The Making of a Tradition:
A Behind the Scenes Look at JBU’s Candlelight

When JBU is All in the Family

Images of Homecoming

Brown Bulletin

Winter 2007-2008
Dear Friends of JBU,

JBU rightly claims “Christ Over All” as a defining feature of our community, but that phrase is more than a marketing slogan. “Christ Over All” makes claims about the Lordship of Christ that should deeply influence why and how we go about our work.

**Christ is the creator of all things.** We study biology or psychology, not only because we want to be a doctor or psychiatrist, but because Christ is Over All, and he created our physical bodies and minds. We study political science or organizational behavior or leadership, not only because we want to understand power, but because Christ is Over All, and He created all thrones, dominions, rulers and authorities. Christ created this world, so we at JBU should be curious to study all aspects of creation to know Him better.

**Christ is the sustainer of all things.** Christ does not just create the world and let it run its course. He is actively involved in sustaining it, and we find the evidence of His sustaining power in the strangest places: in the order that exists in mathematics, in the repeatability of experiments, in the cultural rituals of love, in the evidence of His sustaining power in the strangest places: in the order that exists in mathematics, in the repeatability of experiments, in the cultural rituals of love, and even in our mowing patterns to sustain Sager Creek. JBU should examine and learn the order of things because Christ sustains all creation to know Him better.

**Christ is the redeemer of all things.** The world is deeply broken because of sin. Christ clearly redeems us from the penalty of our own sin, but He also redeems brokenness within this sin-soaked world. Christ is Over All in the discovery of new drugs to combat AIDS, in reconciliation in Northern Ireland, and in the adoption of orphans into loving families. JBU should promote and practice the restoration of brokenness.

**Christ is also the end of all things.** All of creation has been made, is sustained, and is being redeemed to give praise to Christ. As we do our work at JBU, we honor Christ by creating and sustaining good things, and by redeeming brokenness within this sin-soaked world. Christ clearly redeems us from the penalty of our own sin, but He also redeems brokenness within this sin-soaked world. Christ is Over All in the discovery of new drugs to combat AIDS, in reconciliation in Northern Ireland, and in the adoption of orphans into loving families. JBU should promote and practice the restoration of brokenness.

Thank you for all your prayers, support, and encouragement to help us maintain “Christ Over All” at JBU. I deeply appreciate it.

Godspeed,

*Dr. Charles W. Pollard*
The Walterses Inspire a True Image of Love

I read Hannah Nielsen’s excellent article on Jim and Lynda Walters with great interest and thought. My son Mark Durham ‘05 and his wife Rebekah (Holmes) ’06 both had Dr. Walters and they appreciated [the Walterses] so much they asked [Jim] to perform their wedding ceremony in 1995. Hannah’s detailed description of Jim and Lynda’s trials and unselfish behavior was very meaningful and thought stimulating. Sometimes we hear or see young people in the prime of their physical beauty, strength, and vitality, pictured as the perfect idea of love, but certainly the unselfish love, which the Walterses reflect, is much nearer true, godly love.

I am saving this issue of the Brown Bulletin for future reference in case my dear wife and I face such trials.

Ken Durham
Longview, TX

“I almost want to be a student again.”

I finished reading the last Brown Bulletin yesterday, and I must say, “I was highly impressed.” So impressed that I “almost” think I would like to be a student there again. (Notice I said almost.)

There is so much going on there. It is great to read about all the activities. I think it is just great that faculty, staff, and students raised money for the renovation project. Science has never been high on my list of subjects to study, but I was impressed with the work that Dr. Greuel is doing. The story about Jim and Lynda’s trials and unselfish behavior was very meaningful and thought stimulating. Sometimes we hear or see young people in the prime of their physical beauty, strength, and vitality, pictured as the perfect idea of love, but certainly the unselfish love, which the Walterses reflect, is much nearer true, godly love.

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Thanks for a Great Homecoming

The following letter was sent to President Charles Polkett.

Thank you for allowing the Sound Generation to once again be part of the John Brown University Homecoming weekend. I had a wonderful time both playing with the group and seeing what is new on campus. I was particularly struck by the renovation of the Cathedral Group buildings. They are going to look terrific when they are done. I know that a lot of hours go into preparing for homecoming, so I am thankful to the members of your team that were involved.

As my work schedule is quite crazy right now, this Homecoming weekend served as an oasis for me to refresh both mentally and spiritually. Beyond the practice and performance times together with the group, what happened in 2005, the times of worship and prayer were very special.

Carl Walter ’06
Wildwood, MO

CORRECTION


LETTERS TO THE EDITOR POLICY. Letters are published with the permission of the author. Some letters are edited for length. Not all letters can be published. Published letters will be selected based on the value of their content, tone, clarity, and other such characteristics. Send your letters by e-mail to Andrea Phillips at aphillips@jbu.edu or by U.S. mail to: Andrea Phillips, Brown Bulletin Editor, John Brown University, 2000 West University Street, Siloam Springs, AR 72761.

JBU Reaches New Heights in Enrollment and Rankings

Students returned to campus this fall to hear the announcement that JBU ranked fourth in the 2008 U.S. News & World Report “America’s Best Colleges” ranking. JBU’s fourth-place ranking amid 93 other schools in its category placed JBU in the top 5 percent of southern baccalaureate colleges. In the past six years JBU’s ranking has climbed from twelfth in 2001 and 2002, eleventh in 2003, eighth in 2004, and sixth in 2005 and 2006. On the heels of the U.S. News ranking announcement, JBU announced that total student enrollment for the 2007-2008 academic year hit an all-time high with 2,086 students. This is the second year in a row that JBU’s total enrollment has passed the 2,000 mark. JBU also set a new record with the largest number of new traditional undergraduates choosing the university. This fall, 464 new students began classes, including first-time freshmen and transfer students.

JBU to Expand North Hall

With record enrollment this fall, the need for additional housing on campus was highlighted. Following the annual fall board of trustees meeting, JBU announced that it will add a second wing to North Hall residence building on the campus. The new residence wing, which will house 80 students, will complete the second phase of North Hall, which originally was not expected to be completed until some time further in the future. But consistent growth in enrollment and a $3.5 million gift to the university moved construction of North Hall forward, which was originally not expected to be completed until some time further in the future. But consistent growth in enrollment and a $3.5 million gift to the university moved the plans up. The new wing is expected to be completed in time for the fall 2008 semester.

JBU SIFE Soars at Nationals Again

In May, the JBU Students In Free Enterprise (SIFE) team participated in the 2007 SIFE National Competition held in Dallas, Texas. The team of 16 students competed against the top 168 teams from different colleges and universities across the nation. In addition to tying for fifth place overall—for the fourth consecutive year—the JBU SIFE team was selected as the National First Place team for Business Ethics.

Professor Pens and Produces Original Play

This fall audiences were transported to the Far East in JBU’s first original stage production, Children Elemental, which opened Homecoming weekend. The play about the broken relationship between a creator and his children—developed around the elements of earth, wind, water, fire, and metal—was written, produced, and directed by Jason Hough, assistant professor of communication and theatre.

JBU Student’s Act of Service Is Applauded

This summer, senior business and Spanish major Andrea Kahnk made the most of her internship with West Inn & Suites by stepping forward to meet a need that she witnessed first hand. After spending some time in the hotel housekeeping department, Kahnk realized that the Spanish-speaking employees were having trouble communicating with guests, as well as English-speaking managers and co-workers. Kahnk began offering hour-long English classes for hotel employees before work three days a week.

From the very first class, the turnout was spectacular. Nearly all the Spanish-speaking employees in the housekeeping department attended the class, some of them even coming in on their day off just to participate. The hotel was so impressed with Kahnk’s initiative and service, they published a press release about the classes, and a local television station featured Kahnk’s story in their news program.

Kahnk (in the striped shirt) enjoyed a party with many of her class members shortly before returning to JBU.
Hough was inspired to write the play after his trip to Tokyo in the summer of 2006, during which he studied Japanese culture and Kabuki Theatre. He became fascinated with the art styles of anime and manga, both of which are prevalent throughout his play. The cast and crew of Children Elemental garnered recognition and several awards at the Arkansas American College Theatre Festival in Conway, Arkansas in November. Junior Jasmine Brown received an award for excellence in costuming, junior David Baker received an award for excellence in sound design, and Hough received an award for excellence in program design. Senior Sophie Morris and juniors Janelle Sando and Arthur Summers were selected as nominess for the prestigious Irene Ryan acting competition. Morris, Sando, and Summers will compete in the regional competition in Texas in the spring.

**JBU Joins Independent 529 Tuition Savings Plan to Make Paying for College Easier**

JBU has joined the Independent 529 (I-529) Plan, a tuition savings program that allows parents to prepay future tuition rates less than current tuition. The plan is similar to other 529 tuition savings plans, but the I-529 plan applies specifically to tuition payments at independent, private colleges and universities, including JBU.

Tuition credit purchased today is guaranteed to satisfy costs at the time the child enrolls in college. For example, parents who purchase a half year of tuition today will receive a half year of tuition credit—regardless of the cost at the time—when the child later redeems the tuition certificate at a member college or university. Savings plans can be earmarked for any member institution and can later be transferred and applied to any other member institution, ensuring that students will be able to choose the private college best suited for them. Parents can even redeem their tuition savings without penalty if their child chooses a public or other non-member institution. More information is available at www.independent529plan.org.

For more information about these and other news stories, visit www.jbu.edu/news

**Cathedral Group Construction Is Under Way**

Renovations on the inside and outside of the Cathedral Group buildings began this summer. Interior renovations were completed for the fall semester. Exterior renovations will continue into the new year, although progress is clearly visible as the limestone cladding climbs higher up the buildings each week.

**New JBU Center Opens in Rogers**

The John Brown University Rogers Center is the newest location to offer JBU’s graduate programs and Advance Program for adult degree completion.

CRE Executive Director Gary Oliver promotes healthy marriages to a group in Northwest Arkansas.

Four free seminars in Northwest Arkansas this fall. The “I Choose Us: Growing a Passonate Marriage” seminar was presented at the Tyson Foods World Headquarters in Springdale, Harvard Avenue Baptist Church in Siloam Springs, and Embassy Suites in Rogers. A special seminar for engaged couples was also held at the Embassy Suites in Rogers.

The two-day seminars equipped couples with eight hours of marriage enrichment education and offered each couple a personal couple’s assessment report and a discussion guide for ongoing couple interaction.

Partnerships with Tyson Foods and J.B. Hunt allowed JBU to reach a tremendous number of participants, including employees of those companies, who might not have otherwise heard about the program. The J.B. Hunt co-sponsored program in Rogers was so popular that registration finally had to be limited to 250 couples.

The phenomenal success of these programs is particularly encouraging given that Northwest Arkansas has the highest divorce rate in the state, Arkansas as a whole has one of the highest divorce rates in the country. These events offered a tangible way to help counteract the growing trend of divorce for Christian and non-Christian couples alike.

Altogether, more than 900 people attended the fall CRE events, which were the first of their kind. Thanks to the five-year grant, CRE will be continuing marriage enrichment initiatives in Northwest Arkansas for the next few years.

**KLRC Listeners "Pay It Forward"**

JBU radio station KLRC encouraged listeners to do something a little different to celebrate Thanksgiving this year. Thanks to a partnership with Arvest Bank, listeners were given the opportunity to spread goodwill throughout Northwest Arkansas by “paying it forward” through random acts of kindness. Listeners were asked to go to KLRC.com and explain how they would “pay it forward” if they were given $101. KLRC announced the winning plans during the KLRC morning show Thanksgiving week. Each day, Arvest Bank awarded three randomly-selected listeners $101 to fund their “pay it forward” plan.

Even before winners were selected, listeners were calling the station to share ways they were already paying it forward by initiating acts of kindness from paying for another customer’s purchase at the drive-thru to buying groceries for a needy family.

When winners were announced on air, and they described their plans to help others in need with the $101, other listeners were inspired and spontaneously called the station with matching gifts to multiply the winner’s “Pay It Forward” efforts.

**CRE Partners with Tyson and J.B. Hunt to Provide Marriage Seminars to NWA**

Thanks to a five-year, $2.7 million federal grant from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services’ Administration for Children and Families, the Center for Relationship Enrichment (CRE) was able to provide something a little different to celebrate Thanksgiving this year, which are prevalent throughout his play.

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blessings.  then are you truly free, and that freedom is one of God’s greatest heavenly Father (James 1:17). By the time you have waited long what we have long wanted, but that we receive it from our loving By waiting, we realize that the real blessing isn’t that we finally get By waiting, our souls are given time to turn away from the thing we Why do God’s blessings so often arrive late? Why do they arrive in a not in the form that people expected. A blessing is the thing we want most, but it can only come as a gift from God. And here’s the hard part: Whenever someone in the Bible received a blessing, it never seemed to arrive when people expected it. Usually, it arrived later than expected. And often, it was not in the form that people expected. Why do God’s blessings so often arrive late? Why do they arrive in a different form? Maybe it is because waiting for a blessing is the best way for our faith to grow strong and courageous. By waiting, our souls are given time to turn away from the thing we most want and turn back to the God from whom all blessings flow. By waiting, we realize that the real blessing isn’t that we finally get what we have long wanted, but that we receive it from our loving heavenly Father (James 1:17). By the time you have waited long enough to be that focused on God, hopefully you have become free from wanting anything or anyone else more than Him. Only then are you truly free, and that freedom is one of God’s greatest blessings. Waiting on God by Stan McKinnon Campus Pastor Wait for the LORD; Be strong and let your heart take courage; Yes, wait for the LORD. Psalm 27:14 (NAS) I am not by nature a very patient person. I am usually in a hurry, even when I don’t need to be, and I think I have finally figured out why. It’s not something I’m proud of, but it seems that I trust myself more than God. Recently, God has been teaching me that waiting on Him and His timing is a perfect antidote for my harried life. David was the most powerful king in the history of Israel. So isn’t it fascinating that he associated strength and courage with waiting? I would think that a king wouldn’t have to wait for much. That’s because I assume the whole point of having strength and courage is to be able to push my way into my dreams. But as powerful as he was, King David didn’t make any of his dreams come true. Every good thing in his life came as a blessing from the hand of God. A blessing is the thing we want most, but it can only come as a gift from God. And here’s the hard part: Whenever someone in the Bible received a blessing, it never seemed to arrive when people expected it. Usually, it arrived later than expected. And often, it was not in the form that people expected. Why do God’s blessings so often arrive late? Why do they arrive in a different form? Maybe it is because waiting for a blessing is the best way for our faith to grow strong and courageous. By waiting, our souls are given time to turn away from the thing we most want and turn back to the God from whom all blessings flow. By waiting, we realize that the real blessing isn’t that we finally get what we have long wanted, but that we receive it from our loving heavenly Father (James 1:17). By the time you have waited long enough to be that focused on God, hopefully you have become free from wanting anything or anyone else more than Him. Only then are you truly free, and that freedom is one of God’s greatest blessings.

Alumnus and Technology Take Bible Teaching to Illiterate People Groups
by Andrea Phillips

According to International Bible Society figures, there are approximately 4 billion people who can’t, don’t, or won’t take in any information or communicate by written means. These oral communicators constitute approximately two-thirds of the world’s population. Missionary agencies have built mission strategies around the goal of creating a written language form, teaching people to read and write, and translating scripture into the native language so that people could have access to God’s word and Christian teaching. Such a process can take decades. But now, thanks to today’s technology—including iPods®, MP3 players, and other digital media devices—missions are working much easier than ever to deliver the gospel and teaching material to oral communicators instantly, and through the medium that oral communicators best connect with: the spoken word.

In 2005, JBU alumnus Ed Weaver ’83 was working as a self-employed technology consultant when he found himself thinking about technology and missions. He asked himself, “What could you do with an iPod® in the work of missions if you don’t care about what the business model is, if you don’t care about making a profit?”

About that time, a friend asked him to come along on a mission trip to Asia, which he did. Weaver and his friend recorded 17 hours of teaching at a pastors’ conference where seminarians and pastors were being trained to minister to their churches, all in a language unknown to Weaver.

“There was a pastor at that conference who was not able to attend the first three days because of illness,” Weaver recalled. “We were able to give him those three days of training [in recorded form].” That first experience drew Weaver into a life of helping mission organizations reach oral communicators through technology.

In April 2005, he founded MP3 Reach, an organization that supplied mission organizations with iPod® and other digital media devices they needed to distribute their messages to various—and often illiterate—communities. The devices are loaded with Bible passages, teaching material, and other recordings from the agency and then given to missionaries who use them to facilitate missions work and outreach.

“Oral people are not stupid; they just learn in a different way,” Weaver said. “They have better memories. They learn through stories. They are told the gospel in story form. There are some cultures where the written word and linear thinking is good. There are other cultures where they have to hear in another way.”

In September 2005, Weaver was invited to attend the first conference for the International Oral Ministry Network, “a partnership of every major missions organization on the planet that recognizes the importance of oral communication,” Weaver said. The conference provided resources and information to help mission organizations rethink and reach deeper into oral communication strategies, which can be a challenge to Western thinking.

“In order to give oral communicators all the messages in the Bible, they have to take the pastoral teaching and redevelop it in story, song, drama,” Weaver said. “You have to change your mindset. How do you create a story out of Ephesians? How do you act that out? You really have to think about that.

“The vast majority of the work that has been done has been done in evangelism. Now the hard part is getting to discipleship. We’ve not done a lot of that step, helping the lay leaders and the marginalized know how to live,” he said.

Within two years of founding MP3 Reach, Weaver was working in 25 countries with 15 agencies, including East-
As spring arrives at John Brown University, new life is brought back to campus. The familiar sound of chirping birds draws students from their dorm rooms out into the warm open air to study on blankets in the grass, socialize on the steps around the clock tower, or to take a nap under the branches of a budding tree. The sound of shuffling feet and chattering teammates echos across the sunny quad as a game of Ultimate Frisbee breaks out.

In the Cathedral building, however, there is a sound that seems out of place: Christmas music.

Deep in the recesses of the Cathedral of the Ozarks in room 103, Paul Smith, professor of music, is lost in the sounds of Christmas. The top of his desk is gone. In its place are piles—piles of sheet music laced with Christmas arrangements of his nose, all Paul Smith cares about on this warm Arkansas day is capturing the essence of Christmas.

The program, which has always been free and open to the public, was held on one night each year until 1967 when attendance grew to a point that the university president offered to pay for the church music if the event could be held on three consecutive nights—Thursday, Friday, and Saturday—and is enjoyed by 5,000 people each year.

And as the audiences grew, the event matured to become more professional, featuring more complex choral pieces, creating a more formal worship experience. “Candlelight is much more inspirational now than it was, more worshipful,” Smith says.

“I think people are really tired of a commercialized Christmas that is centered on materialism,” Smith says. “Their spirit is that people want to come to an event that is focused on a beautiful sense of worship. People enjoy taking time out of busy lives to do congregational carols and to drink in the beauty of the Cathedral.”

“Not just the music, but that they have to know the music. [The older ones] can say, ‘Mr. Smith is serious. When he asks you to sing your part, you really have to know it.’ It creates a certain level of anxiety, but the tradition of excellent music didn’t get there on its own. We really preach excellence.”

Jake Funk ’07 was section leader for the tenors when he sang with the choir. As their leader, he provided structure and helped the group stay on task during rehearsals. He directed songs, listened for blend and intonation, and critiqued the tenors so they could improve their performance.

“I came in as a freshman with a very disciplined tenor section. Their tradition was excellence through practice and, like I said, discipline,” Funk says. “When I became section leader my sophomore year, I wanted so badly to keep that tradition because it was awesome…. I don’t really know what kind of tradition I have established, but I do know the worship event for the entire community.

“In a time where there is such an emphasis on electronic media, the sound of people worshipping at Candlelight is something profoundly unique,” Smith says, reflecting on those congregational carols, during which he conducts the audience. “It’s hearing 1,000 humans lifting up their voices. It’s not uncommon for me to see tears in the eyes of the people in front of me.”

Candlelight began in 1942 under the direction of Dr. Mabel Oslen, who was the university’s first full-time music director. Oslen worked at JBU for 32 years, and with Candlelight, started the longest running tradition at JBU.

“Mabel had a heart and a passion,” Smith says. “She gave birth to the music department at JBU.”

The first Candlelight service was held in the basement of the Cathedral before the sanctuary was built. The service then moved to the old gym in the valley before finally moving to the sanctuary after its completion in 1951.

“Candlelight then was not up to the quality of the performance we have today, but [the services] were amazing, better than anything else in the area,” remembers JBU Chancellor and Former President John Brown Jr. “There were more Christmas carols, and Mabel always ended with ‘Wreathe the Holly, Twin the Bay.’”

The service, which has always been free and open to the public, was held on one night each year until 1967 when attendance grew to a point that the university president offered to pay for the church music if the event could be held on three consecutive nights—Thursday, Friday, and Saturday—and is enjoyed by 5,000 people each year.

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we're looking forward to the holidays, so it's fun."

Choir director Leeland Smith, who has a fantastic sense of humor, says, "It's a privilege to have this calling. Music is a gift from God, and the ability to organize sound into music in order to convey emotion and meaning is an absolute marvel."

Jan Wubbena, professor of music and organist for Candlelight, also practices for the numbers he will play during the Candlelight services. He says he can't remember the last time he missed a performance.

"If I like playing Christmas cards, and I like playing the organ," Wubbena says. "It's a privilege to have this calling. Music is a gift from God, and the ability to organize sound into music in order to convey emotion and meaning is an absolute marvel."

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"With the constant sound of melodies and harmonies wafting through the cathedral as the rotation of rehearsals continues toward December, it can be easy to overemphasize the fact that it takes much more than music to put on this time-honored tradition.

Early in the semester, tenors and baritones must be ordered to fix the new choir and chorus. The returning singers already have their outfits in hand, staff work to make sure jackets still fit, each pair of black shoes is appropriate, and there are extra bow ties on hand just in case one goes missing before the previous performance.

The speakers for the service—those who will read the Christmas story and deliver the homily—are invited to participate, and each prepares his or her part.

Posters are designed and distributed about town to promote the service. Public service announcements and press releases are written to alert the community and the media about the upcoming event. Programs, outlining this year's order of service and listing the names of those performing, are laid out, proofread, and sent to printer.

Within 15 minutes, the building is purchased if needed.

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"The ensemble will play a half-hour prelude to the service, which is a bit more like a short concert most nights when the Sage Chapel is open. During their practices, the brass players decide together which songs they will perform and accompany the singers throughout the Candlelight service. On Wednesday evening, the audience eagerly awaits the first note of the choir. Unexpectedly, voices are behind the back of the room. The choir is circled in the back softly lifting their voices, which grow and resonate from under the balcony to the stage at the front. Each of the 60 singers holds a candle, and as they move further into the sanctuary, the room is increasingly illuminated. The worshipful tears filling the air engird the captivated audience.

"I love performing 'O Come All Ye Faithful' as a precessional at the beginning of the performance," caregiver, says, describing her favorite moment before Candlelight. "It's never about the money. We want this to be a time for the community to come together to make room for one or two more seated audience members shuffle closer together, as they work. They are excited for Christmas break. Their bodies are filled with a Christmas frenzy."

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All in the Family

The majority of students who enroll as freshmen at JBU learn about the university through someone they know. Often, it is a family member who connects that student to JBU. In the case of some students, so many family members have preceded them to campus that JBU has practically become a family trait, with shared JBU experiences connecting generations. On the following pages, you'll meet some students who have deep JBU roots, see the family members who came before them, and read the students' own thoughts about what it's like to grow up with the JBU gene.

A Few Disclaimers:

1) JBU recognizes any student who completes two semesters as an alumnus. Some of the people featured here may not have completed their degree, but we still count them as part of the JBU family. The class years shown represent the class each alumnus was connected with when they enrolled.

2) We did the best we could, working with the students and reviewing JBU records, to identify as many family members as possible in these family trees. If you're connected to one of these families but not included here, we apologize for missing you. That's what happens when you skip that family reunion.

3) Unlike true family tree diagrams, the family pictures here are laid out somewhat randomly. Don't suppose two people are married simply because their pictures are connected to each other on the page.

4) Some family members shown here have married into other large JBU families that could have filled countless pages in the magazine. But, since our space is limited, we had to cut it off somewhere. Apologies if your branch got "cut off."

"I honestly find it an honor to be able to carry on the legacy of my family at JBU. It is really neat to be able to talk about JBU as a part of my life and hear my relatives talk about how it affected their lives as well. I originally wanted to go to JBU because I knew that my grandparents, parents, and brothers met their spouses at JBU, and as a young girl, marriage was always on my mind. As I grew up, my reasons changed, and I looked forward to JBU's small community and Christian relationships. After my first semester freshman year, I realized exactly why JBU is a legacy in my family: The love that JBU holds is unlike anything I have ever experienced before! It is such a blessing for my parents to hear about how JBU has provided a great environment for my spiritual growth and to know that we share that experience with all my relatives who went to JBU."

Kristin Shuler, sophomore
“Since so many of my family members and family friends had gone to JBU, I grew up hearing about the ‘good ole days’ at JBU, coming to visit campus, and interacting with the amazing people that had graduated from JBU. All this was amazing, but actually being here has been more amazing than the stories. Meeting peers that have a heart to know, love, and serve God. Being surrounded by people who love and are trying to love people more. And then, when Homecoming rolls around, meeting the people my parents and grandparents went to school with, and seeing how God has worked through and in so many lives at JBU. It’s a bittersweet feeling knowing graduation is right around the corner. While I’m excited for what God has in store for me, I know I will miss this place like crazy.”

Rachelle Wilson, senior

“I always knew that I wanted to come to JBU, even before I really understood what college was about. I would sit and listen to my dad and his old college buddies talking about their time at JBU, about pranks they pulled and the fun they had, or the all nighters spent writing papers on their typewriters or doing projects. Once I arrived on campus as a student, I knew I was where I belonged, because it was the place so much of my family belonged. Now, I understand their stories even more because I have experienced them first hand.”

Erin Wilson, sophomore

During Homecoming this year, my sister and I tagged along with our parents as they hung out with other alumni. We enjoyed listening to stories about their college days: soccer games, group dates, the pranks they remember—and the pranks they would never admit to pulling. Listening to the stories about their years at JBU makes me appreciate my time here even more. JBU is challenging me intellectually and spiritually. Sure, I love the courses, books, projects, and papers. JBU is a great place to receive an education, but it’s more than that. Watching my parents with their former classmates makes me appreciate what really creates the JBU experience: the people. I guess that’s why being a part of a JBU family is so awesome. It’s not really about JBU as much as it is about the hall mates, the Bible study groups, the professors, the chapel speakers, and the intramural teams. JBU is an awesome place to go to college, but it would be nothing without the cool people.

Stephanie Wilson, sophomore

“Since so many of my family members and family friends had gone to JBU, I grew up hearing about the ‘good ole days’ at JBU, coming to visit campus, and interacting with the amazing people that had graduated from JBU. All this was amazing, but actually being here has been more amazing than the stories. Meeting peers that have a heart to know, love, and serve God. Being surrounded by people who love and are trying to love people more. And then, when Homecoming rolls around, meeting the people my parents and grandparents went to school with, and seeing how God has worked through and in so many lives at JBU. It’s a bittersweet feeling knowing graduation is right around the corner. While I’m excited for what God has in store for me, I know I will miss this place like crazy.”

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Erin Wilson, sophomore
“I am very privileged and honored to belong to a family with such a storied heritage at JBU. It is quite a feat for 32—-and soon to be 36—relatives to graduate from the same university. The best part, by far, is being able to use the passing comment, “Well, 32 of my relatives graduated from here, so beat that!” Naturally, it makes sense that JBU should name a building after my family.”

Rick Denison, freshman

“Being a part of a large family that has been intimately connected to JBU helps me to feel connected to this place. Somehow the history of this school is important to me. What is happening at JBU now and what will happen in the future are also important to me. I love watching my family get excited about things here at JBU that are exciting to me. My JBU roots help me to feel connected to the school, and my experience at JBU is a bonding point for my family and me. I am grateful that God has allowed me to come here to be a part of JBU.”

Amber Denison, senior

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Libby Redditt, sophomore

“What I find truly amazing is that, unlike many families these days, our get-togethers never involve arguments or heated debates. We just have a blast being together. We are always singing hymns or silly songs, playing games, acting out skits, eating, or just laughing with each other. If we tell stories about things that happened at JBU, everyone can relate. It is such an inviting atmosphere to be a part of. Food and music are probably the most characteristic things about our family, where two or more of us are gathered, there is sure to be eight-part harmonies and a feast of snacks.”

Kyle Spencer, senior

“The Siemens family...where two or more of us are gathered, there is sure to be eight-part harmonies and a feast of snacks.”

Libby Redditt, sophomore

“People ask me how I first heard about JBU since I live so far away from the school. I used to get red in the face and quietly say that I just have a lot of relatives who have come through the school. But recently, I’ve realized that I am so blessed to have such a large family history here. I love telling people that I’m a third generation student at John Brown! It’s so fun to hear stories of things my relatives did when they were students here, but what is really great about being a third generation is knowing that everyone—from my grandparents down to my cousins and I—has been able to share a similar college experience.”

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Libby Redditt, sophomore
A topic of growing interest and discussion in many Christian circles today is that of lifestyle worship. A simple Google search of just these two words will reap over 17,000 hits, offering sites that range from church credos developed by biblical scholars to the blogosphere that has been spawned by biblical scholars to the blogosphere that has been spawned by biblical scholars to the blogosphere that has been spawned by biblical scholars to the blogosphere that has been spawned by biblical scholars to the blogosphere that has been spawned by biblical scholars to the blogosphere that has been spawned by biblical scholars to the blogosphere that has been spawned by biblical scholars to the blogosphere that has been spawned by biblical scholars to the blogosphere that has been spawned by biblical scholars to the blogosphere that has been spawned by biblical scholars to the blogosphere that has been spawned by biblical scholars to the blogosphere that has been spawned by biblical scholars to the blogosphere that has been spawned by biblical scholars to the blogosphere that has been spawned by 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Homecoming 2007 “Connecting for Generations to Come” was a celebration to remember. Hundreds of alumni found themselves at home again on campus in October, even though both the buildings and the people have changed in appearance! The family ties of JBU, however, remain today. Enjoy these glimpses of the fun and friends we saw that weekend, and start planning now to join us next year!

Homecoming King Nathan Fields escorts Queen Leslye Bourquin (left) and Queen Tracie Faust from the soccer field.

The Sound Generation performs at Saturday’s Showcase with surprise guest Roy Clark.

Shawn Toenjes ’97 and Janet Naramore ’72 present the Outstanding Alumnus Award to J.R. Whitby ’71 during the Showcase.

Alumni of the soccer program celebrate 30 years of soccer at JBU.

Alumni of the Irish Studies program celebrate 10 years of JBU travels to Ireland.

Spectators and participants enjoy the Homecoming parade, featuring student floats. Above, Mayfield residents and alumni represent generations of Mayfield women.

JBU’s Heritage Society, alumni who graduated from JBU 50 or more years ago, gather and induct new members during the weekend.

Bill ’69 and Dianne Hume meet sophomore scholarship recipient Charles Greathouse at the annual Scholarship Recognition Dinner. 
On the heels of JBU’s highly successful $10 Million Challenge for endowed scholarships that was completed in January 2007, JBU is grateful to announce the launch of a new challenge campaign: The $20 Million Challenge.

An anonymous donor has pledged up to $10 million in matching funds for gifts designated for endowed scholarships and endowed programs across campus. This new challenge will add $20 million to the JBU endowment fund for student scholarships and essential programs.

Funds raised by the $20 Million Challenge have the potential to endow:

- faculty development grants
- the discipleship program within the Office of Christian Formation
- scholarships and program costs for JBU’s new undergraduate leadership program
- the expansion of programs offered by the Center for Relationship Enrichment
- undergraduate and graduate student scholarships

JBU has five years to raise the $10 million in endowment funds for these areas in order to receive the full $10 million in matching funds.

Both current gifts and certain irrevocable deferred gifts are eligible for the Challenge match. (Some minimums apply.)

For more information about this wonderful $20 Million Challenge opportunity, contact JBU University Advancement at (800) 446-2450.

“It is a rare opportunity that gives alumni and friends a chance to double their endowment gift, and we are thankful for this challenge.”

Dr. Jim Krall
Vice President for University Advancement
2007. Down at the alumni soccer game you hear alumni players, some from the original 1978 team, asking Coach Bob Gustafson for an oxygen tank ... after just the warm ups.

Breaking into the Class of 1957 reunion, you see alumni talking to JBU freshmen who are taking a survey about what dating was like back then. You hear an alumna tell them, “With all the rules, you just had to be more creative!”

On Thursday and Friday nights, after a practice for Saturday’s Showcase performance, 80 members of The JBU Generation and many of their spouses meet to share a meal. They recount both hilarious and deeply personal stories of their time in the Sounds that impacted the rest of their lives.

Standing in front of the Cathedral Group, you see all three buildings being transformed by the new tinted windows and the light-colors cut limestone carefully being placed by the masons. You realize that the buildings will be more beautiful than they have been this past half-century.

These are the images that stick with me even now. I am continually amazed to see how people are touched by their stories of their time in the Sounds that impacted the rest of their lives.

In the business of our lives, it’s easy sometimes to forget about those things that have really shaped our lives. Where would we be now if we hadn’t been at JBU then? It seems that each Homecoming we remind each other just how thankful we are of the JBU family is as real now as it was decades ago.

These alumni have updated their information since the last publication in October 2007.

This list includes updates received through October 8, 2007.
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Why I Give Back to JBU

It’s All About the Students

I support John Brown University because I want students to have an opportunity at a great education. I love JBU dearly, and I think it is wonderful that kids continue to attend the school after all these years. I am happy to have a small part in helping students come to JBU–a truly life-changing place.

Lola Woodard
1938 JBU Graduate, pictured with scholarship recipient Tiff Knott (junior)

Updates on AlumNET

2000s (cont.)

Daniel Ostenholder ’07
Pam Gehringer ’07
Lauren Palmer ’03
Monica (Hath) Pangaribuan ’02
Felicia Pinnamin ’06
Tanya (Mauzy) Paul ’05
Jennifer Paulson ’07
Jeffrey Prabody ’04
Laura Pence ’04
Valerie Pence ’06
Silvy Perkins ’06
Amanda Peters ’03
Darron Pike ’07
Joy (Huffman) Pinosidente ’00
Nate & Rose (Lind) Pond ’02 ’01
Sandra (Chavez) Pond ’04
Jason Provenza ’08
Chad & Jessica (Hansen) Putnam ’00 ’00
Kristin Raikes ’07
Monica Ramirez de Tapia ’03
Ashley Ramsey ’07
Ryan Randell ’07
Daniel Ray ’07
Kyle Raymond ’07
Matthew Reddin ’07
Natalie Reid ’06
Jeff Reimer ’03
Douglas Riddle ’07
Mandy Rooster ’06
Clint Riggio ’92
Tisha (Rice) Rindels ’00
Daniel Rodriguez ’05
Juan Rodriguez ’06
Sherra Robble ’97
Bobby & Sara (Bredfeldt) Rojas ’06 ’06
Jill Ross ’01
Ryan Stinke ’06
Gina (Castillo) Rosa ’06
Zachary Starkovski ’01
Beth Steinbrener ’03
Dana Stringer ’02
Mark Stone ’03
Richard Sullivan ’03
Susan (Edwards) Sullivan ’00
Ryan Swiffted ’04
Darci (Hornok) Szymanski ’06
Paul Treadwell ’06
Anne (McClure) Tharp ’04
Anna Joy Thomas ’03
Jaimie Thompson ’02
Johanna (McCon) Thompson ’00
Bob Timmons ’03
Lisa (Gutierrez) Torres ’04
Hannah Trangberg ’07
Dorothy Trangen ’04
Eric (Scheib) Trux ’04
Garette Umeh ’04
Rosa Van Dyke ’04
Brad Vaughn ’00
Danielle Vogt ’03
Todd Vick ’07
Danielle Vogos ’07
Christ Vondra ’07
Kathy Walberg ’02
Rachel Walker ’04
Carm Ward ’04
Caryn Weaver ’06
Laura (McPherson) Weerter ’03
Trey Weaver ’03
Melanie (Dewberry) Welch ’03
Emily (Largent) Welch ’06
Linda Welch ’05
Steve Welch ’01
Abbie Wetts ’05
Ray West ’04
Eric Whitaker ’02
Jessica (Huffstetler) Wickham ’04
Josh Williams ’02
Marti Williamson ’02
Laura With ’01
Lucas Witt ’06
Andrew Young ’07
Ruth Zelazko ’04

2010s

Bettie (Brown) Yovan ’06 – Bettie served in the mission field with her husband Paul for five years in the 1940s and early 1950s. They retired in Freeport, Illinois. Paul went to be with the Lord on July 30, 2007, leaving Bettie, three children, six grandchildren, and two great-grandchildren.

Walter & Helen (Enz) Eshlemann ’55 ’55 – Walter and Helen have been married for 62 years, and Walter celebrated his 95th birthday on August 4, 2007. The Eshlemans have eight children, nineteen grandchildren, and thirty great-grandchildren and attend Sheridan Hills Baptist Church.

David Turley ’56 – David was recently presented a certificate for the anniversary of his ordination by the General Council of the Assemblies of God. He serves as chaplain with Volunteer Hospice, is a member of the Academy of Certified Social Workers, and is a licensed social work social worker. David and his wife, Mary, have one son, Matthew.

Bill & Mindi Stevenson ’88 ’87 – Mindi recently graduated from the University of Utah with a major of arts in Irish studies. Bill and Mindi both work in the international office at John Brown University.

Chuck McCallough ’75 – A celebration was recently held to honor the 21 years of service served by Pastor McCallough. He has worked at White Rock Baptist Church for these 21 years and the community is very grateful to him.

Chuck Anderson ’82 – Chuck graduated from Mary Hill Graduate School with a master of counseling psychology and a master of divinity; he now works as a psychotherapist.

Gary & Jennifer McAlpin ’89 – Gary and Jennifer recently welcomed their daughter Paisa Wyomene Nah-Nay-A-Bee into the family. She was born January 11, 2007, at 8 lbs. 4 oz. and was 18 in. long. Also, Gary accepted a position with the Cherokee Nation of Oklahoma as a family therapist.

Eric & Jo Pearlcy ’88 – Eric and Jo recently celebrated the birth of their son, Drew Austin Pearlcy, born October 30, 2006. Drew weighed 6 lbs. 7 oz. and was 21 in. long.

Amy McMillan ’95 – Amy is working in sales at Weir’s Hardware.

Becky & David Lindell ’90 – Becky was married to David on September 23, 2006. She is working in sales at Wat’s furniture while David attends Dallas Theological Seminary.

Eunice Capp ’65 – The Capps happily welcomed Hannah Grace Capp into their family on December 21, 2006.

Bill & Mindi Stevenson ’88 ’87 – Mindi recently graduated from the University of Utah with a major of arts in Irish studies. Bill and Mindi both work in the international office at John Brown University.

Sara Schumacher ’03
Mark Stone ’03
Richard Sullivan ’03
Susan (Edwards) Sullivan ’00
Ryan Swiffted ’04
Darci (Hornok) Szymanski ’06
Paul Treadwell ’06
Anne (McClure) Tharp ’04
Anna Joy Thomas ’03
Jaimie Thompson ’02
Johanna (McCon) Thompson ’00
Bob Timmons ’03
Lisa (Gutierrez) Torres ’04
Hannah Trangberg ’07
Dorothy Trangen ’04
Eric (Scheib) Trux ’04
Garette Umeh ’04
Rosa Van Dyke ’04
Brad Vaughn ’00
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Todd Vick ’07
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Steve Welch ’01
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Ray West ’04
Eric Whitaker ’02
Jessica (Huffstetler) Wickham ’04
Josh Williams ’02
Marti Williamson ’02
Laura With ’01
Lucas Witt ’06
Andrew Young ’07
Ruth Zelazko ’04

If you have news or photos to share, please submit your news by e-mail to alumni@jbu.edu or check out our online directory at www.jbualumni.com.

For an explanation of publication policies, photo specifications, and submission deadlines, please visit www.jbualumni.com/magazine/brown_news.aspx
In Loving Memory

Roger Weaver ’51 passed away August 2, 2007, at the age of 83. Throughout his life, Roger served as commandant of Brown Military Academy of Siloam Springs and Sulfur Springs. Roger served in the U.S. Navy, worked as a school superintendent, and served as a chaplain at a mental hospital.

In the years prior to his death, Paul worked for the East Akron Insurance Agency and served as a president for Youth for Christ of Cuyahoga Falls in 1986. He is survived by his mother, great-aunt, and cousin.

Parker Olney ’39 ended a battle with Alzheimer’s disease by going to be with the Lord on August 8, 2007. During his life, Parker served in the U.S. Navy, worked as a school superintendent, and served as a chaplain at a mental hospital.

How to Join: Go online to www.jbualumni.com and click on “e-Newsletter” in the left column. Then click the JBU Prayer Network box, complete the form and click “Submit.” You will then begin receiving the prayer requests each month during the school year.

Join the JBU Prayer Network

Enlarge your territory for God by participating in a unique new ministry that can have a significant impact on JBU and the Kingdom of God.

Sign up for the JBU Prayer Network and join the many other alumni and friends who are supporting the mission and the people of JBU with prayer.

Our Purpose: To create a prayerful JBU community and friends who will uplift JBU on a regular basis in serious prayer.

Your Commitment: To pray for the JBU family to become a strong witness for Christ. Each month you will be e-mailed seven to ten prayer requests related to the spiritual, emotional, and intellectual pursuits of the students, faculty, and staff.

JBU Alumni & Friends
IRELAND TOUR
May 11 - 24, 2008

See spectacular vistas and dramatic countryside, walk in the steps of great Irish Christians, visit ancient monastic sites as well as the “C. S. Lewis Trail,” and enjoy a JBU Cathedral Choir concert during their tour of Ireland.

Cost per person: $3,500*

*Cost includes: Roundtrip airline (Newark to Belfast), hotel accommodations, ground transportation, entrance fees, some meals, patrols and luggage tags, driver and guide gratuity.

Space is limited. For details, contact Tracy Balzer at tvbaler@jbu.edu or 479-524-7461.

Mindy (Franklin) & Rodney Van Andel ’95

Mindy and Rodney announce the birth of Isahak Luke on June 29, 2007. He weighed 8 lbs. 4.5 oz. and was 23 in. long. They also have two daughters: Abby, 4; Lauren, 2.

Amy (Swanson) & Sunil Salve ’98

Amy and Sunil have three daughters: Anjali, 5; Alayna, 3; Anneshea, 1. They enjoy raising them to love the Lord.

2000’s

Tan Aipperspach ’94

Ian recently graduated from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Fort Worth with a master of ministry in church music with concentrations in organ performance and conducting. Beginning August 2007, Ian will begin pursuing a Ph.D. in four arts in conducting at Texas Tech University.

Camille (Williams) & Lon Howell ’92

Ian works as a registered nurse and Camille is a program director in the Student Leadership, Involvement & Community Engagement office at Colorado State University.

Jeannette (Kroecker) & Lamar Johnson ’02 – Jeannette and Lamar were married on June 16, 2007. Jeannette teaches middle school math and Lamar works for the Army National Guard.

Eric & Breini (Nanson) Rao ’92 ’04

Eric and Breini were married April 1, 2007. Breini works at Hudom Global Resources and Eric is the director of operations for Richter-Scale Productions in Denver.

Stephanie (Smith) & Travis Shepherd ’93

The Shepherd welcomed a new daughter into their family on May 5, 2007. Elizabeth Dane was born weighing 8 lbs. 10.6 oz. and was 20 in. long. They have two other daughters: Noelle, 3; and Taylor, 13 months.

Sue Ann Pekel ’95

Sue Ann has recently accepted a position at the Buntenville Public Library in which she will work toward building a children’s library program. She is completing a master’s degree in library science and says this about the new children’s program: “…these are times to motivate children’s interests in books and enjoyment of books.”

Trent Pepper ’95

Trent recently graduated from law school at the top of his class. He is starting a one-year clerkship on the Minnesota Supreme Court and plans to complete an appellate clerkship next year.

Robert E. Carlson ’50

went to be with the Lord on April 25, 2006. He worked as an accountant and was the treasurer in various churches. Robert is survived by his wife, Gloria Carlson, five children, and eight grandchildren.

Robert Jackson ’82

went home to be with the Lord on July 7, 2006, following a battle with chronic inflammatory demileanating polyneuropathy. After being diagnosed with this disease, Roger became a quadriplegic. The family moved to Ohio to be near a daughter, and Roger was moved to a Catholic care facility.

While in the care facility, Roger was able to witness to and spend time with many of the patients and staff. When his last moments came, his wife Jan and daughter Angela were able to be with him singing and praying for an easy passing. Several of the people blessed by Roger’s presence came to comfort and mourn with the family. Roger leaves behind his wife Jan and three daughters.

Selma (Jantz) Ludwig ’39

passed away June 25, 2007. She is survived by two daughters, three grandchildren, and two siblings.

Edward Marshall ’51

died of cancer on June 3, 2007. Edward was preceded in death by his wife, Barbara Marshall, and survived by two children, three grandchildren, and two sisters.

Roger Weaver ’51

passed away August 2, 2007. At the age of 83, Throughout his life, Roger served as commandant of Brown Military Academy of Siloam Springs and Sulfur Springs. He also was a missionary in Africa. Roger is survived by his wife, Edith Weaver ’52, four children, and a brother.

Matt & Kristin Schulte ’02

Matt and Kristin went to Georgetown, South Carolina to meet Jeannette (Kroecker) Johnson ’02 and celebrate the birth of their new son. Joshua Timothy was born June 28, 2007.

Trent Pepper ’05

took to be with the Lord on July 2, 2007 after a courageous battle with cancer. Carrie was his wife, mother, national speaker, author, teacher, university instructor, and licensed professional counselor. Carrie was the director of the University Relationships Initiative with The Center for Relationship Enrichment at JBU. She and her husband, Dr. Gary Oliver, traveled both nationally and internationally, providing their Growth-Focused™ Marriage Enrichment Seminars and partnering workshops. She contributed to several books and magazines, and with her husband, was a regular magazine columnist. To learn about Carrie’s journey with cancer, her hope in the Lord, and tributes to her beautiful spirit, visit www.carietreach.com.

Carrie was tragically preceded in death by son, Matthew Oliver ’97, who passed away May 5, 2007. Matthew is remembered as a vibrant, creative, and passionate young man who loved the Lord, his family, his friends, and his church.

Carrie and Matthew are survived by her husband Gary Oliver; son and brother Nathan Oliver and his wife, and brother Andrew Oliver; and Carrie’s parents and sisters.

Parker Olney ’39 ended a battle with Alzheimer’s disease by going to be with the Lord on August 8, 2007. During his life, Parker served in the U.S. Navy, worked as a school superintendent, and served as a chaplain at a mental hospital.

Paul E. Wagner ’70 went to be with the Lord on August 27, 2007.

In the years prior to his death, Paul worked for the East Akron Insurance Agency and served as a president for Youth for Christ of Cuyahoga Falls in 1986. He is survived by his mother, great-aunt, and cousin.

Roger Weaver ’51

passed away August 2, 2007. In the years prior to his death, Paul worked for the East Akron Insurance Agency and served as a president for Youth for Christ of Cuyahoga Falls in 1986. He is survived by his mother, great-aunt, and cousin.

How to Join: Go online to www.jbualumni.com and click on “e-Newsletter” in the left column. Then click the JBU Prayer Network box, complete the form and click “Submit.” You will then begin receiving the prayer requests each month during the school year.

Join the JBU Prayer Network

Enlarge your territory for God by participating in a unique new ministry that can have a significant impact on JBU and the Kingdom of God.

Sign up for the JBU Prayer Network and join the many other alumni and friends who are supporting the mission and the people of JBU with prayer.

Our Purpose: To create a prayerful JBU community and friends who will uplift JBU on a regular basis in serious prayer.

Your Commitment: To pray for the JBU family to become a strong witness for Christ. Each month you will be e-mailed seven to ten prayer requests related to the spiritual, emotional, and intellectual pursuits of the students, faculty, and staff.

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Benefits of a JBU Charitable Gift Annuity

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3. **FIXED INCOME.** Your payment rate will be locked in at the time you obtain your gift annuity.
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6. **RELIEF FROM TAXES.** Since part of your contribution for a gift annuity is considered a charitable gift by the IRS, you will receive an income tax charitable deduction to apply on an itemized tax return.
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or contact your Regional Director of Development:
James Elliott
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Call (800) 446-2450

JOHN BROWN UNIVERSITY

*Rates will vary depending upon age and number of beneficiaries.

Fifty years ago, in 1957, JBU founder John E. Brown Sr. passed away, leaving behind a legacy that has impacted thousands of lives around the world. He was a remarkable visionary with profound charisma, devoted to preaching the gospel. This year, as the Cathedral of the Ozarks is finally being completed as he envisioned it, we remember the man who started it all.

“I give God the credit, full credit, all credit. I was an ignorant boy when God saved me in the Salvation Army, and it dumbfounds me, all but literally paralyzes me, as I stop to think of the vast world being served today out of that hole in the ground—out of what folk ridiculed as a school built in a cornfield.”

from John Brown Sr’s radio message: “Serving the World under Two Flags,” published in Master Builders of the World (January 1956)
Family Weekend is going to be GREAT!!

Join us February 22-23, 2008

MUCH MORE!!

brunch
musical theater production
talent show
basketball games