

# HOUGHTON

SUMMER 2019

CI·VIL·I·TY

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HOUGHTON MAGAZINE  
SUMMER 2019  
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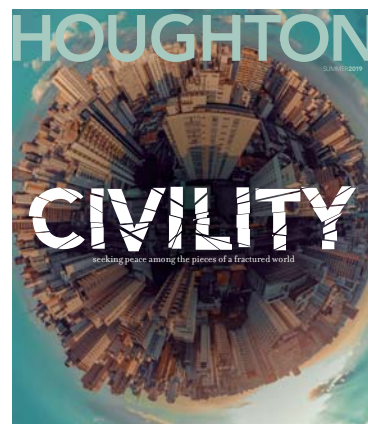
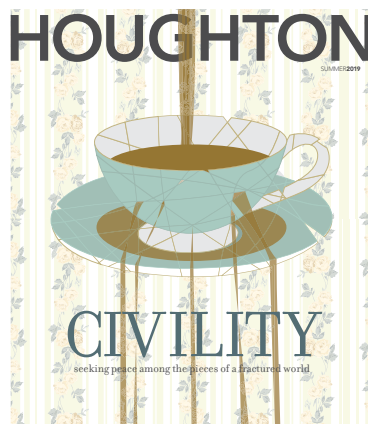
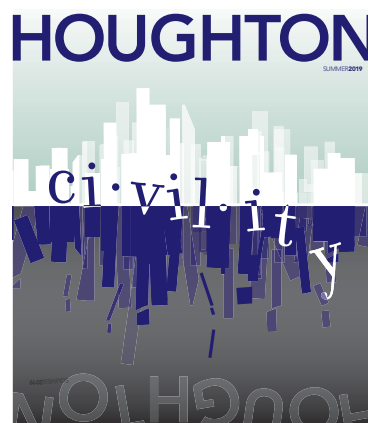
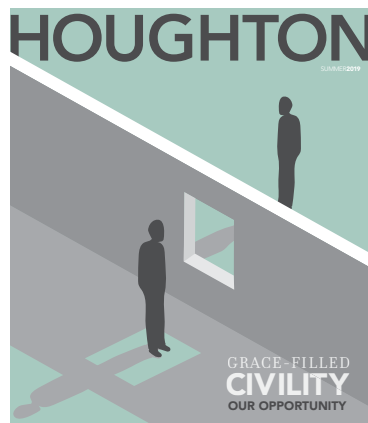
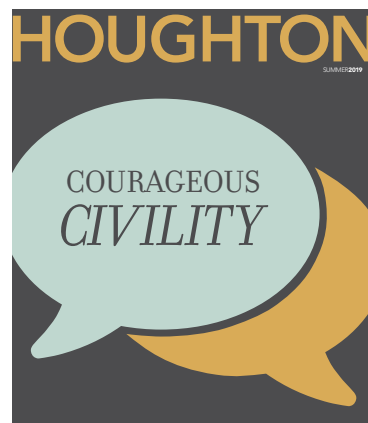
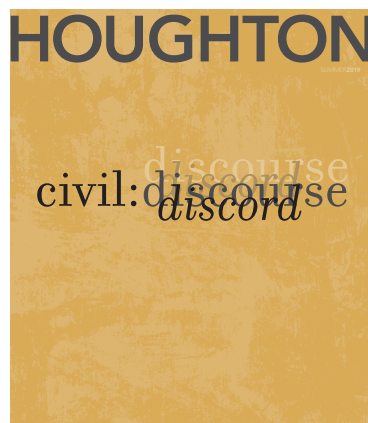
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# The Creative Process UN[COVER]ED

Besides the dictionary definition of civility, what imagery does the word evoke? What ideas does the word connote? What is the root word? These are all questions we pondered in the creative process of developing the cover for this issue of *Houghton*.



Here are just a few of the ideas that surfaced.

We wondered: Is an image even needed, or does the word alone suffice to communicate the idea? Is a particular graphic treatment too ambiguous? Too simplistic? Too busy?

What do you think? Weigh in on the cover art you would have chosen. Or describe your idea of how to depict civility. Visit [www.houghton.edu/magazine/cover](http://www.houghton.edu/magazine/cover) to join the conversation.



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## Corrections

We make every effort to ensure that information presented within this publication is accurate and timely. The following correction is for the Summer 2018 issue of *Houghton*.

In the obituary notice for **David Swartz '76** (pg. 33), we incorrectly listed his wife's maiden name as Linda (Lytle '74). Her name should have read **Dr. Linda (Lyter '74) Swartz**. Linda also wanted readers to know that David was a veteran of the United States Air Force's security division and served in the Vietnam War as a Morse Code intercept operator and that, a little over three weeks after his stage 4 pancreatic cancer diagnosis, he died in his sleep while experiencing no pain.

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CREATIVE  
COURAGEOUS  
HUMBLE

## CIVILITY



“Civility,” as defined by Webster’s, hardly sounds like a noble virtue. “Politeness” and “Courtesy”—its synonyms—would seem to occupy a low rung on the ladder of moral and social sophistication. One might think they could be taken for granted. In reality, though, in our world today, basic “civility” is in short supply. We can blame the media, the polarization of our politics and theology, the anonymity of a growing social media culture. The question is not who to blame but what we, as Christians and graduates of a Christian liberal arts college, will do about it in our daily lives.

There is no simple formula for cultivating civility. It is a creative enterprise. Even in our instant-answer internet culture, no one can deliver a book of rules sufficiently nuanced and complex enough to instruct us in how to be “civil” in the myriad of situations we encounter each day. We should meditate on the instructions at the end of the book of Colossians to “let your speech always be gracious, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how you ought to answer everyone.” How can we always communicate hospitality and welcome, inviting further conversation rather than shutting it down? The text is clear that this does not mean being bland, tasteless or uncontroversial. The “salty seasoning” suggests speech that surprises with its flavor, perhaps even inducing thirst for more.

Cultivating civility in our time requires our best critical thinking and perceiving. It means being alert and attentive to the particularity of each situation and to each person we encounter. We cannot go through our days by rote. We must practice discernment—seeking always to match the message we want to communicate with the ways that our audience will hear our message. This discipline will call on all that we learned in sociology and psychology about human behavior. It will draw on the empathy cultivated by our classes in history and literature. It will call on the imagination we learned in the arts and the curiosity cultivated by our classes in the natural sciences.

Cultivating civility in our time will require courage. It is not primarily about where we are on the political and theological spectrums but, instead, about how we occupy that space. It takes no courage to be like everyone else around us, or to talk only with those who think like us. It does take courage to communicate our convictions to those who occupy a different place on these continuums. It may take even more courage to acknowledge among those who share our space that we may not have a monopoly on the Truth—or on moral and intellectual integrity.

In particular, civility in our time requires the courage of humility—the courage to understand more fully those who disagree with us, not just to refute them or hold them up to ridicule, but to learn from them. Let us have the courage to be open, in accordance with Philippians 4:8, to “whatever is true, honorable, just, pure, pleasing, commendable and excellent” in circles other than our own, to communicate as ambassadors across the full range of our polarized society—helping to promote understanding of one another, enlarging our appreciation for whatever bears the mark of God’s creative activity, and enabling us to embrace whatever is in need of God’s redemption.

In this issue of *Houghton*, we have invited members of our extended community to reflect on what “civility” means for them in their daily lives. Out of this exploration has emerged a deeper sense of the complexity—but also the opportunity—of being purveyors of the increasingly rare commodity of winsome and grace-filled civility in our times.

May we as Houghton alumni and friends be known in our respective places of service not only for our competence but for the imaginative creativity, the incisive clarity and the courageous humility of our civility.

Shirley A. Mullen, Class of 1976  
President





# ci·vil·i·ty

/se'viledē/ | noun

**Formal politeness and courtesy in behavior or speech.**

"I hope we can treat each other with civility and respect."

**Synonyms:** courtesy, courteousness, politeness, good manners, mannerliness, gentlemanliness, chivalry, gallantry, graciousness, consideration, respect, gentility

**Antonyms:** discourtesy, rudeness

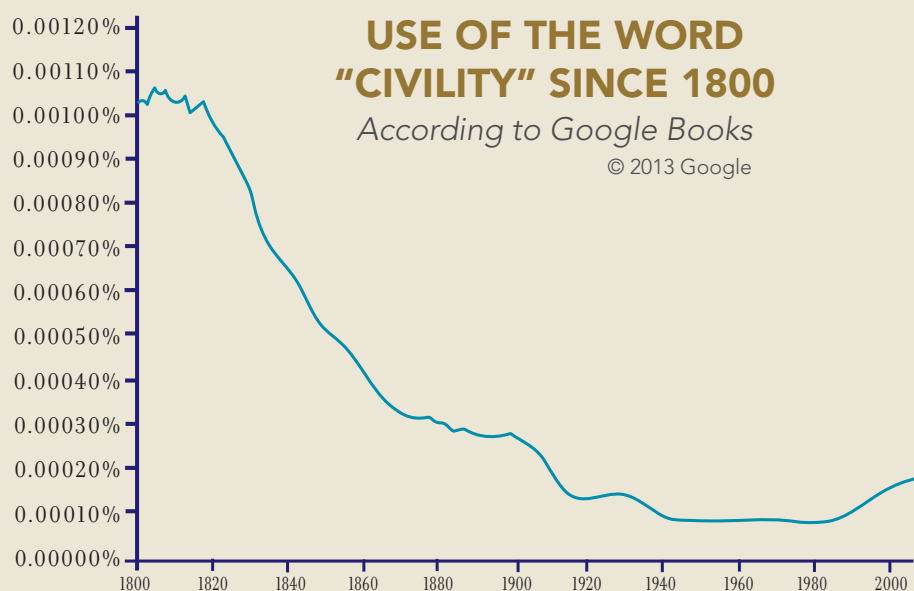
**Plural noun:** civilities

"She was exchanging civilities with his mother."

## Origin

Late Middle English: from Old French *civilite*, from Latin *civilitas*, from *civilis* "relating to citizens" (see *civil*). In early use the term denoted the state of being a citizen and, hence, good citizenship or orderly behavior. The sense 'politeness' arose in the mid-16th century.

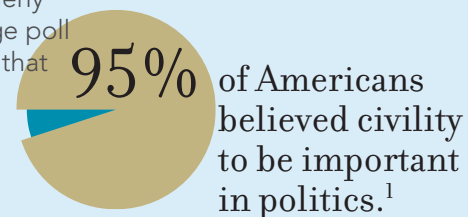
*From the Oxford Dictionary*



## CIVILITY: THE PAST DECADE IN REVIEW

A **2010**

Allegheny  
College poll  
found that

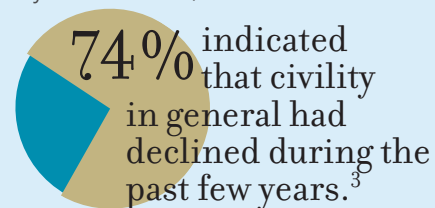


A **2012** poll showed that, of  
the Americans surveyed,



in any politics because of fear of incivility  
or bullying. Of the 1,000 people surveyed,  
a follow-up study revealed that 86%  
reported being subjected to incivility.<sup>2</sup>

As part of an annual follow-up research  
report in January **2016** that shared findings  
on attitudes and sentiment about civility,  
95% of Americans believed that incivility  
was a very visible issue, while



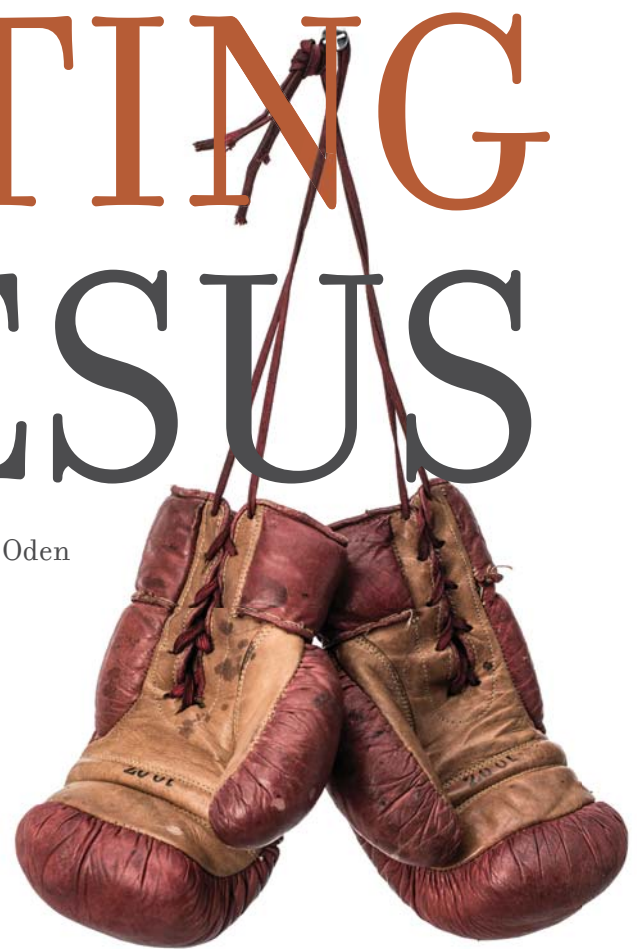
<sup>1</sup> Levine, Peter (2013). *We Are the Ones We Have Been Waiting For: The Promise of Civic Renewal in America* (Kindle, first ed.). Oxford University Press.

<sup>2</sup> Ray Williams (July 15, 2012). "The Rise of Incivility and Bullying in America." *Psychology Today*.

<sup>3</sup> Ray Williams (January 28, 2016). "Nearly All Likely Voters Say Candidates' Civility Will Affect Their Vote; New Poll Finds 93% Say Behavior Will Matter."

# FIGHTING about JESUS

Wesley D. Oden



Here's the scenario: two groups of people are passionate about what they believe. They are convinced, perhaps rightly so, that the opposite ideology will lead their group into ruin and chaos. They are so convinced of this that they are willing to do anything to make sure that their side wins, that their opinion is preserved as the only right way.

Unfortunately, they are uncertain if their side will win. In fact, it's beginning to look as though they might not win. Even though they provide sound arguments for why they are right, the tide isn't turning. They are becoming desperate...because, after all, the stability, longevity and existence of this holy cause weighs in the balance.

Because the cause is so important and in such a perilous position, they feel freedom to engage in a strategy that is outside the boundaries of rational argument. They start a campaign to vilify their opponents, making personal attacks on their character and intelligence. They start rumors about the opposition's motives. By innuendo and persuasive speech, they turn the decision from a discussion of the facts to a campaign of mudslinging and character assassination. Ultimately, the whole situation ends in a huge mess.

Sounds like a modern political campaign, doesn't it? Actually, based on some of what Philip Jenkins writes in *Jesus Wars*, this scenario is rooted in an argument among Christians in the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> centuries concerning the nature of Christ.

Is a clear understanding about the nature of Christ important? Of course it is! Our salvation and our existence as Christians rests on it. But isn't it ironic that, in an attempt to maintain the integrity of who Jesus is, Christians berate, defame, disparage and malign each other? That, in a discussion about the nature of Jesus, Christians excommunicate, exile, persecute, even murder each other?

We may not persecute and murder people who disagree with us, but we are tempted to vilify them, malign them, berate them, disparage them. We treat each other with contempt because our views of immigration or abortion are different. Then we wonder why the watching world doesn't want to have anything to do with Jesus.

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...in every discussion, we can disagree in a spirit of civility; we can argue respectfully; we can go our separate ways as brothers and sisters in Christ.

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Christians are going to disagree. Nevertheless, as we hold firmly to our beliefs, we also realize that, in the name of Jesus, right theology should lead us to righteous living. We are Christians, not because we believe right, but because we follow Jesus. There is a place for discussion of ideas—even arguments about our differing opinions about those ideas—but in every discussion, we can disagree in a spirit of civility, we can argue respectfully, we can go our separate ways as brothers and sisters in Christ.

We have to decide our goal. Is it to win, or is it to be more like Christ? We may end up doing both, but I am convinced that, if we have any hope of achieving both, our primary goal must be to emulate Christ. I am continually amazed that, when God wants to win, his strategy is to love—to become vulnerable, to live a life of humility, to willingly surrender himself to a cross. It's only out of all this that he wins.

I suspect this is something of what Paul means when he reminds the Philippians of the Christian hymn:

Though he was God,  
he did not think of equality with God  
as something to cling to.  
Instead, he gave up his divine privileges;  
he took the humble position of a slave  
and was born as a human being.

When he appeared in human form,  
he humbled himself in obedience to God  
and died a criminal's death on a cross.

Therefore, God elevated him to the place of highest honor and gave him the name above all other names, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue declare that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. (Philippians 2:6-11)

Paul introduces this hymn with these words: You must have the same attitude that Christ Jesus had.

Crusaders often declare that the battle is too important, and the struggle is too great, to take the time to stop and think about moral niceties. But, of course, this implies that our strategy is better than God's. Paul also reminds us that the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control—not winning.

Too many Christians live defensively. We feel like we have to defend God and fight for God. As someone said to me recently, we live as if God is the smallest kid in the sandbox. Is it possible that our God is too small because we have created Him in our image, and because issues and agendas are more important to us than Jesus is?

When we know who Jesus is, we have confidence in the truth and in the way in which we communicate the truth. We look more and more like Jesus.

*Rev. Wes Oden has served as the senior pastor of Houghton Wesleyan Church since 1996. He and his wife Cindy have two sons (John '08 and Andrew '11), a daughter-in-law (Heléna '09), and two grandchildren.*



# CIVILITY >> IN << POLITICS ~ IS A ~



Bill Wichterman '86



# Moral Imperative

I'm a conservative Republican. You'll have a hard time tacking to my right. Yet I have many liberal friends. I cherish our friendship, our ability to civilly dialogue about contentious issues without being disagreeable or assigning ill motives to one another.

Sadly, civility is becoming a rarity in our society. Name-calling, jeering at opponents' physical features or their disabilities, and assuming the other party is trying to ruin the country is not only popular; it helps you get ahead politically. When Joe Biden called Vice President Mike Pence a "decent guy," his left-flank quickly forced him to walk back his comments since "there is nothing decent about being anti-LGBTQ rights."

And the same thing happens on the right. When I told a Christian friend I thought that then-President Obama, with whom I agreed on almost nothing, was trying to do the best for the country from his worldview, my friend promptly replied that he believed the President was trying to destroy the country. This tendency to assume the worst of our political opponents is not just wrong-headed; it's dangerous. For more than three decades, I've worked in national politics in the White House, on Capitol Hill, and in presidential campaigns. I have watched civility's steady decline.

But civility is vitally important to the health of our nation. "E Pluribus Unum"—or "Out of many, one"—is inscribed on the Great Seal of the United States because the Founders believed that a unity born of plurality was an essential part of a healthy society. (Just read *The Federalist Papers* to see the Founders' fears about the rise of factions and their efforts to inhibit them.)

The membrane between civilization and chaos may be much thinner than many people believe. Societal breakdown happens "over there," but somehow we think we're immune to these dangers. The Founders thought otherwise. Ben Franklin said the Constitutional Convention had birthed a Republic — "if you can keep it." Incivility is one sure way to jeopardize the American Experiment.



Civility is not the same as lacking conviction or being in the mushy middle. We should passionately advocate our view of what's right. Abraham Lincoln's Second Inaugural Address hit just the right tone: "With malice toward none, with charity for all, with firmness in the right as God gives us to see the right"—in other words, passionate engagement without being uncharitable.

Civility isn't only prudent; it's morally right. Jesus told his disciples they were wrong to stop a man from driving out demons in Jesus' name because "whoever is not against us is for us." He commanded a charitable spirit towards others.

When I was at Houghton, I favored abortion rights. I wanted to empower women, something I still want to do. But once I came to understand that abortion kills an innocent human being, I became ardently pro-life. My motivations as a pro-abortion Christian and a pro-life Christian were both good, though I've come to believe that my former judgment was incorrect.

In 1996, President Bill Clinton vetoed the Partial-Birth Abortion Ban Act. He was surrounded by women who had had late-term abortions (but not partial birth abortion procedures). I was incensed. Ten years later, I met the guy who conceived and organized that press conference, and we became friends. I believe my friend is wrong on abortion, but I share his desire to help women facing a crisis pregnancy. In connecting personally, we found we had common ground.

Some who hold primarily conservative viewpoints talk about how we're constrained by "the truth" while those who lean more toward liberal policies "will say anything." But my liberal friends say the same things about conservatives.

Am I saying that everyone in politics has motives as pure as the driven snow? No. There are people on both left and right who will do or say anything in pursuit of their goals. I know some of them within the conservative movement. But we are wrong to begin with the assumption that others' political motives are bad.

I've discovered a few practical ways to practice civility in political discourse:

- ☆ Listen and ask questions to understand political opponents. Prompts like "Tell me more about why you hold that position" may elicit opportunities to find common ground.
- ☆ Respectfully explain your position, giving people space to think about your points and change their minds over time. Don't always "move in for the kill."
- ☆ Join a group like Better Angels, which helps to foster civil dialogue across the political divide.
- ☆ Allow for the possibility that your opponent has blind spots—just like you do. Remember when you changed your mind about an issue.
- ☆ Don't forget who the real enemy is: the Evil One. Our political opponents are not our enemies, and, if we see them as such, we will jeopardize the very constitutional order we are trying to restore and preserve.

**Bill Wichterman '86** has been working in national politics for more than 30 years, including as Special Assistant to President George W. Bush in the White House. He is the author of *Dying to Live*, *The Culture: Upstream From Politics*, and *Making Goodness Fashionable*. He received an M.A. in Political Theory from The Catholic University of America.



# WHEN CIVILITY becomes a WEAPON

Rachel Moran '05



I am, generally, a proponent of civility. It goes hand in hand with the concept of human dignity and the recognition that each person is created in the image of God. If we believe that the people with whom we interact have inherent value, we should hesitate to demean or disrespect them.

But civility can be misused too. I've noticed that civility is often a behavioral expectation imposed by those in power upon people with little recourse but to abide by that expectation, even at the expense of making their voices heard. I've spent most of my legal career as a public defender, representing people accused of crimes. Some of my clients are guilty; some are not. But all are expected to act civilly toward a system that is rife with racial, economic and educational injustice.

A few months ago, a young black man walked into court wearing a baseball cap and sat down quietly in the back of the courtroom. A courtroom deputy

immediately walked over and ordered the man to take his cap off because wearing a hat in court was disrespectful. The black man angrily pointed to the front of the courtroom, where a white defendant, also wearing a baseball cap, was speaking with the judge. No one had told the white man to take his cap off. Although the black man was visibly upset by this differential treatment, he ultimately shut up and obeyed the deputy's command rather than risk a further altercation. The impression left was that the incivility of wearing a baseball cap in court was more serious, at least in the eyes of those in authority, than the inequity of how these rules were being enforced.

In another recent court appearance, I watched a white judge lecture a 13-year-old black child for threatening his teacher at school. The boy's father, also black, repeatedly attempted to speak up, telling the judge that the teacher had started the altercation by making inappropriate comments to the child. The judge cut the father off, insisting that the boy needed to learn to

respect authorities. The judge expressed little interest in the story itself or in finding out whether the teacher bore any responsibility in the incident. Instead, the judge appeared to have predetermined what lesson the boy needed to learn—that of civility—and had committed to forcing that lesson on the family.

Stories like these play out almost daily in courts across the nation. But the legal system is certainly not the only place our society silences or disparages people we decide are acting uncivilly. When laypeople accuse religious leaders of abuse, they are too often told not to question those who lead them. When protestors block highways or storefronts to protest police violence, they are criticized for disrupting drivers and consumers. When black athletes kneel for the national anthem as a form of civil protest, a significant percentage of the population decries their “disrespect” for the flag or their “too political” behavior.

At its best, civility is the foundation of productive dialogue and requires us to listen to our opponents rather than react viscerally to their views. At its worst, it is a tool for maintaining a status quo that marginalizes many. If our notion of civility leaves no room for intense disagreement—or requires all people to express their disagreements in a manner we deem civil—then we ought to consider whether we wield civility as a weapon rather than a tool of peace.

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**Rachel Moran** '05 is an Assistant Professor of Law at University of St. Thomas School of Law in Minneapolis, MN. Before entering academia, Moran was a public defender in Chicago, IL.



BEGIN WITH A

CON

VER

SA

TION

Doug Gaerte

Less than a day after I had turned in my final grades for the fall semester, we received a call that my mother-in-law was in the hospital. My wife and I quickly packed a few things and, the next morning, made the five-hour trip to the hospital. Then, it was matter of waiting—for tests to be run, for doctors to be consulted, for diagnosis and treatment options to be discussed. My mother-in-law didn't need all of us just sitting in her room watching her sleep, so, on day two, I settled in near the coffee kiosk in the hospital lobby to work on cleaning up a few loose ends from

the fall semester and start planning my course syllabi for the spring.

Shortly after 11, I noticed an older gentleman across the lobby at the coffee stand. I watched him purchase a few items and then slowly make his way across the lobby toward where I was sitting. He sat down at the small table just a few feet from my own, spread out a napkin and began unwrapping his prepackaged sandwich. I waited a few minutes, then looked up and caught his eye.

"Good morning," I said.

"Mornin'."

"An early lunch, huh?" I asked. A brilliant deduction on my part, given his egg-salad sandwich.

"Yeah," he replied. "I usually stop in for something while I'm waiting for my wife."

"Does she work here at the hospital?" I asked.

"No, I have to bring her in twice a week for treatments, and they take a couple of hours, so I come down here for a while and then go back upstairs," he said. "What about you?"

I explained that my mother-in-law was in the hospital having some tests done and that we had driven down from New York the day before to be with her. For the next half hour, we chatted. It was Christmas time, and we commiserated about the shopping we still needed to do and debated the relative merits of real versus artificial trees. He shared that his daughter and granddaughter had just moved back home after a nasty divorce, so that was going to make Christmas a little rough this year. I found out he'd retired a few years before after nearly forty years of working for the railroad and that, while he missed his job, he was glad he was around more to help his wife. Then a pause.

"Well, I'd better get upstairs," he said. I nodded.

He crumbled up the cellophane sandwich and cookie wrappers and the napkin, shoved them into his empty coffee cup, stood slowly, and took several steps toward the bank of elevators across the lobby. Then, I saw him stop, turn around and take a step back toward me.

"Thank you," he said quietly, and then, he turned and walked away.

Over the years, I have repeatedly embarrassed my children by initiating conversations with strangers. And my habit is getting worse. Maybe it's just a function of getting older and having a built-in excuse for doing embarrassing things. Maybe it's my curmudgeonly reaction to watching people miss out on the chance to engage in a wonderful conversation because they are fixated on their phones. Maybe it's because the Bible stories I love best are when Jesus sits alongside someone, listens to them and shares with them the good news of the Kingdom. Imagine, the God of the Universe looking the Samaritan woman in the eyes and taking time to converse with her.

We see, looking in another's face, that this is another human being who has value because they've been uniquely created by our heavenly Father. That makes it hard to be uncivil.

There has been much hand-wringing in recent days about a perceived erosion of civility in our culture. When our discourse seems to be dominated by snarky tweets, snippy texts and cynical memes, it's a reasonable conclusion to draw. In the last several years, I have required my Interpersonal Communication students to read a little book called *Choosing Civility*. In his "twenty-five rules for considerate conduct," P.M. Forni spells out a list of polite behaviors that we should practice if we are to model civility. Not surprisingly, many of these behaviors revolve around polite communication. And that makes sense, because researchers have long known that, when we engage in face-to-face conversations with others, we tend to like them more. They are no longer "the other." We find we have things in common. We find that, while we might disagree, they have reasons for their beliefs just like we have reasons for ours. We see, looking in another's face, that this is another human

being who has value because they've been uniquely created by our heavenly Father. That makes it hard to be uncivil.

So, how do we create a more civil society?

I'm convinced it can begin with a conversation with the stranger sitting next to you in the waiting room or the airport. I admit it can be scary to reach out. Sometimes, my attempts to engage have flopped miserably. But on far more occasions, the result has been a brief but wonderful connection with another human being, many of whom, in the midst of a busy day, could use "a word fitly spoken, like apples of gold in pictures of silver" (Proverbs 25:11).

*Doug Gaerte, Ph.D., has taught at Houghton for over 30 years and is currently Professor of Communication and chair of the Department of Communication.*



## 5 TIPS FOR STRIKING UP A CONVERSATION WITH SOMEONE:

- 1 Notice them. If you have a phone, be sure it's tucked away in a pocket or a purse, and look around you. When you see someone, really see them. Pay attention to what you might have in common.
- 2 Smile. Even if the other person doesn't feel like chatting, a genuine, friendly smile may be just what they need.
- 3 Greet them. Once you make eye-contact with the person, start with a simple greeting, like "Good afternoon" or simply "Hello!"
- 4 Try stating the obvious. Why do people so often "talk about the weather?" Well, it's easy and obvious. That sort of chit-chat can let you know if the person is looking to connect or not and open the door for further conversation.
- 5 All systems say go? Ask an open-ended question, and give them space to think and talk. Then comes the most important part: LISTEN.





# A SURVIVAL GUIDE FOR SOCIAL MEDIA ETIQUETTE

In a world where conversing through social media has become the social norm, some of us may wish for a rulebook, or even a survival guide, when we venture out onto the untamed jungles of Facebook, Instagram, and the like. Try sticking with these top tips to keep classy in the social media sphere.



## ASK BEFORE TAGGING

You most likely have innocent motives in tagging a bunch of friends in a photo, but that one friend in the picture with her eyes shut, or the family member with salad in his front teeth, won't appreciate that photo blasted all over social media. To stay safe, reach out to everyone in the photo and make sure they don't mind you tagging them.



## IGNORE THE BAIT

No matter what you post about, someone will most likely have an opinion. Putting your ideas out there is an open invitation for others to share their ideas, too. Since social media can feel more impersonal than a face-to-face conversation, people sometimes become much more brazen with their opinions. It's easy to stumble into a back-and-forth comment war, but the best thing to do is just let it go. If there's a risk of causing damage to your reputation or someone else's, responding with a polite, factual statement and moving on is more than appropriate.



## ADD TO THE CONVERSATION

The Golden Rule is just as true online as it is offline. Treat others as you'd like to be treated. We all are entitled to our own opinions, obviously. However, we are not entitled to being mean. Think before you respond to others: Is this kind? Is this helpful? Would I say this to their face?



### THINK BEFORE YOU POST

Because social media has made us feel like it's a place where we can be ourselves and say things off the cuff, people often don't realize that pictures, rants, comments and hashtags are forever. Deleting a post doesn't always solve the problem—it may not be as "gone and forgotten" as you think. A good rule of thumb: if you wouldn't say it loudly, in front of your mother (or your boss!), you shouldn't post it online.



### NOT EVERYTHING IS PERSONAL

We all have lives outside of social media. (Hopefully!) If a friend hasn't had the chance to like your photo, comment on your post, or reply to your message, it's probably not personal. As much as social media is integrated into daily life, some people still prefer communicating by phone or email—so if you're having trouble reconnecting with a friend or family member, consider going "old school."



### ENJOY SOCIALIZING WHILE YOU'RE ACTUALLY SOCIALIZING

It's become the norm to have your phone out on your desk at work, on the table at a meal or just in your hand at the ready while you're out with friends. It's so easy to get distracted by the notifications that come across our phones, and it can be a challenge to put our phones away. After we take a cute picture with friends or family, it's all too common to stare at our phones waiting to see how many likes it gets rather than taking the time to enjoy the company of the people around us. Remember: social media makes it easy (and tempting) to multitask, but sometimes the most generous and meaningful gift you can offer someone is your full, undivided attention.

Addie (Willink '07) Silbert is the social media coordinator at Houghton College. Before joining the college's marketing and communications team, she spent 10 years in the ice cream business with her husband Andrew Silbert '08, making over 24,000 tubs of homemade ice cream.

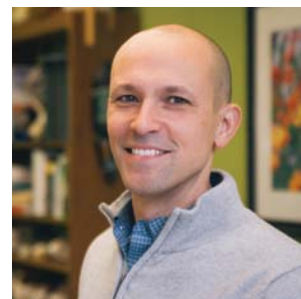


# campus News & Notes

## 2019 TEACHING IN EXCELLENCE AWARD



Dr. Aaron Sullivan,  
Associate Professor and  
Chair of the Biology Department



## NEW ONLINE DEGREE PROGRAMS

Launching Fall 2019

- » Master of Business Administration (MBA)
- » Master of Science in Education – Literacy (M.S.Ed.)

## HOUGHTON HONORS RETIREES

- » Cameron Airhart (32 years)
- » Robert Black (28 years)
- » Rich Eckley (29 years)
- » Connie Finney (38 years)
- » Jane Miner (26 years)
- » Meic Pearse (15 years)
- » Cynthia Symons (25 years)
- » Ellen Woolley (16 years)
- » Stephen Woolsey (20 years)

A TOTAL OF



YEARS OF  
SERVICE

## NEW DEGREE PROGRAMS ON HOUGHTON'S MAIN CAMPUS

Launching Fall 2019

- » Criminal Justice
- » Electrical Engineering

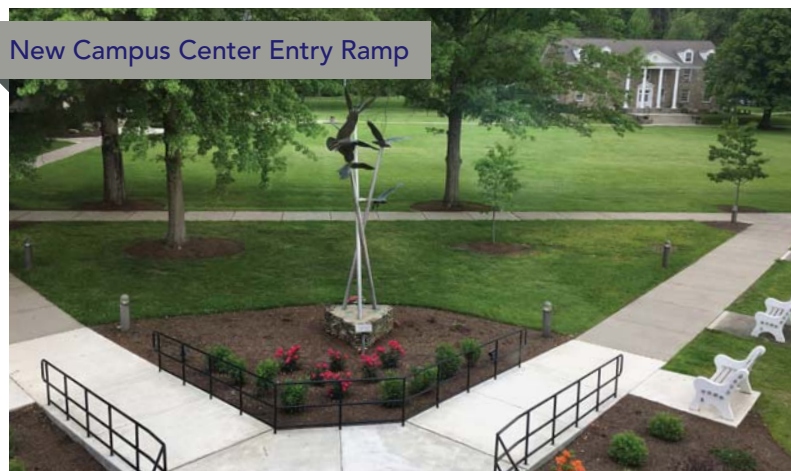
## CAMPUS ENHANCEMENTS/ IMPROVEMENTS



College  
Garden



New Signage for  
Campus Buildings



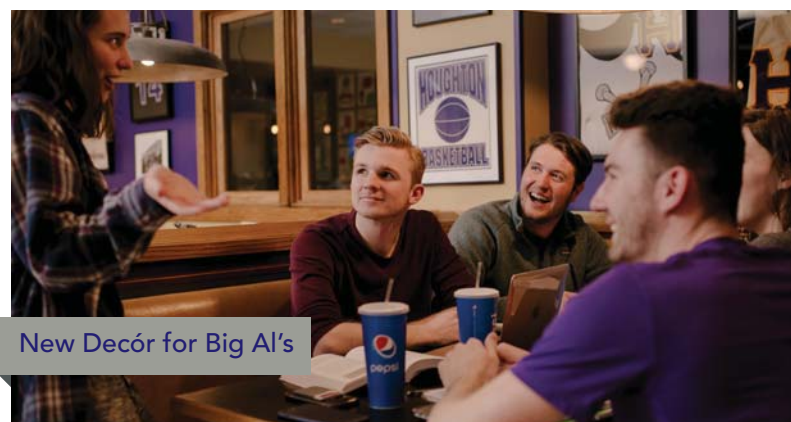
New Campus Center Entry Ramp



### Mosaic Multicultural Center

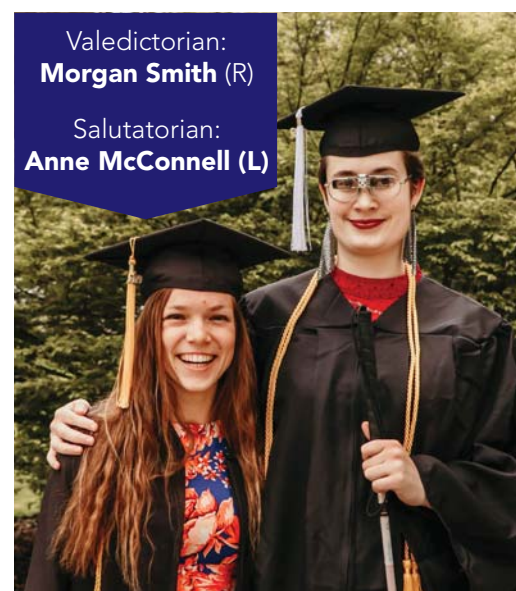
The Mosaic Multicultural Center is a dream come true for a lot of diverse students on campus, and there is a collective expectation that it will enable minority students to thrive.

-Shaphan Hestick '19



New Decór for Big Al's







# HOUGHTON COLLEGE ONLINE

YOUR CHOICE • AT YOUR CONVENIENCE • TAKE A COURSE • EARN A MASTERS



NEW!

## MASTER OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION (MBA)

Prepare for faithful, thoughtful, skillful leadership – driven by your professional passion and maximizing your God-given potential.

- » Designed for students with undergraduate degrees in any discipline
- » Grow professionally with one-on-one leadership coaching
- » Complete our 38-credit program in as little as one year

[www.houghton.edu/mba](http://www.houghton.edu/mba)

### OPTIONAL AREAS OF FOCUS:

- » Accounting
- » Entrepreneurship
- » Enterprise Process Management
- » Human Resources Management
- » Non-Profit Management

NEW!

## MASTER OF SCIENCE IN EDUCATION (M.S.ED.) - LITERACY

Develop your skills as an educator while learning to promote positive literacy-learning experiences for students with diverse backgrounds and support needs.

- » Designed for candidates who already hold an initial teaching certificate in any area (K-12)
- » Complete your degree in one year (full-time)
- » Earn your NYSED certification as a literacy specialist for one of three age ranges: birth–grade 6, grades 5–12, or birth–grade 12.

[www.houghton.edu/msed](http://www.houghton.edu/msed)







## OTHER HOUGHTON ONLINE OFFERINGS:

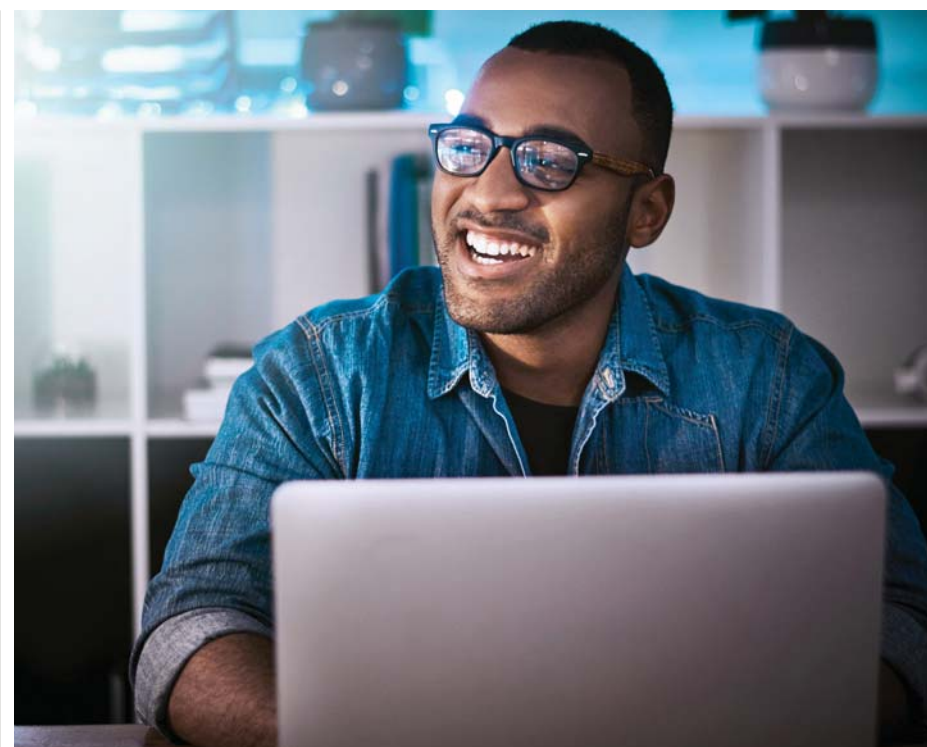
### UNDERGRADUATE ONLINE DEGREES

- » Criminal Justice (B.A.)
- » Human Resources Management (B.S., B.B.A.)
- » Integrated Marketing Communication (B.S., B.B.A.)
- » Leadership Development (B.S., B.B.A.)
- » Organizational Management (B.S., B.B.A.)
- » Psychology (B.A.)
- » Liberal Arts (A.A.)

### ONLINE COURSES FOR HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS

- » Fall, Spring and Summer semesters
- » Only \$175 per credit
- » Taught by Houghton College faculty
- » Courses in English, writing, social science, communication, biblical studies and more

## • GET A PROFESSIONAL CERTIFICATE



**NEW!**

### PROFESSIONAL CERTIFICATES

Choose from over 60 certificate programs in data science, healthcare, technology and more.

Offered in conjunction with eCornell.  
Developed by Cornell University faculty.

[www.houghton.edu/online](http://www.houghton.edu/online)

ALUMNI: GET  
YOUR FIRST CLASS  
**FREE!\***

### CONTACT US TODAY!

[online@houghton.edu](mailto:online@houghton.edu)  
800.777.2556

*\*Some restrictions apply*



**IMPACT** is a multi-year comprehensive campaign supporting the mission of Houghton College. This campaign celebrates:

- The transformative **IMPACT** of the Houghton College experience on our students
- The ongoing **IMPACT** of a Houghton education on our alumni
- The Kingdom **IMPACT** of our alumni on the world
- The local and regional **IMPACT** of Houghton on its communities
- The **IMPACT** of our donors in shaping the future of Houghton College.

**THE GOAL: Expand Houghton's Capacity for Global IMPACT.**

## CELEBRATING EQUESTRIAN



On October 6, 2018, the Houghton community gathered to dedicate and celebrate the newly constructed Houghton College Equestrian Event Center. Since the unofficial opening of the facility in June of 2018, the Equestrian Event Center has hosted thousands of people from throughout the region with camps, clinics, lessons, classes and shows.

## NEW ENDOWED SCHOLARSHIPS

Endowed scholarships are long-term, sustainable sources of income that provide much needed scholarship funds to Houghton College students. They exist in perpetuity and grow over time.

**56** new endowed scholarships created during the **IMPACT** campaign

**\$5.46 MILLION** commitments to new and previously existing endowed scholarships during **IMPACT**

If you're interested in creating an endowed scholarship, call the Office of Advancement at 585-567-9340 today.

## PAINE CENTER FOR SCIENCE

In May, renovation began inside the Paine Center for Science. Thanks to numerous gifts from alumni and friends, the following projects are fully funded with cash on hand. Here's what will be completed this summer:

- » Creation and renovation of the necessary lab space on the second floor to provide appropriate research, design and instruction space for the new major in Electrical Engineering launching in the Fall of 2019
- » A new home for the Science Honors laboratory, a key recruitment tool for talented science majors, moving it to the fourth floor and making the space more visible
- » Creation and renovation of the Data Science Analytics Suite
- » Replacement of the roof, creation of an entry airlock on the second floor entrance by Schaller Hall and improvements to the external façade of the building

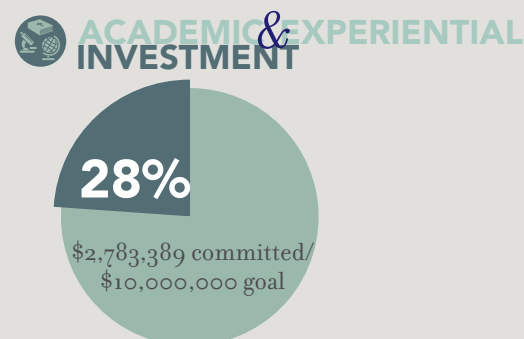
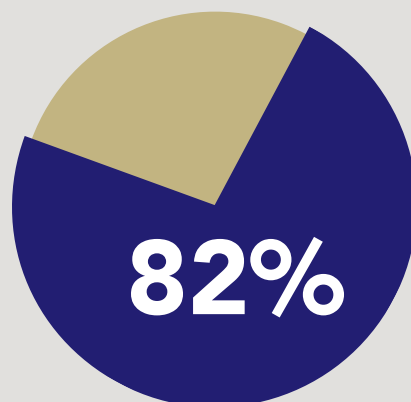


**SUMMER RESEARCH INSTITUTE** students and faculty wear protective gear as they conduct research amidst the construction.

# IMPACT: THE CAMPAIGN FOR HOUGHTON

TOTAL COMMITTED:  
\$57,402,592 of  
\$70,000,000 Goal

Campaign end date: May  
31, 2020; Numbers here  
tabulated April 30, 2019



## THE LEGACY OF MARJEAN BRAUCH



The **Dr. Marjean (Bedsole '63) Brauch** Scholarship was established by her husband, **Manfred Brauch '63**, in loving memory of his wife and in celebration of and gratitude for her lifelong passion to be an instrument in the well-being and healing of her human brothers and sisters.

Marjean Bedsole Brauch was born and raised in a small, rural community in the panhandle of Florida in the 1940s and 1950s. In this context, there was no encouragement to follow her deep desire to be involved in the medical field. Marjean attended Houghton College and majored in education with a focus in the sciences.

Following graduation, Marjean taught elementary and middle school students both nationally and internationally. She also dedicated a decade of her life to raising her three children.

During that period, as she encountered the medical profession in the care of her children, Marjean's yearning to be involved in the profession was reawakened. Marjean pursued pre-med studies, entered medical school on her

40<sup>th</sup> birthday and completed her residency as chief resident at Temple University School of Medicine.

Marjean ran a busy family practice and focused on women's health. She devoted one day each week to volunteering in Philadelphia's Esperanza Health Center, and she led several extended medical missions to disadvantaged indigenous populations in Chile; Honduras; and the Republic of Cameroon, West Africa.

Marjean's experiences among disadvantaged populations in the United States and the developing world convinced her of the importance of empowering students from those contexts to prepare for medical work and then return to serve their communities. This conviction, and her passion for medicine, was the impetus for establishing this scholarship in her memory and in celebration of her life.

**Scholarship Type: Permanently  
Endowed Scholarship Fund**

**Year Created: 2018**

**Student Recipient Profile: Strong Christian  
character, pursuing a medical career overseas, with  
interest in supporting non-traditional students**



# Alumni News & Notes

The Alumni News and Notes section invites alumni to share milestones on their post-college journey. In the spirit of an alma mater ("nourishing mother"), Houghton College welcomes news from the entire alumni family and seeks to honor the richness and diversity of the journeys on which our alumni find themselves. These news items reflect what alumni wish to share with each other rather than endorsed announcements from Houghton College. Submit your news at: [www.houghton.edu/magazine](http://www.houghton.edu/magazine).

## 1940

**June (Austin) Churchill** celebrated her 100<sup>th</sup> birthday on June 15, 2018.

## 1959

**Robert Scott** continues to perform with the Heritage Philharmonic Orchestra of Blue Springs, Missouri, in the viola section. He writes, "Relearning the C (alto) clef after about 50 years away from it is still challenging but well worth the satisfying effect."

## 1964

**Eugene Lemcio** is an affiliate professor in the Department of Slavic Languages & Literatures at the University of Washington, where his responsibilities include lecturing and advising about religion and politics in Ukraine and about the influence of Sacred Scriptures on Ukrainian culture.

## 1968

**John S. Babbitt II** acquired a new (to him) call sign for his amateur radio hobby: K2GQG. Alums from the mid-50s through the 60s may find that call sign familiar; it once belonged to Houghton's amateur radio missionary service group and was used to provide electronic communication support to missionaries in remote areas. Babbitt was a senior in high school when college print shop manager **Al Smith '37** invited him to visit the station during his weekly contact with missionaries in Monrovia, Liberia, and, by 1963, Babbitt had his own novice license. In early August 2017, Babbitt was looking for a new call sign and searched the internet to see if KSGQG was available. It was. "I applied for it and received it as my new HAM call four weeks later," explained Babbitt. "A fitting legacy to a call sign that had played such an important role in my amateur (HAM) radio hobby."

## 1975

**Jeff Prinsell** received U.S. and international patents on an autoclavable dental implant surgical drill instrument, which requires

no prior impressions or lab work. He also invented a patented sleep onset detection with alarm device that awakens a drowsy person at the onset of sleep, which can help prevent motor vehicle and other accidents due to unintentional falling asleep in inappropriate situations. Dr. Prinsell maintains a private practice in Marietta, Georgia.



## 1977

**Samuel Cheung** enjoyed a mini Houghton reunion last February when he joined **Diane (Chase '76)** and her husband, **Professor Emeritus Dr. Robert Galloway**, and their son, **Ian Galloway '08**, to watch Houghton alum **Andrew Dibble '10, MM '13** conduct his choir from the Indian Spring High School (Alabama) in a concert-performance at the Episcopal Cathedral of St. John the Divine in New York City.

## 1979

**Joseph Hupp** was named the 2019 recipient of the George S. Hammond Award for Lifetime Achievements in Photochemical Science given by the Inter-American Photochemical Society and was once again named "one of the world's most highly cited researchers" in the field of chemistry by Clarivate Analytics, publisher of the definitive citation tool Web of Science. Dr. Hupp also presented the James W. Neckers Lecture at Southern Illinois University and the Phi Lambda Upsilon Lecture at Kansas State University.

## 1980

**Linda (Chaffee) Taylor** earned an M.F.A. in Creative Writing in 2017 from Ashland University in Ashland, Ohio. She was recently promoted from instructor to assistant professor of professional writing at Taylor University.

## 1982

**Andrew Mullen**, professor of education at Westmont College, authored a chapter on Houghton College during World War II as part of a larger history of Christian higher education during the war. His chapter, titled "More Than One Kind

of *Blitzkrieg to Resist: Houghton College's Response to World War II*," can be found in *Denominational Higher Education During World War II* by John J. Laukatis, published in 2018 by Palgrave Macmillan.

## 1983

### Rick Danielson

married Leroy Lewis on August 31, 2014, in Hector, New York. Upon his retirement in 2017 from ministry with the United Church of Christ, Rick and Leroy purchased the Greenwoods Bed and Breakfast Inn in the Finger Lakes region of New York State and make their home in Honeoye, New York. They are enjoying the life of innkeeping and welcome all Houghton alums!



## 1984

### Coleen Cotton

is the director of children's ministries at Eaton Church of the Brethren in Eaton, Ohio. "God gives me the privilege of helping churches lay a strong foundation for life-changing and life-challenging children's ministries," writes Coleen. "I LOVE doing what God created me to do!"



**Mark Moyer** was recently appointed Sr. VP - Clinical, Regulatory Affairs, and Pharmacovigilance at Immunocore LLC, providing leadership for the development of their Immuno-oncology T-cell receptor (TCR) ImmTACs, which are novel



bi-functional TCR-based biologics designed to activate T-cell-mediated antitumor responses. Previously, Mark was at Bristol Myers-Squibb for seven years.

## 1985

### Rebecca Hutton

completed a fundraising walk for Wellspring Ministries of Belfast, New York, in memory of her mom, **Ruth (Fancher '43) Hutton**, former associate professor of English and speech. Braving the sleet and joining her on the five-and-a-half-hour journey were her sister and brother-in-law **Nancy Jo (Hutton '74)** and **Dave Pullen '70**, niece Rachel Pullen, and friends **Rev. Laurie (Middleton '84) Smalley** and Dr. Calvin Schierer.



## 1988

### Dionne (Chandler) Hammond

has been appointed district superintendent of the Atlantic Central District in the Florida Conference of the UMC. Rev. Hammond and her husband, **Rev. Craig Hammond '93**, have been married for 29 years and have three children.



## 1990

As the head men's soccer coach at Nyack College since 1995, **Keith Davie** had his 200<sup>th</sup> career victory on Oct. 11, 2017.



His teams have won three Central Atlantic Collegiate titles in his tenure and received one Bid to the Division II NCAA tournament. He and his wife **Karen (Pease '93)** both serve at Nyack College and have three teenage sons, including **Nathaniel '22**, who currently plays soccer for Houghton.

## 1991

**Mary (Biglow '91) Krueger** assumed command of Tripler Army Medical Center on July 10, 2018, in Honolulu, Hawaii. Col. Krueger, an Army family physician, recently relocated from Arlington, Virginia, where she served as the Assistant Deputy of Health Affairs, a senior medical advisor to the Assistant Secretary of the Army for Manpower and Reserve Affairs.

## 1994

**Justin Carabello**, entrepreneur and small business owner of Carabello Coffee in Newport, Kentucky, recently won the Goering Award for the shop he shares with wife Emily. Out of 75 semifinalists and hundreds of



nominees, Carabello Coffee was honored to take home the Family Business Division (16-75 employees) award.

## 1995

**Richard "Rusty" Rice** recently accepted a captain's position piloting the Watercraft at Walt Disney World's Magic Kingdom. In addition, Capt. Rusty has also



been an Amphicar (1960s Vintage Amphibious Automobile) Captain at the Boathouse at Disney Springs for the last three years.

## 1996

**John Coots**, Professor for the Department of Allied Health Professions/Clinical Coordinator for the Athletic Training Education Program at Liberty University, defended his doctoral dissertation for the degree Doctor of Education in Educational Leadership from Liberty University on July 2, 2018.

## 2000

**Joe Campagna** has been elected to serve a four-year term as a judge on the King County District Court in Shoreline, Washington. The largest court of limited jurisdiction in the state of Washington, The King County District Court handles approximately a quarter of a million cases per year.

## 2002

**Jennifer (Carl) Bullock** was promoted to assistant to the head of school at HOPE Academy in Concord, North Carolina. HOPE

Academy is an AdvancED accredited University Model School serving students in Kindergarten through 12<sup>th</sup> grade. This year, they are celebrating their first graduating class.



## 2003

**Alice Ball** married Alejandro Bernard-Papachryssanthou on November 9, 2013 in Ithaca, New York. The family resides in Ithaca



where Alice is Youth Services Librarian at the Tompkins County Public Library and Alejandro is an independent music educator specializing in jazz piano.

## 2004

**Captains Cynthia (Bell '04)** and Russell Crowsen have recently completed 10 years of service to The Salvation Army as well as celebrating their 10-year wedding anniversary. They are foster parents and currently stationed as corps officers/pastors in Massena, New York.

**Adam Sullivan** won his third faculty teaching award at Brown University, the 2018 Dean's Award for Excellence in Teaching. In 2017, he set the record for nominations when he won the Teaching with Technology: Showcase Award, and, in 2016, he was awarded the School of Public Health Dean's Award for Excellence in Classroom Teaching.

## 2005

**Jonathan Davidson** earned an MBA from Columbia Southern University in April of 2018. This is his second graduate degree.

PACE graduate **Gregory Sammons** completed his Ed.D. in Organizational Leadership from Northeastern University on September 1, 2018. Dr. Sammons is the Vice President for Student Affairs at Alfred State College and lives with his wife, Roxana, in Dansville, New York.

**Bob White, Jonathan Davidson** and **Nick Furman** recently attended "BobFest," their 13<sup>th</sup> annual Houghton reunion, held this year in



Altoona, Pennsylvania. White hosted the Shen gathering for the first seven years of the event, "which is why we call it BobFest," explains Davidson.

## 2007

**Stacy (Garber)** married Ryan **Bausch** on July 30, 2016, in Elizabethtown, Pennsylvania. Many Houghton friends were in attendance including those



pictured left to right: Jon Friesner, **Kate (Beaman '07) Friesner**, Brandon Groff, **Natalie (Wenger '07) Groff**, **Jennifer Young '07**, **Daniel Sahli '07**, **Hilary (Brautigam '07) Sahli**, Ryan Bausch, **Stacy (Garber '07) Bausch**, **Tiffany (Barrows '06) Musselman**, **David Musselman '07**, **Elizabeth (Wisniewsky '07) Sinesi**, **Matthew Sinesi '07**, **Adrienne Willhoft '07** and **Amber Schrenkel '07**. The Bauschs make their home in Germantown, Maryland, where Stacy is a middle school teacher and Ryan owns a martial arts school.

**Alex Wright** earned a Ph.D. in Organizational Leadership with a concentration in ecclesial leadership from Regent University on December 12, 2018.

## 2008

**Christopher Cole** and his wife, Sandy, have recently relocated to be the pastors of two churches in the New South Conference of the Free Methodist Church: New Life Fellowship Free Methodist Church in Scottsville, Kentucky, and Forest Chapel Free Methodist Church in Westmoreland, Tennessee.

## 2010

**Lindsay (Hansen) Rosado** currently works as the manager of ministry advancement for Tuscarora Inn and Conference Center in Mount Bethel, Pennsylvania.

## 2011

**Caroline Hogan** earned a master's degree in Library and Information Science on May 11, 2018, from the University of Iowa. In addition, she earned a graduate certificate in Book Studies from the University of Iowa Center for the Book. She works as a reference librarian in Coralville, Iowa.

**Rebekah (Johnson)** married Sipriano Serrano III on December 9, 2017, in El Paso, TX. The Serranos make their home in El Paso, where Rebecca is a responsive E-Learning course designer and Sipriano works as a project manager with Steele Consulting.

### Emily (Rinehart)

married Tong Troeung on January 27, 2018, in Melbourne, Australia. The Troeungs continue to live in Australia where they serve in ministry and missions between Australia, New Zealand and the groom's home country of Cambodia.



## 2012

**Zekiel Mientkiewicz** and Kristin Upah were married on May 12, 2018, in Ames, Iowa. The couple lives in Ames where Zekiel is the youth ministry coordinator for St. Cecilia Parish



and Kristin is a physical therapist at Kindred Rehab.

## 2013

**Anthony Cappello** earned a master's degree in Mathematics from Emporia State University in May, 2018. He is currently working on his doctorate at the University of Pittsburgh.

On November 20, 2018, **Jaime Colman** was selected to serve the two-year appointment as a Presidential Management Fellow. Colman was one of 350 selected out of a pool of 4,000 applicants. She is currently pursuing her Master of Arts in International Relations with concentrations in international economics and African studies at Johns Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies in Washington, DC.

**Sydney Cunningham** earned a Ph.D. in Industrial-Organizational Psychology from the University of Tulsa in May of 2018.

**Kara Mastin** earned a Doctor of Veterinary Medicine from The Ohio State University College of Veterinary Medicine on May 4, 2018. Dr. Mastin is an associate veterinarian at Aurora Veterinary Clinic in Aurora, Ohio.

**Elizabeth (Pisaniello) Munn** earned a master's degree in Linguistics from Payap University on May 11, 2018. She continues to work in language development as a member of SIL.

**Hannah Hansen** married Kyle Van Osten on October 7, 2017, in Staten Island, New York. On hand to celebrate were Houghton friends **Lindsay (Hansen**



**'10 Rosado, Hannah (Johnson '12) and Seth Shay '13, Jennifer Newcombe '14, Sarah (Munkittrick '14) and Andrew McGinnis '13, and Leah Williams '14.** The Van Ostens make their home in Roselle, New Jersey, where Hannah is a senior account executive at DDB Health and Kyle is a medical sales representative at Medline Industries.

**Rachel (Meier) and Justin Peck** launched their nonprofit, 431 House, in May of 2018. 431 House is an organization founded by the Pecks to meet the needs of the overlooked and underserved women of Middle Tennessee. "We're training young women to think beyond the end of the day," explains Rachel. "We're working with them in every area of their life and giving them hope and a plan to move forward and live independently without assistance." To learn more, visit [www.431house.org](http://www.431house.org).

## 2015

**Erin Slegaitis-Smith** earned an M.S.Ed. in Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages from SUNY Fredonia on May 19, 2018, then

married Isaiah Smith on July 28, 2018, in Boonville, New York. The couple resides in Boonville, where Erin is employed as an ENL teacher and Isaiah works for Upstate Rescue Vehicles.



## 2016

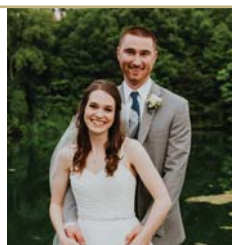
**Emily (Loomis)** married David Ritsema on September 29, 2018, in Beaver, Pennsylvania. Celebrating with



the couple were Houghton friends Laura Cunningham and her husband, Peter Lee; **Kelsey Seremet '16**; **Mary Lambright '16**; **Rebecca Firstbrook '18**; **Renée (Norris) '16**; and **Jordan Meola '17**. The Ritsemas live in Beaver Falls, Pennsylvania, where Emily is a special education aide at Beaver County Christian School and David is an engineer in training at Widmer Engineering.

## 2017

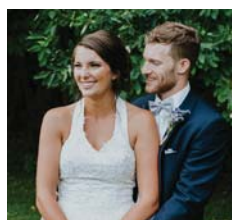
**Kasey (Cannister)** married **Aaron Eisenhardt** on July 22, 2018, in Penfield, New York. The Eisenhardts live in Hudsonville, Michigan, where Kasey is an executive assistant and Aaron is an accountant.



**Michael Carpenter** and **Jill (Magara)** were married on June 2, 2018, in Rochester, New York. Many Houghton friends were there to celebrate with the couple, including best man **Travis Trotman '17**; groomsmen **Hunter Gregory '17** and

**Joe Miner '18**; and bridesmaids **Emily (Barry '17) Brown**, **Marina Cull '17**, **Kayla (Brophy '17) Montoro**, **Melanie Eldred '17** and **Melissa Maclean '17**. The Carpenters live in Rochester, New York, where Michael is a creative developer at Eagle Productivity Solutions and Jill is a self-employed potter in addition to working part-time as Community Habilitation support staff.

**Fiona Daloia** and **Jens Omdal '16** were married on August 3, 2018, in Rochester, New York. The Omdals make their home in Metairie, Louisiana, where Fiona is a personal trainer for Anytime Fitness and Jens is a law student at Loyola Law.



**Hunter Gregory** worked as an intern/production assistant during the summer of 2018 with the Grammy-award winning choir The Crossing.

# alumni Book Shelf

## CALVIN JOHANSSON '60

*Strengthening Music Ministry in the Evangelical Church*

Westbow Press, 2019

## WILLIAM H. GRIFFITH '61 and Daniel Cash

*The Changing Church: Finding Your Way to God's New Thing*

Judson Press, 2019

## NANCY (MARSH '65)

**STEINBERGER** as Esther Stein

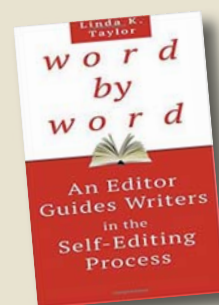
*The Visible Kingdom of God: The Song of Noah*

Balboa Press, 2018

## LINDA (CHAFFEE '80) TAYLOR

*Word by Word: An Editor Guides Writers in the Self-editing Process*

Bold Vision Books, 2017



## LAURA WHITE '13 as Elle Katharine White

*Dragonshadow: A Heartstone Novel*

Harper Voyager, 2018



# Future Highlanders

*\*denotes adoption day*

## 8.30.17 | Kaizen David (1)

Ethan '08 and Laura Sjolander

## 11.2.17\* | Devin, 13 and Glen, 11 (2)

Biological brothers adopted by Heidi (Harrington '12) and Jonathon Sampson

## 11.3.17 | Atalie Christine (3)

Marcia (Mason '13) and Bobby Mauger '14

## 1.10.18 | Henry Thomas (4)

Rachel (Smith '11, MM '13) and Jason Decker

## 2.13.18\* | Jesse Joel (5)

Adopted by Cynthia (Bell '04) & Russell Crowzen

## 4.29.18 | Daniel James (6)

Elizabeth (Pisaniello '13) and Robin Munn

## 5.22.18 | Evangeline Karis (7)

Elizabeth "Bethie" (Martindale '13, MM '15) and Nicholas Liddick '15

## 6.4.18 | Scott Elias (8)

Jonathan '05 and Allison Davidson

## 6.25.18 | Anna Lucy Bernard-Ball (9)

Alice Ball '03 and Alejandro Bernard-Papachryssanthou

## 7.22.18 | Callie Elise (10)

Shane '11 and Elise (Logan '12) Fraser

## 8.5.18 | Matthias Andrew (11)

Susanna (Brautigam '12) and Andrew Roorbach '13

## 8.20.18\* | Karson Gregory (12)

Adopted by Ethan '08 and Laura Sjolander

## 10.20.18 | Eloise Violet (13)

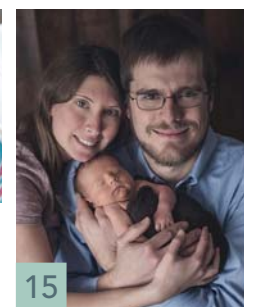
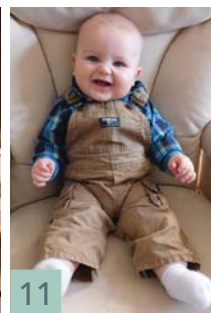
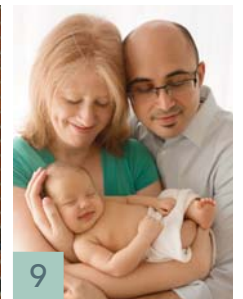
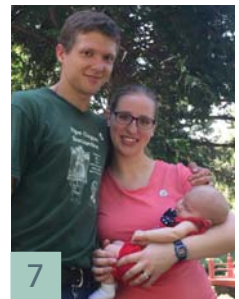
Joshua '11 and Christine (Finnegan '11) Wallace

## 11.2.18 | Ezra Evers (14)

Rachel (Johnson '00) and Doug Graham '00

## 1.13.19 | Henry James Isaiah (15)

Jeffrey '07 and Kathryn (Henderson '07) DeYoung



# In Memoriam

## 1942

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**Stephen Ortlip**, the last surviving sibling of the late Aileen Ortlip Shea and Marjorie Ortlip Stockin—co-founders of Houghton’s art program—died at the age of 98 on August 26, 2018, with his wife of 72 years, **Doris (Armstrong ‘44)**, by his side. A World War II veteran in the U.S. Navy, he earned a master’s degree in music education from Catholic University and a master’s degree in sacred music from Union Theological Seminary. His six siblings predeceased him, including **W. Henry Ortlip ‘40** and **Ruth (Ortlip ‘44) Gibson**. Besides his widow, he is survived by 3 children, 14 grandchildren, and 3 great-grandchildren as well as nieces and nephews, including **A. Jonathan Shea ‘63**, **Audrey (Stockin ‘64) Eyler**, **Eila Shea ‘66**, **Philip Stockin ‘67**, **Karen (Ortlip ‘69) Daugherty**, **Paul Shea ‘69**, **Judy (Stockin ‘70) Ganch**, **Leon Gibson ‘73**, **David Ortlip ‘75**, **LoraBeth (Stockin ‘77) Norton**, **Jonathan Ortlip ‘81** and **Daniel Ortlip ‘86**.

## 1943

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**Ella (Phelps) Woolsey**, 95, passed away on March 29, 2018, in Houghton, New York. After college, Ella taught in North Carolina at a boarding and day school for African-American women and married **Warren Woolsey ‘43** in 1946. The couple served as missionaries to Sierra Leone, West Africa, until 1966, at which time they settled in Houghton with their family. She is survived by three children, **Stephen ‘73** and his wife, **Linda Mills-Woolsey ‘78**; **Matthew ‘76** and his wife, **Barbara (Bowman ‘78)**; and **Ruth Woolsey-Strand ‘81** and her husband, **Stephen**

**Strand ‘81**, and daughter-in-law **Kathleen (Keifer ‘77) Woolsey** as well as grandchildren, including **Stephen Woolsey ‘08**, **Jesse Woolsey ‘10**, **Naomi Woolsey ‘10**, **Lydia Strand ‘13** and **Mary Strand ‘15**. Besides her husband of 71 years, she was preceded in death by her son, **Daniel Woolsey ‘77**; grandchild, **Molly Woolsey ‘14**; and sister-in-law **Martha (Woolsey ‘44) Wacker**.

## 1947

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**Alice Omdal**, 94, passed away on January 21, 2019, in Toms River, New Jersey. Alice dedicated her life to high school evangelism, serving as the Executive Assistant at Hi. B. A. for nearly 50 years. Her brother, **Charles ‘57**, predeceased her. She is survived by nieces and nephews, including **Kristen (Omdal ‘81) Stevens**, **Daniel Omdal ‘84** and **David Omdal ‘87**, as well as great-nephew, **Jens Omdal ‘16**.

## 1948

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**Robert Ernst**, 98, passed away on July 1, 2018, in Madison, Ohio. At his retirement in 2001, the Rev. Dr. Ernst’s ministry spanned 60 years and encompassed over 50 different churches as missionary, minister, revival evangelist or guest pastor. He is survived by four children, including **John Ernst ‘64**.

**Marian (Holmes) Shannon**, 93, passed away on March 24, 2018, in Allentown, Pennsylvania. She and her husband, Rev. David Shannon, who predeceased her, served Wesleyan churches for 44 years and were missionaries in South America and Australia.

## 1949

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**Margie (Miller) Barnett** passed away on March 8, 2018, at the age

of 90. She met her husband of 69 years—**Beverly J. Barnett ‘49**—at Houghton. She earned a master’s degree in education from the University of Michigan and enjoyed a teaching career that spanned 45 years. In addition to her husband, Margie was predeceased by a sister, **Dorothy (Miller ‘52) Crocker**; a sister-in-law, **Lucille (Barnett ‘47) Beach**; a niece, **Sharon (Beach ‘69) Falke**; and two brothers-in-law, **Glenn Barnett ‘48** and **David Barnett ‘54**. Survivors include two children; several nieces and nephews including **Kathleen (Barnett ‘69) Daake**, **Barbara (Barnett ‘73) Daake**, **Bradley Beach ‘75**, **Debra (Barnett ‘77) Beers**, **Alene (Crocker ‘78) Rayl**, **Kimberly (Beach ‘78) Scheel**, **Ronald Barnett ‘79**, **Valerie (Crocker ‘80) Stark**, **Michael Barnett ‘81**, **Jonathan Barnett ‘84**, **Robyn (Beach ‘84) Buxton** and **Keri (Barnett ‘99) Bassett**; and brothers-in-law **Gordon Barnett ‘44**, **Robert Barnett ‘52** and **Forrest Crocker ‘53**.

**Evelyn (German) Howland** died on October 24, 2018. Evelyn studied voice and piano at Houghton and met her future husband, **Joseph Howland ‘51**, in the Houghton College choir. She was a school teacher and also served as a medical assistant. Two sons and a daughter survive as well as four grandchildren and three great-grandchildren. Her husband predeceased her.

**Harold Little** died on February 4, 2018. Rev. Little served as minister of music at Rome Wesleyan Church and worked with the New York State Department of Labor. His wife of 56 years, Joan, predeceased him. He is survived by three children, four grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.



**Charles L. Rupp**, 94, died on September 1, 2018, in Archbold, Ohio. Army veteran of WWII and graduate of Northern Baptist Seminary, Rev. Rupp served congregations in the Midwest for 41 years. Survivors include his wife, **Jeanette (Balzer '49)**; three sons; six grandchildren; and nine great-grandchildren. A sister, **Mary (Rupp '53) Meier**, predeceased him.

**Marian E. (Matteson) Scott**, 91, died on May 14, 2017. She was known for her love of farm life, especially driving the tractor during "haying time." She is survived by her husband of 65 years, the Rev. William Scott; her children; 24 grandchildren, including **Christian Scott '19**; and 4 great-grandchildren.

**Perry J. Troutman** died on December 24, 2018. Dr. Troutman earned degrees from United Theological Seminary and Boston University and was a retired professor of religion at Lebanon Valley College. He was predeceased by his wife, **Vivian (Schreffler '47)**. They are survived by their daughter, son and grandchildren as well as a brother, **Richard Troutman '53**, and sister-in-law, **Merle (White '54) Troutman**.

## 1950

**Glenna (McClure) Shanahan**, 88, passed away on September 10, 2018, in Bradenton, Florida. Glenna was a master teacher whose career spanned 38 years. Her husband of 45 years, Willard, predeceased her. Survivors include three children, six grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

A WWII veteran, **James R. Stevenson**, 91, died January 16, 2018. He met his wife, **Martha DeRuiter '50**, at Houghton, and they served on the

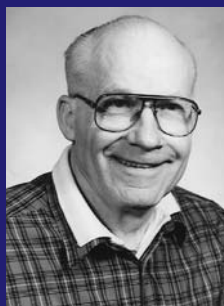
foreign mission field together through the United Methodist Church. He attended Asbury Theological Seminary and served as bishop of the West Ohio UMC. Jim is survived by Martha; one daughter, **Patricia Paine '70**; son-in-law **Jon Paine '70**; two sons; nine grandchildren; and six great-grandchildren.

## 1951

**Gladys (Totten) Fancher** died on April 11, 2018. She earned a master's degree in elementary rural education and taught at schools in Alaska and Virginia. After retirement, she and her husband, **Maxwell Fancher '49**, taught English with English Language Institute China in California. She is survived by two sons, grandchildren

and great-grandchildren as well as a niece, **Lyndell (Sheldon '71) Harter**; a nephew, **M. LaVay Sheldon '69**; and cousins, **Nancy Jo (Hutton '74) Pullen**, **Jeremy Hutton '77**, **Timothy Hutton '79**, **Roderic Hutton '81** and **Rebecca Hutton '85**. Besides Max, she is predeceased by her daughter; her mother-in-law, **Zola Fancher '26**; father-in-law, **Willard LaVay Fancher** (former Dean of Houghton College); and sister-in-law, **Gwendolyn (Fancher '43) Sheldon**.

**Florence (Antcliff) Porter**, 91, died on January 5, 2019. She met her husband, **Douglas Porter '58**, who predeceased her, through Billy Graham Ministries, and together, they ministered under the auspices of the Free Methodist Church.



LOWELL FANCHER '51

Former college press foreman and the last member in the long line of the Fancher family to serve Houghton College, **Lowell B. Fancher '51** passed away on May 10, 2018, at his home in Fillmore, New York. He was 92 years old.

From 1884, when Willard J. Houghton asked Lucius Fancher to manage the college farm, up until Lowell (his grandson) retired in 1991, three generations of the Fancher family served (with almost no interruptions) on the faculty or staff of Houghton College for 107 years.

Born in Houghton to Ralph and Lula Fancher, Lowell began working as a "printer's devil" in the Houghton Press while he was still in high school and returned to work at the Press full-time after he served in the Pacific during World War II. He spent 43 years in the College Press, retiring as shop foreman.

Surviving in addition to his wife, Lois, are their sons, L. Bernard Fancher Jr., Jeffrey Fancher, **David Fancher '86**, and **Paul Fancher '87** and his wife, **Antoinette (Giermek '90)**; two grandchildren, including **Keli Fancher '11**; four great-grandchildren; a twin sister, **Laura Fancher '49**; cousins **Margaret (Fancher '47) Serley** and **Joanna Fancher '50**; and several nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his parents; three siblings, **Lillis (Fancher '32) Mear**, **Lester Fancher '32** and James Fancher; and cousins, **L. Roscoe Fancher '35**, **Esther (Fancher '37) Lister**, **Ruth (Fancher '43) Hutton** and **Maxwell Fancher '49**.

## 1952

On June 15, 2018, **Harold "Chappie" Chapman**, 88, lost his battle with cancer. He met his wife, **Marybelle (Bennett '53)**, at Houghton, and they were married in 1953, one year after he served as a lieutenant in the U.S. Air Force. Chappie earned a master's degree from Columbia University and was a Presbyterian pastor in New York, California and Ohio and as far away as Egypt and Belgium. He and Marybelle, who survives, have 5 children, including **Howard Chapman '76**; 12 grandchildren; and 6 great-grandchildren. Brother **Donald Chapman '62** also survives as well as sister-in-law **Diana (Findley '61) Chapman** and daughter-in-law **Judy (Bennett '76) Chapman**.

**David Topazian '52**, 86, died on December 29, 2017. He attended McGill University Faculty of Dentistry in Montreal, and, after serving in the United States Army, he completed training in oral surgery at the University of Pennsylvania. Dr. Topazian then opened his own oral surgery practice in Milford, Connecticut, where he practiced for 27 years. He cofounded and led MedSend, a nonprofit organization that pays the educational debts of healthcare professionals while they serve in mission settings in the United States and around the world, and, in retirement, he and his wife, Deidre, served as full-time missionaries in Venezuela. In addition to his wife, David is survived by three children; six grandchildren; his brother, **Dr. Richard Topazian '51**; and a sister.

**John R. Warner** died on May 3, 2018. His was predeceased by Shirley, his wife of more than 60 years. Two sons; one granddaughter; three great-grandchildren; and a sister, **Virginia (Warner '48) Steffel**, survive.

## 1953

**Mary (Rupp) Meier**, 90, died on August 24, 2018, in Fort Wayne, Indiana. She was a kindergarten teacher for more than 20 years. Her husband of 55 years, Herbert, predeceased her. Her brother, **Charles Rupp '49**, passed away less than a month after her. She is survived by a son and a daughter, four grandchildren, and three great-grandchildren.

**John B. Zavitz**, 90, died on October 29, 2018, in Canton, Georgia. He was a U.S. Air Force veteran and worked in real estate. John is survived by his wife of 55 years, Patricia; four children; several grandchildren and

great-grandchildren; siblings **Eric Smith '69**, **Richard Smith '70** and **Louise (Smith '72) Twigg**; sister-in-law **Ann (Edwards '70) Smith**; nephew **Mark Smith '94**; and cousin **Stephen Hiltbrand '71**.

## 1954

Known during his time at Houghton as one of the six "Shady Characters," **Richard "Dick" Castor** (a.k.a. Marshmellowski) passed away on March 21, 2018. He was 86. After graduating from the University of Pennsylvania School of Dentistry, he established the Chemung Family Dental Center in Southport, New York—where he was known as "the gentle dentist." He is survived by



JOHN AND DORIS ESSEPIAN

**Dr. John P. Essepian '55** joined his wife of 62 years, **Doris (Tysinger '55)**, in heaven on March 16, 2019. He died unexpectedly but peacefully at home less than four months after Doris's passing on November 24, 2018.

John and Doris met their freshman year at Houghton and were married in 1956. John served as Captain in the US Army Dental Corps during the Korean War, stationed at Fort Sheridan in Illinois, then returned to his hometown of Latham, New York, to open his dental practice in 1962. Dr. Essepian served generations of families in the Capital District during the 57 years he practiced dentistry. He enjoyed his work, loved his patients and was still actively practicing at the time of his death.

"Both John and Doris had deep roots in the Houghton community," affirmed **President Shirley Mullen '76**. "Dr. Essepian served on the college Board of Trustees from 1978 to 1985, and Doris was connected to both Houghton Academy and the college." In addition, John was a member of the Willard J. Houghton Foundation and spent time on the Alumni Board.

"The Tysinger-Essepian tree continues to be extended through their grandchildren who care for Houghton as much as they did," Mullen continues. "The family embodies the combined commitment to academic excellence and global service to God's Kingdom that is the hallmark of Houghton. The Tysinger-Essepian room at the Alumni House testifies to their being a Houghton legacy family!"

six children, including **R. Jeffrey Castor '78**; grandchildren and great-grandchildren; a brother, **Philip Castor**; two sisters, **Molly (Castor '58) Johnson** and **Catherine (Castor '66) Hicks**; a brother-in-law, **David Hicks '67**; and his niece, **Judith Johnson '00**. Diana, his wife of 63 years, followed him in death. His brother, **N. Stephen Castor '52**, predeceased him.

## 1959

**Norman Baker '59**, 81, passed away on December 5, 2018. In 1963, he graduated from the Philadelphia College of Osteopathy with a Doctor of Osteopathy degree. He practiced in New Jersey, Pennsylvania and Ohio and served a 14-year tenure at Ohio University. In 1984, he accepted a position at the Chicago College of Osteopathic Medicine in Chicago, teaching and practicing there until his retirement in 1998. He is survived by his sister, Nadine, and her husband, **LaVerne Howard '58**; a cousin, **Marilyn Jestes '64**; and several nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by an infant son.

Former Houghton Board of Trustee member **Edward Moos '59** died on June 8, 2018. In addition to founding Edward A. Moos Securities, Ed also served as Executive-in-Residence in the Houghton College Department of Business. In 1993, he and his wife of 53 years, Louise, established the E. A. Moos Scholarship at Houghton. "Ed Moos was committed to ensuring that Houghton stayed as relevant to future generations of students as it had been for him," noted **President Shirley Mullen '76**. "It was out of this gratitude that he provided gifts for the Ed Moos Business and Economics Suite in the Chamberlain Center and many other capital projects." In addition to Louise, Ed is survived by three children and six grandchildren.

## 1960

**Herbert H. Smith**, 79, died on March 29, 2018, in Jamestown, New York. After earning a master's degree from Syracuse University, Herb taught in various schools and colleges in central New York. He was preceded in death by his wife and a daughter.

**James M. Walker**, 79, passed away on February 13, 2018. After earning graduate degrees from Columbia University, he served as a principal, assistant superintendent and superintendent. Sandra, his wife, survives, as do two daughters, including **Kathleen (Walker '95) Carlisle**; a step-son; two sisters, **Joan (Walker '41) Kaltenbaugh** and **Ruth (Walker '64) Brackbill**; a son-in-law, **Adam Carlisle '95**; a brother-in-law, **Charles Kaltenbaugh '50**; and ex-wife, **Corinna (Johnson '61) Walker**.

## 1961

**Barbara McFall** died on January 21, 2018, in the hospital of her birth 78 years earlier. A graduate of the University of Hartford, she taught first grade.

**Robert H. Zweig** passed away on January 22, 2018. He is survived by his widow, Ellen.

## 1962

**Joan (Anderson) Phelan '62** died February 4, 2018. She was professor emerita and former chair of the Department of Oral and Maxillofacial Pathology, Radiology and Medicine at New York University College of Dentistry. The dean of the school, Charles N. Bertolami, DDS, said, "Throughout her nearly three decades of service to NYU, Joan played a pivotal role in building what has become one of the most highly regarded departments of oral medicine in the nation." Dr. Phelan is survived by her husband, **Gerald Phelan '62**.

## 1963

**Anne (Wetherbee) Wagner**, 75, passed away on November 22, 2017. She received her Master of Music degree from Manhattan School of Music in 1968. Her husband of 50 years, **David '63**, survives as well as their two children; four grandchildren; and her sister, **Anita (Wetherbee '66) Lockwood**.

## 1964

**Christie (Mackintosh) Scott**, 75, passed away on April 13, 2018. She met husband, **Milton Scott '64**, at Houghton, and they married in 1968. Christie taught elementary school and was a caseworker at the Beaver County Office of the Aging. She is survived by four children, two brothers and nine grandchildren. She was predeceased by her husband.

## 1968

**M. Duane Burdick**, 71, died January 17, 2019, in Sayre, Pennsylvania. Rev. Burdick pastored three churches, and, prior to his time in the ministry, he was a social worker and worked in human resources.

**John S. Freeborn**, 69, died on March 27, 2016. Dr. Freeborn went to medical school at Indiana University and then built a thriving medical practice in South Carolina, where he served for 21 years. His wife, Christine, survives, as do three daughters; four grandchildren; and a sister, **Betty (Freeborn '71) Bollman**. His mother, **Melva (Dietrich '45) Freeborn**, predeceased him.

## 1971

**Jonathan V. Smith** passed away on February 24, 2018, in Redmond, Oregon. After earning degrees from UT Arlington and the University of Oregon, Dr. Smith taught geography at Truman State University. He and his wife, Dawn, also served Wycliffe



Bible Translators in West Africa. Besides his wife, three children and four grandsons survive.

## 1973

**Gary F. Cramer** died on July 10, 2018, at the age of 67. He earned a Master of Music degree from Florida State University and dedicated his life and career to music performance and education. He is survived by a son and daughter.

**Richard M. Samek**, 66, passed away on August 25, 2017. He taught elementary school in Port Jervis, New York, for 42 years. He is survived by his wife, Donna; two sons; a daughter; and a granddaughter.

**Mary (Swindler) Stephens** died on April 12, 2018. After co-managing a group home for adults with learning disabilities, Mary became a vocational evaluator for the North Carolina Department of Vocational Rehabilitation. She is survived by her husband of 34 years, David; her sister, **Nora (Swindler '68) Adams**; and her brother-in-law, **Wayne Adams '66**.

## 1980

**Alan D. Blowers** passed away unexpectedly at the age of 59 on April 7, 2018. Alan earned a Ph.D. from the University of Rochester and spent his career in horticulture improving both floral and vegetable crops. He is survived by his wife of 34 years, **Betsy (Leake '82)**, and their three children. Also surviving is his sister, **Nancy Tomkinson '75**, and his brother, **Donald '69**, and their spouses, **F. Leonard '69** and **Joyce (Pease '68)**, respectively.

## ESTHER JANE CARRIER



**Dr. Esther Jane Carrier**, former head librarian of the Willard J. Houghton Library, passed away February 28, 2019. She was 92 years old.

When Dr. Carrier took the helm of the library in 1950, the collection was housed in three separate buildings and barely numbered 30,000 volumes. Under her 28-year leadership, the collection grew to 135,000 volumes and was moved into the current library building in 1964—which she had a hand in designing. When she left her post in 1978, she viewed the growth of the collection as her main contribution. “That’s what a library is all about,” she quipped in the January 1978 press release announcing her new position at Lock Haven University.

She is survived by one brother, Gerald Carrier; one sister, **Ann (Carrier '57) Fehl**; two nieces, including **Beth (Fehl '93) Bergstrom** and husband, **Chris Bergstrom '90**; and one nephew.

## FORMER FACULTY AND STAFF

**Ray Coddington '45**, 93, died on September 22, 2018. After serving with SIM missionaries for 17 years in Liberia, West Africa, Ray and his wife, Dorothy, retired in Houghton, where Ray worked in the college print shop. Five children, including **Sharon (Coddington '74) Wilcox**, **Donna (Coddington '75) Oehrig**, **David Teichert-Coddington '76** and **Peter Coddington '84**, survive as well as 17 grandchildren; 21 great-grandchildren; a sister, **Dorothy (Coddington '50) Moore**; and son-in-law **Robert Oehrig '75**. Dorothy, his wife of 54 years, preceded him in death.

**Rev. Wayne Cox** died on June 26, 2018. After years of teaching abroad, he spent 17 years at the Houghton College West Seneca campus. His wife of 66 years, Louise, survives.

**James M. Gibson '70** died at the age of 70 on February 27, 2018. He taught English literature and writing at Houghton until 1984, when he decided to stay in England after his short sabbatical to Kent, UK. He is survived by daughter, Rosie Brave, and son, Nicholas Gibson.

**Roselyn B. Danner '84**, retired staff and former manager of what is now known as the Ortlip Art Gallery, passed away on April 13, 2019, at her home, Yorkwood House, in Houghton. Please see the next issue of *Houghton* for an extended tribute to Roselyn, whose contributions made Houghton College a more beautiful place to live and work.

Former Houghton staff member **Louise (VanBuskirk '89) Gingrich** died on Monday, October 15, 2018, in Lakeland, Florida. Survivors include three daughters, including **Candice (Gingrich '80) Thompson**; a sister; a brother; two grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

## SHIRLEY JACOBSON



Gentle with a sweet motherly spirit about her; computer sage and problem-solver deluxe, able to fix or figure out anything; a willing ear, a kind mentor and a trusted confidante, former staff member **Shirley Jacobson** passed away on November 17, 2018.

When Shirley began working part-time in the college computer services office around 1970, one of her first jobs required the use of IBM punch-cards in a machine that took up nearly a whole room. Over the next 30 years of her service to Houghton College, she weathered four computer conversions, adapting each time to new software and procedures while helping bridge the gap between the old and the new.

"Shirley was a force behind the scenes helping many offices run smoothly and efficiently," one colleague remembered. "She was a faithful colleague at work, always willing to do what was needed without unwarranted question, complaint or reserve," recalled another.

Shirley is survived by her husband of 61 years, Richard "Jake" Jacobson, professor emeritus of mathematics. Also surviving are their children, **Rob Jacobson '80** and his wife, **Wendy (Todd '82)**; **Steven "Jake" Jacobson '82**; and **Laurie Jacobson '84** as well as seven grandchildren, including **Jeff Jacobson '14** and **Robbie Jacobson '16**, and two great-grandchildren.

## PAUL JOHNSON



He moved fast for a big man, liked things a certain way (his way) and was rarely seen in anything but a three-piece suit (even on a Saturday, mowing his lawn!). For him, teaching was a spiritual vocation and administration a gift he freely shared. He was unwavering in his convictions, unpretentious in his beliefs and committed to sharing with his students the full scope of what it meant to be French.

**Paul F. Johnson**, emeritus professor of French and former chair of the Department of Foreign Languages at Houghton, died peacefully at his home in Lewiston, Maine, on March 16, 2019. He was 89 years old.

Paul Johnson had been serving at Barrington College for 18 years when he was invited to teach French at Houghton in 1972. "It didn't take long for Paul to establish the reputation of being a force to be reckoned with," recalls **Jean-Louis Roederer '64**, retired associate professor of French and Spanish. "He did very, very well for the foreign language department."

Johnson made significant contributions to the study of foreign languages at Houghton College over the next 22 years. His tenure as department chair marked an increase in language offerings, refinement of the language testing program, the addition of the very popular Mayterm in Paris and, of course, the institution of the annual Christmas crêpe party in his house after Christmas caroling. Through his efforts, the college also obtained a state-of-the-art language lab.

"Professor Johnson's instruction style was to insist on meticulous attention to grammar and other basics of the language but at the same time hold out before us the possibility that, one day, if we mastered the details, we would have access to the incomparable treasures of French literature," remembers former student and College President, **Shirley Mullen '76**. "He taught us French, but, more than that, he wanted us to be caught by the French language and culture. I will be forever grateful for Professor Johnson."

He is survived by his beloved wife of 21 years, Margaret, and children Karin Kohl; **Linda (Johnson '76) Barany**; **Kathy (Johnson '79) Kelly**; **Douglas Johnson '83** and his wife, **Holly (Smith '83)**; **Steven Johnson '95** and his wife, **Anna-Maria (Davis '01)**; Dawn Ginn; Linda Dennis; William Walker; and Heather Mason as well as 21 grandchildren; 28 great-grandchildren; siblings Elaine Donica, Dorothy Flett and David Johnson; and his best friend and colleague in teaching, **Jean-Louis Roederer '64**. He was predeceased by his beloved first wife, longtime Houghton Library staff member Betty Johnson, and two siblings.



## FRIENDS

Longtime friend of Houghton College **Kenneth C. Canary**, 92, passed away on February 8, 2018, in Schenectady, New York. In 2006, the Canary family established the Kenneth & Phyllis Canary Scholarship to provide support for students from single-parent families as well as for students who are in danger of not completing their degree at Houghton because of financial challenges. Ken is survived by his wife of 70 years, Phyllis; four children, including **Lynda (Canary '70) Naske** and **Keith Canary '91**; eight grandchildren; eight great-grandchildren; and one great-great-grandchild.

**Lilian Fuller**, 93, passed away on December 24, 2018, in Frankfort, Indiana. She was a high school science teacher and former member of the Houghton community. In retirement, Lilian and her husband, Dr. Richard "Dick" Fuller, enjoyed serving as official grandparents for Royal Family Kids Camp, a ministry to children who have experienced abuse or neglect. In addition to her husband of nearly 70 years, she is survived by three children, Marilyn Copeland; **Timothy Fuller '79** and his wife, **Carol (Zimmerman '78)**; and Jonathan Fuller; 8 grandchildren including **Rebecca (Fuller '05) Crocker**, and **Daniel Fuller '06**; and 4 great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her son, Stephen Fuller.

## MEL DIETER



**Dr. Melvin "Mel" Dieter (UWC)**, chairman emeritus of the Houghton College Board of Trustees, died on October 6, 2018, in Lyndhurst, Virginia. His wife of more than 72 years, Hallie Arline Kirtz Dieter, died the following day.

When The Pilgrim Holiness Church and The Wesleyan Methodist Church merged to become The Wesleyan Church in 1968, Dr. Dieter became the first General Secretary for Educational Institutions. He left the denomination in 1975 to serve as a professor of church history and historical theology and later as vice president and provost at Asbury Theological Seminary in Wilmore, Kentucky, retiring in 1990.

Dieter was considered an outstanding historian of the holiness movement and not only served as a professor, lecturer, minister, author, and college and seminary administrator but also was a founder or co-founder of many key organizations and groups in the Wesleyan tradition. Additionally, he served Houghton as a trustee for 10 years, and the board room located in the Center for the Arts is named for him.

"Dr. Dieter valued the role of higher education within The Wesleyan Church," affirmed **President Shirley Mullen '76**. "He deeply appreciated Houghton's tradition of Christian liberal arts excellence."

Surviving Dr. and Mrs. Dieter are one daughter, Judith, and a son-in-law, William. They are also survived by Dr. Dieter's last remaining sibling, **Harold (UWC)**, and his wife, **Donna (UWC)**. A sister, **Frances Dieter (UWC)**, preceded him in death.

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Email [magazine@houghton.edu](mailto:magazine@houghton.edu)



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Congratulations to the Class of 2014, winners of the Class Challenge for the second year in a row! They have doubled their Class of 2014 Endowed Scholarship to \$50,000.



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## UPCOMING EVENTS

