

Dimensions



**Alumni Scholarship | Behavioral Health Issues Conference
Velma Kneer Larson | Fall Commencement Ceremony**



Dimensions

Issue 1 – 2015

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President's Update *Dr. Kimberly Johnston*

The college began this spring semester with a record enrollment of 595 students! Of those 595 students, 92 are new this semester. Our college has outgrown our present building and we are in the process of working to develop a new facility that will allow us greater growth. I will keep you informed as this work progresses.

The growth of the college has been mirrored by the increase in the support given by our alumni. Whether it is through gifts of your time or treasures, you are an important aspect of our students' success. Our alumni donations continue to grow each year. It is through your generosity that many of our students are able to pay for their tuition or are able to have an enriched educational experience. The time given by our alumni is an important factor in helping our students understand and prepare for their new role as a professional nurse, make wise career choices, or be successful in getting that first job.

For example, last year our alumni association worked with students, helping them with resume writing and interview skills. They also shared information with students about a variety of nursing careers open to them, provided support for the students during the stressful exam period, and launched our graduates with an excellent dinner, during which they honored the newest Methodist College alumni. This meant so much to the students. They were very touched with how caring our Alumni Association is.

The Methodist Alumni are an integral part of our college as our alumni serve as very positive professional role models, and through this work demonstrate how important it is for one nurse to reach and give a helping hand to another. Without the time, treasure, support, and caring of our Methodist alumni, our college could not offer the positive student experience students have today.

Thank you all!

Dr. Kimberly Johnston
President, Methodist College

In Remembrance

Donna (Kidd) Allen 1952

Deann (Klumpp) Baer 1979

Eleanor (Nickeson) Carson 1956

Marilyn (Rocke) Huette 1956

Velma (Kneer) Larson 1932

Marie (Abramson) Rogel 1942

Clara (Mott) Schmitt 1948



Methodist College
UnityPoint Health

Dr. Kimberly Johnston President of the College

Dr. Keith Branham Dean of Enrollment Management
& Student Services

Tim Dietz Director of Finance

Dr. Matt Hertzog Director of Informational
& Institutional Technology

Linda Moore Chief Operating Officer
& Director of Human Resources

Alissa Selburg Director of Community
& Alumni Relations

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EMERITUS BOARD MEMBERS

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Reverend William Zander

Dear Alumni,

Greetings! I am Alissa Selburg, the new Director of Community & Alumni Relations at Methodist College. While I have been with the college for a year and a half as the Student Life Coordinator, I have recently transitioned into working with our scholarship recipients, marketing, and alumni relations. It's so exciting for me to be working with you as alumni and share with you all of the wonderful things happening at the college. I am especially passionate about history, and you as alumni represent the history and legacy of Methodist.

In my role, I hope to strengthen the bond you have with Methodist College, Methodist College of Nursing, and Methodist School of Nursing. I will be working closely with the Methodist Alumni Association Board to help you stay connected to your alma mater through various events and communications. If you have any ideas for programs you'd like to see, please feel free to contact me or the Methodist Alumni Association Board through our new e-mail address: MC_Alumni@methodistCOL.edu.

As an alumnus, I encourage you to share stories and experiences of your time here at Methodist and after. Our love of Methodist is what binds us together and creates an extended family network that spans across the nation. Please send in updates about your life or share your fondest memories through the Methodist alumni website: methodistCOL.edu/alumni.

Again, I am so excited to be working with you, and look forward to what the future holds for Methodist College alumni. Please feel free to contact me with information, ideas, or any questions you may have.

Sincerely,

Alissa Selburg, Director of Community & Alumni Relations
aselburg@methodistCOL.edu
(309) 672-5740



SAVE THE DATE

Methodist Alumni Reunion

Saturday, June 6

Alumni Reunion Luncheon 11:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

WeaverRidge Golf Club

5100 N. WeaverRidge Blvd., Peoria, IL 61615

Tours of the Simulation Center and a memorabilia display will be available at UnityPoint Health-Methodist starting at 2:30 p.m.

Reunion invitations detailing the event program will be mailed in mid-April.

Methodist
ALUMNI
ASSOCIATION

Gift Your Legacy

By giving to Methodist College, you're helping to foster a culture of high-quality education that otherwise would not be possible. For over 110 years, Methodist has demonstrated excellence in nursing education, first as a school and now as a college; and, with the help of the College's extended family of alumni and friends, countless Methodist students continue to have their educational goals become a reality.

Your generosity helps to provide

- Scholarships for students in need
- Updates to Methodist College facilities
- Programming to develop future healthcare professionals
- Increased research opportunities for students and faculty
- The latest technology to enhance student learning



**Make your gift online at
methodistCOL.edu/alumni
or mail it to:**

**Methodist College
c/o Alissa Selburg
415 St. Mark Ct.
Peoria, IL 61603**

Each gift is important, regardless of size; however, alumni that donate \$50 or more will receive a Methodist Alumni Association umbrella to display their Methodist Pride!

So please, choose to make a difference today. Choose to give to

Methodist and build upon a legacy of excellence in nursing and the health sciences.

Methodist College is part of the UnityPoint Health-Methodist|Proctor Foundation. All donations are tax deductible. We appreciate your support.

Alumni Scholarship Recipients

Alumni donations impact students in many different ways. Most directly, Alumni Scholarships are awarded each semester. This semester, two students were selected to receive an Alumni Scholarship. Learn more about the recipients and how your support helps with their educational endeavors.



Name:
Justin Sidney

Hometown:
I was born in Chicago Illinois, but grew up right here in Peoria.

Favorite thing about Methodist College:
My favorite thing about MC so far is the limited number of students per class. Having a smaller class frees instructors up to do multiple things that they may not have been able to do in a larger class

setting, such as meeting with students after a class without being in a big hurry, remembering your name, or something as small as being able to recall a specific concern you have about the class.

Future plans:

My future plans after graduating MC are to work as a RN in surgery. I would specifically love to work as a cardiovascular operating room nurse (CVOR).

How the Alumni Scholarship has helped you:

The Methodist College Alumni scholarship has helped me tremendously. If I did not have this scholarship I would have been obligated to take out extra loans in order to complete my enrollment here at MC. Through the generosity of the Methodist College Alumni, I was able to pay for all of my books this semester along with a portion of my classes.



Name:
John Cation

Hometown:
Galesburg, Illinois

Favorite thing about Methodist College:
The atmosphere, the professors, the faculty, my peers, and the education that I am receiving

Future plans:
To become a Nurse Practitioner

How the Alumni Scholarship has helped you:

This scholarship will help me pay my tuition and relieve a lot of stress. This will allow me to focus more on my education.

If you would like to make a tax deductible contribution to our scholarship funds or create a new scholarship, please contact Alissa Selburg at 309-672-5740 or mail your gift to:

Methodist College
415 NE St. Mark Court
Peoria, IL 61603

Trivia Night: Fun and Funds for a Great Cause!

Methodist College hosted its first ever Trivia Night on January 30 at Kickapoo Creek Winery to raise money for student scholarships. Over 150 people attended, including alumni, students, staff members, faculty, and community members. Attendees gathered in teams of 3-8 people to test their trivia knowledge, with questions spanning various categories such as U.S. presidents, TV personalities, sports history, human anatomy, and even famous owls! The winning team walked away with bragging rights and new Methodist College sweatshirts.



Tickets to attend Trivia Night were \$5 in advance and \$10 at the door, with all ticket proceeds supporting student scholarships. Drinks and a buffet were available for an additional charge, and Kickapoo Creek Winery donated 25% of their profits from the evening to the scholarship fund. A grand total of \$1,564 was raised, which will help provide financial assistance to students seeking to become healthcare professionals. The event was a huge success, and we plan to make Trivia Night a biannual occurrence!



Congratulations Graduates!

Methodist College celebrated graduates and welcomed its newest alumni on Saturday, December 20 at the fall 2014 Commencement Ceremony. Family and friends gathered at Embassy Suites in East Peoria to watch as the College awarded the Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) degree to 12 summer and 44 fall graduates. Jeanine Spain (Class of 1975), was the alumni speaker at the commencement ceremony.

Congratulations to all of the recent graduates and welcome to the Methodist Alumni Association!

Summer 2014 Graduates

Victoria Anderson
Noel Elomari
Ellen Hendricks
John Heneghan
Jennifer King
Grace Kisse
Angela Lohr

Sarah Lykkebak
Taha Mohiuddin
Denise Patel
Matthew Vose
Florence Woods

Fall 2014 Graduates

Isaac Adeyemi
Collin Allen
Chrissy Anderson
Matthew Bird
Chelsey Brown
Diane Buchanan
Jessica Bugos

Maria Bulleri
Kaitlynn Canfield
Katlin Cho
Holly Creamean
Heather Donovan
Renee Espinosa
Mandra Fandel
Anthony Frederes
Travis Griffin
Nicole Henry
Kari Hoffman
Molly Horsley
Stacy Hutchinson
Chelsea Jones
Michelle Keinath
Elizabeth King
Jennifer Kolettis
Allison Lowman
Courtney Mallaney

Lauren Mathy
Stephanie Myers
Jessica Polic
Tiffany Randle
Cara Reed
Brittanie Reynolds
Kathryn Rude
Ariel Shirey
Anastasia Siewe
Gina Smith
Chelsea Stevens
Allison Stranger
Tiffany Troyer
Haleigh Vaughn
Darice Watson
Matthew Wiegand
Bryce Wieland
Emma Wright

Behavioral Health Issues Conference

Methodist College is co-sponsoring an upcoming event with UnityPoint Health entitled “Behavioral Health Issues and Developmental Delays” on March 12th at Methodist College. The purpose for this conference is to provide up-to-date information regarding available resources for both the professional and non-professional caregivers of children with special needs, resulting in developmental delays and behavioral disorders. We would love to see our alumni participate in this event, as this conference will provide strategies to maintain a safe and caring environment for both the patient and the caregiver. The morning session will focus on patient advocacy with our keynote speaker, Dr. Karen Kelly, an SIUE nursing professor who has a son with severe autism. She has had to advocate for the rights of those who have no voice in an effort to maintain resources which are necessary for the safety of these patients and their families. After the morning session, we will have a lunch and learn session, where you have an opportunity to hear from other experts in the field of behavioral medicine.

All nurses will receive 5.5 contact hours through the Ohio Nurses’ Association (ONA) for attending both the morning session and the lunch and learn. A box lunch and drink will be provided.



**Register
Today!**

Registration

There is no charge for our alumni. Please go to methodistCOL.edu to register online. Click on the Behavioral Health Issues Conference link and complete your registration form. You may park at the college on the conference day, as there will not be any classes in session. We look forward to seeing all of you!

Questions?

**Contact Lori Wagner at 309-672-5548
or lwagner@methodistcol.edu**



Velma Kneer Larson

1910–2014

Methodist School of Nursing lost its oldest known living alumni. Velma Kneer Larson, 104, died December 9, 2014 in Weslaco, TX. Velma was a 1932 graduate from Methodist School of Nursing. She lived a full and rich life and never stopped being a nurse, even when she was being taken care of as a patient. Velma’s friends describe her as caring and she made an impact on the lives of many. She will be missed but Velma’s legacy continues on with her family, friends and through the Velma Kneer Larson Scholarship that she established for nursing students at Methodist.



Methodist College
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415 St. Mark Court
Peoria, IL 61603

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*for information on upcoming
alumni events, visit
methodistCOL.edu/alumni*

GIVING TUESDAY at Methodist College



Giving Tuesday was held on December 2nd and our students, staff and faculty made quite the impact on the local community. Giving Tuesday inspires personal philanthropy and encourages bigger, better and smarter charitable giving during the holiday season, showing that the world

truly gives as good as it gets. Methodist College sold special t-shirts and old fashioned soda in order to raise funds to assist the mental health unit at UnityPoint Health – Methodist with the purchase of exercise equipment. Through the MC community's support, the College raised close to \$700 dollars. In addition, faculty member Colleen Karn took one of her classes to visit Lutheran Hillside Village to spread cheer by delivering slipper socks and lotion to residents. The College truly exemplified the meaning of Giving Tuesday through their service to the local community.

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CONTACT US

MC_Alumni@methodistCOL.edu

methodistCOL.edu/alumni

stay in touch • share updates
get information • support Methodist



If you no longer wish to receive fundraising communications from UnityPoint Health - Methodist|Proctor you can e-mail methodistproctorfoundation@unitypoint.org or call us at 309-672-5741 and request on this call that we remove you from our contact list to receive communications for this purpose.