

THE CLASS OF 2020

MEET OUR INCOMING STUDENTS



Benjamin Allen
Huntington Beach, CA



Avery Bennett
Bartlesville, OK



Alexander Forcillo
Rockport, ME



Nicholas Glaab
Newbury Park, CA



Kate Hoover
Petaluma, CA



Gage Kirkland
Toluca Lake, CA



Sierra Levanto
Wellesley, MA



Sara Linton
Santa Ana, CA



Kennedy Martin
Westfield, IN



Matthew Owens
Washington, DC



Avery Roberts
Pasadena, CA



Natalie Rosenthal
Fort Worth, TX



Brittany Stone
Willoughby, OH



Emma Thornton
Long Beach, CA



Piper Tompkins
San Marcos, CA



Derek Walker
Gloucester, MA



Joshua Whitaker
Boulder, CO



Lydia Yang
Claremont, CA

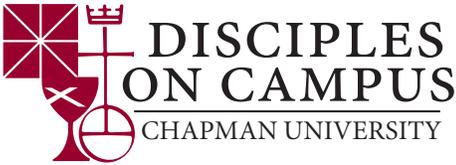
NOT PICTURED:
Caroline Kutschbach
Westerville, OH



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Nancy Brink
 Managing Editor,
 Director of Church Relations
brink@chapman.edu



Jenna Wall '17
 News Editor



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VOICES

The Newsletter of Chapman University's Office of Church Relations

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MEET THE ANGEL OF CHAPMAN UNIVERSITY

Nancy Brink

My email signature is not short: Rev. Nancy E. Brink, the Donna (Ford) Attallah Endowed Director of Church Relations. It is quite an

enviable title, in ways that may be surprising to you. As far as I have been able to learn, mine is the only endowed chaplaincy position for someone serving the spiritual needs of students in any Disciples or United Church of Christ college. And this endowment ensures that Chapman maintains our ties with our Disciples founders and our ecumenical partner, the UCC.

This gift was the brainchild of **Donna Attallah '61** and her late husband Fahmy. He was a graduate of USC and upon hearing that his alma mater was dropping their church related connections, he and Donna wondered if the same thing could happen to Chapman. Out of this concern, the Attallahs decided to put their wealth to a particular good use—an endowed position would make sure that this historic tie continued.

For eight years I have had the privilege of friendship with Donna. She is one of the most warm and compassionate people I know. An elementary school teacher for her entire career, she continues to help students complete their education at Chapman and elsewhere. She has gifted the Leatherby Libraries and the College of Educational Studies as well as gifting us with the Attallah Piazza that is the heart of the campus.

A trip to her home is a special joy. She has collected angels for a number of decades and she has angels from around the world, including life-sized bronzes that take your breath away. Yet to so many of us, the most spectacular angel of all is not on a display shelf in her home, it is Donna herself.

I have not made life choices that will leave me wealthy in retirement. And I am not sorry for that choice. But Donna and I share a heartfelt unity—our love for Chapman and our commitment to student success.

Because of so many generous donors I am able to give \$2000 to every Disciple and UCC undergraduate and \$3000 to grad students (grad students receive far less scholarship money). I am happy to be one of the Fellowship of the Twelve, giving monthly to the scholarship fund. I will never be able to match Donna's generosity, but partnered with wonderful people like you, we can make a significant difference in the lives of our students.

Inside this issue, you will find a donation envelope. Please use it or go online to chapman.edu/give-to-DOC. Know that every gift you give to scholarships, Chapman trustees **DOUBLES** it as a way to honor our church relatedness. Some of you are alumni—show your gratitude. Some of you are parents, who got the benefit of this scholarship when your son or daughter came to Chapman—please pay it forward. And some of you are our loving friends who love the church and love that we are here for our Disciples and UCC students. Whatever your connection, give yourself the gift of joy—put your money where your heart is.



STUDENT SPOTLIGHT STEPHANIE CARESS

By Jenna Wall '17



The art of succeeding in college is all about seamlessly balancing your academic career with your extracurricular passions. When I think of an individual who has mastered this definition of success, I think of Stephanie Caress '18 of Indianapolis, Indiana.

Stephanie is a double major in Strategic & Corporate Communication and Music. She hopes to blend these two academic fields with a future career in the legal copyright side of the music industry. Stephanie's love for music and the music industry does not stop there.

Stephanie is a founding member and current musical director of Chapman's newest a cappella group, Chaptones. Not only does she primarily select and arrange the group's music, she also handles the administrative duties of the group. Coordinating with the other a cappella groups on campus, making the arrangements for competitions including the internationally esteemed ICCA's, and leading weekly rehearsals, are just a few of the responsibilities that Stephanie holds.

Her passion for music and music management is also evident in her commitment to being a general manager for Chapman Radio, an independent, internet-only station run entirely by Chapman students. Stephanie leads a staff of twenty students and simultaneously oversees the daily operations of the increasingly popular Chapman Radio class and club.

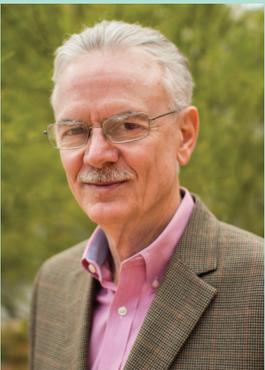
The Disciples on Campus community also gets to benefit from Stephanie's dedication to her role as worship music coordinator. Not only does she select the music that we get to enjoy every week, but she also plays piano, sings, and coordinates rehearsals with other students participating in DOC's Wednesday night worship. Additionally, she and DOC student Avery Roberts '20 are worship interns with Chapman alum Rev. Lee Yates '96 who is the new pastor of Covina Community Church (UCC).

When asked about her commitment to fit DOC worship into her increasingly busy schedule, Stephanie responded, "the DOC community makes home feel a lot closer than it actually is. DOC was also the first community I found at Chapman, and so much of what I've been able to get involved in has been a direct result of the connections and friendships I've made with the people in DOC. It's because of the opportunities I've had through DOC, that I was able to lean on my support system and try new adventures like creating a new a cappella group on campus. DOC will always be a treasured community where I know I can come to share my passion of making music with others."





34TH ANNUAL FOUNDERS DAY MARCH 10-11, 2017



**FEATURED SPEAKER:
DR. MICHAEL
KINNAMON**

Dr. Michael Kinnamon is the former head of the National Council of Churches, ecumenical leader and scholar, will address the climate of fear that pervades American culture and how Christianity and all of the major world's religions are living traditions that call us to resist allowing fear to shape our lives and our public discourse.



Disciples Church
Leader of the Year:
REV. NORA JACOB



UCC Church
Leaders of the Year:
**MATT BALIN AND
TRACY HALTER-BALIN**



**FEATURED PREACHER:
DR. FRANK THOMAS**
Professor of Homiletics at
Christian Theological
Seminary, Indianapolis

To see the full schedule, registration costs and to access online registration, visit chapman.edu/founders-day.

Discounts available for alumni, youth, new church pastors, and seminarians.

Questions or to request scholarships: (714) 997-6760
or churchrelations@chapman.edu.

To register by phone, call (714) 997-6760.



**CHAPMAN
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**OFFICE OF
CHURCH RELATIONS**

ALUMNI NEWS

Annie Mellott '13 and Sam Schleier '13, J.D. '16 were married on September 4, 2016 in Los Angeles, CA.

Andrew Holmer '05 and **Molly Wilson '07** welcomed their daughter, Elizabeth "Ellie" Sophia Holmer, into the world in November 2016.

Jason Burris, '02, J.D. '08 and Ariana Burris, J. D. '09 welcomed their daughter, Cameron May Burris, into the world in December 2016.

Emily Crain '11 married Elias Lopez Gross on July 16, 2016 in Fairfield, CA.

Jared Wallace '13, '15 married Lauren Abel '13 on August 7, 2016 in the Fish Interfaith Center at Chapman University.

Congratulations to **Timothy Howe '12** and Colton Nicks '12 who were married by Nancy Brink on August 13, 2016 in Wallace All Faiths Chapel. Best line of the night? Colton Nick's dad toasting Tim's parents: "Thanks for sending your son to this great \$200,000 dating center."

Lee Yates '96 has returned to SoCal and is serving the UCC church in Covina while his wife Mandye is pastor of First Christian Church of Fullerton. Welcome home!

We are proud of our DOC alumni who are answering their call to ministry. **Beth Parker '12, Yvette Becerra '12, Rob Blair '00, Sarah Fiske-Phillips '12, Heather Eisel Peloquin '16, Wally Hoeger '12, and Lara McKinley '16** (new to Disciples because of Disciples on Campus) are currently seminary students at Claremont School of Theology in Claremont, California, while **Amanda Tatlock '15** is attending Yale Divinity School in New Haven, Connecticut.

(Your news not here? Share it with brink@chapman.edu)

NEWS FROM CHURCH RELATIONS

As this issue goes to press, Nancy Brink is traveling in India with 18 Chapman students, a Hinduism and Religions of India class. In Delhi they will pay respects at Gandhi's tomb and see the Baha'i Lotus Temple. In Amritsar they will experience the hospitality and culture of the Sikh community as they tour the Golden Temple and share in langar, the community kitchen where 60,000 are served **daily**. Then it is off to Bodh Gaya to explore the Mahabodhi Temple where the Buddha received enlightenment 2,500 years ago. They will travel the shores of the Ganges in the ancient city of Varanasi and visit the ghats where Hindus are cremated and their ashes given to the sacred waters. They will walk through the World Heritage Site of Khajuraho with its ancient Hindu and Jain temples. And finally, the class will take in the breath-taking grandeur that is the Taj Mahal in Agra.

The group is quite diverse: 3 DOC students as well as Catholic and evangelical Christians and students from Sikh, Hindu, Buddhist and Jewish families as well as agnostics. Nancy will be leading in a number of interfaith discussions along the journey.

