

Alumni News

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FALL 2014



Alumni Reunion

President's Corner



I HAVE THE PRIVILEGE OF WELCOMING new students on their first day of orientation to Baptist College of Health Sciences, and it always brings me back to my first day of nursing school and how nervous I was trying to take it all in. As I look at the faces of our new students, I also wonder about their career paths and the patients and families they will touch with their service.

My welcome is brief, but I want to give them a glimpse beyond just the activities of that day, so I ask them to think ahead to graduation day. While there is a tremendous amount of work and learning between now and graduation, I believe it is always good to begin with your ultimate goal in mind.

We pass around the College pin worn by our graduates, and I use the symbols on the pin to share more about our values and mission. The graduation pin is a replica of the concrete relief above the front entrance to the College which was originally above the Madison Avenue entrance to Baptist Memorial Hospital. It also is a reproduction of components on the official College seal. The center of the pin reflects a hand resting on the open Bible which represents Baptist College as a Christian, faith-based institution. The other hand on the pin is raised to reflect service and our belief that serving others as health care professionals is a calling and a true vocation. The tree limb represents a branch of the tree of knowledge and reflects the learning aspect of our mission. Overall, the pin is a representation of the College's guiding principle, Higher Education, Higher Purpose.

Many of you have shared how much you treasure your graduation pin, because it represents a legacy of excellence established through the years and all of the hard work required to become a Baptist College graduate. Several years ago our former president and CEO of Baptist Memorial Health Care, Stephen Reynolds, was

visited by the daughter of a 1938 Baptist School of Nursing graduate. The daughter knew how much her mother had cherished her school pin, and she wanted to give it back as part of the educational archives of Baptist.

When Mr. Reynolds passed it on to me for safe keeping, I tried to imagine what the world was like in 1938 for this new graduate. From a health care perspective, an internet search revealed that 1938 was the year that the March of Dimes was established with the purpose of fighting polio. Penicillin was being grown in the laboratory but was not yet an option to fight bacteria in humans. Electroconvulsive therapy (ECT), or shock therapy, was first introduced for the treatment of mental illness. New York became the first state to require medical tests for marriage licenses.

Yes, the world is a different place now than it was in 1938. However, I would predict that this 1938 graduate was just as anxious to graduate and begin her career as our 2014 graduates are. Regardless of the year, our mission will always be that graduates wearing a Baptist College pin are professionals who are well prepared to care for, and make a difference to, those whom they serve.

Warm Regards,

BETTY SUE MCGARVEY, PHD, RN
~ President

Alumni News

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 **BAPTIST COLLEGE**
OF HEALTH SCIENCES

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Class of 1964 celebrates 50 years

Annual Alumni Reunion

THE ANNUAL ALUMNI REUNION WEEKEND was held on June 6-7. Over 130 alumni participated in the reunion this year with the class of 1964 celebrating their 50 year anniversary. Several members of the class of 1949 were also in attendance celebrating 65 years since graduation from the Baptist

School of Nursing. The theme of the weekend was “Memories” with vintage decorations. The weekend kicked off at the College campus where alumni enjoyed dinner and entertainment by Bean and Bailey, a comedy team.

On Saturday, a luncheon was held at The Westin Hotel, Memphis. Mr. Stephen Reynolds was the featured speaker for the luncheon, and alumni enjoyed going down memory lane reflecting on the Medical Center and well-known names of individuals now deceased who played a large part in the history of Baptist. Throughout his speech, Mr. Reynolds emphasized the importance of quality education throughout the 100 year history and the excellent reputation worldwide. He shared stories that included heartfelt experiences

of life and death, some most memorable events, and also humorous stories of rules and regulations from the old days.

Each year special awards are presented to alumni who have proven to be the top in their profession, continued service to the college, and in advancing their careers. This year the Young Alumni Award was presented to Alishia Cox, a 2009 graduate of the Nuclear Medicine Technology Program. The 2014 Service Award was presented to Phyllis Gates, a nursing graduate from the class of 1958. The 2014 Distinguished Alumni Award went to Mrs. Helen Deneka, nursing class of 1946, who is well known among her co-workers and colleagues as one of the longest working nurses in the United States. Mrs. Deneka, at 88 years old, works at Baptist Tipton.





Around Campus

JUNE FRESHMAN ORIENTATION

Two orientations were held during the month of June for freshman students only. Students began the day with a continental breakfast and walked through the informational fair. The agenda for the day included Student Services, Housing, Bookstore, Security, Alumni Association and much more.

Special thanks to Camesha Wright, Denese Shumaker and Sara Brumley for coming out and talking with the new students and their parents. The Alumni Association provided a Baptist College tee shirt as a welcome to the college.





1. & 2. Student Accomplishments

Two Baptist College students recently received scholarships sponsored by external agencies. Alicia Davis, senior nursing student, received the "Making Lives Better" scholarship sponsored by Landau Uniforms. She was one of five Mid-South students to receive the \$2,500 scholarship. Antonia Foster, nursing student, is the recipient of a \$5,000 scholarship sponsored by the National Student Nurses Association. Antonia was one of five students receiving the scholarship in Tennessee.

3. Day of Service

Day of Service on Saturday, June 21 was an opportunity for students to volunteer at the Healthy Shelby Event "140/90: Living Life Under Pressure" with Coach Lionel Hollins and his team. About 20-25 students earned community service hours. Look for future opportunities to volunteer with SGA-CARE sponsored or coordinated events.



4. Dr. Hooker on Local ABC 24.

Dr. Kendrick Hooker, program chair of Biomedical Sciences, was interviewed by Yvette Whiteside on Local ABC 24. Dr. Hooker talked about the Biomedical Science program and how it gives students the opportunity for classes that are only available in graduate school. Biomedical Sciences prepares students for post graduate education. These include fields such as pharmacy, optometry, physician's assistant, medicine, physical therapy and other health care fields.



5. Kira Anderson on News Channel 5

Kira Anderson, program chair of Respiratory Care, was on News Channel Five in June to discuss specifics of the Respiratory Care program at Baptist College. She stated that the field of respiratory care (RC) is changing rapidly. Changes in the health care delivery system, an aging population, and advances in health care technology have created a demand for RC practitioners with advanced knowledge and skill sets.

6. New Student Government Association Officers

In May, the 2014-2015 Student Government Association (SGA) officers were sworn in in the Joan and Charles Baker Chapel.

Front row L to R: Katie Travis, executive vice president; Casey Glover, president; and Briyanna Evans, vice president of communications. **Back row L to R:** Zack Prentice, vice president of finance; Stephanie Schultz, vice president; Savannah Owens, vice president of programming; and Trevor Wallace, vice president of health & wellness.

7. Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC)

In preparation for the SACSCOC site visit, students, faculty and staff were encouraged to submit names for the QEP (Quality Enhancement Plan) Topic, Implementing Interprofessional Education Through Learning Communities. The winner, Amber Wideman, a nursing student, was presented with a \$250 Amazon gift card for the winning entry. Her submission, P.U.L.S.E. (Professionals United in Life, Service, and Education) will be used throughout the Baptist College community to remind everyone of the QEP focus. The SACSCOC team and the QEP team have been working diligently for many months and will continue until the on-site campus "SACSCOC Reaffirmation" visit, October 21-23. The response from the on-site reaffirmation committee findings to SASCOC, if required, is March of 2015.

L to R: Dr. Betty Sue McGarvey, Ramona Patterson, Amber Wideman and Michelle McDonald.



8. Presidential Ambassadors Lead Chapel

Several of the Presidential Ambassadors led the Chapel service on June 16. They began with prayer and Christian music, providing a quiet time of reflection, followed by scripture reading. Many of the ladies gave a personal story of something they faced that was difficult, but how they

turned to God and were able to find peace. Also, that we should keep in mind we never know the struggles of those around us; it could be just as difficult as our own or worse. Praying to God asking for his strength when you are down and to believe that you will be triumphant. And what a joy it is when that happens.

Faculty and Staff Accomplishments

DR. CINDY BORGERS, associate professor of Nursing, has been selected as one of the “Excellent Eleven” Top 100 Nurses in Fayette and Shelby Counties. She was recognized at the 27th Celebrate Nursing Gala, April 26 at the Holiday Inn, University of Memphis.

DR. CHRISTOPHER CHURCH, professor of Philosophy and Religion, was elected President of the Mid-South Comfort Care Coalition at the quarterly board meeting on January 11. The Mid-South Comfort Care Coalition is “a group of citizens dedicated to helping individuals live with dignity, comfort and peace as they near the end of life.” The coalition’s mission is “to serve as a broad-based community network to educate the members of the community and advocate for people with life-threatening illnesses and end of life concerns.”

DR. CHURCH, was the keynote speaker for the MCCC’s spring community education conference, “Mapping Personal Health Care Decisions for Your Life’s Journey,” held at the University of Memphis’ University Center, March 1. The topic for his plenary address was “*Stories of Family Health Care Decision-Making: Lessons Learned.*” Approximately 225 community members and health care providers attended the training event. Dr. Church also led a breakout session, “*Deciding for Others: Ethical Considerations for Providers.*”

CHRISTEN GANLEY completed the “Clinical Instructor Academy”, a set of six Continuing Education modules created by the ASRT (American Society of Radiologic Technologists) geared for the radiologic technologist transitioning from patient care to education.

DR. LOREDANA HAEGER, Provost/Vice President of Academic & Student Affairs represented Baptist College of Health Sciences at the Spring 2014 Tennessee College Association annual meeting on March 26. The theme for the 2014 meeting was Drive to 55 through Collaboration. Dr. Noland, President of East Tennessee State University and Dr. Greer, President of Milligan College presented a collaboration between their two institutions. The keynote address was given by the Chancellor of the Tennessee Board of Regents, John Morgan.

DR. LISA HIGHT, professor of biology, and **MS. MICHELLE MCDONALD**, assistant professor of biology, presented a workshop entitled, *Best Practices in Teaching A&P, at the Annual National Human Anatomy and Physiology Society* in Jacksonville, Fla. The discussion involved presenters and participants sharing approaches and techniques that have been used to successfully assist students in learning the comprehensive study of human anatomy and physiology.

DR. LISA HIGHT, associate professor of Biology, completed the submission of writing answers for embedded questions in the text of 19 chapters in the 14th edition of the *Principles of Anatomy & Physiology* by Gerald Tortora and Bryan Derrickson.

DR. KENDRICKS HOOKER, chair of biomedical sciences and associate professor of biology, presented a workshop entitled, *An Intersection of Biomedical Research and Public Health at the Service Scholars Program* for the Mississippi IDEa Networks of Biomedical Research Excellence in Jackson, Miss. He discussed the relationship between biomedical research and the impact it has on diseases such as HIV/AIDS,

diabetes, and other chronic diseases.

Dr. Hooker was interviewed by FOX 13, WHBQ (Good Morning Memphis) on June 4 where he spotlighted Baptist College of Health Sciences and programs for working adults returning to schools.

KATHY HUNT, program chair and assistant professor for nuclear medicine technology, presented *Molecular Imaging: What a Nuclear Medicine Technologist Needs to Know* at the Nuclear Medicine Update 37th Annual Meeting sponsored by the University of Mississippi Medical Center in Jackson, Miss. The meeting was held February 15 - 16. The target audience was radiology/nuclear medicine physicians and nuclear medicine technologists. Ms. Hunt also presented this continuing education activity at the Nuclear Medicine Technologists of Tennessee Annual Meeting held in Chattanooga, TN, March 28 - 30.

KIM KENNEL, assistant professor of Nursing, has received recognition for 20 years of continuous certification in acute and critical care nursing by AACN, Certification Organization for the American Association of Critical Care Nurses.

SHARON MARKHAM, assistant professor of Nursing, has achieved certification as an Advanced Public Health Nurse by the American Nurse Credentialing Center (ANCC).

DR. BETTY SUE MCGARVEY, president of the Baptist College of Health Sciences, has agreed to serve as co-chair of the Memphis Talent Dividend/Graduate Memphis with Tomeka Hart, VP African American Initiatives, Teach for America.

DR. MITZI ROBERTS successfully defended her dissertation on May 29. The title of her dissertation was *Academic Variables Impacting the Cumulative Professional Grade Point Average of Allied Health Graduates*. The degree awarded from Union University is Ed.D. in Educational Leadership with a specialization in Higher Education.

KAREN SMITH AND DR. CHRIS CHURCH gave a mission trip report to East Acres Baptist Church on Sunday, June 1. For six years, East Acres has generously given financially and prayerfully to the BCHS mission trips.

KAREN SMITH, and her husband, Kerry, were guest speakers at the Blevins Institute for Spirituality and Mental Health, June 19-20. They led a four session seminar titled, *"Bewildered: A Journey into Chronic Pain."*

DR. CAROL WARREN has been named the new dean of allied health. Dr. Warren has been the program chair for Health Care Management since February, 2013.

Dr. Warren is licensed board certified behavioral health clinician, a health outcomes researcher and an academician who teaches health administration and health policy courses to PharmDs, PhDs and MPH students. Her experiential skills span 35 years where she practiced as a behavioral health clinician and was a health administrator in several organizations. Her experience spans managed care, quality management, and clinical trial site administration. In academe, she was an Assistant Dean in Nursing for 6 years where she led a Nursing Enterprise of 18 practice sites. She became faculty at Florida A&M University in 2010 and has a research focus on health management, disparities in health outcomes, behavioral health, health economics and policy.

She holds a B.A. from the University of Tennessee, M.S.W. from UT, a M.B.A. from Belhaven University and her Ph.D. from UT. Dr. Warren assumes her new role on September 15.

DR. DARIUS WILSON, program chair and professor of medical laboratory science, spoke on Clinical Sites: Issues and Approaches as part of a panel discussion at the Clinical Laboratory Educators' Conference (CLEC) on February 20 in San Jose, CA. Wilson also presented *Old Game, New Players: MLS Program Development* at the Clinical Laboratory Educator's Conference (CLEC) held in San Jose, CA on February 21 and served as a session moderator. Dr. Darius Wilson served on the NAACLS Program Approval review committee on 2-13-14 to vote on 16 programs seeking approval status for Phlebotomy programs.

Sigma Theta Tau International, Beta Theta Chapter-At-Large, has announced their 2014-2015 Board of Directors. Baptist College faculty who are members of the Board are:

MS. PHYLLIS JEANS
President Elect

MS. ANGEL BOLING
First Vice President

DR. CHERYL JOY
International Governance Committee Members

KIM KENNEL
University Counselor



JULIE LASLEY, program chair and assistant professor for radiation therapy, and **CHRISTEN GANLEY**, instructor for radiation therapy, presented VERT to the Board of Directors on May 19. Board members donned the 3D glasses and were immersed in a "live" radiation therapy room. In addition, board members practiced using PEARL, the patient education software utilized on a laptop. Some members were able to navigate the software and manipulate the controls by using the machine tab at the top of the page.

WREG Channel 3, in Memphis, arrived on campus May 20 to film students working with VERT and to interview Ms. Lasley. PEARL was also included in the video. The story ran May 26.

Looking Back: A Letter from Alumni

ANN PRITCHARD SALMON | Class of 1964



THE EAGERLY ANTICIPATED LETTER was addressed to Miss Elizabeth Ann Pritchard. It read, "You have been accepted to the Baptist Hospital School of Nursing." It was 1961. I would be joining others from Ohio, Tennessee, Arkansas, Mississippi, Indiana and even Hawaii. Baptist had

accepted the future class of 1964.

As September approached, suitcases were packed. Mine was seafoam green and heavy as lead. Heels were not an option in those days, but it wouldn't have made any difference as we had to lug them up flights of steps. We slept on brown metal beds and our rooms were cooled by "nature's breezes." Hughla Dockery would be our home for the next three years, just as it had been for hundreds of other young women. The first year's tuition was \$325, the second about \$250, and \$125 the third year. As seniors we received a \$20 monthly stipend. (We earned it.) We all shared a common goal and friendships were quickly forged; the kind that last a lifetime. Over a hundred students entered the freshmen class. Sadly, many would drop out. We cried.

Memories include Baptist brownies, heavily starched uniforms that could stand alone, salt tablets on the mantel during summer, signing in and out under the watchful eyes of the housemothers, enjoying the famous Christmas parties, and singing in The Nightingales glee club under the direction of Tommy Lane.

I think of those instructors who devoted themselves to teach and assist us in acquiring those skills so vital to our profession. Miss Virginia Sisney and Mrs. Maureen Halliburton come to mind. Others that influenced our lives were Dr. Barker, Chaplain McKnight, and dear Mary Ann Farris (our activities director). The hospital administrator, Dr. Frank Groner, was instrumental in the appearance of The Nightingales at the 1964 World's Fair in New York.

Changes in nursing care have certainly been plentiful in the past fifty years for which I am very thankful. No longer do patients have to be subjected to numerous injections as they were in the "old days."

Laparoscopic surgery has taken the place of the dreaded exploratory. I do wish nurses could be easily identified as they were in "our day." Since the demise of the cap and change in uniform styles, patients and their families are unsure who is the RN.

Fifty six student nurses graduated August 28, 1964. Twenty two of us celebrated our 50th reunion this past June at the Alumnae Reunion. Several are still working. We re-kindled friendships and the "years melted away" as one classmate described. We also remembered those of our class who are now deceased.

The Baptist Memorial Hospital as we knew it no longer stands. The dorm is only a memory. But the memories are indelible in our minds and hearts.

Shawn Fitzgerald Recognized by the Tennessee Association for Home Care

THE TENNESSEE ASSOCIATION FOR HOME CARE recently recognized Shawn Fitzgerald as TAHC's Outstanding Homecare Direct Service Provider.

The Tennessee Association for Home Care is a non-profit organization that is committed to home health agencies in Tennessee. The organization was

founded in 1981 and has worked to represent homecare services in the state.

Prior to the organization's annual spring convention, nominations are taken for the TAHC Outstanding Homecare Service Support Award.

This year, Fitzgerald was one of eight nominees for the award and the only recipient.

"It was quite an honor and a surprise to receive the award," said Fitzgerald. "I had been told that I was to be present in Nashville for the annual spring conference luncheon, expecting that to be a standard thing for all nominees for the award."

Fitzgerald, case manager and wound care specialist at Baptist Trinity Home Care and Hospice,

has been a member of the Baptist family for the past 18 years. He received his nursing diploma from Baptist School of Nursing and bachelor's degree in nursing from the Baptist College of Health Sciences.

While Fitzgerald may not have realized it, his family and friends recognized his potential to be a caretaker.

"I stumbled upon the field of nursing, hoping and praying that I would like it," said Fitzgerald. "I didn't think I had the characteristics to be a caregiver, but if you had asked anyone else in my family, they would have disagreed."

With almost 20 years in the field of nurs-



ing, Fitzgerald recounts his favorite aspects of being in this field.

"There are so many ways that a nurse has to touch the lives of patients," said Fitzgerald. "In home care, we work with patients in their environment, and we are able to take care of the patient and know not only them, but their family and everything about their lives. This allows for a deeper relationship with the patient than in acute care."

Alumni Profile:

DR. CINDY BORGERS | Class of 1997
2014 Excellent Eleven Shelby and Fayette Counties



Dr. Cindy Borgers, a native of Indianapolis, Indiana, began her career in medicine in the United States Military. She was an enlisted petty officer third class before becoming a lieutenant in the United States Navy Nurse Corps. The time she spent working in mobile hospital tents treating injured soldiers inspired her to develop her life-long dream. After four years of service she was honorably discharged and went to school for nursing.

"I have always wanted to be a nurse. I cannot remember ever considering another career path," said Cindy Borgers. In 1997, Dr. Borgers graduated from St. Joseph Hospital School of Nursing in Memphis with a degree in nursing. She returned to school shortly after and received a master's and, more recently, a doctoral degree in neonatal nursing from the University of Tennessee.

Dr. Borgers, the current Chair of Assessment and Evaluation and Associate Professor in the Division of Nursing at Baptist College of

Health Sciences, is no stranger to education. She often encourages her students to "never lose sight of their dream and secondly, to never ever give up." She believes nursing to be a distinction in the hearts of those dedicated to the profession.

Throughout her career, Dr. Borgers has worked in a lot of settings—emergency rooms, the neonatal intensive care unit, home health and operating rooms. While working in thoracic and cardiovascular surgery, Borgers was allowed to hold a patient's heart as he received coronary artery bypass surgery. "I am blessed to have experienced moments like that; moments I will never forget," she said.

Borgers recently took on a new challenge and completed her first half-marathon. She takes what she has learned from training and running to help her students succeed. She says, "There is no 'luck' involved in finishing nursing school. The ingredients required to tackle this formidable challenge are straightforward, plain and simple:

prayer, strength from God, commitment, sacrifice, grit, and raw determination." The encouraging words she passes on to her students are words she lives by.

Dr. Borgers ventured onto the other side of treatment when she was diagnosed with cancer almost a year ago. The news came right before she was set to race in her first half-marathon, the St. Jude Memphis Marathon. With guided care from her physician, she successfully recovered from surgery, started radiation, continued training and completed a half-marathon earlier this year. "My own personal experiences have certainly allowed me to have a much greater appreciation and deeper understanding of the challenges our patients and students go through on a daily basis," said Dr. Borgers.

Cindy Borgers has had a diverse career full of experiences that have shaped her as a woman and strengthened her belief in God. She finds comfort in the lives she has touched and even more in the life she has built with her husband of 39 years, their children and their grandchildren. She is an inspiration to her family and students and an accomplished example that passion, faith and good works can change lives.

Alumni Profile:

JANET MILLER | Class of 1979



"There is nothing like family," said Janet Miller, Miss Baptist, class of 1979. Her adoration for her loved ones started at a very young age. When she was about six years old she remembers visiting her great aunt. Miller was always amazed by her. She was a registered nurse. Miller admired the starch white uniform, cap and even the shoes she wore. This interest in nursing grew even more during the summers. Miller spent her days reading entire series like the Cherry Ames and Sue Barton book series. The lively adventures and pop art covers stuck with her. She would even put bandages on her dolls to treat them for whatever illness they had that day.

So when the time came for college, it only made sense that she go to school for nursing. She had several options and could have ended

up at any one of them. "I chose Baptist because of their high rate of graduates passing nursing boards," said Miller. "They expected nothing less than 100% from their students." Throughout schooling, she had rotations and instructors that she favored and some she favored a little less but it all worked together to make sure she was as prepared and knowledgeable as possible going into the board evaluations and beyond. She said, "I felt very comfortable taking my boards and I knew I had Baptist to thank for that."

Her career has taken her from post-operation medical surgical units to GI labs to classrooms. Miller loved them all. "My favorite part of working and supervising is getting to know all my colleagues and helping them succeed in nursing," said Miller. She would always tell her

students and those who reported to her that the key to success is having clear vision and a strong 'why' behind their dreams. The same commitment and perseverance she had going into nursing school carried her throughout her career and she hopes she can instill that in the future generation of nurses.

When she is not teaching, she enjoys spending time with the family she has built with her husband. They have four adult children who are starting their own families. This summer she became a proud new grandmother. She still believes that family is irreplaceable. And doing what you love is unforgettable.

Cindy Wooten

AFTER 40 YEARS AT BAPTIST MEMORIAL HEALTH CARE, Cindy Wooten, MSN, RN, BC, still retains the passion and drive instilled by educators and mentors during her early years at the Baptist School of Nursing. “I contribute my education at what was then the Baptist School of Nursing as

the foundation for everything I have done for the past 40 years,” says Wooten.

“Being a product of the 1970’s, our options were primarily to be a teacher, a mother or a nurse. And I happened to have a wonderful mentor, my mother, and she was a nurse.”

Wooten grew up watching her mother heal in many different ways, and the lessons she learned then still reverberate with her today. “I watched her as she ministered to other people in our community. We lived in a very small community and I think she touched every person by either looking down their throat, in their ears, or just listening. And that probably is the key of what I learned from my mom, is to be a good listener.”

Although her mother did not guide her towards the health care profession, Wooten says that she was instrumental in her choice to pursue a nursing career.

She likes to remind herself where she comes from. In her office there are two bricks; one from the original Baptist School of Nursing building where she received her nursing education, and the other from the Baptist Memorial Hospital-Medical Center on Union Avenue where she began her career. At home she has a brick from the small school house where she attended kindergarten through eighth grade. “While those buildings and services that were so vital to the community may not exist like they did in the 70’s, they definitely have been the cornerstone of my career, so I keep those bricks there to remind me of that.”

Wooten enjoyed all of her clinical education, but when she entered critical care during her final rotation she knew what she wanted to do. After graduating she began what would become a four decade long career at Baptist Memorial Health Care that is still growing to this day. “I was going to be starting at \$750 a month, back in 1974. I thought I was rich!”

Something that she learned during her time in nursing school that she believes to be very important is the nursing process of assessment, planning, implementation, and evaluation. “I think sometimes if I begin to feel off course, if I just go back to the beginning to take stock and assess what the situation is, plan accordingly, move forward with implementation and then figure out if it worked or not. And that continues to be what I use a lot in my decision making processes, and I attribute the college to helping me with that.”

In 1988 Wooten decided to expand her educational horizons and return to school for her BSN at the Maryville College, Memphis campus. “I took two years to complete that on the weekends while I had a two-year-old and a three-year-old and was working.”

For most people that would be an overwhelming amount of responsibility. “I always tell myself that it’s just a short period in time. I was able again to realize that I had a good foundation through the diploma program at the Baptist school of nursing but I needed to further that.”

When she decided to focus more energy on education, Wooten attended the University of Memphis to receive her Master of Science in Nursing in 2006. “Education and nursing is my passion. I love to learn and I love to teach, and I attribute that passion to the Baptist School of Nursing.”

Between these educational accomplishments Wooten has achieved many professional goals, as well helping to implement ongoing educational programs. “I love to teach and continue the spark and passion of lifelong learning through organized programs.”

“One of the things that I have been privileged to be a part of was providing leadership and collaborating with and through others to establish our professional practice model here at Baptist and across the system,” says Wooten.



She is a member of the Association for Nursing Professional Development, American Nurses Association, and American Organization of Nurse Executives as well as the vice-president of the Mid-South Association for Nursing Professional Development, board member to the Sigma Theta Tau National Nursing Honor Society, and on the LSON Dean Advisory Council.

Wooten says she loves working with students at the Baptist College of Health Sciences. “To be able to hear these students’ life stories and the passions, the intellect, the knowledge, and the commitment that they have for our future in health care—it inspires me,” she said.

Wooten and her husband are members of the Second Baptist Church where she also takes on leadership roles, “I enjoy being able to use some of the benefits of things that I have learned throughout my career in our church setting.”

She says her favorite thing about Baptist is working for a faith-based organization and, “truly having a mission of healing, preaching, and teaching. When I begin to feel unsettled about today’s challenges in health-care, it is so comforting to know that I can turn to God and he will help me to refocus and I can see others around me being able to do that as well.”

She and her husband are also active bike riders and hikers. They once did a two-day hike and had to camp in the woods, but according to Wooten that’s her limit!

Between her work, educational efforts, and church involvement, Wooten likes to relax with a good book or listen to music, she says, “I can let my mind settle from the other things that I have going on all the time.”

Baptist Foundation Thanks You

The Baptist College of Health Sciences and the Baptist Memorial Health Care Foundation wish to thank the following alumni and friends for their generous support in 2013. These gifts allow us to offer student scholarships and awards in addition to enhancing our instructional activities. Thank you to all, and we hope we will merit your continued support.

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Class Notes

NURSING

Congratulations to the following Baptist alumni graduated from the University of Memphis, Lowenberg School of Nursing, with a M.S. in Nursing. The commencement was held on May 10, 2014.

Lillian Hibbler, class of 2005
Judy Hooper, class of 2008
Amber Rivera, class of 2007
Kathy Elaine Williams, class of 2003

CLASS OF 1979

Carla Sanderson recently retired as the provost at Union University, Jackson, Tenn. and has been named the vice president of accreditation and regulation for Chamberlain College of Nursing, Chicago, Ill.

CLASS OF 1987

Dr. Tim Smith has taken the position of strategic initiatives and special associate to the provost at Anderson University in Anderson, North Carolina. Tim's wife, Penney Williams Smith, also graduated from Baptist School of Nursing in 1987. (1)

CLASS OF 2000

Barbara Cox was the recipient of the Administrator of the Year Award at the 2014 Nightingale Awards. Barbara is the Director of Nursing Administration at Baptist DeSoto.

CLASS OF 2002

Rebecca Hoover and husband Scott, have a new baby boy, Aaron Thomas Hoover. He was born on April 6, 2014 and weighed 10 pounds. Big brother is Holden William Hoover (11-20-07). Rebecca works as a RN at Baptist Women's Labor and Delivery. (2)

CLASS OF 2009

Valerie Parks and husband Scott, welcomed Gabriel James Parks on May 24, 2014. He weighed 7lbs 4oz. (3)

CLASS OF 2010

Latoyia Thomas passed her critical care certification exam from the American Association of Critical Care Nurses. She has earned the credential of CCRN.

CLASS OF 2011

Abbey Catherine Jeansonne married Michael Kaler on May 31, 2014. Abbey is a RN at University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center. The couple lives in Houston, Texas. (4)

Natalie Lovelace, married James Townsend on July 20, 2014. They live in Atlanta, GA where Natalie is a RN at Northside Hospital.

CLASS OF 2012

Brandi Bellanti is now working at Baptist Memphis in Oncology. She says she is loving it.

CLASS OF 2013

Larry Arnold, RN-BSN class of 2013, received the Nurse Manager of the Year Award at the 2014 Nightingale Awards Gala hosted by the Mississippi Nurses Association. Larry is a Nurse Manager in the Emergency department at Baptist Booneville.

Cameron Crutchfield is working as a RN in CVICU at Methodist North, Memphis, TN. He is also enrolled at The University of Memphis working towards a FNP.

Lindsey Riemath married Bear Dees on October 13, 2013 at the historic Banks house in Hernando. Lindsey is a RN at LeBonheur Children's Hospital, Memphis. She and Bear live in Horn Lake, MS. (5)

ALLIED HEALTH

CLASS OF 2006

Cherie Zerod, radiation therapy, gave birth to Isla Rose on March 13. Isla Rose weight 8 lbs 1 oz and she has an older sister, Ariana, age 3. (6)

CLASS OF 2008

Jennifer DiMartino, sonography class of 2008, married Greg Lawrenz on April 25, 2014, in Estes Park, Colorado. The couple lives in Fort Collins, Colorado. Jennifer is the lead sonographer at Rocky Mountain Perinatology. (7)

Leah Marlar McQuilliams, diagnostic medical sonography, and husband, David, are the proud parents of a baby boy, Nolan Cade McQuilliams born June 19th, 2014. He weighed 7lbs 1 oz. Leah is a sonographer at LeBonheur Children's Hospital, Memphis.

CLASS OF 2009

Angela Bridges Caston, respiratory care, received a Masters in Nursing from UT Health Science Center (UTHSC) in May 2014. She is employed at Baptist Memphis but now in a different role as a nurse on the ICU step-down unit. Angela and her husband, Sam, have two beautiful children, Khaden (3) and Lauryn (1).

Rebecca Gordon Davis, respiratory care, moved to Jackson, TN. and is employed at Jackson Madison County General Hospital as a respiratory therapy technologist (RTT). Rebecca has a 3 year old son, Gage Davis.

Tiffany Faulkner, respiratory care class, is now working as an instructor for Respiratory Care at Baptist College of Health Sciences.

Kimberly Martin, respiratory care, received a bachelor's degree in Nursing from Lamar University, Beaumont, Texas in December 2013. Kim and her husband, Chris, moved back to Mississippi after Kim's graduation. She is currently working as a nurse at Baptist Desoto.

Lauren Draper Peterson, respiratory care, is currently working at Lebonheur Children's Hospital. On October 6, 2013

Lauren married Rory Peterson. They reside in Memphis, TN. (8)

Lynette Walko Pierce, respiratory class, works as a RTT at American Home Patient (DME) and has been promoted to Area Quality Manager. Lynette was married April 13th, 2013 to Ben Pierce. They live in Fayetteville, Ark.

CLASS OF 2012

Marie Hellenbrand, medical radiography, was married on April 18, 2014, to Rustin Russell. Marie is a CT technologist at Baptist DeSoto.

Maegan Stokes, diagnostic medical sonography, married Chase Garrison on August 13, 2013. Maegan is a sonographer at Methodist Hospital, Olive Branch, MS. (9)

Jenny Valentino, medical radiography, is working as a technologist at Baptist Memphis and First Choice Care.

CLASS OF 2013

Bailey Boring, diagnostic medical sonography, married Dustin Elliott on March 15, 2014. They live in Lexington, Tenn. (10)

Heather Armstrong McCain, and husband, Andrew, have a new addition to the family. Connor Jase was born on August 20, 2014 weight 6 lbs oz. Connor has a big sister, Andi Claire. Heather is an instructor for diagnostic medical sonography at Baptist College. (11)

2013 Medical Laboratory Science graduates with new positions as Medical Laboratory Technologists: **Calisha Beauregard**, **Eileen Nelson** and **Tempest Thornton** are working at Baptist Desoto. **Valarie Williams** is working at Baptist Memphis. **Tracy Craig** and **Denitrea Saulsberry** are working at Baptist Women's. **Jonathan Rodgers** is working at Baptist North Mississippi. **Mary Brigance** is working at Baptist NEA. **Kimberly Loren Atkins** is working at Baptist Golden Triangle.

CLASS OF 2014

Allison Cates, diagnostic medical sonography, was married on April 19 to Alexander Shepard. They wed in Ashland,

Ohio and are living in Memphis where Allison works as a sonographer at St. Francis Bartlett.

Sarah Rogers, diagnostic medical sonography, has accepted a position with FujiFilm Sonosite as a Clinical Application Specialist. She has now returned to home in Slidell, Louisiana after being a travel sonographer for several years.

Candace Starling, nuclear medicine, was married on May 17, 2014, to Joshua Faircloth. They live in Stedman, NC. (12)

Heather Nikelle Thacker, diagnostic medical sonography, is now working as a sonographer at Baptist Memphis.

IN MEMORIAM

Mildred Cagle Patterson, class of 1957, passed away on April 8, 2014.

Catherine Lavender Pfeiffer, class of 1949, passed away on June 28, 2014.

Annabel Ransom Taylor, class of 1947, passed away on July 9, 2014.

Eleanor Day Pratt, class of 1956, passed away on August 19, 2014.

Joyce Goode, class of 1966, passed away on August 11, 2014.



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