

JUNE 2019

TODAY NEWSLETTER

Vol 5, Iss 6



The newsletter for
alumni and friends of
Central Christian College



IN THE GARDEN



Spring is now in full bloom here in McPherson, with summer weather just peaking over the horizon. We recently celebrated commencement and watched as the residential faculty packed up their offices for summer break. This has afforded the First Lady and I a few moments to breathe, reflect, and enjoy the season.

One activity that historically has been a relaxing and enriching process, is gardening. As this is our first year in the presidential residence, we have been working hard to establish our garden and tend to the plants, flowers, and trees on the premises. There is something that is just uniquely pleasant getting your hands dirty, tending the soil, and partnering with God in the creative process. For me personally, I find that this activity nourishes the soul and restores the spirit. That is until Joey (5) and Jeremiah (6) decided they needed to help. Now, I never want to garden again.

Between dumping out the soil, pouring rocks down holes designed for plants, digging holes not designed for plants, spilling water, spraying water, picking flowers, falling on the plants, walking on the plants, dropping the plants, digging up plants just planted, and a myriad of other activities that had nothing to do with planting – any hope of

“THERE IS SOMETHING THAT IS JUST UNIQUELY PLEASANT GETTING YOUR HANDS DIRTY, TENDING THE SOIL, AND PARTNERING WITH GOD IN THE CREATIVE PROCESS.”

enjoying the tranquility of gardening flew out the window.

Seriously folks. For every hole I dug with purpose, two more were dug for reasons beyond my ability to comprehend. Weeds that were pulled were replanted elsewhere and good plants, just planted, were uprooted because, in the mind of my boys, those plants were weeds. I used to have a rose bush. It is now a rose stub, because in an effort to help with trimming – well, let’s just say pruning shears in the hands of a kindergartner is just not a good choice. At one point I found one son walking across the yard dragging an axe, ready to “help”, by chopping down a tree. While at the same time the other son was “helping” me tune up the lawnmower, by unscrewing parts that I am too incompetent to figure how to put back together again.

Who knew that by adding two kids to

the mix could turn a refreshing, rejuvenating experience into cataclysmic chaos, leaving us all worn and weary.

That is why I laugh when I read verses like Galatians 3:36, where we are called the children of God. In a sane world, a passage like that should evoke - images of love, grace, and deep compassion. The words conjure up pictures of a loving Savior wrapping his arms around an innocent child. A perfect picture of purity, virtue, and adoration. That is until you have actually interacted with children on a regular basis. Because if you have, like I did on the now infamous gardening day, you might have a little different take on how you interpret this passage.

I am not saying that caring for children is a bad thing. Dea and I love our boys and cherish them deeply. However, those Hallmark moments of a child sitting in your lap, innocently looking up at you, listening to you, with face aglow - well they happen -but not as often as we would like. Reality is much different than those little inspirational pictures of the calm, composed, attentive child sitting in Jesus' lap. At least that is true in my home.

Ctd. on page 3

FIRST WORD

Ctd. from page 2

So, when I read a passage, reminding me that we are children of God – my heart goes out to God. Because if it is anything like what I experience, we are like small children coming alongside our Father with the intent to help. However, like the children we are, our helping may sometimes be more like spilling, dumping, sloshing, kicking, dropping, and splattering our way forward - clumsily trying to do what daddy does. As is often the case, such activity causes twice as much work for daddy.

So, sure - yes, we are children of God - but maybe we need to adjust the focus of our perspective and begin to thank

God not only for the care, love, and grace he provides to us as His children, but also for the immense patience, tolerance, and restraint He affords. For I am sure that for every blessed moment of peace found on His lap, there are probably a dozen other moments He would rather turn me over His knee. Yet, He allows us to partner with Him. He gives us the chance to till the soil. He invites us to plant the seeds. He call us to work the harvest. In the end, through His grace, His forbearance, and His assistance; the Kingdom actually grows. An amazing reality when you think about all the ways we muck it up.

In retrospect, please remember to pray for the work of Central Christian College. For whatever reason, God has

provided us the opportunity to join Him in this great work – taking the lives of young people and rooting them in Christ. Pray that His great grace and even greater mercy saturates the work of every individual partnered in the mission of providing a Christ-Centered Education for Character. May His good work, done through us and in spite of us, bear great fruit.

While you are at it, please pray for my garden too – it can use all the help it can get.



Rev. Dr. Lenny F. Favara

President | CC '89, '91

THE LAST GIFT

“This is Norma Bush. My son, Gordon Bush, was a student at Central in the 70’s and he has been contributing to something in the business department. I don’t know exactly what it was but I am wondering if you could look it up and get back to me. Gordon passed away a couple of weeks ago and he was wanting some of the honorariums to go in to that fund. It had something to do with business students and summer seminars as nearly as I can figure out. So if you could find that out and give me a call back. This is Norma Bush. I would appreciate that.”

Dr. David Ferrell, Chair of the Business Department, received the above voice mail unexpectedly on April 9, 2019. One of the activities available to students involved with the Phi Beta Lambda (PBL) business club is to compete at the PBL National Leadership conference held at various locations around the country. Each May, Dr. Ferrell has been writing to business and PBL alumni for several years asking for additional financial help to supplement college resources. Gordon Bush had faithfully responded with his annual contribution. Dr. Ferrell and Gordon are both members of the class of 1975.

Evidently, in the last few weeks of his

life, as Gordon was taking care of matters of concern to him, he remembered the PBL national trip and wanted to make sure he was able to help one last time. He suggested to family members that from the honorariums that were to come in his remembrance, he wanted the students attending the national conference to be sure and receive financial support. That faithful gift has come in support of the 2019 trip to San Antonio, TX.

We are grateful to all those that have contributed to the PBL national trip over the past several years. Their faithful support has allowed a number of students to attend which provided a wonderful experience as students were

able to visit new sites, meet new people and compete against other business students in various events. Over \$20,000 has been collected and used for trips to Baltimore, MD; Anaheim, CA; Chicago, IL; Atlanta, GA; Nashville, TN, and more. Over the past seven years, over 25 top ten finishes have been garnered at the PBL national conference by students of Central Christian College of Kansas.

To partner with Central PBL and increase the influence of Gordon’s generosity go online to cckcfoundation.org to help fund their trip to San Antonio.



CCCK ASL INDUCTS ONLINE STUDENTS

The Alpha Sigma Lambda (ASL) Honor Society was founded in 1946 by Dr. Ralph Posey at Northwestern University, and is designed to recognize the “special achievements of adults who accomplish academic excellence while facing the competing interests of home and work.”

To this day Alpha Sigma Lambda is not only the oldest, but also the largest, chapter-based honor society for non-traditional students.

- A** ALPHA - FIRST
 - S** SIGMA - SCHOLARSHIP
 - L** LAMBDA - LEADERSHIP
- First in scholarship and leadership*

Students were selected from the highest twenty percent of the 2014 graduating class who have earned a minimum of twenty-four graded credits. These students must meet the GPA requirements from Central Christian College

2019 ASL INDUCTEE'S

Clinton Anderson	Antoinette Nicole Mays
Carolyn D. Billyard	Shawn Patrick McMahon
Stacy LaCole Craig	Lori Ann Novak
Gwyn Marie Fogarty	Leah Michelle Peterson
Marc Vincent Golden	Adam Dean Reed
Bradley Michael Hogan	Debbie Allison Riexinger
Joan P. Inman	LeeAnn Sherman-Dembinsky
Christopher Raymond Kurtz	Christopher Arlen Zehr

reflected by their cumulative scholastic record, as the basis for computing scholastic eligibility.

Alpha Sigma Lambda is the only Honor Society in the nation specifically for adult students, with hundreds of chapters nationwide, including Georgetown, Marquette, Johns Hopkins, Penn State, St. John’s, Syracuse, Friends University and, of course, Central Christian College of Kansas.

97 PERCENT OF STUDENTS felt that CCCK helped them develop a greater commitment to serve!



A NATURAL SCIENCE UPDATE

Recently the Natural Science Department held their end of the year Science Club Cookout, election of officers and Tri Beta Honor Society for the Biological Sciences induction of new honorees.

The new honoree/ inductees are: Meghan Morey (2019); Sydney O'Brien (2020) and Emmalee McDonald (2020). All are Health Science/Biology majors. The Science Club is sponsored by Mr. Michael Craig and Dr. Robin Jackson. Mike Craig is a founding member of the Central Christian College Chapter of Tri-Beta (Iota Alpha Iota) with Robin Jackson as an honorary/founding member. Emeritus professor of Zoology/Biology Dr. Merrill McHenry is also a founding member of the local chapter.

The Science Club is again conducting its annual plant sales with offerings in our greenhouse awaiting their adoptive homes (gardens)!

This summer the Science Department will also be hosting Camp Invention in Mingenback Hall which is a nationally acclaimed STEM project for elementary-aged students.

Dr. Jackson will again be hosting tours and lectures the first

and third Saturdays in June at the Heart of America Science Resource Center and Museum in Haviland, Kansas.

Students from the Natural Science Department will be interning/shadowing in various venues over the summer months.

No matter the season, here in the Central Christian College Science and Math department we continue to be engaged in the pursuit of Scientific Truth!



Pictured | Dr. Robin Jackson teaches a class

ONLINE FACULTY SPOTLIGHT

PROFESSOR KYLE HOODMAN

Online Courses: English Composition I and II, Environmental Science, Introduction to Philosophy

Degrees and/or Current Work: Associate of Arts from Orange Coast College, Bachelor of Arts and Multiple-Subject Teaching Credential from California State University Long Beach, Masters of Education from Biola (Bible Institute of Los Angeles) University. I currently teach 6th grade in Cypress School District, and in the summers I teach writing, math, science (4th-6th grades) for the University of California Irvine.



Home: I live with my wife, Celea (pictured), in Huntington Beach, California

Hobbies: swimming, running, guitar, singing (making a joyful noise to Jesus), song-writing, spending time with my wife and five children (bike rides, library, beach, camping, road trips)

Who Inspires Me: Jesus Christ inspires me to glorify my Father in heaven every day through his Spirit who gives me the strength to carry out his will!

My Favorite... (Movie/Book/Snack Food): My favorite movie is Interstellar, my favorite book is the book of Psalms, and my favorite snack food is granola/trail mix.

Why you enjoy teaching online at CCKK: I enjoy teaching online at CCKK because it gives me the opportunity to pray and infuse each course with Scripture in order to integrate our faith in Christ with the current course content.

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No Place Like Home



HOMECOMING 2019 | OCTOBER 4-6, 2019

ONLINE GRADUATION



Pictured | The Online Class of 2019



Pictured | Our Online Program's first Legacy Family

RESIDENTIAL GRAD GROUP PHOTOS



MULTI-CULTURAL STUDENT ASSOCIATION



SPORTS SCIENCE DEPARTMENT



BUSINESS DEPARTMENT



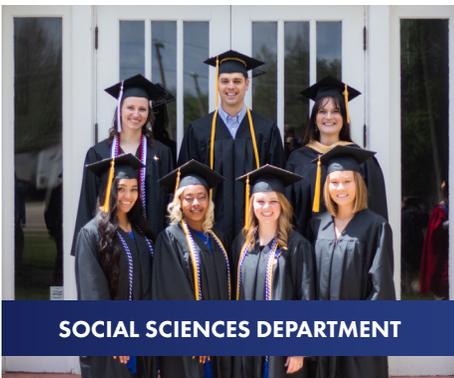
NATURAL SCIENCE DEPARTMENT



MINISTRY AND THEOLOGY DEPARTMENT



EDUCATION DEPARTMENT



SOCIAL SCIENCES DEPARTMENT



CRIMINAL JUSTICE DEPARTMENT



COMMUNICATIONS DEPARTMENT

RESIDENTIAL GRADUATION



Pictured | The Residential Class of 2019





Pictured | (L to R) Brad's wife, Mrs. Joy Brown, and Academè of Achiever Recipient Mr. Bradford "Brad" Brown

ACADEMÈ OF ACHIEVER GOES TO BROWN

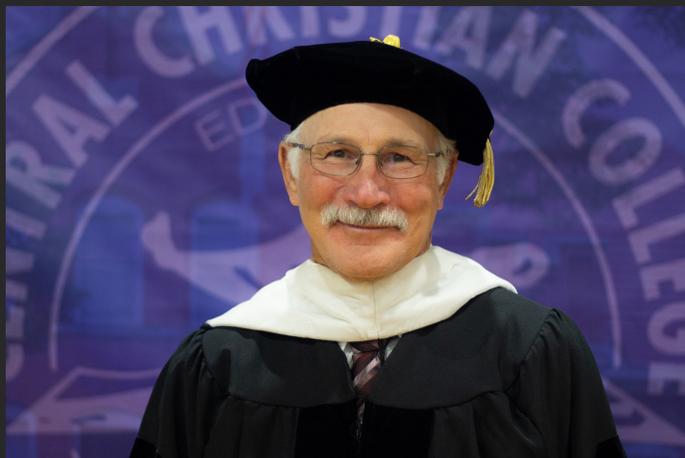
Mr. Bradford Brown was this year's Academè of Achiever recipient. Like his parents before him, he attended Central Christian College of Kansas and has a rich CCKK heritage, stating that *"Central has made much of the fabric of my life"*. In fact, Central had an influence and impact on his life long before he was even born. In addition to attending CCKK, his mother graduated from Greenville and taught at Central in 1945. She met her husband at CCKK and they were married on the island by the McPherson Courthouse in 1948.

During his youth, Bradford's family would visit McPherson often, as they had many family friends that lived there. Then, in 1969, he began his freshman year of college at Central and played on the soccer team. He would go on to hold the title of Religious Life Director during his sophomore year and worked with many speakers over the course of the school year.

While attending Central, he would meet Joy Parsons, who also has a rich

"CENTRAL HAS MADE MUCH OF THE FABRIC OF MY LIFE"

MR. BRADFORD BROWN



CCKK heritage, as her father was Elmer Parsons, former president of the college. Bradford would follow Joy to Seattle Pacific after completing his time at Central and would earn a degree in Biology. The following summer of 1973, Bradford and Joy were married at the McPherson Free Methodist Church

and moved to Bradford's hometown of Leoti, KS. The couple have two children, both of whom are married, and a number of grandchildren.

An avid farmer, Bradford can see God in action while farming. One of his jobs is raising cattle, of which he says that he *"sees [God's] love and majesty with the birth of each new calf"*. One of his biggest hobbies is flying, like his father before him. As a pilot, he says he can *"feel [God's] power when he flies"*.

Today, Bradford has his own farming business and continues to have a great love for flying. He is a faithful supporter of CCKK and the aviation program. Over the years, he has served as a liaison for the College in the Western Kansas area and has actively participated in campus fundraising. He finds strength from God's Word each day, especially Joshua 1:9, *"Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be frightened, and do not be dismayed, for the LORD your God is with you wherever you go"*.



Pictured | (L to R) President Favara, Servant Leader Award Recipient, Mrs. Naomi Ullum, and Dr. Dean Kroeker

A LIFE OF SERVICE

RETIRED ART TEACHER RECEIVES THE 2018-2019 SERVANT LEADER AWARD

Mrs. Naomi Ullum was the recipient of this year's Servant Leader Award at Baccalaureate. As an artist, Ullum experiences inspiration and delight in the Word and creativity of God. Using her training and growing in the spiritual gifts God has blessed her with; she enjoys sharing these blessings with others.

During Ullum's life, art showed itself to be an opportunity for her to grow through the Society of Decorative Painters, earning her C.D.A.(2000) and the M.D.A. floral portion of the Master Decorative Artist, (2009).

Over 32 years ago, Ullum started her own business, Special Treasures Studio in Hutchinson, KS where she provides painting lessons. In 2004, God opened a door for her by providing an amazing opportunity for ministry and growth by serving as the art instructor for Central Christian College of Kansas.

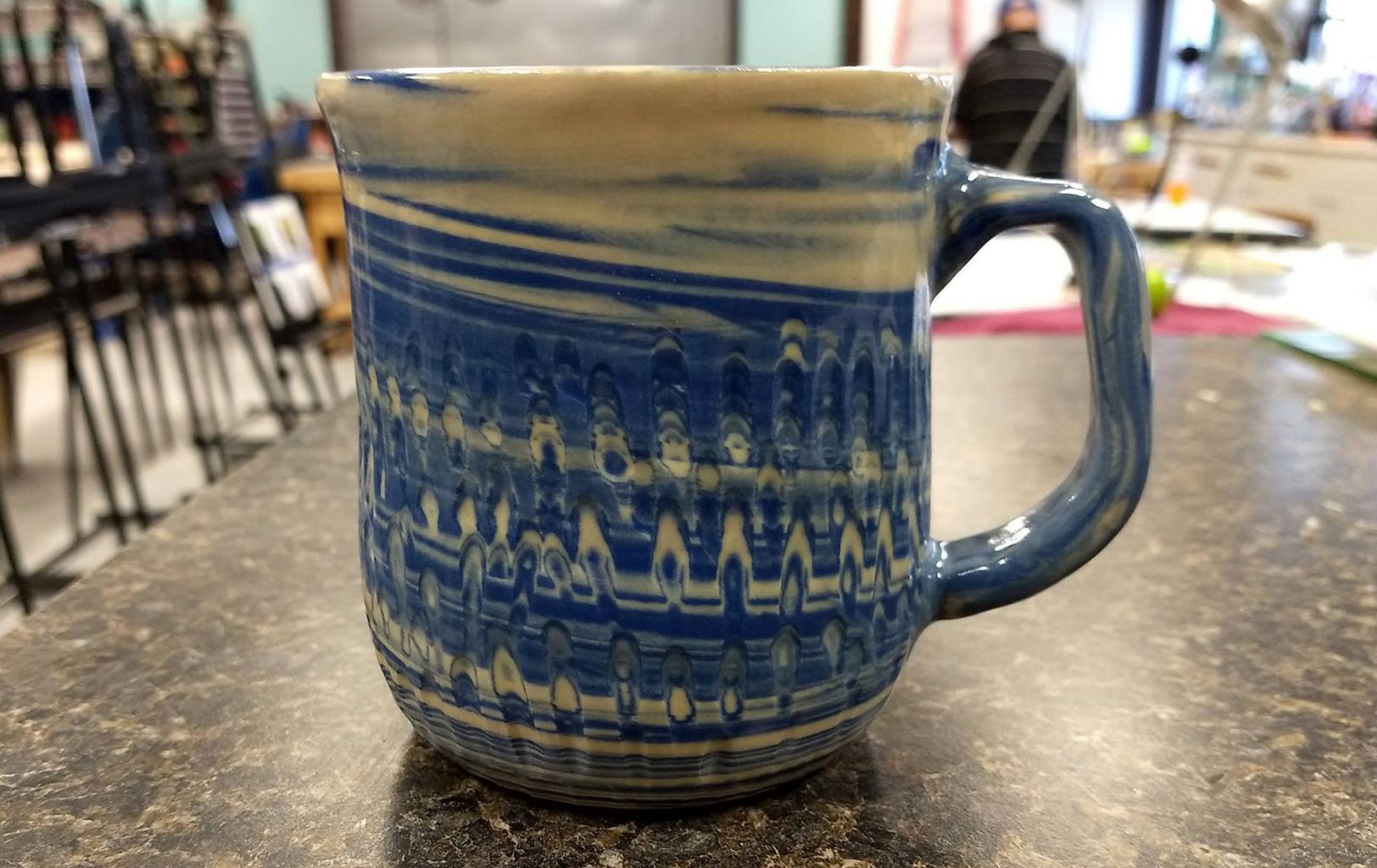
Over the years, serving the students and faculty, and the willingness to do the hard work and research grew the Art Department under her leadership. Through her expertise, she was provided with opportunities for students to

be involved with outdoor and indoor murals in McPherson and surrounding communities, which you can see as you explore these areas. She also served alongside students on several restoration crews for the McPherson Opera House, St. Mark – The Evangelist Catholic Church and has received several awards from the Kansas Preservation Alliance for Restoration.

In 2017, after touching dozens of lives, Naomi retired from CCKK. However, she continues to use her gifts to teach and volunteer. Ullum is blessed to have spent 43 years of marriage to her amazing husband who worked alongside helping Central to serve Jesus by serving others. They enjoy spending time with family – their 2 children and four grandchildren.



Pictured | (L to R) President Favara, Servant Leader Award Recipient, Mrs. Naomi Ullum, and Ullum's husband



THE ART OF CERAMICS

As the Arts across the country seem to be getting less attention and shrinking, we at CCK are committed to their growth and development. Retired art instructor, Mrs. Naomi Ullum did a fantastic job of encouraging young students to cultivate a love and passion for all artistic mediums. When Mrs. Ullum, joined the Central family in 2004, the Central Art department was a smattering of classes. During her tenure she oversaw the creation of many classes, expanding the program into the graphic arts and 3D arts with stained glass and ceramics being added to the list.

12 years later the department continues to grow in offerings and even the space it takes to hold this budding department. One of Ullum's legacies was acquiring and remodeling the art building across from Greer Auditorium and turning it into a wonderful space for students and a second home to many.

Professor Amy Goering has continued to carry the torch Mrs. Ullum passed to her two years ago. The last year alone saw more students in Arts classes than the program had ever seen before. Ceramics, which hadn't been taught in several years, made a strong comeback sparking the department to create another class this spring to accommodate all the students who were interested.

The addition of a new class, Perceiving the Arts, exposes over 50 students each semester to the arts. They study all forms of the arts and, through that class, many have decided to try their hand at other Art classes, increasing the excitement and love of the Arts across campus.

As a department we hope to see that trend continue to grow and develop in the years to come, but we need your help. The kiln that is used to fire and create wonderful ceramic pieces in

Perceiving the Arts, Fundamentals of Ceramics, and Studio Ceramics is beginning to fail, and desperately needs replaced by the start of this next school year.

For \$3,000 we can purchase a new kiln that will continue to serve the students (which was over a third of the entire campus this year, as well as the faculty & staff who enjoy coming over and using the space. Donations to this effort can be made online at cckfoundation.org. Every dollar contributed puts us closer to replacing the kiln and will bring joy and passion to over a third of our campus in the coming school years.

YOU CAN HELP AT
cckfoundation.org

PASSING THE BATON

The music department is excited to welcome Mrs. Amy Tolle to Central Christian College of Kansas. Mrs. Tolle, who has taught K-12 music at Elyria Christian School for the last ten years, brings the experience of developing a choral program and starting a band program, both which have received music festival honors. The choral and vocal activities will be under the direction of Mrs. Tolle, who is excited to continue the rich tradition of choir at Central. Amy received her Bachelors in Music Education from Tabor College and is currently pursuing a Masters of Music Education from Wichita State University.

Mrs. Tolle has been overseeing CCK Music Education student Jill Miller over the last two semesters, through methods courses and student teaching. Over the course of her student teaching, Jill has had the opportunity to work with Elyria's choirs, bands, and elementary students. Jill has made a positive impact with the students and faculty, as she has rehearsed and conducted ensembles at school concerts, and her junior high choir received a "1" rating at the league music festival. Jill is looking forward to receiving the baton from Amy, as she will be taking Mrs. Tolle's position at Elyria in the fall



to continue the legacy that Amy has developed at Elyria.

As for the 2018-19 school year, Bishop Ryan Mackey received the baton from Ms. Tiffiney Harms to fulfill the position of choral and vocal activities, and he is looking forward to passing the baton to Mrs. Amy Tolle. Ryan has been teaching in the music department at Central since 2006 and is planning to depart the States to pursue a Ph.D. in Music and Theology at Durham University in Durham, England beginning

the fall of 2019. For his tenure at Central, Ryan has taught performance lab bands, music history, music recording courses, music appreciation, and applied bass, guitar, voice, as well as a few courses in the ministry and theology department. The music department hosted a farewell reception for Bp. Mackey on Tuesday, April 30th in the CCM Building on campus. Even though we are saying goodbye to Ryan on campus, we are excited to say that he will be continuing to serve our on-line students from abroad.

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