of Kings Highway and Wooster Road.



New "Created for More" billboards can be spotted throughout Kosciusko County.



New merch hit the campus store, Grace Gear, this fall. Purchase your Grace apparel today at gracecollegegear.com

THE PROCESS FOR A **NEW BRAND**

In Dr. Alva J. McClain's final chapel address as Grace's first president, he offered this exhortation. "I feel I can do nothing better than to point your eyes and minds once more to Him who is 'able to keep you from falling and to present you faultless before the presence of His glory with exceeding joy.' ... In this final word, I charge you to remember the Lord Jesus Christ."

In 2023, when we approached the institutional rebrand process, we wanted to double down on our commitment to Christ and the vision to know Him and to make Him known. While many schools have walked away from biblical truths, we continue to integrate faith into every aspect of our education. I believe this commitment is why we have grown over the last several years and continue to thrive as an institution today.

So, rather than going into Photoshop and reconstructing the image of Grace, we recognized the rebranding process was a lot more like applying a new filter to the photo — a new lens through which we look at the institution we know and love.

After vetting several external agencies, we asked, "Who better to tackle this project than our own marketing office at Grace?" We emphasized seven key reasons why our office was the best choice:

CONTEXT

Our team consists of many Grace graduates who have experienced the Grace community firsthand.

CONNECTIONS

We know our students, faculty, staff, and local community deeply.

BRAND CONTINUITY

We implement the brand daily, ensuring seamless integration across platforms.

AGILITY

We are on campus and can quickly pivot or adjust as needed.

INTENTIONAL DESIGN

Since we lead the brand efforts, we can tailor it specifically to our needs.

COST SAVINGS

We felt we could do as good of a job, or better, and save on costs.

PASSION

We love Grace and are deeply invested in its success.

From there, we followed a three-step process: research and discovery, development, and implementation. We surveyed alumni, current students,

and parents to gather feedback and insights about Grace's values. We participated in intensive StoryBrand training and workshops involving voices from the campus and community. This helped us clarify our brand messaging and ensure that Grace's identity was authentically expressed.

Now, months after our official brand launch, our hard work has paid off. We've received positive feedback from Grace's constituency, but more importantly, we are proud to say that our final product reflects McClain's parting words. We are still making much of Christ — the One who created us for good works (Eph. 2:10) and can do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine (Eph. 3:20).

Enjoy taking a peek into our team's work in the pages that follow.



A stylized, handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Matt Metzger'.

Matt Metzger (BS 11, MBA 13)
Chief Marketing Officer

RELATIONAL ▾ GENUINE ▾ SUPPORTIVE

The three words our students use to describe Grace.

99%

of our students consider
our curricula grounded
in biblical truth.

98%

of Grace parents would
recommend Grace to
a friend.

100%

of online students would
recommend Grace to
a friend.

94%

of our students say
their love for Jesus
has grown while
at Grace.

96%

of our students considered
their coursework
academically challenging.

7/10

of our alumni felt
personally mentored by
a faculty or staff member.

The data above is based on a recent brand perception survey. The survey had a successful response rate with a low margin of error due to a broad cross-section of responses.

Our previous logo, which had been in use since the 1990s, was ready for a change. In the spring of 2024, the marketing office shared their creative direction with senior administration, the board, and staff and faculty. The presentation included two new logos, one for Grace College and one for Grace Theological Seminary. The use of two logos provides clarity for undergraduate students, who have often been confused by the term "seminary" and assume Grace is a Bible school only. It also allows us to build

the reputation of the seminary. As its programs and delivery methods grow, we want the seminary to have greater brand recognition among pastors and lay leaders around the globe. We love how these logos give each entity its own distinct mark while visually expressing that we are unified by the same Grace. In August, the new logos were revealed publicly through a ribbon-cutting event hosted by the Kosciusko County Chamber of Commerce.



GRACE

COLLEGE

Formerly used as the athletics logo exclusively, the shield will now serve as the primary emblem of the school. As our athletics teams have performed at a high level, winning numerous national championships, the emblem has grown in popularity and recognition over the last few years. The font of the logo was chosen to be a similar yet more modern take on the shapes and forms of the prior version of the Grace logo.





GRACE

THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

The Grace Theological Seminary shield is derived from the original seal of the school. The details have been refined to be clearer across applications of the logo. The original Grace seal was developed between 1949 and 1950. Inscribed across the top of the shield is the Greek word charis, which translates to "grace." The large cross between two other crosses symbolizes Christ's death on the cross between two sinners. The

crown represents Christ's present exultation in Heaven at the Father's right hand (Heb. 2:9). The seven-branched candelabra stands for Christ's present ministry as the Great High Priest and Lord among the churches (Rev. 1:11-13, 20). At the base of the shield is the Bible, which lies open at Ephesians 2:8-10. The text combines both themes of grace and faith, which are foundational to proper Christian understanding.

CREATED FOR MORE





**Watch the
Created for More
video here.**



At Grace, we take the Word of God to heart. So we were delighted when we had to look no further than one of our institutional verses to find a slogan that speaks to the core question our students are asking: What was I created to do with my life? In Ephesians 2:10, we find that we are **created** in Christ Jesus **for** good works," and at the flip of the page, in Ephesians 3:20, we read that God is "able to do far **more** abundantly than all that we ask or think." Thus, the slogan "Created for More" was born.

In the beginning, God created. He created the universe and everything in it: the sun and stars, lakes and streams, plants and animals. He created you.

He created you with skills, passions, and a story all your own. He created you to know and be known — to give, laugh, and encourage. To play an irreplaceable role within a community. He created you to wonder, to solve problems, and to seek what is true.

So as we seek higher knowledge, we strive to bless our Creator — the One who suspends the heavenly spheres from His hand, who's revealed His heart to all Creation and extends His grace to you. He is the One who created us to worship, teach, and design — to relate and explore.

Since 1937, we have journeyed alongside students in discovering what we are created for.

With a biblical foundation and a genuine educational community to rally around you, Grace will partner with you in discovering where your deepest passions intersect with the world's greatest needs. We will guide you as you hone your skills, encounter new cultures, and channel your curiosity. Ultimately, we will equip you to make an eternal impact — wherever God calls you.

Because He created you to bear His image, display His glory, and make His name known.

You were **created for more.**

CREATED FOR **CREATIVITY**

ANABELLE FREEMAN

The summer before her freshman year, digital communication major Anabelle Freeman emailed Grace’s social media specialist and asked if the marketing office had any open positions. Her initiative was rewarded with a videography and social media internship offer.

So when she arrived at Grace that fall, she began both her classes and her internship. In addition to loving the small class sizes, which meant she received individual guidance from professors, Freeman appreciated how hands-on her courses were.

“When you think of college classes, you think of taking notes, studying, tests, and projects,” said Freeman. “While we did do a lot of projects, we also practiced interacting with actual people and understanding which communication methods and strategies worked best for us.”

Her courses intersected perfectly with her internship. She’d learn the textbook definition of a concept in the classroom then experience it first-hand in the marketing office, whether through splicing together a promotional video or writing a social media caption.

One highlight of Freeman’s internship came during Grace’s homecoming weekend, when Grace’s videographer handed her a camera and sent her out to capture an event.

“It was just proof that the team trusted me and didn’t just want to be looking over my shoulder,” said Freeman. “They wanted me to learn by doing.”

Freeman has plenty of experience using videos and social media to sell, but at Grace, she can document her faith in Christ through media too. One of her first projects was a video of a day in her life, where she shared aspects of her faith such as Bible study and chapel attendance.



“I feel like I was created to create things and to make things for other people to see and be intrigued by.”

According to Freeman, her classes and internship are developing the skills she needs to fulfill her calling to create well.

“I feel like I was created to create things and to make things for other people to see and be intrigued by,” she said. “And also to spread the Gospel. I want to see the two blend together perfectly. And I’m hopeful that they will.”

CREATED FOR **TEACHING**

JOSH PIKE

Exercise science students like Joshua Pike (BS 24) typically plan to enter fields such as physical therapy, athletic training, or chiropractic medicine after graduation. But as Pike considered which postgraduate careers would be wisest with Christina Walters, the exercise science program director, she suggested he might be suited for an educational or administrative role.

Pike first looked into careers in healthcare administration, but another idea popped into his plans: Why not consider a career in physical education? Pike felt God continually nudge him in that direction.

"I kept hearing Him say, 'Check it out, check it out,'" said Pike.

So for his required internship, Pike worked at a children's summer camp in Maine. It only confirmed what he already knew: God was calling him to combine his passion for exercise science with his affinity for working with children.

"It wasn't a difficult decision," said Pike. "I want to foster relationships with students, guiding them and teaching them to be leaders."

The day he arrived from Maine, Pike inquired into how he could become a teacher without changing his major. Walters connected him with Courtney Thrasher, the director of alternative programs and partnerships, who introduced him to the online Transition to Teaching program through Grace's School of Education. The program allows non-education bachelor's degree holders to pursue a teaching license. She also helped arrange a teaching internship for Pike at Leesburg Elementary School.

By graduation, Pike had landed a position as a physical education teacher at Lakewood Park Christian School, his hometown high school. The former Grace track athlete also coaches for the school.



"He's put me on this earth for a purpose, and I'm going to try to adhere to His plans as best as I can."

Pike credits his decision to obey God's prompting at Grace to the blessing of wise counsel from Walters, Thrasher, his track coach, and his teammates.

"They've helped me be the kind of person that I am, and they made me realize that nothing in this world is out of God's control," said Pike. "He's put me on this earth for a purpose, and I'm going to try to adhere to His plans as best as I can."

CREATED FOR **MENTORSHIP**

BLAKE BURNS

At the end of Blake Burns' (BA 24) freshman year, he wasn't sure his health science major was the right track. Though he had enjoyed science as a high schooler, something just seemed to be missing in college. Around the same time, he had taken stock of his spiritual life and felt disappointed. From this, a question arose:

"What if I studied the Bible the way I do science?" Burns wondered.

With the guidance of Dr. Tiberius Rata, professor of Old Testament Studies and associate dean of the School of Ministry Studies, he switched his major to biblical studies. His professors recognized his desire to teach early on and gave him several opportunities to lead a class. He remembers filling in for Rata one time and feeling he hadn't done as well as he'd hoped. Rata and Professor of New Testament Studies Dr. Matt Harmon met with Burns privately to debrief.

"They both poured into me, encouraged me, and gave me some practical tips going forward," said Burns. "I have those tips written down to this day."

Burns also found a spiritual community in Rata's faculty mentor group, where he and other students read through "Humility," by Andrew Murray, and supported each other with prayer and encouragement.

His professors frequently asked him, a student-athlete, about his soccer season. Sometimes, they'd stop by his games. And sophomore year, when Burns sustained an injury that kept him off the field for seven months, Dr. Rock LaGioia's support helped him through it.

"He was really helpful in helping me finish up, even though I had surgery over Thanksgiving," said Burns. "And they prayed for me in class. It was a big deal."



"If you're willing to step out of your comfort zone and reach out, people will invest in you."

Burns can't describe the impact Grace has had on him without naming the friendship and mentorship his professors have extended to him. According to him, Grace is a place where striving is rewarded by relationships double-fold.

"If you put in effort and intentionality, you'll get so much more back," he said. "Professors are willing to meet with you and talk with you on a personal level, not just an academic one. If you're willing to step out of your comfort zone and reach out, people will invest in you."

CREATED FOR **RELATIONSHIP**

PREETHI PRESANNAN

Preethi Presannan doesn't take Christian community for granted. The Long Island, New York, native is in her second year of the master's degree in clinical mental health counseling and has traveled to Winona Lake for two residencies.

Presannan, who had grown acclimated to living among few Christ followers, found the Christian community at Grace both surprising and refreshing.

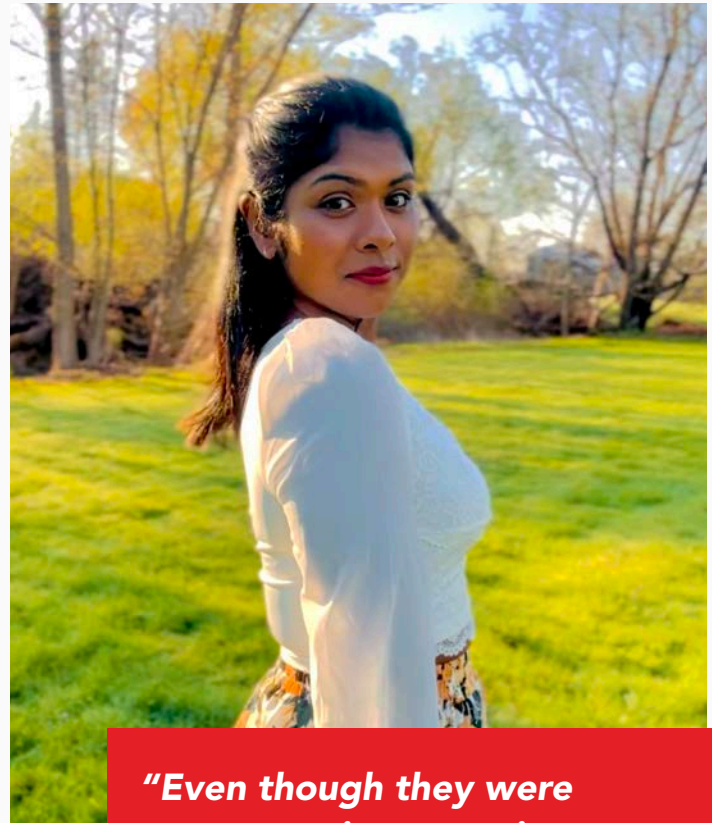
"Even though they were strangers, it was easier to connect at Grace because they all had a heart for God," she said.

On the first night of residency, Presannan's roommates hadn't arrived, so she prepared to order food by herself. But when her classmate, Sam, knocked on the door and invited her to dinner and shopping with a group, she couldn't say no. It was a worthwhile decision, as that night began a close friendship between the women.

It's pursuing Christ with students and faculty that makes the program so worth it for Presannan. She's met students from all over the country (and the world!) at Grace, but one special connection lands close to home — literally.

At the end of this residency, Presannan met another student who seemed familiar, but she couldn't pinpoint from where. The next morning, she spotted that same familiar face on her church's social media. She realized they both unknowingly attended the same church in New York.

"That's such a God-thing, bringing people into your life in different ways," said Presannan. "We recently caught up over coffee and talked about the program, our families, and counseling. I'm so glad she's completing this program in New York because there are so many things we can unpack and talk about together."



"Even though they were strangers, it was easier to connect at Grace because they all had a heart for God."

Presannan is back in New York completing the course's online classes, but she still enjoys the fruit of communion with other Christ followers. It's the kind of community she was created for.

You can find more student testimonials on the homepage of our website: www.grace.edu.



STRATEGIC PLAN

Fourteen months ago, Grace began its current strategic planning cycle. Grace engaged TG Three, a premier strategy company for Christian higher education, to assist Grace in laying the groundwork for its strategy. This framework informed the discussions of Grace's Strategy Task Force, constituted of leaders from across campus. Together, they developed a future vision for Grace to aspire to over the next five years and nine strategic goals falling under the three core pillars. In the following pages, we unpack the core pillars and highlight the progress we've made toward these goals.

CREATED FOR **COMMUNITY**

- We will create sustainable Centers of Excellence where students will be mentored by faculty and staff as they engage in academic research and service to our community.
- We will multiply our academic, professional, and spiritual mentoring opportunities to improve knowledge and community.
- We will establish physical homes for each academic school and increase/improve student gathering spaces.

In 2007, lifelong Lake Wawasee resident Frank Levinson engaged the Kosciusko County Community Foundation and Grace College in a discussion about creating an organization dedicated to lake research. This collaboration led to the Water Quality Initiative, a group to conduct a multi-year research study across 30 lakes in Kosciusko County. As the research center grew in size and scope, its name changed twice more before becoming what we know today as the Lilly Center for Lakes & Streams in 2017. Now a self-sustained research center that offers one-of-a-kind K-12 programs for our community, the center has provided a replicable model and a definition for Centers of Excellence at Grace College.

"The Centers of Excellence at Grace foster dynamic learning environments where students are mentored by

faculty and staff as they engage in academic research and serve our community," said Dr. Kevin Roberts (BS 93, MA 96), provost at Grace. "Because these Centers of Excellence embody our institutional values so well, we hope to introduce more in the future."

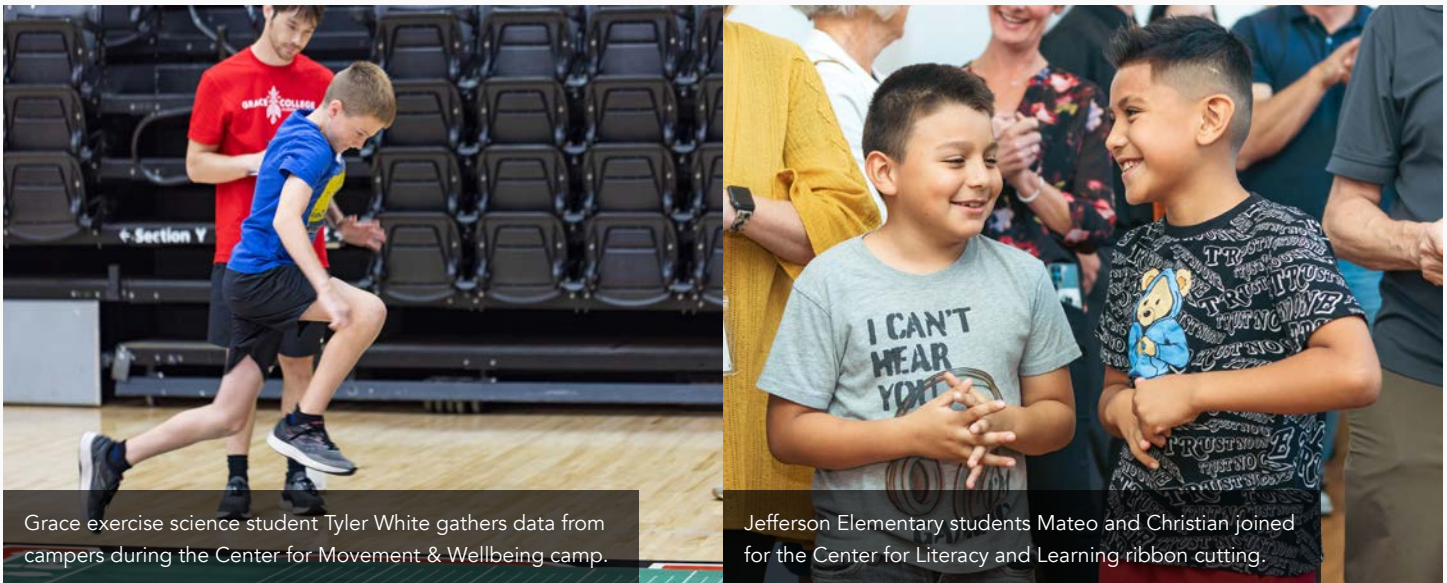
In 2023, the Lilly Center was joined by the Center for Movement & Wellbeing, a center housed under the exercise science program. It provides programming and information to help Kosciusko County residents take ownership of their health and wellness. So far, the center has held two exercise science camps for area high school students and plans to hold more community events in the future.

This fall, the School of Education launched the third Center of

Excellence: The Center for Literacy & Learning (CLL).

Funded by Lilly Endowment Inc. through its initiative, Advancing the Science of Reading in Indiana, this new center is dedicated to enhancing teacher candidate knowledge and application of Science of Reading evidence-based practices while collaborating with local school districts to build capacity for dynamic clinical placements.

"The Center for Literacy and Learning is our collective response to the need for literacy," said Dr. Rachael Hoffert, director of the center and chair of the Department of Elementary Education at Grace. "We believe every child has the right and ability to read, which is why, at the most basic level, our mission is to empower readers and empower leaders."



Grace exercise science student Tyler White gathers data from campers during the Center for Movement & Wellbeing camp.

Jefferson Elementary students Mateo and Christian joined for the Center for Literacy and Learning ribbon cutting.

Programming at the CLL will focus on three core pillars: teacher and leader preparation, classroom application, and community engagement.

The first pillar, teacher and leader preparation, will equip teacher candidates entering the classroom to implement Science of Reading evidence-based practices. The center will ensure Grace’s teacher candidates engage in carefully sequenced literacy coursework while providing professional development opportunities for the School of Education’s faculty and staff.

The second pillar, classroom application, will begin with a partnership with nearby Jefferson Elementary School. A lab school has been established at Jefferson, offering teacher candidates opportunities to collaborate with students and teachers at various grade levels. The lab school will serve as a training ground for teacher candidates to apply strategies aligned with Science of Reading frameworks.

“The partnership between Grace College and Jefferson Elementary will create invaluable learning opportunities for our students, staff, and community,” said Joshua Wall, principal of Jefferson Elementary School. “We value the opportunity to bring teachers and teacher candidates together in the classroom to grow our capacity around the Science of Reading. This program is a win-win for Jefferson and Grace.”

The final pillar, community engagement, will include tutoring services for community K-5 students. Tutoring will take place at the CLL tutoring center on campus, where Grace’s teacher candidates will gain experience teaching students in a small group setting. Additionally, the CLL will establish strong partnerships with local school districts to provide training support for partnering teachers.

Kyle Carter, chief accountability officer at Warsaw Community Schools, sees tremendous value in the Science of Reading for the local schools.

“Warsaw Community Schools is thankful to strengthen its relationship with Grace to grow the Science of Reading practices for current and future educators and create additional learning opportunities for students,” said Carter.

The CLL’s tutoring center is now training its teacher candidates through an IDOE-approved dyslexia training program. The center began its first week of student assessments on Monday, Sept. 16.

“There are many ways for community members to support the center, get involved, and empower readers,” said Megan Smith, director of programs and partnerships at the CLL. “Today’s readers are the leaders who will shape our future. We invite you to join us in this crucial mission.”

To learn more about the Center for Literacy & Learning or to inquire about how to get involved, email literacyandlearning@grace.edu.

CREATED FOR **KNOWLEDGE**

- We will invigorate our academic programming by establishing an office of teaching and learning excellence and by committing to ongoing faith integration and cross-cultural competence, all based on a biblical foundation.
- We will reinforce our emphasis on STEM, health, and business professions as the primary means of growing our traditional student population.
- We will launch new seminary, graduate, undergraduate, and micro-credentialing programs to grow our non-traditional learner population.

Grace and JPU Host Inaugural Medical Imaging Bootcamp



Medical imaging students receive hands-on sonography instruction.

This fall, all returning medical imaging students at Grace participated in the inaugural Medical Imaging Bootcamp. The bootcamp was held on Grace's campus and administered by faculty from Grace's partner for the program, John Patrick University of Health and Applied Sciences in South Bend, Indiana. The two-day event gave students hands-on training in their specific concentration in the field.

"It was valuable to meet with instructors face to face, who not only taught us the fundamentals of medical imaging but also gave us advice on our future careers," said Abby Price, a senior sonography student at Grace. "The hands-

on guidance from knowledgeable instructors helped to prepare me to go into my clinical site this year with confidence and an eagerness to learn!"

Sonography students like Price were guided by JPU's Program Director of Ultrasound Melissa Bonassisa, a sonographer of 23 years. Bonassisa led the students through a robust program, including an introduction to the equipment students use for remote learning, the SonoSim and Butterfly; an overview of the areas of the body according to sonography; and abdominal demonstrations with a full-size ultrasound machine.

“Our goal was to build excitement among students, give them a sense that they are on the right track, and assure them that it will be worth it,” said Bonassisa. “Sonography is an unbelievably cool profession full of highs and lows, but it’s a rewarding field that makes you realize how beautiful the human body is.”

Students enrolled in the nuclear medicine and MRI concentrations had breakout sessions with JPU CEO Brent Murphy. On the second day of bootcamp, they toured Lutheran Kosciusko Hospital and Parkview Kosciusko Hospital. “These students were able to observe technicians, some of whom will serve as

preceptors during future clinical rotations,” said Dr. Joe Frentzel, Dr. Eugene Inman endowed chair of science and mathematics at Grace. “We are especially thankful to Tom Wallin, a local MRI technician and Grace College supporter, for facilitating the hospital tours.”

Bonassisa is excited about the opportunity to continue building the program and hopeful about this cohort of medical imaging students at Grace. “There are some really talented students in this group,” said Bonassisa. “I look forward to how they represent the college as they begin their clinicals and launch their careers.”

Grace Engineering to Compete in Baja SAE Arizona 2025

Grace College’s ABET-accredited engineering program recently formed a team to compete in the Baja Society of Automotive Engineers (SAE), an inter-collegiate design competition where students design, build, and race off-road vehicles. The project simulates real-world engineering, requiring students to meet deadlines, manage a budget, and complete testing.

The project will culminate May 1-4, 2025, in Marana, Arizona, where the team will put their kart to the test. Grace’s team will compete against nearly 80 other schools in maneuverability, hill climbing, sled pulling, shock testing, acceleration, and endurance to determine which team built the best kart.

“I’m really excited to see what this team can do,” said David Ray, faculty advisor of the Grace Baja team. “Because of the hands-on nature of the engineering program at Grace, these students already have experience with machining, and many of them have had valuable internship opportunities that will serve them well in this competition.”

To meet the team and follow their progress on the journey to Arizona, watch the Baja docuseries on Grace’s YouTube channel.



Grace College’s Baja SAE team (l to r): Kelden Coccia, Graydon Brath, Joshua Nakasone, Nate Rulli, and Isabella Dickhut.



GraceCollege

CREATED FOR **IMPACT**

■ We will reduce our reliance on traditional undergraduate tuition.

■ We will diversify our revenue streams and pursue innovation through "Grace Solutions, LLC."

■ We will pay off debt to free up margin for ongoing operations and capital investment.

A few years ago, Grace gathered several key leaders to explore opportunities for diversifying revenue streams for the institution. Chief Marketing Officer Matt Metzger (BS 11, MBA 13) already had an idea brewing. Throughout his time with the school, dozens of business leaders had come to the marketing office requesting help.

"I would often share strategies and best practices with them in our 30-minute meetings, but I couldn't offer much help beyond that," said Metzger.

He knew there was an opportunity to leverage Grace's full-capacity agency, which offers marketing strategy, video production, photography, paid/organic social media, copywriting, search engine optimization, paid search, and graphic design, to benefit all parties.

"Grace Solutions was created with a 'win-win-win' model in mind," said Metzger. "It's a win for the students, who get agency experience with real-world projects. It's a win for the clients because they receive excellent marketing services overseen by professionals at a below-market price. And it's a win for the institution because we are reducing our reliance on traditional undergraduate tuition."



Senior communication major, Madi Lehman poses with CEO of Revive Home Brands, Seth Nash.

Now, after almost one year of operation, Grace Solutions employs 20 students who have provided services for more than a dozen corporate and nonprofit clients in the community.

Madi Lehman, a senior communication major and digital marketing minor at Grace, is one such student. She began working with Revive Home Brands, a group of companies serving designers and

homeowners in the custom and luxury home interior market, in January of 2024 as a social media specialist.

"As a student, it is hard to take yourself out of the classroom and implement the lessons and concepts you are learning into real life," said Lehman. "However, working hands-on with RHB has allowed me to actively apply the material I learn in the classroom when I create content

for Dutch Made Cabinetry. Receiving feedback, brainstorming ideas with a team, and capturing the culture of a company through my work will all prove helpful after I graduate."

Seth Nash (BA 04), president and CEO of RHB, heard about Grace Solutions before its public launch.

"As an alumnus and a member of Grace's board of trustees, I've been familiar with and impressed by the excellent work of the marketing team," said Nash. "When we learned that through Grace Solutions, this outstanding team was taking their skill and talent to the marketplace, our team recognized an opportunity."

RHB began utilizing Grace Solutions in 2023 and is now one of several clients with a monthly retainer through the agency.

"As a small company, we benefit from expertise on the Grace Solutions team that we lack in-house at competitive rates," said Nash. "As a member of the Grace community, it's also rewarding to provide opportunities for students to prepare for careers in the marketplace."

Drew Holleran, vice president of sales at Red Star Contract Manufacturing, Inc., a medical device manufacturing company located in Larwill, Indiana, has also contracted with Grace Solutions.

"Our experience with Grace Solutions has been exceptional," said Holleran. "We have utilized their team for multiple projects, one of which was a marketing video for our website. Grace did a fantastic job of capturing the essence of our company. Their

team does outstanding work, and I highly recommend their services to any company looking to enhance its marketing strategy."

From corporate clients like RHB and Red Star, to nonprofit organizations like Grace Fellowship Church, Lost Sparrows, and the Kosciusko County Parks & Recreation Department, Grace Solutions has brought in approximately \$140,000 in net earnings.

"Perhaps what has been most surprising is that we haven't put a single dollar into marketing ourselves as an agency," said Metzger. "100% of our clients have come through word of mouth."

According to Cory Colman (BS 83), a Grace College trustee with 28 years of startup experience at Paragon Medical, Grace Solutions aligns with Grace's strategic pillar to be innovative and sustain its mission for long-term impact.

"Their innovation is not just in the product they turn out, but in how they engage students and clients in creating materials that tell a better story," said Colman. "I have been able to recommend their services to both friends and clients because of the way they live out Grace's core value of pursuing excellence. The work that Grace Solutions is doing will likely become a hallmark of nontraditional ways to generate alternative income for the school."

For more information about Grace Solutions and its services, contact Matt Metzger at matt.metzger@grace.edu.

"As a small company, we benefit from expertise on the Grace Solutions team that we lack in-house at competitive rates."

Seth Nash (BA 04)
CEO, Revive Home Brands

"Their team does outstanding work, and I highly recommend their services to any company looking to enhance its marketing strategy."

Drew Holleran
Vice President of Sales,
Red Star Contract Manufacturing

"I have been able to recommend their services to both friends and clients because of the way they live out Grace's core value of pursuing excellence. The work that Grace Solutions is doing will likely become a hallmark of nontraditional ways to generate alternative income for the school."

Cory Colman (BS 83)
Trustee, Grace College



Grace Receives \$27 Million Through Lilly Endowment's College and Community Collaboration Initiative

This summer, Grace College received a grant of \$27 million from Lilly Endowment Inc.

"This is the largest donation in school history," said Dr. Drew Flamm, president of Grace College. "The \$27 million grant will provide partial support for a larger collaborative project in our region that we hope will attract more than \$100 million of private and public support."

The Catalyst Corridor Project is a series of initiatives in Warsaw

and Winona Lake that fall into four themes: innovation initiatives, wellbeing amenities, connection ways, and enhanced placemaking. Grace worked closely with the town of Winona Lake and the city of Warsaw, along with many community partners, to develop the Catalyst Corridor Project and proposal.

"The Catalyst Corridor is an exciting initiative that will make Kosciusko County an even better community to learn, work, and play," said Representative Craig Snow (BS 91).

"Watching community leaders come together to make this grant proposal a reality has been encouraging. As a 40-year resident of this community and a Grace alumnus, I've seen how when the college and the community collaborate, amazing things happen."

The project will include partnerships with various community organizations, including Warsaw Community Schools, Kosciusko YMCA, OrthoWorx, and local healthcare industry leaders.

"Our community partners brought fresh perspectives, valuable connections, and keen insights to the table that helped make Catalyst Corridor what it is," said Doug Baumgardner (BS 03), CFO and vice president of financial affairs at Grace. "We are grateful to be a part of this community and look forward to the continued collaboration that will bring this project to fruition."

Catalyst Corridor will include initiatives along Winona Avenue in Warsaw, through the campus of Grace on Kings Highway and out to the east side of Winona Lake on Pierceton Road.

Dr. Emi Kreklau, the new executive director of the Catalyst Corridor at Grace, will oversee the implementation of the grant. Kreklau will serve as the primary point of contact for the project, working in close partnership with the Grace senior leadership team, government entities, business leaders, and other community members to fulfill the vision of the Catalyst Corridor.

"The Catalyst Corridor is an exciting initiative that will make Kosciusko County an even better community for residents to learn, work, and play. Watching community leaders come together to make this grant proposal a reality has been encouraging. As a 40-year resident of this community and a Grace alumnus, I've seen how when the college and the community collaborate, amazing things happen."

CRAIG SNOW (BS 91)
Indiana State Representative

Kreklau has more than 25 years of experience in academic research and pharmaceutical drug development, including nearly two decades at Lilly Research Laboratories, where she last served as the head of research and development operations. Kreklau is a familiar face to Grace, where she serves on the campaign steering committee and parent council.

"I'm excited by the bold vision of the Catalyst Corridor Project, which I see as a God-inspired vision for Grace and the Warsaw-Winona Lake community to impact the Kingdom in new ways for many generations to come," said Kreklau. "Grace has a rich legacy of faithfulness to its vision to know Christ and to make Him known, and Warsaw is already touching countless people's lives through its health care, medical technology, and other industries. So it's not about new buildings or infrastructure — those are a springboard for impacting people's lives."



Meet Dr. Emi Kreklau, Executive Director of the Catalyst Corridor

- Kreklau holds a B.A. in Integrated Science from Northwestern University, an M.S. in Pharmacology and Toxicology from the University of North Dakota, and a Ph.D. in Pharmacology and Toxicology from the University of Louisville School of Medicine.
- She is a Diplomate of the American Board of Toxicology (DABT).
- She has worked at Eli Lilly and Company for nearly two decades.
- Kreklau's children are both Grace Lancers: Keiko (BS 24) studied pre-med, and Curtis Kreklau III is currently studying business.
- She began serving on the Grace College Parent Council in 2020.
- Kreklau also serves on the Grace Campaign Steering Committee.

Year in Review

ANNUAL REPORT

With grateful hearts, we are excited to share the many ways God has blessed Grace College and Grace Theological Seminary over the past year. This fiscal year was marked by an important change as we shifted our fiscal calendar from an April 30 fiscal year-end date to July 31. This adjustment aligns us with the academic cycle, allowing for clearer planning and budgeting. The financial information below reflects this change in the fiscal year, reporting 12 months (unaudited) from August 1, 2023, to July 31, 2024.

This year, we experienced an increase in revenue from several areas, including higher net tuition due to a rise in enrollment, generous donations from our dedicated supporters, and positive returns on our investments. These financial gains have allowed us to strengthen our academic programs, enhance campus resources, and support the spiritual development of our students — all while staying rooted in our mission to provide a Christ-centered education.

Through careful management of our resources, we maintained a healthy balance between growth and stewardship. Expenses were managed with care, leading to improved efficiency without compromising the quality of the education we offer. As a result, we ended the year with a surplus, which strengthens our financial position, allows us to further reduce our debt and enables strategic investments for the future.

We know that none of this would be possible without God's faithful hand and the unwavering support of the Grace community. Whether you are a student, family member, alumni, faculty, or staff, your role in supporting the mission of Grace has made a lasting difference. We are deeply thankful for your prayers, contributions, and encouragement.

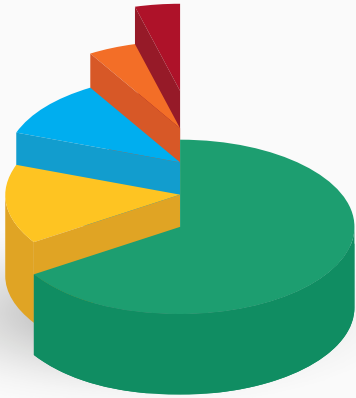
As we reflect on this past year, we are filled with gratitude and anticipation for what lies ahead. With our eyes fixed on Christ and His continued guidance, we are excited to press forward to shape the lives of future leaders.

Thank you for walking alongside us on this journey.



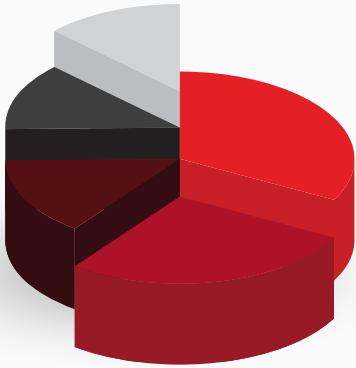
A stylized, handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Doug Baumgardner'.

Doug Baumgardner (BS 03)
VP of Financial Affairs & Chief Financial Officer



\$69,870,572 TOTAL REVENUE

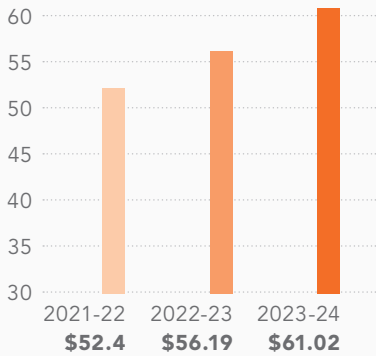
● Tuition \$ 46,209,584 66.14%	● Investment Return \$ 3,052,351 4.37%
● Food & Housing \$10,260,287 14.68%	● Auxiliary Services & Sales \$2,866,644 4.10%
● Fundraising \$7,481,706 10.71%	



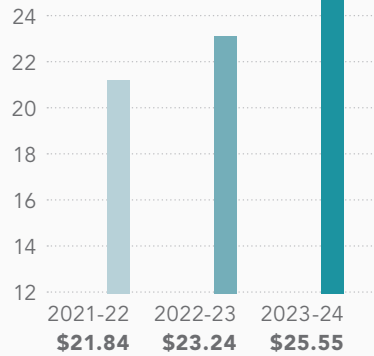
\$63,024,040 TOTAL EXPENSES

● Student Scholarships \$ 20,658,855 32.78%	● Auxiliary Expenses \$7,954,629 12.62%
● Instruction & Academic Support \$17,358,642 27.54%	● Institutional Support \$7,907,061 12.55%
● Student Services \$9,144,853 14.51%	

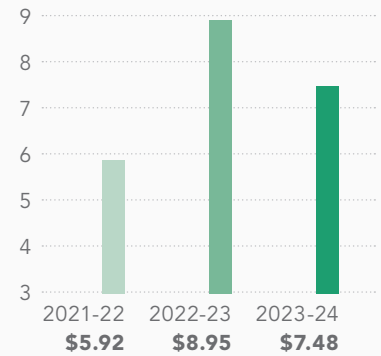
ASSETS (\$ in millions)



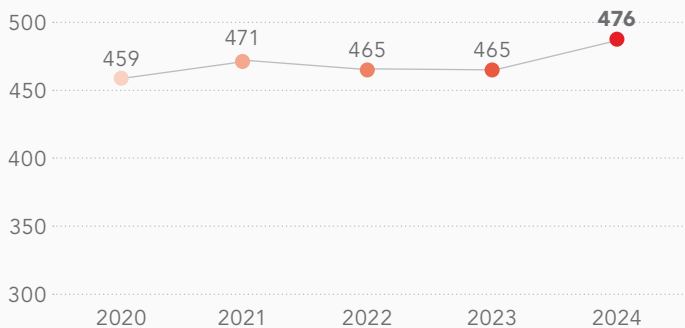
NET TUITION AND FEES (\$ in millions)



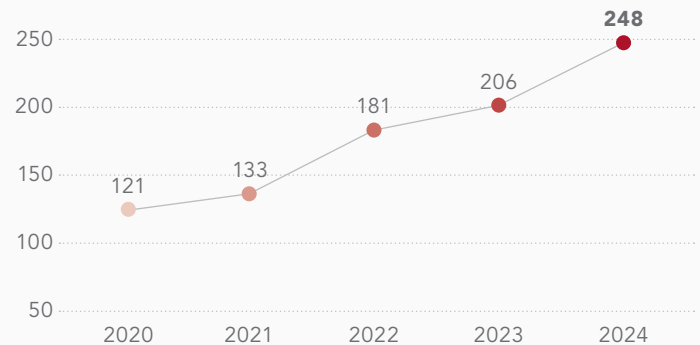
GIVING (\$ in millions)



TRADITIONAL UNDERGRADUATE NEW STUDENT ENROLLMENT



SEMINARY ENROLLMENT



DEEPER THAN *BASKETBALL*

WRITTEN BY MADISON MAXWELL



The Grace men's basketball 2023-24 team had a storybook season.

They went 34-2, won the regular season and postseason tournament for the Crossroads League, ranked No. 1 in the NAIA for most of the year, and made it to the final four.

Behind the glory of wins, awards, and trophies is a much deeper story. A story of relationship and spiritual growth. A story not about the blocks, rebounds, and slam dunks, but of three players and a coach getting dunked in water, declaring death to self and life in Christ.

Every year, the men's basketball team kicks off its season with a fall retreat. The weekend in late September is full of team bonding and shenanigans, but the final night concludes with a heartfelt bonfire talk. Seniors share about their growth over the past three years and the impact the program has had on their lives. They give words of encouragement and advice to the incoming freshmen, who also are given a chance to share their stories.

"The team had been essentially the same for the past three years, so we had really gotten to know the guys on a deeper level," said Associate Head Coach Stephen Halstead (BS 18, MSHE 22).

As they sat around the fire that night, Brycen Graber, a junior at the time, brought up the topic of baptism. He and a smaller group of players began discussing where their teammates were at spiritually, figuring a few had not taken that step in their walk with Christ and needed some encouragement to do so. When Halstead asked the

group who had not been baptized, juniors Carter Stoltzfus and Cole Beck raised their hands.

"Even before the bonfire, I was starting to think about baptism," said Stoltzfus. "My mom asked me if I wanted to get baptized my senior year of high school, but I wasn't feeling called to do it, and I didn't want to get baptized just for the sake of it."

For Beck, it was a matter of timing.

"I was always waiting for the perfect moment and inspiration," said Beck. "I thought I had to be at the right church with the right pastor, and all these specific people needed to be there. I wanted the stars to align, basically."

After a few weeks of team practices, Halstead prepared a devotional about baptism to give before a Saturday practice in October. He gave the talk and didn't think much of it. But it planted a seed.

"It was not the typical devotional you have before a practice or a game," said Beck. "It wasn't the pump-up speech. It wasn't the 'hard work, dedication, do it as unto the Lord' talk. So it stuck out."

It struck a chord for a few who had been baptized at a young age as well.

"Halstead's devotional really got me thinking about getting re-baptized," said team manager Elijah Osborn. "I got baptized when I was 9 just because that was the thing to do growing up in a Christian home. So I started thinking about the meaning behind it — the importance of professing that Jesus Christ is my Lord and Savior."

Head Coach Scott Moore (BS 08) found himself in a similar place.

"Steve's devotional was really good, and it just kind of stuck with me," said Moore. "I had been baptized when I was a child, but the thing I could not get out of my head was, 'I talk a lot



Coach Stephen Halstead prepares to baptize Cole Beck at Mission Point Community Church.



Carter Stoltzfus

Middlebury, Indiana
Men's Basketball
Guard



Cole Beck (BS 24)

Akron, Ohio
Men's Basketball
Guard



Elijah Osborn

Kokomo, Indiana
Men's Basketball
Team Manager

about being a Christian, but I have to be about it — not just for them, but for my sake. Baptism is a declaration to my team and others. Even if none of my guys are gonna do it, I'm going to."

In the middle of the team's record-breaking season, on Sunday, Feb. 11, Moore was baptized at First Church of God in Columbia City, Indiana. The entire team showed up in support of their coach, bearing witness to his public profession of faith and his union with Christ.

Little did Moore know that the following week would put this declaration to the test.

Going into his baptism weekend, the team was 24-0.

"I thought we couldn't lose," said Moore. "Imagine the feeling. You really do start to believe it."

The very next game, the team lost to Huntington.

"I often say, I don't think God cares if we win or lose games, but I do think He cares how we win or lose games," said Moore. "I had just talked about following Christ. I get baptized, and then we get drilled. It was a good lesson for me because I could have taken my witness and thrown it away. I would have missed the opportunity to follow my own words."

The team took the loss as a learning opportunity and continued in their season. Even more, the testimony of Moore's baptism remained influential. For Stoltzfus, Beck, and Osborn, this was the final push they needed.



Dr. Tiberius Rata, associate dean of the School of Ministry Studies, prepares to baptize Coach Moore.

"It was cool seeing Coach Moore be an example for us," said Beck. "It made me want to be an example for my team, my friends at Grace, and the third-grade small group I led at Mission Point. I needed to obey the Scriptures and outwardly express my love for Christ and my commitment to follow Him."

On Sunday, April 28, the team gathered again, this time at Mission Point Community Church, to witness the baptism of Stoltzfus, Beck, and Osborn. Stoltzfus and Beck asked Halstead to baptize them. According to Stoltzfus, it all comes back to relationship.

"If the coaching staff didn't have a relationship with us, then the devo wouldn't have connected," he said. "We'd have looked at Coach Moore's baptism and thought it's a really cool thing, but it wouldn't have hit home. When we see our coaches following Christ, we look at things differently and respond differently because of how they live."

Prioritizing relationships has been a part of the DNA of Grace's men's basketball program, spanning back to Coach Jim Kessler's (BS 70) 42-year run as head coach. Having both played under Kessler, Moore and Halstead invest in players the way they were invested in when they wore Grace jerseys.

"You don't recognize how much of an impact a coach can have on you in the moment, but when I look back, there was always someone I could go to despite the circumstances, and I appreciated that," Halstead reflected. "Now that I'm a coach, I try to get to know players personally and help them grow in every area of their life."

But the secret sauce to the program's success doesn't stop with the coach's investment. According to Halstead, the program strives to create a player-led culture where the seniors pour into the freshmen even more than the coaches pour into them.

"We are really competitive, and we care about what is happening on the basketball floor, but I want to impact these freshmen like coaches and former players impacted me," said Stoltzfus. "When I came to Grace, all I cared about was basketball, but I didn't realize how much it would affect my outlook on life and my journey in my faith."

This is why Stoltzfus hopes to become a college basketball coach one day.

Now in his sixth year as head coach and his 16th year overall in coaching, Moore acknowledges that the trophies on his shelf pale in comparison to the reward of investing in his players.

"My heart belongs to the men up on the wall," he said, looking at his office wall covered with pictures of his players. "Those are my trophies. I am much more fulfilled going home and thinking about them than about how many times we have won and lost or how many titles we have."

Over the past year, men's basketball is not the only team to witness player baptisms.

Blake Burns (BA 24) baptized his teammate, Frederik Christmann of Reichenbach-Steegan, Germany, on Sunday, April 7 after sharing the Gospel with him and mentoring him throughout the year. Jasmin Slump, a sophomore women's soccer player from the Netherlands, was baptized at Grace Community Church in Goshen, Indiana, on Sunday, Sept. 15.

"We may be on different teams, but we're really on the same team," said Moore. "Every time one of the coaches talks about one of their kids getting baptized or accepting Christ, there is the ultimate win. Everything we're worried about here, competing and stuff, just goes away."

"It says a lot about Grace College as a whole to see that these things happen organically," said Stoltzfus. "It's what Grace is all about — growing in your faith. Sports are just a platform to use to connect with people. I think that it's cool that these things are happening on different teams and across different cultures, but it all comes back to one Person."



Frederik Christmann (BS 24)
Reichenbach-Steegan,
Germany
Men's Soccer
Forward



Jasmin Slump
Groningen, Netherlands
Women's Soccer
Defender

Your gifts to the Grace Fund directly impact the lives of students like Carter, Cole, Elijah, Frederik, and Jasmin. Every dollar given to the Grace Fund is a dollar our students don't have to pay for the transformative experience at Grace.

Make your gift today at grace.edu/give.



Grace Announces Plans for Ray “Butch” and Sandra Shook Welcome Center

Grace recently announced its plans for the new Ray “Butch” and Sandra Shook Welcome Center to be located in Westminster Hall. The main floor of the facility will be renovated to serve as a hub for all campus guests and the new home for the admissions office.

“This transformative initiative will repurpose Westminster Hall’s main floor to become a vibrant and welcoming entry point to our campus, showcasing many of the things that make Grace so special,” said Dr. Drew Flamm, president of Grace College. “We are very thankful to the generous donors who have ignited this important project for Grace, and we look forward to seeing how God will continue to bless this endeavor as we steward this beloved historic building.”

The Shook Welcome Center is named after Ray “Butch” (BS 72) and Sandra (Dillon C 72) Shook, who

met at Grace. Butch graduated from Grace in 1972 and became one of the school’s first full-time admissions counselors. Two of Butch and Sandra’s three kids, Blake Shook (BS 03) and Rob Shook (BS 98), attended Grace, and Butch now serves on the Grace Board of Trustees.

The project will feature the current Winona History Museum and the west community banquet room while remodeling the east banquet room to create space for admissions offices and meeting rooms. The lobby space will also include the new Grace Gear campus store and lakeside rentals for guests to enjoy on Winona Lake. The center will be the first stop for prospective students on their Grace College visits.

“We welcome thousands of high school students and their families to Winona Lake each year,” said Dr. Mark Pohl (BA 04, MA 07), vice president of enrollment management.

“Through our new welcome center, we hope to enhance the visit experience, provide an inviting space where guests instantly feel at home, and share the rich history of Grace and Winona Lake.”

Westminster Hall, formerly the Westminster Hotel, was built in 1905. The historic hotel housed the world’s largest gospel publishing company and served as the site of a national recording studio. The Youth for Christ organization was founded in the Rainbow Room, the west banquet room, which also held the all-night prayer meeting in July of 1949 that launched Billy Graham’s first large evangelistic crusade in Los Angeles.

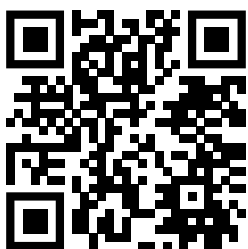
“Since Westminster also houses the Winona History Center, which displays artifacts and research archives about the history of Winona Lake, the Bible Conference movement, and the Chautauqua period, we look forward to having



many more campus visitors enjoy the rich history and learn about the distinguished pedigree of this delightful little town of Winona Lake," said Dr. Terry White (BME 64), town historian and former docent of the Winona History Museum.

Grace has raised \$1,600,000 of the \$2,000,000 needed for the project. Every dollar donated to the Shook Welcome Center through Giving Tuesday, on Dec. 3, will be matched dollar for dollar, up to \$200,000, thanks to a generous board member.

Partner with us to create a welcoming space for our guests.



Historic Uniform Sponsorship

Grace College's athletic department announced a historic partnership with Zimmer Biomet in the fall. Zimmer Biomet finalized a three-year partnership with Grace College for an exclusive uniform sponsorship. For the next three years, the company's logo will be featured on all of Grace's varsity athletic uniforms.

The NAIA, the first athletic organization to pass Name, Image, and Likeness legislation, is the first college sports association to allow sponsor logos on uniforms during competition.

"As far as we know, this marks the first uniform sponsorship deal for any college in the U.S.," said Grace President Dr. Drew Flamm. "Zimmer Biomet has been an innovative and inspiring organization in our community, and we are thankful they have chosen to invest in our student-athlete experience."

Zimmer Biomet has been based in Warsaw, Indiana, since its start

in 1927. The orthopaedic giant generated over \$7.3 billion last year and has been consistently recognized as a Fortune 500 company.

"This partnership just makes sense for us," Jim Lancaster, President, Recon and Global Headquarters Executive Director, stated. "We want to support our community, and we know some of our best team members historically have been former Grace College athletes. We hope many more of these excellent student-athletes stay and make a difference in our community."

Grace's athletic department has enjoyed growing success at the conference and national levels. The Lancers own 20 national championships – 18 of which have come since 2019. "We are grateful for the support of Zimmer Biomet, and we look forward to growing this athletic partnership for years to come," said Grace Director of Athletics Chad Briscoe.



CONNECT

Find some familiar faces that made it back for Homecoming and see how our alumni award winners are making Christ known around the globe.

BECOME A CHAMPION OF GRACE

Would you like to become a Champion of Grace?

All it takes is committing to like and share our social media posts and doing one or more of the following:

- Visit a local high school or Christian school near you.
- Host a homeschool event in your area.
- Visit your church's youth group.

You will receive a Grace-branded Hydro Flask tumbler as a "thank you" for your help and a box of marketing swag to share with your community and fuel your marketing efforts.

Sign up here to
become a Champion
of Grace.



Homecoming

OCTOBER 4-5, 2024

We had a marvelous time welcoming so many of you back to campus for Homecoming. The weekend was filled to the brim with fun and connection.

Please plan to join us next year on October 3-4.

1. June (Beery BA 63) and Howard (BA 64) Immel enjoy the homecoming soccer game.
2. Homecoming king and queen candidates are introduced at halftime of the homecoming game.
3. The Redzone cheers on the Lancers with enthusiasm.
4. Bruce Grimm Jr. (BS 13), Juaneice Jackson (BS 14), and Trey Stoll (BS 14) are inducted into the Lancer Hall of Fame.
5. Family and friends enjoy time together at the annual tailgate.





You can reach out to John
at sloatjs@grace.edu.

Meet John Sloat

V.P. OF ADVANCEMENT

Written by Dr. Matt Harmon

IN baseball, every general manager looks for a five-tool player. It means they can do it all: hit for average, hit for power, run fast, throw hard and far, and field the ball.

Our new Vice President of Advancement John Sloat (BS 10, MDiv 12) is the equivalent of a five-tool player at Grace.

He graduated from both the college and seminary, so he knows what it's like to be a student here. He has served in multiple roles in residence life, so he knows what it's like to care for students in their moment of need. He has served as director of the seminary's accelerated bachelor's plus master's degree program, so he understands curriculum and academic advising. He has taught numerous courses in Biblical studies and history, so he knows the joys and challenges that faculty experience. He has worked in advancement, so he knows how to build relationships with a wide range of people in our community.

John is a man of many interests. He loves to travel, leading numerous Go Encounter trips for Grace students. Together we have led two "Mystery Trips" where students are not told in advance where they will be going. In these environments, John's love for students, culture, and coffee shines brightly. When things inevitably do not go according to plan on these trips, John manages to remain calm and use his creative problem-solving skills to get things back on track.

At any given time John is probably reading a book or listening to a podcast on a wide range of topics including theology, ministry, the Christian life, culture, economics, politics, and history. No matter what the subject, John approaches it from a biblical framework with the Gospel at the center. In fact, it was our conversations on these matters (as well as the prodding of my son!) that led us to begin a podcast together to talk about these topics. Since the beginning of 2020, we have recorded an episode of the Various and Sundry Podcast every single week.

If you spend more than a few minutes with John, you will also discover his love for sports. Because of his upbringing on Long Island, John roots for the Jets, Mets, and Knicks. As a result he is accustomed to his teams disappointing him on a regular basis. Despite this long history of being let

down, John is one of the most optimistic fans I know. Could this finally be the year his beloved New York Jets win the Super Bowl? Probably not, but his hope remains undiminished.

Despite this wide range of interests, John's priorities remain rightly ordered. He is a devoted husband to his wife Andrea and a faithful member of his local church, where he leads a small group and often teaches Sunday School.

Put this all together, and you have a man who embodies our mission here at Grace: to know Christ and make him known. He would love the opportunity to connect with you and explain how you can partner with us to help us pursue that mission together.

“No matter what the subject, John approaches it from a biblical framework with the Gospel at the center.”



2024 Alumni Awards

Our alumni go into the world and make an impact for the glory of God. Do you know someone like this who is an alum of Grace? We invite you to submit nominees for the 2025 Alumni Awards at www.grace.edu/alumni/awards.



DR. EUGENE INMAN, JR.



CREATED FOR IMPACT

“Just because something doesn’t exist, doesn’t mean it can’t be done,” has long been the mantra of Grace’s first chemistry graduate, Dr. Eugene Inman (BA 78). Inman came to Grace as a declared math major in 1974. Partway through his education, he grew fascinated with chemistry and wanted to switch majors. Although the major did not exist at Grace, Inman asked his science professor, Dr. Ray Gsell, if they could create one. He also co-founded the school’s first computer team despite Grace having never owned one. The same spirit of curiosity and ingenuity drove Inman’s 40-year career in pharmaceutical product development.

After graduating, Inman attended the University of Florida to earn a Ph.D. in analytical chemistry before working 33 years for Eli Lilly and Company. Inman served 14 years as a technical manager and 13 years as a research and development executive, overseeing groups of up to 750 scientists. While Inman has developed many drugs that have helped countless individuals, he is most proud of his leadership philosophy, which is marked by accountability, integrity, and character — values that were instilled in him

at Grace. In 2021, Inman made a significant investment back into the program by establishing the \$1.5 million Inman Endowed Science Department Chair at Grace.

In retirement, Inman continues to generate impact. Whether consulting in his field, giving generously of his resources, or volunteering at his local golf course, Inman has a knack for seeing needs and creating solutions, especially those never done before.

MOST PROUD ACCOMPLISHMENT: Helping my mom through my father’s passing. Stepping up and helping her as a widow was as satisfying as celebrating 48 years of marriage to Wanda and seeing my two adult children succeeding in their professional careers.

PREMIER LEAGUE TEAM: Liverpool F.C.

FAVORITE BOOK: The Seven Habits of Highly Effective People



DR. CASSIE SNYDER



CREATED FOR SERVICE

When Dr. Cassie (Faulk BS 14) Snyder was asked in first grade what she wanted to be when she grew up, her answer probably surprised her teacher. It wasn't a teacher or a princess; Snyder wanted to be a veterinarian missionary. Growing up on a small hobby farm in Grove City, Pennsylvania, Snyder's parents instilled in her that she was to use the passions God gave her to serve Him, and that is precisely what she has done.

After graduating from Grace with a biology major under the mentorship of Dr. Marcia Lee and the late Dr. Richard Jeffreys, she was one of 125 students to be accepted to the University of Missouri College of Veterinary Medicine in an applicant pool of 2,000. Upon completing vet school, Snyder began working full-time for a vet service in Pennsylvania, where she did small and large animal work before moving to Virginia to work for a food animal practice servicing farms in 30 counties.

In 2023, Snyder and her husband returned to Grove City, and she established Medley Veterinary Services. Her mobile livestock vet practice services farmers who would

otherwise struggle to find a provider due to a nationwide shortage of food animal vets. Snyder's mission is to protect and promote food production and to help create thriving and healthy farms in her community. She has also taken numerous vet mission trips, from the Dominican Republic to Tanzania to the Navajo Nation. Whether in rural Pennsylvania or a country across the globe, Snyder uses the knowledge she has gained to share the Gospel and care for God's creation.

MOST PROUD ACCOMPLISHMENT: Until a few months ago, becoming a food animal veterinarian, but becoming a mother took the cake. I am still very proud of my profession, but it pales in comparison to being Wren's mom.

LITTLE-KNOWN FACT: I painted the 23,088th layer on the world's largest ball of paint.

FAVORITE ANIMAL: The beef cow. I could sit in a lawn chair and watch them graze all day. It's so peaceful.



BJ McPHERON



CREATED FOR INFLUENCE

Every morning, Assistant Principal and Athletic Director BJ McPheron (BS 07) walks the halls of Temple Christian School in Lima, Ohio, welcoming students with a Grace College mug in hand. His office is donned in Grace gear, and he takes his students on annual Grace visits. If the Grace men's basketball team is playing, McPheron is likely watching with his wife and three kids. McPheron loves Grace, and it's his personal mission to send at least one TCS graduate to Grace every year — an especially rewarding goal as he directs students to his fellow TCS classmate and Beta roommate, Dr. Mark Pohl (BA 04, MA 07), who serves as vice president of admissions at Grace.

McPheron's affiliation with Christ-centered education began when he enrolled at TCS as a preschooler, and he has been involved with Christian schools ever since. After 22 years as a student in Christian education, he became a teacher at TCS for eight years before stepping into his current administrative role.

Also the TCS varsity boys soccer coach of 13 years, McPheron strives daily to use his influence to build the Kingdom. Two-time Northwest Ohio Private School Coach of the Year, he sees faith-based education as an optimal setting to teach students how to honor the Lord in everything they do, whether in class or on the pitch. McPheron's own experience at Grace, where he was encouraged to know Christ and make Him known through golf, school musicals/music groups, and Beta Bible studies, is what drives him to get just one more student to enroll. In ten years, McPheron has ushered a dozen students through the pipeline from TCS to Grace, and the impact Christian education had on his life is why he's still counting.

BEST PIECE OF ADVICE RECEIVED: God leads us towards obedience to live in His will for our lives, and we must be willing to follow at all cost.

YOUR GRACE EXPERIENCE IN ONE SENTENCE: A cornerstone in my journey towards God's calling in my life.

FAVORITE SCRIPTURE PASSAGE: Romans 12:2



TOM & MONICA MORRISON

CREATED FOR TRUTH

The Truth found Monica Morrison the day three evangelists knocked on her door with a simple question. “Do you know for sure you’re going to heaven?” After a long conversation in her living room that night, 35-year-old Monica surrendered to the Truth that changed her life forever.

After four years in the Air Force and 15 years at a computer programming company, Monica returned to school to complete her degree at Grace University in Omaha, Nebraska. She benefited greatly from the biblical perspective on business, which inspired her to open Sunshine Stitches, a quilting supply store she owned and operated for 12 years.

During this time, she began serving on Grace University’s board of trustees and executive committee. As the school faced financial difficulty, it explored partnerships with other institutions, which is when Monica met Dr. Bill Katip (BA 74). The two remained connected, and a few years after Grace University made the hard decision to close its doors, Katip invited Monica to serve on Grace College’s board in 2021. He knew she would offer crucial insights

and provide warnings when necessary. And he was right. In meetings, Monica kept the board focused on prioritizing institutional debt reduction and long-term financial sustainability, points in which she saw great progress over her three-year term. She also served on Grace’s executive committee and student affairs commission and chaired the academic affairs commission.

Tom, Monica’s husband of 32 years, has also been connected to Grace, joining Monica in Winona Lake for board meetings over the years. Tom and Monica have hosted various Grace representatives at the College World Baseball Series, and Tom has been a faithful supporter of Grace baseball.

Monica spends her retirement proclaiming the Truth to anyone who will listen, whether to her BSF middle schoolers, her women’s Bible study, or those she meets through Evangelism Explosion — the same organization that sent evangelists to her door 32 years ago.

FAVORITE PASSAGES OF SCRIPTURE: Psalm 100 and John 17:20-21



SCOTT & KIMBER GRAVES

CREATED FOR CONNECTION

For most parents, the last time they visit their child's college campus is for commencement. But Scott and Kimber Graves of Sellersburg, Indiana, are in a category of their own. Though their daughter Anna Graves (BS 24) graduated in May, the Graves did not think twice when Dr. Drew Flamm asked them to help with Welcome Weekend this year. It was an easy "yes" because the Graves are embedded deeply at Grace. The Grace family has become not just Anna's community but theirs.

Scott, a claims adjuster, and Kimber, a trauma educator/coach for foster and adoptive parents, were first introduced to Grace's parent's council when they came for Anna's Welcome Weekend in 2020. The Graves jumped at the opportunity to join, and in the months that followed, they prayed through the full list of freshmen and wrote notes encouraging faculty and staff. The next year, the Graves showed up ready to help at Welcome Weekend, and they haven't missed one since. Scott is the self-proclaimed "grunt guy" who carries tables where they need to go, and Kimber exudes her genuine warmth to nervous freshmen and their parents.

Additionally, the Graves rarely missed one of Anna's tennis matches at Grace despite the four-hour drive from home, and their enthusiasm for Grace is why their next-door neighbor is a freshman this year. According to them, nothing matters more than passing the baton of faith to the next generation, and they are certain that at Grace, students will hear about Jesus in every part of their experience.

ADVICE TO PARENTS OF COLLEGE STUDENTS: It's hard to cut the apron strings and release that grip, but it's so important to support your young adult in launching well in a safe environment. Let them spread their wings and fly.

MOST-PROUD ACCOMPLISHMENT: All three of our kids love and follow Christ. Nothing matters more in this life than that!



DAVE GUILLES



CREATED FOR MOBILIZATION

The driving force behind Dave (BA 82, MDiv 87) and Sue (Ziegler BA 87, S 05) Guiles' almost four decades of international missions work with Encompass World Partners is simple: bringing the Glory of the nations to the least reached in our world by mobilizing the church to take the Gospel where it isn't and plant churches where they aren't.

Guiles' ministry ties back to Grace, where chapel guests like Roger Peugh (BA 65, BDiv 68, DMin 06) and Tom Julien (MDiv 57, DDivH 96) caused him to shift his focus toward global outreach. Dave was ordained to go into missions the same weekend he graduated from seminary. Soon after, the Guiles family began a twelve-year stint serving as church planters in Argentina with a focus on developing a sustainable, reproducible church-planting model. By the age of 28, Guiles was appointed director of the field and, at age 30, coordinator of Latin America. That's when he began working with many others to reproduce this strategy in Latin America and beyond.

Encompass soon called Guiles to serve as the organization's executive director, and he and his family returned to Winona Lake in the winter of 1999. In the 23 years that followed, Guiles played a pivotal role in leading Encompass into a new chapter of missions, ensuring the training and sending of missionaries was aligned with the times. But he is most proud of helping birth and bring to maturity the Charis Alliance, a global family of Charis Fellowship leaders and churches, where he serves as the international coordinator today. Whether gathering leaders in the Caribbean or working with pastors in the Philippines, Guiles is as passionate as ever about helping others engage their unique place in God's amazing plan for our world.

BEST PIECE OF ADVICE RECEIVED: Pray like it matters ... then pray more!

LITTLE-KNOWN FACT: In high school, I won a nation-wide singing competition.



JOEL ZOOK



CREATED FOR PROCLAMATION

Joel Zook (BA 18, MDiv 19), lead pastor at Southview Grace Brethren Church in Ashland, Ohio, never expected to lead a congregation at the age of 26, but he also never expected to pursue full-time ministry in general. If it weren't for a high school football injury, Zook would likely be in a STEM field today. But in God's sovereignty, he turned Zook's trial into a testimony, revealing Zook's God-given gifts of preaching and teaching.

Zook, an active member of the youth group at Grace Church in Wooster, Ohio, knew Grace was a sound option for ministry training. He enrolled in the seminary's new blended program, which allowed him to work toward his bachelor's and his M.Div. in five years. Throughout his studies, Zook was impacted by the investment of godly men like Dr. Matt Harmon, John Sloat (BS 10, MDiv 12), Kyle Brenneman, and Marc Goodwin. Upon graduation, Zook was bestowed the Homer Kent New Testament Award and the Faculty Award.

Following seminary, Zook began a two-year residency at Grace Polaris Church. Meanwhile, Southview Grace

Brethren Church was undergoing a leadership transition and asked Polaris for interim pulpit supply and leadership. Polaris appointed Zook as the face of the partnership, and he undertook many of the responsibilities at Southview. Over six months, Southview saw the pastoral qualities in Zook they were looking for and called him to lead their flock in 2021.

Zook may be young, but his ministry goals demonstrate maturity beyond his years. He strives first to be a faithful husband to Jera (Thorn BS 17, MBA 20) and father to Judah and Nora, to care for God's people well, and to preach the Scriptures with passion and clarity.

SOMETHING YOU'RE GRATEFUL FOR: I came from a rich heritage of faith. Both sets of grandparents, and pretty much all aunts, uncles, and cousins are believers. My grandma Martin, who passed away unexpectedly when I was finishing seminary, was especially influential in my faith.

FAVORITE SCRIPTURE PASSAGE: Ephesians 1:3-14. It's a gold mine of God's grace!



JOHN TEEVAN



CREATED FOR FAMILY

Dr. John A. Teevan (MDiv 72, DMin 07) has dedicated his life to joyful service. His journey led him to Grace Theological Seminary (GTS) after encountering Christ on the campus of Princeton University. Following many members of the Princeton Evangelical Fellowship, he arrived at Grace with a simple mission — to deepen his understanding of God and His Word. During his studies, Teevan's wisdom grew as he absorbed every lecture and savored the worship sessions in Ashman Chapel. He found not only his life partner, Jane (Cooper BA 71), but also a second family through the Charis Fellowship.

Although Teevan never intended to become a pastor, he served in two Charis Fellowship pastorates spanning 36 years at Grace Church in Ashland, Ohio, and Winona Lake Grace Church. When he finished his pastoral tenure, his next position of service came through a phone call from Dr. Steve Grill (BA 70) asking if he would lead Grace's Prison Extension program. Another faithful "yes" led Teevan to 12 years of making a Grace education accessible to learners behind bars.

Beyond his full-time capacities, Teevan has served the institution and the fellowship in innumerable ways: from five years assisting with Grace's Weber School, to nearly 25 years of teaching graduate and undergraduate courses, to 40 years on the Encompass World Partners mission board. In 2022, he played a vital role in passing the baton of leadership as Grace's interim president, and he currently serves as envoy to the president. Like a Swiss Army knife, Teevan serves with versatility and adaptability for the good of his brothers and sisters and the glory of Christ.

LITTLE-KNOWN FACT: I once lived in a dorm room that author F. Scott Fitzgerald had lived in 50 years earlier.

FAVORITE BOOK: The main works of Tolkien or C.S. Lewis

FAVORITE SCRIPTURE PASSAGE: Psalm 90



MICHAEL SCHRIMSHER

CREATED FOR ETERNAL LIFE

A real estate major from the University of Florida, Schrimsher moved to Wooster, Ohio, to work in the oil and gas industry with his family. While there, the Wooster Grace Brethren Church became his church home. He got re-baptized and became heavily involved in the fellowship. Through meeting Grace alumni at church, hearing from visiting professors, and attending Bible conferences at Grace, he decided to attend the seminary.

Schrimsher arrived at Grace in 1982 and dove in head first. He became the seminary's student body president and served at Winona Lake Grace Church. Partway through his M.Div., he began working in the development office as the annual fund director, where he launched the school's first phonathon. However, as his family grew, working and attending school full time proved difficult. He decided to pause his training and return to Orlando to work for Schrimsher Properties, his family's real estate business — but his involvement with Grace didn't stop there.

Schrimsher was crucial in reconnecting Grace to the Chatlos Foundation, headquartered in Longwood, Florida.

By organizing meetings for advancement officer Steve Gerber (M.Div. 97) and advocating for the institution from the student perspective, Schrimsher helped Grace re-establish its relationship with Chatlos, resulting in \$20,000 in donations so far. Schrimsher also has been a generous supporter of Deploy, knowing firsthand the need for more flexible seminary options.

In 2018, Schrimsher completed his seminary degree at Reformed Theological Seminary. Even though he doesn't hold a Grace degree, he is undoubtedly part of the Grace family. He has graciously leveraged his skills, resources, and connections to perpetuate Grace's innovative methods and unwavering mission.

LITTLE-KNOWN FACT: When I was 16, I took a month-long scenic cross-country trip from Florida in a van with two friends to surf in California and Mexico.

MOST THANKFUL FOR: The family that the Lord has enabled my wife and I to have and enjoy, including seven children and 20 grandchildren.



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If you are receiving Grace Story in error or if you are receiving duplicate copies, please contact the advancement office at advancement@grace.edu. Thank you!

Grace College broke records for two key enrollment indicators this year. The institution welcomed a historic 476 new students to its Winona Lake campus, contributing to a record-breaking 1,382 total undergraduate students for the 2024-25 academic year.

In addition, Grace's total student count reached 2,304, the school's second-largest total enrollment. This number was secured by growing enrollment for Grace's online programs and Grace Theological Seminary, the third-fastest-growing seminary in the nation.

Our record-breaking class of 476 students forms the shape of a crown, symbolizing our 2024-25 campus theme, "Humility Reigns."