



PRINCIPIA PURPOSE

WINTER '21

EDITH WALKER (US'65, C'69)

REFLECTIONS ON RACE AT PRINCIPIA

23

Getting a Better "Read"
on the World

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Lower School
Leadership in Action

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A Peek at the College's
Fall Art Exhibit

GET TO KNOW PRINCIPIA TODAY!

Join us for a virtual visit!

Discover how we prepare tomorrow's leaders to use their education for the greater good.



SCHOOL 2021 VIRTUAL VISIT DATES

Monday, January 25

Monday, March 1

Monday, April 12

Monday, April 26

VISIT HIGHLIGHTS

- Pictorial tour of our campus, facilities, and key learning spaces
- Live Q&A session with our head of school and the principal for your student's level
- Conversation with student leaders
- Q&A with our director of financial aid

principiaschool.org/visit

COLLEGE 2021 VIRTUAL VISIT DATES

February 18–21

March 25–28

April 8–11

April 22–25

VISIT HIGHLIGHTS

- Class visits
- Meetings with professors and coaches
- Friday night fun activity
- Visits with current students
- Live virtual tour

principiacollege.edu/visit

Give us a call—we'd love to chat!

School: 314.514.3188 | College: 618.374.5578

Know someone we should invite to visit? Let us know at principia.edu/referastudent.

The mission of the *Principia Purpose* is to build community among alumni and friends by sharing news, accomplishments, and insights related to Principia, its alumni, and former faculty and staff. The *Principia Purpose* is published twice a year.

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From the Interim Chief Executive

Dear Readers,

Having turned the corner into 2021, I'm happy to report on a successful fall semester at Principia. In-person instruction on both campuses proceeded with very few disruptions. The steadfastness of our faculty, staff, and students carried us through with remarkable grace.

Holding firmly to the truth of God's omnipotent goodness, Principians proved Mary Baker Eddy's assurance that "[g]race and Truth are potent beyond all other means and methods" (*Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures*, p. 67). I am humbled by and grateful for all the good going on at Principia.

That doesn't mean, of course, that there's no room for progress. And cultivating a truly equitable and inclusive community is one of the areas where we are working to grow. Our cover story explores some of the ways we've fallen short in the past when it comes to embracing diversity. The articles made me grateful to know that Principia has made some significant progress, while acknowledging that there is important work we are striving to continue.

Also in the issue, you'll meet an alum who works with migrants on the Peruvian border, striving to "apply and share Christian Science ideas and principles" (p. 10). You will get to know a College faculty member who helps students wrestle with right and wrong in her ethics classes (p. 16). I think you'll enjoy reading about the hands-on learning happening in the School's new IDEA Labs (p. 36). And you won't want to miss a Principia World War II veteran's recollections of College life back when a bus on train wheels delivered the mail down the River Road (p. 38).

There's lots to enjoy and learn from here. Take your time exploring it all.



Dennis Marunde (C'82)
Interim Chief Executive



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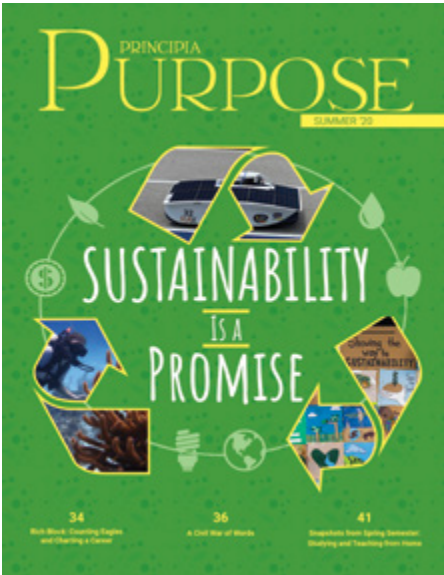


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I appreciated your articles on sustainability in the last issue—highlighting the global crisis we’re in.

Yep, we’ve reached that point where humankind’s future on the earth is indeed in peril—so thanks for Principia’s helping by ending throwaway bottles and going solar. All good, but those nice efforts seem like trying to save the Titanic with a sump pump . . . hoping we can “technology” our way out of this mess.

Your otherwise good article unfortunately missed any inclusion of the gorilla in the room: overpopulation . . . *the root cause* of not only global warming, but also vanishing species, water (and, increasingly, food) shortages, resource depletion, dying oceans, urban overcrowding, Third World poverty, and almost every other serious problem.

There are now 7.8 billion of us—growing by 220,000/day or 81 million

(another Germany) every year . . . each new human, of course, wanting their fair share of the earth’s declining resources and adding 11,000 more pounds of CO2 annually into the atmosphere.

Ecologists have calculated that the earth’s ability to absorb man’s impact hit “tilt” back when we were only four billion.

Far too many believe recycling and Priuses will take care of everything. But until we get *really* serious about overpopulation—radically pushing small families and birth control (over most conservative religions’ opposition)—I fear chances for our planet’s future look dim.

Rick Childs (C’62)

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I just want to note how exceptional I thought the latest edition of the *Purpose* was. I loved reading about how both campuses have taken the need for sustainability seriously and tried to incorporate elements of sustainable living into all aspects of the campuses, from classroom learning to dining services,

waste, and daily life practices. This is education as important as the classroom subjects that students are studying and critical to responsible citizenship in the world today. . . .

I very much appreciated Peter Martin’s article about the dictionary. Who knew? I have always assumed that Mr. Webster, who I assumed was named Merriam Webster, was the full story of this dictionary as it bears the name still today. I am grateful now to understand how this dictionary came to be, the true contribution of Mr. Webster and those who actually are behind the value this book holds for us still today. How blessed Principia College students are to have speakers with such interesting topics to share to enrich their education.

Bob Craig was my math teacher in Upper School, and I went to school with his daughter. I knew he spent summers in the East and trained lifeguards but had no idea the extent of his influence there. So nice to read about him.

...

In general, I had a great time reading from cover to cover, learned a lot, reminisced a little, and rejoiced over how amazing Principia still is—and getting better all the time! I was on the staff for several years many years ago, and I don’t think you who are there in the headlights get enough recognition for your dedication. It is always MORE than a job when you work for Principia. It is a calling! Thank you to each of you for your commitment to all that means.

Hilary Barner (US’65, C’69)



Senior Retreat—A Unifying Experience

The Senior Retreat at Leelanau Outdoor Center on the shores of Lake Michigan was a success, despite the forced cancellation of most other fall grade-level trips due to pandemic guidelines. For most seniors, this was their fourth and final Upper School expedition focused on teamwork, cooperation, leadership, and character.

Lessons learned from earlier trips—portaging canoes at the Minnesota Boundary Waters, rafting the Snake River, or sailing in Maine—have equipped students with the skills and mindset to overcome academic, career, and life obstacles. “It doesn’t feel like it’s

benefiting you in the moment,” says senior Charley Hoffman. “But when you come across a challenge later in high school or [eventually] your career, you look back and think ‘I got through a hailstorm in a canoe, I can definitely get through this.’”

This year’s Senior Retreat involved numerous physical and mental challenges, including pulling a school bus (yes, an actual bus), climbing a 10-foot wall, cooking a meal, running a long and hilly road, and conversing beyond usual social circles. Dean of Boys Clark Shutt explains that unifying the class as a whole is a key purpose of Senior Retreat. “The bonding comes through challenges,” he says. “When adversity hits, that is when we want to see the kids pull together, forget about themselves, and think of others first.” While the group began the week as a collection of 51 individual attitudes, it ended with a single, unified class mentality.

Early Childhood Program Gets New Play Spaces

This past summer, the Early Childhood program received a new Reggio Emilia-inspired playground that allows children ages 1–5 to create their own learning experiences through exploration and discovery. The playground features elements found in nature for children to use in imaginative play. Mud kitchens equipped with utensils and kitchenware are put to use by creative minds. There are lots of spaces for swinging, climbing, jumping, crawling, and balancing on logs and stumps cut from trees on the School’s expansive campus. A charming gazebo is used as an outdoor classroom and as a gathering space for picnic lunches.

An integral part of a Reggio Emilia-inspired approach is the support and collaboration of the children, parents, teachers, and community, who all have a vested interest in the students’ education. One Saturday morning in early August, more than 20 (masked) Principia community members gathered to build a wooden play structure for the new playground. The structure includes a climbing wall, a platform for imaginative play, a slide, a swing, and two old-fashioned telephones for creative conversations. This delightful structure promises to engage children in whimsical play for years to come.



Campus-Wide Collections Spread Goodwill Near and Far



Each holiday season, the Principia community comes together to give back in a variety of ways—from food drives and charitable music performances to gift collections and community service projects. Beginning in the Early Childhood program (pictured above), Principia cultivates an environment of compassion-driven action that creates real impact, not only in our School and local communities but around the world.

This year, preschoolers participated in the Salvation Army Angels project, gathering numerous gifts from students, teachers, and families that were delivered to 93 children (angels) in the St. Louis area. The love-guided campaign is part of the Pre-school's involvement in the Impact Challenge, a School-wide initiative based on the Sustainable Development Goals of the United Nations, which include eliminating poverty and hunger.

Lower School students wrote letters to Principia veterans and created gifts for residents of Peace Haven, a Christian Science nursing facility in St. Louis. Families donated winter necessities for adults in the area as part of Project Overflow, led by an Upper School student.

The Middle School partnered with Samaritan's Purse for Operation Christmas Child. Students and families sent more than 40 carefully curated shoeboxes of toys, school supplies, and hygiene items to children in need around the world.

The Upper School community led food and clothing drives for children and adults in the St. Louis area. Some students spearheaded projects of their own, collecting necessary items for those in need during these colder months, including those experiencing economic hardship triggered by the pandemic.

Additionally, all levels collected nearly \$5,500 as a gift to Principia's Facilities workers in appreciation of all they've done this year. This annual tradition took on new meaning this fall as our crews have gone above and beyond to meet new protocols.

Progress on Simon Athletic Complex

After pausing the Simon Field House project in spring 2020, construction has now commenced. Due to a more competitive bidding environment caused by the current economic climate, more than \$2.5 million in cost savings were identified. The new sports fields are expected to be ready for play in spring 2021, and the new Simon Field House is expected to open in spring 2022. (See principiagiving.org/simon for more information.)

Professor John Williams Appointed College President

After serving as interim College president for eight months, Professor John W. Williams, JD, was appointed president of Principia College in July.

A member of the Political Science Department throughout his 37 years at the College, Williams has been an instructor, advisor, lecturer, study abroad program director, and president of the Faculty Senate—as well as president of the Illinois Political Science Association.

Before joining Principia, Williams worked in the Civil Rights Division of the United States Department of Justice and as an attorney in private practice. A 1976 graduate of Principia College, Williams earned his JD from The George Washington University. He and his wife, Missy (Ford, C'76) Williams, live in Jerseyville.



“Prin at the Polls”



“Prin at the Polls” has been an election-year tradition and collaborative learning experience at the College for close to 30 years. The biennial broadcast—involving as many as 100 political science and mass communication students and faculty—presents television and/or radio programming spanning election night every two years, with student anchors, topical panel discussions, election-return updates, guest experts, and commentary. The program content is the work of the political science classes, studio technical staff, on-air hosts, and news writers and readers. The advertising and promotion of the event comes largely from mass communication classes.

Before the November 3 election-night livestream, students in Women in Politics, taught by Dr. Brian Roberts (C'88), provided previews of key United States Senate and House races involving female candidates. And from his show on Principia Internet Radio, junior Chris Strong hosted “Prin before the Polls,” including predictions of the presidential election outcome for each of the 50 states.

Career Center Boosts Student Services

The Internship and Career Development Center has enhanced its services to better prepare students for life after college. Most recently, the center teamed up with Handshake, an online career-management system for students. It provides personalized job recommendations based on the student's major, information about relevant career fairs and internship opportunities, and other resources specific to students' interests.

Carrie Silver-Stock (C'95) is the center's career coordinator. Prior to joining Principia, she owned the company Girls with Dreams, served as chief administrative officer for EBW, which supports women business owners, and served as chief operations officer for a real estate company. Utilizing her management experience, Silver-Stock developed a College-to-Career Bootcamp, which was offered virtually in December 2020 and will be again in January 2021. The camp provides students self-paced structure and training to complete individual career-related goals, such as updating or completing résumés, cover letters, and LinkedIn or Handshake profiles. One-on-one consultations with Silver-Stock are available as well.

The Taming of the Shrew

Principia College's Theatre and Dance Department performed Shakespeare's *The Taming of the Shrew* November 12–14 in the College's new Robert Duvall Theatre in the McVay Center for the Performing Arts. The performance was open to the public for limited in-person attendance and livestreamed through OnTheStage.com.

Eight Principia students (mostly theatre majors), one College faculty member, and several Principia alumni made up the cast. Originally, the students were scheduled to study abroad in England and Scotland during the semester, with plans to present the play after returning. However, travel restrictions caused the group to transition to a special, on-campus Arts Block consisting exclusively of theatre coursework. But the group still got to interact with artists overseas during virtual workshops led by professionals from the Shakespeare's Globe theatre education program in London.

With the Robert Duvall Theatre nearly empty due to pandemic protocols, the cast especially appreciated having a larger audience via the livestream. "It is really important for performing artists to know their work is reaching someone," show director and Principia College Associate Professor of Theatre Chrissy Calkins Steele says. "Their work is entertaining, but there is more to it than that. There's a message [the actors] are trying to get across . . . dealing with issues that we feel are relevant now. Feeling that they are sharing that message with a wider audience is very empowering for young artists."



CROP Hunger Walk

In October, students from six houses, two women's sports teams, faculty from six departments, and staff from eight offices participated in the St. Louis CROP Hunger Walk. CROP Hunger Walks are ecumenical activities held throughout hundreds of communities. Funds raised go to local food banks and pantries as well as to support the global mission of Church World Service, a faith-based organization transforming communities around the globe through just and sustainable responses to hunger, poverty, displacement, and disaster.

Due to the pandemic, the walk had to be virtual this year, prompting Principia participants to create their own path. Using the campus's cross country course, they walked either a one- or three-mile route. Some exceeded the distance, and other Principians participated by walking in their own locations.

With over \$5,500 raised, the Principia Virtual CROP Hunger Walk Team ranked first out of 16 St. Louis-area teams for both fundraising and the number of walkers. Principia's women's tennis team, which raised nearly \$1,200 in additional funds, placed second for number of walkers and sixth in fundraising.

Awards and Achievements

SCHOOL

Boys' Cross Country Places Third at State



The Upper School boys' cross country team placed third in the Class 1 State Championships. In addition, junior **Rex Heath** (pictured below) finished third in the State race and first in the District Championships. This was the team's best finish since the 1999 team placed second at State.

The following students also participated in the State and District meets:

- Senior **Taine Dry**
- Junior **Aaron Nutwell**
(second place in the District Championship)
- Junior **Zachery Proctor**
- Junior **Joseph Luciani**



Distinguished Scholar



Senior **Grant Clifford** was named a National Merit Scholarship semi-finalist. Of the more than 1.5 million students who took the PSAT last fall, fewer than 1 percent were named semifinalists. Grant now has the opportunity to compete for one of 7,600 National Merit Scholarships to be awarded this spring.

Seniors Embark on Emerging Leadership Program



Seniors **Kaya Equevilley** and **Grace Ripley** were accepted to the prestigious United Nations Association of the National Capital Area's (UNA-NCA) Emerging Leaders program. They were selected for their demonstrated interest and impact championing human rights and global issues. The Emerging Leaders program provides youth leaders with tools and support for developing their advocacy skills. As Emerging Leaders, Grace and Kaya will have

opportunities to connect with mentors, gain professional development skills, get published on UNA-NCA platforms, and advance their knowledge of sustainable development and the UN agenda.

COLLEGE

College Named a National Leader in Communications

The Higher Education Data Sharing Consortium (HEDS) recognized Principia College as a national leader in early COVID-19 institutional communication strategy.

The College's strategy included weekly, virtual town hall meetings; surveys to different stakeholders; ongoing meetings with faculty leadership groups, individual departments, and students; and communications and support from Student Life staff.

To determine schools' success, HEDS administered a survey nationwide to students, faculty, and staff of institutions of all sizes. When HEDS compiled and analyzed the data from all participating institutions—particularly the open-ended questions—Principia College emerged as one of three schools that stood out as excellent in framing communication. Goshen College (Indiana) and Concordia University Texas completed the top three leaders.

HEDS attributed Principia's success to the College's resolve to have its mission and principles guide the work and to ensure that the community was receiving comfort and support throughout the past spring, when the HEDS survey was administered.

Awards and Achievements

Lincoln Academy Student Laureate Chosen



Senior **Tara Adhikari** was named Principia College's 2020 Lincoln Academy Student Laureate. The award is based on leadership and service in the pursuit of the betterment of humanity and on overall excellence in curricular and extracurricular activities.

A global studies and political science double major, Tara has held several leadership positions on campus, including co-directing the Public Affairs Con-

ference and serving as a Christian Science Organization Wednesday Reader. She is a contributing writer for the *Pilot* student newsmagazine, a record-holder on the track and field team, and captain of the women's soccer team.

Tara was a Model Illinois Moot Court semifinalist, has repeatedly earned a position on the Dean's List, and was selected for the St. Louis Intercollegiate Athletic Conference's All-Academic Team. She has also been a research assistant in the Engineering Science and Economics Departments. Tara is considering careers in law and journalism.

Three Wins for Mediation Team

Principia College's mediation team competed in the first-ever virtual International Intercollegiate Mediation Championship Tournament in November, winning three of the four categories of competition: Top Mediator, Champion Team Mediation, and Champion Team Advocacy. In the

fourth category, Top Advocate/Client, the team took seventh place.

Recently Published Professor



Religious studies professor **Dr. Barry Huff** (US'98, C'02) co-edited and contributed to the new book *Seeking Wisdom's Depths and Torah's Heights: Essays in Honor of Samuel E. Balentine*. The book, published by Smyth & Helwys, celebrates Balentine's innovative and influential work in the field of biblical studies with interdisciplinary essays on the Torah and biblical wisdom literature from prominent biblical scholars.

ALUMNI

John McKinney (C'70)

John A. McKinney Jr. was selected for the 2021 edition of *The Best Lawyers in America*, which highlights the top 6 percent of private practicing attorneys. McKinney was recognized for his work in environmental litigation.

Jacqueline Adams (C'72)

Emmy Award-winning former CBS News correspondent and White House correspondent Jacqueline Adams co-authored a book published in October, *A Blessing: Women of Color Teaming Up to Lead, Empower and Thrive*. Featuring

proprietary survey results, the book examines the experiences of female leaders of color and provides a play-book with innovative ways they and their allies can support one another on the road to success.

Carol Carter (US'73, C'77)

An internationally recognized artist whose career has spanned more than 35 years, Carol Carter received the 2020 Snehil Lifetime Achievement Award from Snehilsrijan, India. She was also honored with Master Signature Member status by the American Women Artists and Heartland Art Club organizations, and two of her

watercolors were chosen by the Art in Embassies program and will be displayed in the American Embassy in Montenegro.

Heather Dune Macadam (US'78)

Heather Dune Macadam was named a 2020 NYSCA/NYFA Artist Fellow in the Nonfiction Literature discipline. The program awarded \$588,000 to 85 artists in five different categories, only two of which were literary. This longstanding New York Foundation for the Arts (NYFA) program is administered with leadership support from the New York State Council on the Arts (NYSCA).

OFF TO A ROARING START

Sergio Zapata Cornejo: *MEETING MIGRANTS' NEEDS IN PERU*

by Rich Bachus (US'83)

Standing on the border between Peru and Chile one cold night in 2019, Sergio Zapata Cornejo (C'16) turned to prayers of protection for a small group of Venezuelan youths who were about to cross into Chile under the cover of darkness. The oldest boy was 18 and was waiting for a smuggler to take him and three other boys on one of the most dangerous routes to avoid border checkpoints, despite Zapata Cornejo's dire warnings about human traffickers and land mines.

Zapata Cornejo lives in Lima, Peru, but he was on assignment on his country's southern border as a project assistant for the Emergency and Humanitarian Assistance Unit of Peru's United Nations

Photo courtesy of Sergio Zapata Cornejo

International Organization for Migration (IOM). His work included purchasing and distributing blankets and supplies, as well as serving hot meals.

There was a Chilean Embassy near the migrant camp, and the Chilean officers were acting "very xenophobic and harsh," Zapata Cornejo recounts. They wouldn't let the Venezuelan and

Colombian migrants enter the embassy, where they could obtain visas for legal entry into the country.

The boys were just a few of the hundreds of migrants waiting in a tent camp on the Peruvian side to get visas for passage into Chile. In near-freezing weather, many of the migrants had nothing warmer than T-shirts. Zapata



Sergio Zapata Cornejo (C'16) holds his award for Best Humanitarian Worker from Peru's National Institute of Civil Defense.



Sergio Zapata Cornejo (center) and colleagues distribute aid in Peru.

Cornejo prayed for them through the night.

In the morning, Zapata Cornejo ran into the boys, who were still in the camp. They hadn't gone with the smuggler! When he asked the oldest of the group what made them change their minds, he said that he heard Zapata Cornejo's voice in his head while he was waiting for the smuggler. He turned around and went back to his tent, and the others followed.

"I was so happy to see him again," says Zapata Cornejo. "And he was able to enter the country in a safe way later on."

After Zapata Cornejo worked and talked with the Chilean officers over the course of several weeks, tensions between the migrant camp and the officers lessened, and the embassy started approving visas more easily. Zapata Cornejo has come to expect resolutions like these.

In his two years with IOM, Zapata Cornejo's work has largely focused on Venezuelan migrants and refugees, due to that country's economic and

political collapse. More than one million migrants have come into or passed through Peru since 2018, and most arrived needing assistance and shelter after walking from Venezuela, the equivalent of walking from New York to Denver.

Zapata Cornejo helped coordinate deliveries of basic assistance baskets to thousands of families last year. These baskets include bags of food, bottles of water, and hygiene kits. He also helps migrant groups with paperwork so they can find employment and continue to take care of themselves, an increasingly challenging task during the pandemic.

As a global studies major at Principia College (with minors in education and sustainability), Zapata Cornejo says he was well prepared to step into the world of international migration. With classmates from Cameroon, Uganda, England, Brazil, and Chile, Zapata Cornejo discovered how to be part of an international community at the College. And his work as a postgraduate teaching intern for the Global Studies Department strengthened his research skills, which he has used in jobs at Peru's Ministry of Education and IOM Peru.

"Principia gave me a global perspective . . . that helps me with development work for the UN," he comments.

Zapata Cornejo says his study abroad in Finland, which focused on sustainability and education, was the highlight of his academic career, and Introduction to Global Sociology, taught by Dr. Billy Miller (C'72), gave him "insights into social constructs that exist around the world—and how they are being challenged." In addition, co-directing

the College's first International Perspectives Conference strengthened Zapata Cornejo's facilitation and communication skills.

Zapata Cornejo's multicultural immersion at Principia even extended to the playing field. In his sophomore year, he was recruited to join the rugby team. An avid soccer player, he knew little about rugby. It was a sharp learning curve, but he and his teammates ended up winning the 2013 USA Rugby 7s Division II National Championship.

Enthusiasm for Principia and Christian Science carries into Zapata Cornejo's work with IOM. Even though he's confronted with human suffering and tragedy on a regular basis, his academic and metaphysical foundations give him a unique perspective on the migrants he serves.

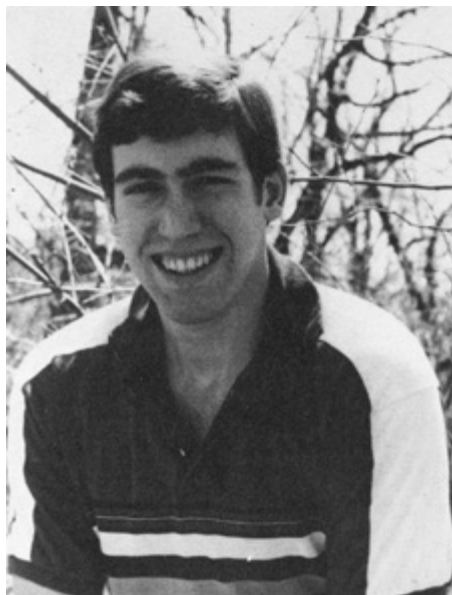
"Working at IOM allows me to apply and share Christian Science ideas and principles," Zapata Cornejo comments. "My best practice is to see [the migrants as] perfect and complete. Whether you are a migrant or poor, we all receive the same amount of [God's] love."

Whether he is bringing food baskets or legal help to the people he works with, Zapata Cornejo looks beyond the surface picture. "I try to see myself humbly and as an instrument of God. I'm just a bridge."

"God doesn't know borders; God doesn't know countries," Zapata Cornejo continues. "We can all be more inclusive, more empathetic. . . . We live in the same world. We have to see [each other] as the true children of God." ■

College: Life Experiences Amped Up to 10

by David Hugh Smith (C'80)



David Hugh Smith, 1979 yearbook photo

What was I up to in 2014? Is that the year we replaced the slime-green couch?

Ask me what I was doing most years, and I'll have to think about it. Ask me what I was doing every *month* while at Principia, and I'll provide a lengthy, passionate description.

College amps up life experiences to 10. Because college is about growing up—about academic learning and about creating these life experiences—it provides a disproportionate number of watershed memories and insights.

And going to college at Principia invests each memory, each insight, with a deeper understanding of who we really are. Principia surrounds you with love and supports your spiritual

“Going to Principia is an experience that never ends. You never lose the inspiration and memories, even during supremely challenging times . . .”

growth—though no one is forcing you to grow in any way you don't want to grow.

Of course, it's the superlative Principia staff who enable all this. When I think of Principia, I think of my many Prin friends, some of whom, 40+ years later, I still hang out with. But I also remember English professor Colin Campbell (C'49), who gently and humorously introduced students to writing with vigor—and to similes like “as busy as a one-armed wallpaper hanger.” I can hear him and see him *right now* as I'm writing this, looking at his students with a knowing, benevolent smile.

I think of Robert Andrews (US'33, C'37), who taught accounting with love. He pulled me aside after class one time and suggested I get more sleep because he could see I was barely staying awake. (I wish he'd shared his concerns with the guys at Brooks South, who thought nothing of heaving a large box of cans for recycling, with cataclysmic-sounding noise, into someone's room at two in the morning.)

And I think of Ned (C'43) and Paula (Richter, C'52) Bradley, my “parents” on the 1980 France Abroad. I marvel at the challenge of teaching language and French culture to a gang of students spread all over Paris in disparate living arrangements.

The Bradleys could speak like natives, and their understanding of the culture was as deep as any born-in-France professor. It was with the Bradleys I enjoyed some of the most vivid and consciousness-raising experiences of my life so far.

Our trip to the beaches of Normandy is an example. In June 1944, Ned commanded one of the boats landing American troops to retake Europe from what appeared to be an overwhelming German force. In May 1980, we stood with him on that same beach as he provided firsthand details of this majestic expression of selflessness by thousands of young men. And then we looked at the sea of white crosses at the Normandy Beach American Cemetery, each representing someone who never returned home.

My Principia Story

was to be my final night in Paris and also as a Principia College student. I was graduating and then going home to face daunting family challenges. In the middle of the night, I woke up from a nightmare with a scream that must have awakened everyone in that *arrondissement*.

But when I got home, my Principia experience strengthened me and supported me and inspired me during the years ahead. Going to Principia is an experience that never ends. You never lose the inspiration and memories, even during supremely challenging times—or during times when the most dramatic experience of your year might be replacing a slime-green couch. ▢

Photo courtesy of David Hugh Smith



At Omaha Beach during the 1980 France Abroad, Professor Ned Bradley (left foreground) describes his role in the invasion of Normandy as students and his wife, Paula (in trench coat), listen.

Ned didn't speechify. He let everything wash over us, trusting us to employ what we were learning as young Christian Scientists to understand that there is no death—and that this was a particularly vivid example of the dream of mortal experience.

On one overnight trip, Ned offered to take interested students on a late-evening walk. Only I stepped out with him—a precious opportunity to have this amazing man provide a tour just for me. His knowledge of *everywhere* in France was astonishing. But at one point, perhaps because we'd gotten side-tracked by a fascinating side street, we needed to cross a wide river on a bridge intended solely for motor traffic.

Ned was, humanly speaking, a late-middle-aged man. But he was famously agile, and he had a delightful, childlike sense of humor. Both of us nimbly hopped over wires and other barriers. We stepped over a dead dog that, sadly, had come to grief on the bridge. At one point, Ned, realizing that what we were doing, although necessary, was illegal, suggested that, if the police challenged us, we pretend we couldn't speak or read French. I'm not sure he was serious, but I took it as reassurance that he would find a way to get us back safely to the hotel. And he did.

During my final night in Paris, staying five floors up in an old hotel near transport to Charles de Gaulle Airport, I was lonely. And sad, because this

What's *your* Principia story?

To submit a story (up to 800 words) about your Principia experience, email us at purpose@principia.edu.

Selected submissions will be edited with the author's permission. Shorter submissions are welcome as well. Feel free to share even a brief memory.

Marston Family Field: Honoring Excellence, Expanding Opportunity

by Eric Morse (US'90)


If there's one name that is practically synonymous with Principia's baseball program, it's Marston. In April 2021—with the opening of the Marston Family Field—Principia will honor the Marston family's 146 years of combined service, three generations of excellence, and decades of inspirational impact on thousands of Principians.

"The Marston family legacy has touched countless lives on the baseball diamond and in the classroom," says Upper School Head Baseball Coach Pete Paciorek. Since 1955, at least one Marston family member has either taught or worked at Principia, coached baseball or softball, or played ball on a Principia team.

"From generations of Principians taught and mentored by Howard and Bill at the Upper School to Chris being the current Principia College head baseball coach, the Marston family's impact has been huge," Paciorek says. "And then you add Jenna's phenomenal accomplishments—it's really remarkable what this family has done."

Jenna Marston (US'09) starred on the Upper School girls' softball *and* boys' baseball teams before becoming USA Baseball's 2010 Sportswoman of the Year and the 2013 SEC Scholar-Athlete of the Year. She is also a two-time women's baseball gold medalist with Team USA at the Pan American games.

While recognizing several generations of the family, the Marston Family Field is as much about looking forward to baseball's future on campus as it is about honoring its past. A state-of-the-art facility of unmatched quality, this field will stand among the best of its kind in the area. Along with a first-rate baseball field, the lighted grounds will feature three additional 100-yard, multipurpose fields that will also be suitable for soccer, field hockey, lacrosse, and football.

The new baseball field will be "more than an athletic field," says Coach Paciorek. "This field will enable us to expand our reach to the community, young athletes, and others who might not otherwise step foot on the campus. That's what I'm most excited about—sharing what makes Principia special." 

MARSTON FAMILY LINEUP

NAME	POSITION	PRINCIPIA EMPLOYMENT
Howard	Math teacher, School softball coach	(1955–1963, 1965–2001)
Elizabeth (C'50)	Preschool teacher	(1961–1995)
Linda (US'72, C'76)	Student	
Bill (US'75, C'80)	Math teacher, School baseball coach	(1981–2020)
Cindy (C'81)	Academic technology facilitator	(2003–2016)
Nancy (US'81)	Softball player	
Chris (US'06)	College baseball coach	(2010–present)
Jenna (US'09)	Softball and baseball player	
Kiersten (C'13)	Preschool and Lower School teacher	(2014–present)

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Dr. Crystal Allen-Gunasekera gives a talk (before the pandemic) as part of the Dilemmas & Decisions Seminar.

MEET DR. CRYSTAL ALLEN-GUNASEKERA: Helping Students Wrestle with Right and Wrong

Dr. Crystal Allen-Gunasekera (C'05) joined the College Philosophy Department in 2012. Her areas of expertise include social and political philosophy, as well as ethics. Along with her BA in environmental studies from Principia, she holds an MA and PhD in philosophy from the University of Missouri.

In addition to articles published in Ethical Theory and Moral Practice and the Journal of Animal Ethics,

Allen-Gunasekera has delivered numerous papers at conferences held by the Central States Philosophical Association, American Philosophical Association, and International Society for Military Ethics.

Q. What research are you working on?

A. My research is on the ethics of war. I'm weighing in on a debate about whether cases of "purely political aggression"—threats to sovereignty or territory that do not involve a threat

to the vital rights of individuals—can justify war. Examples of purely political aggression include interfering in another country's elections (a threat to sovereignty) or seizing uninhabited islands (a threat to territory). I'm also interested in moral issues related to the treatment of animals.

Q. What led you to teaching?

A. I love ideas, especially philosophical ideas, and I wanted to share that



with others. Also, I feel that the sub-discipline of ethics is tremendously important and needed in today's world. We need to wrestle with deep questions about right and wrong, and philosophy provides a unique way to do that. So, partly, I keep teaching out of hope that I can play some small role in our collective endeavor to be better—as individuals, as a country, as a world.

Q. What do you love about teaching?

A. I love it when students get excited. It is most fulfilling when students learn something about themselves, gain a skill that will help them understand the world, or develop the ability to reason through a tough problem. It is great

when students begin to see the value of what they are learning and how it can help them lead a flourishing life.

Q. What do you find most challenging about teaching?

A. It can be challenging if we reach a point in the semester when students are tired or feeling “burned out.” You have to find a way to change things up, get them excited again, or reconnect. Sometimes I do this by creating a game that connects with the course content, a competition where students have to create memes or GIFs that represent a theory, a debate about a current controversial issue, or an engaging case study.

Other times, what a group needs is an open and honest discussion where they can talk about the challenges they are facing as students and think through solutions together.

Q. Can you share a character education moment you've had at Principia that particularly stands out to you?

A. In my ethics classes, we regularly reflect on what it means to live well, what we owe each other as human beings, and what we should do regarding various contemporary issues. It's most exciting to me when students move beyond the academic level to considering these questions at a deeper or more personal level. I hope that our discussions, the theories they learn, and the method of reasoning will help them navigate ethically challenging scenarios they might face in the future.

Although many of the ethical theories we discuss are not specifically rooted in a Christian perspective, students often

find that the theories connect with or support their own beliefs in helpful ways. For example, a recent student wrote, “I think ethics particularly helps me grow as a Christian Scientist because I am able to approach dilemmas with a spiritual lens, while also maintaining an understanding of how someone else might see the problem. This class has helped increase my empathy.”

Q. What work would you pursue if you weren't a professor?

A. I might consider law or public policy, but philosophy is my real passion.

Q. What would people be surprised to learn about you?

A. I enjoy building elaborate train tracks for my son, Asher, to run his toy trains on. It's quite fun, even if he smashes them afterwards. He's two and a half, so smashing things is half the fun to him.

Q. If you had a day off and weren't allowed to use it to catch up on work, what would you do?

A. I would definitely spend it with my family. We might go to the Saint Louis Zoo or to the National Museum of Transportation. Asher loved riding the miniature train the last time we went.

Q. If you could give students only one piece of advice, what would it be?

A. Don't be afraid to ask questions in class. If you are wondering about something, other students probably are too. Asking a question shows that you care. ■

Virtual Events Revitalize Principia's Connections with Alumni and Friends

“Unprecedented” was the overused understatement of 2020. Forced to rethink everything about how we learn, work, interact, and conduct our everyday lives, many people found unexpected blessings amid the uncertainty.

Principia's Alumni & Field Relations team, led by Merrilee McFarland (US'99, C'03), created a slate of virtual events ranging from the deeply personal to the broadly global, from historical to spiritual. Along the way, we were grateful to spark the interest and engagement of Principia alumni, faculty, staff, and community members in fresh and meaningful ways.

“While our reunions were postponed, and Principia Clubs across the country had to cancel in-person events,” McFarland says, “we still wanted to find a way to connect with the Principia family. We felt Principia had something to share that our community was hungry for.”

Topics for virtual events were diverse and relevant. From March to November, the Alumni & Field Relations team hosted 32 events that drew more than 6,100 attendees.

Book talks were a big hit. Discussions led by beloved former professors Dr. John Glen and Linda Conradi (C'65) featured *Where the Crawdads Sing*, *Countdown 1945*, *One Summer: America 1927*, and *The Book of Lost Friends*.

Bible explorations presented by Dr. Barry Huff (US'98, C'02) resonated strongly with the community, as did the Black American Alumni panel, facilitated by College President John Williams (C'76) as part of the Race and Faith speaker series. (See excerpts beginning on page 30.)

As the country wrestled with police brutality that raised concerns about systemic racism, the panel addressed these topics head-on, sparking ongoing conversations within Principia and beyond. Many participants shared feedback similar to this comment from Heidi (Landen, C'89) Marrelli: “Thank you for making the time and space—and for the panelists. I



See what's coming up, and watch earlier virtual events:
principia.edu/events

appreciate the voices from the various decades. I found that discussion to be real and appreciate the vulnerability shown. I believe the Principia community and the Christian Science community need to have these discussions to move forward. It is time.”

Dr. Huff's four presentations on the Bible included a timely, two-part series on biblical figures in exile. Attendee Brenda Robbins (US'99) commented, “Thank you for not downplaying the urgent challenges in the world, but showing how we can address them in prayer.”

All told, the variety of events provided something of value for alumni and friends everywhere. In the words of one Upper School and College alum, “These virtual events have brought Principia back into my life. . . . From my role as a parent, to a member of a diverse, urban community, to my interest in the historical underpinnings of our current political situation, attending these events has changed my relationship with Principia.” ■

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Young Alumni “Pay It Forward” as Howard Society Members

by Eric Morse (US'90)



Everything changed for Jacquelyn (Field, C'97) and Ryan (US'92, C'97) Star last spring. Stuck in their Houston home during lockdown, they had plenty of time to think about what they wanted for their two teenage daughters.

Looking back on the year, Jacquelyn reflects, “Our family has been affected by the changes, but it has driven us to some really unique blessings.”

What sparked those blessings? Deciding to enroll their daughters as boarders at Principia. Doing so reignited a love of Principia that dates back decades.

“The quality of the learning environment, the ability to participate in sports, the music program, the depth of friendships the girls have established in such

a short period of time have really blown us away,” Jacquelyn says. “And we wish to pay it forward in every way possible.”

As Howard Society chairs, the Stars represent a growing number of young alumni shy of their 25th Reunion who support Principia with gifts at the Howard Society level. Dr. Julie Snorek (C'01), a postdoctoral researcher at Dartmouth College, was moved to join the Howard Society to ensure Principia's future. “I'm grateful for what Principia stands for,” she comments. “The ‘pearl of great price’ that Prin holds is being shared with the world.”

Debbie Chibuzor (C'09), who traveled from her native Nigeria to attend Principia, has gone on to serve the Cause of Christian Science as an employee at The Mother Church. She gives at

the Howard Society level in honor of longtime International Student Coordinator Bente (Pedersen, C'70) Morse. “Attending Principia, an experience I still cherish, was made possible by the generosity of Prin donors in the form of financial aid to supplement what my parents and I were paying,” Debbie says. “I'm hoping that, with my gift, I'm able to help provide such an opportunity for someone else.”

Donors of all ages have found that participating in Principia's Howard Society provides an ongoing connection to the institution and its leadership. It's also a way to make a substantial, lifelong impact on young Christian Scientists.

HOWARD SOCIETY DETAILS

- The Howard Society began in 2009 with a charter gift from Helen (Hance, C'38) Andrews.
- The Howard Society is named for Clarence and Minnie Morey Howard, nationally renowned industrialists, philanthropists, and early benefactors of Principia.
- There are approximately 800 members of the Howard Society, located around the globe.
- Howard Society members gain insider access to Principia leadership, campus heads, and other administrators through gratitude events, group webinars, and individual contact.
- Membership in the Howard Society can be achieved with a total gift of \$1,000 per year, just \$84/month. ■

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BRITISH ISLES AND LOWLANDS

June 12–22, 2021

Cruise the Celtic shores of England, Ireland, and Northern Ireland with former Principia College Theatre Professor John O'Hagan.



TREKKING IRELAND

July 17–26, 2021

Get away from the fast pace of urban life on this walking vacation led by Chuck Wilcoxon (C'81). See stunning coastline, lakes, mountains, and cultural artifacts.



GALÁPAGOS ISLANDS CRUISE

July 20–27, 2021

Combine biology and philosophy while snorkeling with tropical fish and sea lions and taking in Quito's ornate Jesuit church with Dr. Scott Eckert (C'79) and Professor Chris Young.



SUMMER SAILING: THE RHÔNE AND SAÔNE

(with optional Barcelona extension)

August 2–15, 2021

Delve into art and religious history while exploring lavender-lined rivers in the south of France with Dr. Brian Roberts (C'88), Susie Ledbetter (C'70), and Madelon Maupin (C'73).



MAJESTIC GREAT LAKES

August 16–26, 2021

Discover the majesty of the Great Lakes as you sail from Toronto to Chicago on Lake Michigan, Lake Huron, and Lake Erie with former Upper School teacher Howie Bay (US'69, C'73).



ASTOUNDING ANTARCTICA

(with optional Buenos Aires and Iguazú Falls extensions)

January 13–24, 2022

Dr. Laurance Doyle and expert guides lead an exploration of the South Shetland Islands and the Antarctic Peninsula.



CIVIL RIGHTS: A JOURNEY TO FREEDOM

(with optional Birmingham/Muscle Shoals extension)

March 14–18, 2022

Join sociology professor Dr. Billy Miller (C'72) for an intimate exploration of the civil rights movement of the 1950s and '60s, while learning from actual foot soldiers of the struggle.



KENYA SAFARI: THE BIG 5

(with optional Amboseli National Park extension)

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The PRINCIPIA



Getting a Better “Read” on the World

by Katie (Kenyon, C’05) MacDonald

As an English teacher, I’ve given a lot of thought to how we “read” the world around us—whether it is an actual piece of writing, a photograph, or even a situation. Readers constantly have to decipher meaning, make sense of details, and consider larger contexts, while being sensitive to what isn’t said or might be lurking below the surface. Skilled readers locate tensions and make sense of contradictions.

In 1935, Principia founder Mary Kimball Morgan told parents, “This generation falls heir to troubled world conditions. The solving of these complicated problems will depend largely upon the wisdom and courage of the youth of today. Are we helping them gain the stamina, perseverance, and courage necessary to cope successfully with such conditions?” (*Education at The Principia*, pp. 57–58) Given the tendency to skim headlines and news feeds, the demand to build a more complex understanding of texts, people, and situations rings as true today as 85 years ago.

A Christian Science-based school should strengthen students’ abilities to navigate a polarized world. In Ephesians, Paul writes, “I therefore, the prisoner of the Lord, beseech you that ye walk worthy of the vocation wherewith ye are called,

With all lowliness and meekness, with longsuffering, forbearing one another in love” (4:1, 2). Paul is exhorting his readers to walk through the world with patient humility and a broad affection for humanity. These are exactly the qualities that my students need to be skilled and compassionate readers of the world.

To approach a text with humility and patience demands that we slow down and listen to what is said and also notice what voices are missing. Slowing down takes practice. Readers need to develop comfort with issues remaining unresolved when the reading is complicated or contradictory. Rather than avoid those moments, I try to model how to seek out these complexities and grapple with them. In journal responses and discussions, I want my students to embrace contradictions and avoid reductive thinking as a way to engage more thoughtfully.

Sometimes, student resistance to this way of reading shows up as a tendency to justify a specific viewpoint to the exclusion of others, avoid acknowledging privilege, or tune out when real-world issues are being addressed in class. To prepare for this, I’ve had to get my own thinking clear about the work happening in my classroom. It’s not about being politically correct. Seeking out

“I’ve often seen growth in compassionate awareness from students . . .”

marginalized voices and reading with sensitivity is putting Paul’s meekness and longsuffering into action. It demonstrates a commitment to understanding individuals and experiences with Christianly, compassionate care. When I bring this clarity of purpose to my teaching, I’m able to engage students with confidence and humility.

I’ve often seen growth in compassionate awareness from students who once voiced resistance or unwillingness to engage. A parent wrote to me that her student had shared “how much [the student’s] perspective has changed regarding having compassion for other people and groups.” That kind of growth is possible because the ability to read critically and compassionately is native to my students as full expressions of God. ■

Katie MacDonald joined the Upper School English Department in 2010. She currently serves as chair of the department.

EDITH WALKER (US'65, C'69)

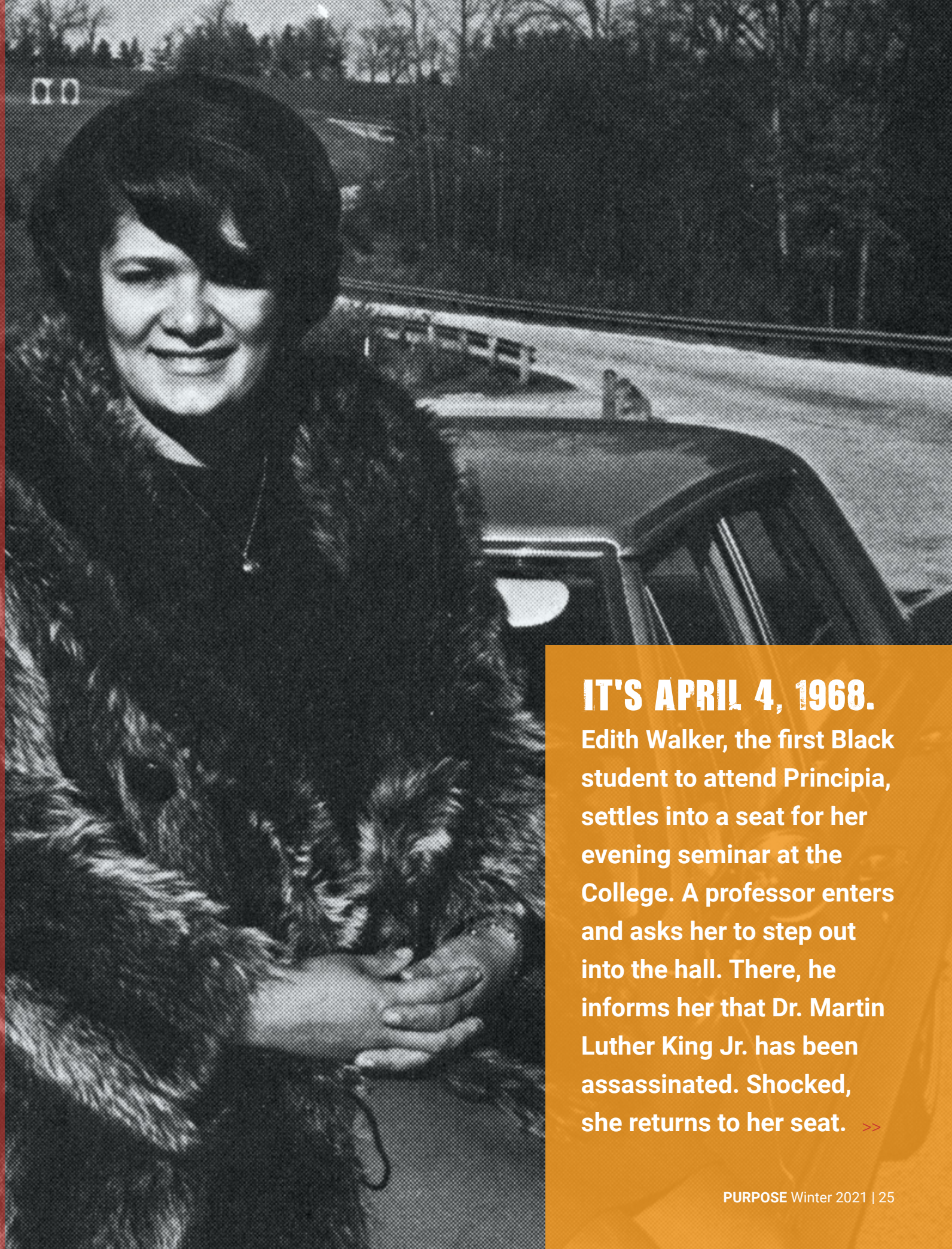
REFLECTIONS ON RACE AT PRINCIPIA

by Trudy Palmer (US'72)

Edith Walker (US'65, C'69)

- BA, Principia College, mathematics and music
- MA, University of Massachusetts Amherst, American social history
- CAGS (certificate of advanced graduate study), Harvard Extension School, computer science





IT'S APRIL 4, 1968.

Edith Walker, the first Black student to attend Principia, settles into a seat for her evening seminar at the College. A professor enters and asks her to step out into the hall. There, he informs her that Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. has been assassinated. Shocked, she returns to her seat. >>

From coast to coast that night, grief and frustration set cities aflame. On a campaign stop in Indiana, Senator Robert F. Kennedy informs the crowd of King's death, pleading for unity. In a college dorm room in Iowa, two women—one White, one Black—weep in each other's arms. And the day after, in a suburb of Sacramento, California, three White, teenage girls try in vain to get their school to fly the flag at half-mast, according to *The New York Times*.

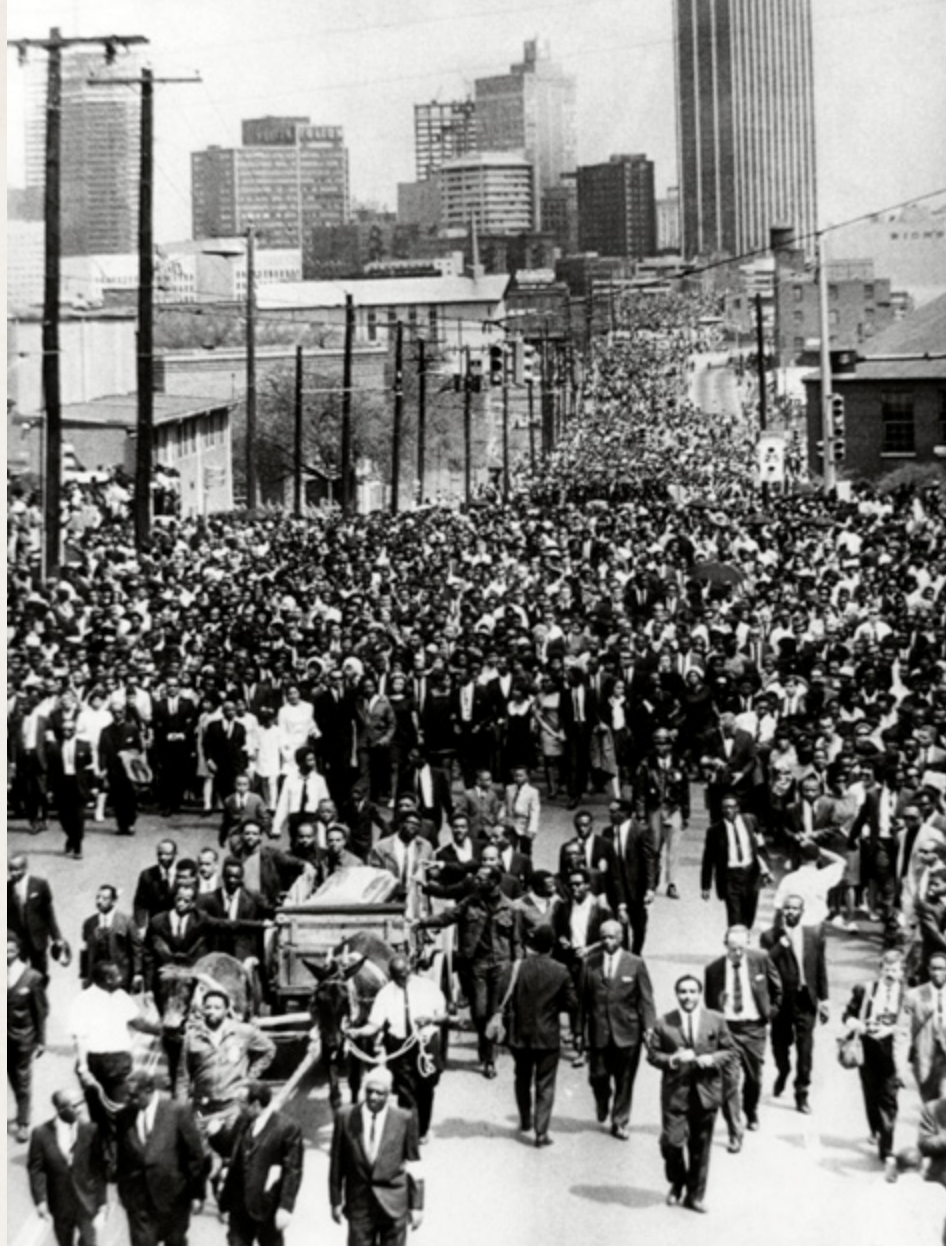
At Principia, no mention of the news is made in Walker's seminar that night. Nor do she and her friends recall any announcement to the campus the next day.

"I had never felt so alone in all my life," Walker said, describing the experience decades later in a talk she gave at Phillips Academy Andover on Martin Luther King Jr. Day in 1993. "The news of his untimely death was deemed important only for me."

A FIRST FOR PRINCIPIA

Though not always so acute as that night in April, the feeling of being alone comes up often in Walker's description of her years at Principia, from her arrival as a junior at the Upper School in 1963 to her graduation from the College in 1969.

The summer before her arrival, a letter was sent to Upper School families saying that a "Negro" student would be attending in the fall. One couple wrote back, "We feel that this decision to admit this race will open the Pandora Box to so many problems that it could very well be the down fall of Prin." They also asked that their daughter not have to room with the "Negro."



A pair of mules pulls a wagon carrying the casket of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., followed by more than 100,000 mourners in Atlanta, Georgia, April 9, 1968.

Eric Bole, headmaster at the time, sent a lengthy response, noting the "prayerful thought" behind the decision as well as the school's thorough vetting process and the applicant's ability to meet Principia's academic, financial, and Christian Science standards. He made no promises regarding roommates.

Not all families responded negatively to the news. Debby (Duhig, US'65, C'69) Jimenez recalls reading the letter and thinking, "Oh my goodness, if there's anything I can do to reach out to this person, I would love to."

She and Walker met early that fall at a dorm picnic and hit it off immediately. Because Walker is fair, Jimenez didn't realize until later that the warning letter referred to her new best friend.

PASSING WITH FLYING COLORS

To say that Walker met Principia's standards would be an understatement. She is a fourth-generation Christian Scientist on her mother's side. As for her father, Walker explains, "He always said, 'My religion is the Golden Rule.'"

To this day, she faithfully follows both parents' religions.

Financially, Walker's family passed with flying colors too. Her father, an electrical engineer, began his career developing radar systems at MIT during World War II. By the time Walker enrolled at Principia, he and two partners (one Black, one White) had started a microwave technology company and taken it public. He would later be recognized by the University of Kansas, his alma mater, for his contributions to the field.

Academically, Walker exceeded Principia's standards. Growing up in Roxbury, a prosperous, multicultural Boston neighborhood at the time, she had attended one of the city's best K-6 schools, moving on to Girls' Latin School, the top public prep school for girls, for grades 7-9. "I was quite well-read by my sophomore year," she says.

Then her family moved outside Boston city limits, and Walker could no longer attend Girls' Latin. After an insufficiently challenging 10th-grade year elsewhere, she enrolled at the Upper School. The academic rigor was better, but the environment, a setback. "It was the South," Walker says matter-of-factly.

FRIENDS AND FITTING IN

"Wisdom. Grace. Compassion. Courage. Dignity." These are a few of the qualities classmate Charlotte Wallace (C'69) includes in a long, glowing list describing Walker. Last, she adds, "Humor. That was her crowning grace. She's really a lot of fun!"

Walker got involved on both campuses—in the chorus and on the yearbook

staff at the Upper School. At the College, she was deeply involved in the new music major, transitioning from violin to viola to fill a need and singing in the choir all four years. She also co-chaired the Music Committee for the 1967 Sophomore Production.

Walker made good friends as well. In fact, more than 50 years after graduating, she is still close to a number of her Principia friends. Walker has been at or in their weddings, seen one of them through a divorce, welcomed all of them to her home repeatedly, and traveled with some as far away as New Zealand. Summing up the sentiments they all expressed, Wendy (Nordvik, C'69) Roth calls Walker an "incomparably wonderful" friend.

Yet despite being involved in activities and having friends, Walker never felt welcome to join Principia's social scene. Aside from required events, she remembers no boy-girl social life at the Upper School, and weekend nights at the College were limited to the Women's Quad. "Word went out that there was not to be interracial dating," explains Marianne (Hansen, C'68) Hedges, one of Walker's College friends.

"I think I gave up very early on," Walker comments. "I realized I had left my social life back in Roxbury."

Upper School weekends were spent with a cluster of girls who leaned intellectual. "We'd hang out together in the dorm almost all of the Saturday nights when other people were off partying," Walker explains.

At the College, she could get off campus more easily, sometimes going



Edith "Ringo" Walker, Sophomore Production music director

with her friend and fellow music major John Near (C'69) for a drive to downtown St. Louis, where he was rebuilding a theatre organ, or joining other music majors at St. Louis Symphony concerts. And once a month, she spent the weekend with her uncle and his family after they moved to the area. "That saved me, really," Walker says. "It helped me stay on target with remembering who I was and what was going on in the world, not just the Principia world."

Asked outright whether she's glad she went to Principia, Walker waffles, especially about her decision to go to the College. "In many ways, I'm not glad I made that decision," she says. "I think I threw away a beautiful opportunity that I shouldn't have," referring to her acceptance at Wellesley College. On the other hand, many of her Upper School friends were going to the College, and she thought, "Well, I've done this half-way; let's finish it up." >>

EDUCATING OTHERS IN ORDER TO BE KNOWN

Among the many gifts Walker brought to Principia was a strong sense of cultural identity. She grew up absorbing family history at the dinner table: stories of 19th-century Black ancestors who migrated north (many to New England) before the Civil War, got an education, and then helped others by working on the Underground Railroad and contributing to the Civil War effort; and other stories of later 19th-century female ancestors who chose the career of education, some returning to the South to teach the sons and daughters of former slaves their primary lessons. The more Walker learned, the more she understood the message, “You stand on the shoulders of these people!”

Principia was no match for that kind of knowledge. “I felt like I knew their history, but they didn’t know my history,” Walker comments. So, she tried to share it, even subtly attempting to shape instruction. “I was there alone, . . . but I did feel I had a voice,” she says. “I found professors I could speak to about these things, and one of them was Dr. [Charles] Hosmer.”

After taking his American History survey course that Walker says was “virtually 99 percent White American history,” she shared with him bits of her family story and proposed an independent study course reading works by Black historians. Eager to educate himself, Hosmer (C’53) agreed. Soon afterward, he began adding that material to his syllabi.

“There was no reason for me to be at Principia unless I had something I

“THERE WAS NO REASON FOR ME TO BE AT PRINCIPIA UNLESS I HAD SOMETHING I COULD SHARE.” —EDITH WALKER

could share,” Walker reasoned. So, she persisted in educating others so that she could be known.

ROOMING WITH A WHITE SOUTH AFRICAN

Walker’s most courageous effort took place her sophomore year when a White South African was assigned to Lowrey, where Walker lived. “I had to figure out how I was going to approach her because I wanted to be able to welcome her,” Walker explains. That winter, Walker suggested they room together in the spring. “I know that we’ve been brought up very different ways,” Walker told her, “and it would be good for us to learn a little bit more about that.”

After a few days’ thought, the woman agreed, even though her mother had said that if she even shook hands with a Black person, she would no longer be welcome at home.

The roommates faced challenges initially, but they wound up getting along well—so well that they shared their experience at the 1967 Biennial College Meeting at The Mother Church. Standing together at the podium, they described this turning point: “. . . we realized that the beliefs of racism that were hitting us from all sides were merely society’s suggestions—an ignorance of the real man. After that we

loved the ease in our room. The healing . . . was complete.” It was complete for the South African’s mother, too, who welcomed her daughter home.

Experiences like this made the hard work of being the first, and often the only, Black student at Principia feel worthwhile. They also proved that progress is possible when both sides are willing to work at it. The problem, Walker discovered, wasn’t so much that Principians were unwilling but that most were oblivious.

CRACKING THE BUBBLE

“The College served as a safe bubble for too many of the students,” Walker says. “When you think about what was going on in this country from 1965 to 1969, this group didn’t have to deal with all those things. They were in a safe place, and that’s what was wrong with it.”

Given a choice between safe and useful, Walker chose the latter. At the suggestion of her mentor and math professor Lee (Smith, C’48) Gerber, Walker returned to Principia College to teach math during the 1970–1971 school year. Feeling she might have something to offer the profession, she decided to complete the education major at Principia that year, and she stayed in St. Louis the following year, sharing an apartment with classmate Beverly (Greenley, US’65, C’69) McCarter.

Walker spent that year in St. Louis student teaching in the fall and substitute teaching in the spring.

Up to that point, many of the College's student teachers taught at Principia School. Walker chose to do her student teaching at Soldan High School, a predominantly Black school in a rough part of St. Louis. Her life was threatened three times, but she prayed her way through each incident. "Teaching at Soldan was a helpful learning experience," Walker says. "That's the training I thought most of us needed, really, . . . dealing with kids who had behavioral and learning problems."

"These folks at Prin were so isolated from what was going on," Walker reflects. "There were people there who could learn to help the situation, but they chose to stay in their little bubble. That's what was wrong with Principia College as far as I was concerned . . . and I think to a large extent still is."

Walker knows firsthand that better models exist. A math and computer science teacher for 40 years, she helped integrate the faculty at Boston Latin School before joining an already-integrated faculty at Phillips Academy Andover. "I had the feeling at Phillips that we were all accepted," Walker notes. "The Black kids were welcomed. The Black teachers were welcomed. . . . There wasn't just one Black student or 10 Black students. . . . There was a community."

"I was trying to crack that bubble at Principia, but it was impossible," she says. "You can't do that as one person, you can't do that as two people. You need a group." A group and a



Longtime friends at their 50th College Reunion show off the bags Marianne (Hansen, C'68) Hedges made for them, from left: Wendy (Nordvik, C'69) Roth, Marianne, and Edith (US'65, C'69) Walker.

Photo courtesy of Wendy (Nordvik, C'69) Roth

perspective: "The important thing is to see Black students not as people requiring a gift but with a gift to share," Walker explains.

Behind that perspective lies a spiritual ideal. "Of course, the goal we should all aim toward is acceptance of individuals exclusive of race or other possible 'limiting' or confining factors," Walker wrote as part of a committee exploring Black studies the year she taught at the College. "But I feel that this goal cannot be reached until we all go through this intermediate step of recognizing societies other than our own for their unique worth and beauty."

IN PURSUIT OF A "POSITIVE PEACE"

The College didn't take that "intermediate step" when Dr. King was killed. Students learned the news listening to the radio, of course, and some grieved. But there was no campus-wide acknowledgment, no moment of silence, no assembly to honor him.

"It was as if Dr. King's life and work didn't matter to the rest of that community," Walker told her listeners at Phillips Academy in 1993. "It was as if the civil rights movement was only important to those who had been denied their civil rights."

Walker also quoted King's "Letter from Birmingham Jail," written the same year she enrolled at Principia Upper School. In it, King warns about "the white moderate . . . who prefers a negative peace which is the absence of tension to a positive peace which is the presence of justice."

Then she ended her talk with a question, as appropriate for Principia today as it was for Phillips Academy three decades ago: "Which is more important to us as a community—the absence of tension or the presence of justice?"

At Principia, the answer is overdue, Walker suggests, noting, "It's going on 60 years now." ■



RACE AND FAITH: EXPLORING THE POTENTIAL

by Rich Bachus (US'83)

The College's summertime Race and Faith Speaker Series featured virtual conversations with three African American educators and clergy and a panel of five Black American Principia alumni. The panel was organized by Alumni & Field Relations Director Merrilee McFarland (US'99, C'03). College President John Williams (C'76) led each discussion, with Dean of Students Maya Dietz fielding audience questions. Below are brief excerpts from all four discussions. To watch them in their entirety, visit principiaalumni.org/virtual-events.

DR. ART MCCOY has worked and lived between the powerful river currents surrounding St. Louis for most of his life. As the superintendent of the Jennings School District and the former superintendent/CEO of the Ferguson-Florissant School District, McCoy sees a parallel between privilege and flowing waters.

When asked to define systemic oppression and white privilege, McCoy said that privilege—whether it's white privilege, male privilege, or the privilege of being in a dominant faith—is “like swimming in a river going with the current, where the speed is just easier. It doesn't take as much energy . . . The current is the privilege and . . . you are [going along with] the river.”

Oppression is the opposite of going with the flow. “It's like swimming against the current, where it's hard just to move—not just [to move] forward but not to move . . . backward,” McCoy said. “It can even be as bad as being a fish taken out of water . . . in terms of ‘I can't breathe’ like George Floyd.”

McCoy shared lessons from the school districts he's led but also had specific



Photo courtesy of Dr. Art McCoy

advice for Principia: “Once they come in, you have to let those people change who you are. When you bring in ‘different,’ you will never be the same. It's one thing to go out and evangelize, . . . but [it's another thing] to allow diversity to change you from the inside out—personally and organizationally.”

It's not easy for communities of privilege to start having those conversations, McCoy cautioned. “Some blacks are angry. Some whites are angry, . . . and a conversation isn't always fruitful if a person is angry and not ready to talk. The only time I would suggest . . . beginning a conversation is in a safe space. The key to having a conversation is the letter V for vulnerable. . . . Establish the V, and then have a conversation.”

REV. TRACI BLACKMON finds herself “standing at the intersection of courage and compassion” in a time that calls upon all of us to stand up for what's right. Formerly the senior pastor of Christ the King United Church of Christ in Florissant, Missouri, she is now associate general minister of

justice & local church ministries for the United Church of Christ headquarters.

Rev. Blackmon has developed a life-guiding mantra of making “space for grace.” This approach makes all the difference during a time when “we have become a divided nation . . . with

Photo courtesy of Rev. Traci Blackmon



increasingly less common ground,” as she put it.

“What [making space for grace] means is that I have to proclaim boldly what I believe the message is of this time. . . . And I have to do it, not with the goal of winning, as much as with the goal of reclamation of humanity for all of us,” Blackmon explained. “I have to be able to speak about the evils of this world without demonizing people. I have to have forgiveness, as much as I have to have fortitude. . . . It is the call of the church, in whatever form, to show up in that space.”

For Blackmon, needing to find “space for grace” came to a head when she was asked to pray at a peaceful protest in Charlottesville, Virginia, in 2017—to pray for peace as the city became the focal point for white supremacists who opposed the removal of confederate statues. Having grown up in Birmingham, Alabama, Blackmon wasn’t afraid of Ku Klux Klan rallies, but her courage was tested that night “because the sheets were off,” she said.

“Prayer for me is a verb and not a noun,” Blackmon said. “We should receive from prayer the energy and the impetus to do.”

Just as the events in Charlottesville, leading to the death of Heather Heyer, caused Blackmon—and many Americans—to question the nation’s progress toward equality, the pandemic forced her to rethink church.

“I put up a big sign [saying], ‘The building is closed, but the church is still open,’” she explained. . . . “Perhaps this moment is not a moment of the church closing, but the church being reminded of who we are really supposed to be. We are being forced out of the upper room back into the streets. . . . This moment, as dreadful and as tragic as it is, is also a reawakening of church for me.”

Photo courtesy of Dr. Brian Blount



What does the Black Lives Matter movement have to do with the Gospel of Mark and the book of Revelation? How can we live up to the calling of the Jesus story in a world that seems to be losing biblical literacy?

For **DR. BRIAN BLOUNT**, president and professor of New Testament at Union Presbyterian Seminary in Richmond, Virginia, these are both personal and professional questions. Current conflicts over racial equality, the recognition of injustice, and the resulting protests have reached “a

crescendo moment,” Dr. Blount said. “It’s visceral.”

Though he cautioned against making direct jumps from Jesus to today’s struggle for social justice, Blount said, “I do think Mark has a potent message about ethnicity that is very similar to how we understand race today.”

When asked if Jesus would agree with the Black Lives Matter movement, Blount told listeners that Mark shows Jesus breaking boundaries between an Old Testament, legalistic view of God’s word and a wider view of who is included in the kingdom of heaven.

Jesus touched lepers, he included women as his disciples, and he began to extend his healing ministry to the Gentiles, Blount pointed out. “Jesus seems to treat them as though they matter as much as anyone else,” he said. “Because of that, I would say that Jesus would stand on the side of those

who are crying out that ‘Black lives matter.’”

“As a New Testament professor, I’m concerned [that] we don’t know the biblical texts—we don’t know the Jesus stories—so we aren’t able to debate from the [texts],” he said. He’s also concerned that pop culture and religious sects have taken over the biblical concept of apocalypse. The ideas in Revelation can be used in “ways that are destructive rather than constructive,” he explained. For example, the 1993 Waco siege “was built on a misunderstanding of biblical materials.”

Despite today’s strife, Blount sees hope in the book of Revelation. “We are right to be . . . a bit anxious to try to live out Jesus’ message,” he said. “It is a difficult message in a world that often moves away from Jesus’ intent. But the more we stand up, the more likely it is that [we] make the world better for those that come behind us.” ■



A CONVERSATION WITH BLA



Zekita Armstrong Asuquo (C'19)
Founder, Chair, and President,
Gateway Global American Youth
and Business Alliance
Academies, Inc.
MBA candidate, Maryville University
BA, Principia College

ZA

Photo courtesy of Zekita Armstrong Asuquo



John Butler (C'87)
Vice President of Sales, ANUVA Capital
BS, Principia College

JB

Photo courtesy of John Butler



Dr. Billy Miller (C'72)
Professor of Sociology,
Principia College
DLitt and Phil, College of Human
Sciences, University of South Africa,
Pretoria
JD, Thurgood Marshall School of Law,
Texas Southern University
MA, University of Missouri, St. Louis
BA, Principia College

BM



Dr. Trudy Palmer (US'72)
Senior Editor, *The Christian
Science Monitor*
Former Editorial Director,
Principia Marketing Department
PhD, Stanford University
BA, University of California,
Los Angeles

TP



Dorian Watkins (US'11, C'15)
Houseparent, Principia Upper School
Boys' Dorm
BA, Principia College

DW

Dr. Billy Miller kicked off the panel's conversation with remarks about the history of race in America. Then Principia College President John Williams posed this rhetorical question: "I'm colorblind. Is that okay?"

COLORBLINDNESS

JB No, it's not okay. We should all be cognizant of the difference we each have and love it as well as cherish it. . . . There is a reason, I believe, that we all have different skin tones and look different. I don't know that that's a mistake. To be colorblind would be saying . . . that God makes mistakes. But we're not taught that God makes any mistakes. . . . So, no, President Williams, I don't want you to be colorblind. I want you to see me—and part of me is my skin tone.

BM I wonder why we can't see human beings as a bouquet—a beautiful bouquet of humanity of different colors. Too often when we say, "I don't see color," what we mean—if we're White—is that you're a lot like I am, so I don't see color.

TP I agree. When someone White says, "Oh, I don't see you as any different than me," I'm pretty confident they're not saying that they see themselves as Black. They're saying they see me as White, which I'm not. I love being Black. I don't want to be seen as not Black. And I'm with you on the bouquet, Billy. What a shame it would be if we only ever saw roses, as beautiful as roses are. What about the peonies, the pansies, the birds of paradise, and the African violets? . . . Not that there's anything wrong with going to a rose garden, . . . but that one's entire experience should be so narrow—that doesn't seem right to me.

NAVIGATING A WHITE WORLD

The conversation turned from colorblindness to code-switching—the ability to fluently adapt from one racial or cultural norm to a different one, just as someone who is bilingual might mix two different languages in the same discourse.

DW In order for God to have infinite ability, I'm pretty sure that includes color, that includes ability, that includes everyone having gifts. So, this idea of code-switching, where you

BLACK AMERICAN PRINCIPIA ALUMNI

have to act a certain way in front of certain people, . . . I think you should just be yourself and be true to who you are.

ZA I have maneuvered through White society by understanding the history of African American people; what White privilege means; and how society creates standards of beauty, standards of living, standards of culture . . . and figuring out how my family and I not only survive in it but learn how to thrive and still maintain who we are.

TP Growing up, my mission was to represent the race well. Basically, what that meant was to be White. . . . And Principia was a great place to practice being White. Obviously, that was not a particularly healthy approach for me, . . . but it can be exhausting *not* to navigate that way.

DW I have a similar experience—the invisibility, keep your head down, stay low, don't cause any rifts. But also, within myself, I have this idea of “prove them wrong.” Every stereotype, every single thing they think about Black people, prove them wrong.

JB So, my experience was different. I never lacked for love and support. I was loud, I was brash, I was love everybody, hug everybody, put my arms around you and figure it out later. That was my coping mechanism—even to this day. . . . And yet, I have to understand that I am innately different in the way people view me. Even in a suit, I can still get into an elevator and have a White woman clutch her purse,

as though I want her purse. . . . It is a very, very humbling event to feel that you're a part of society and then be acutely reminded you're a part of it but not totally.

BM When I was a first-year student at Principia, I was faced with an environment that's supposed to be unconditionally loving, but I found out that some of the people who define themselves as Christian Scientists are not practicing Christian Science. That hurts because you love your religion so much, and you find out that people aren't practicing it because of something as stupid as your skin color. . . . When are we going to start practicing Christian Science? We love to talk about praying. But we never pick up the second part of that, which is demonstrating it.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

In addition to discussing President Williams's prepared questions, panelists tackled questions from the audience.

Q. What are your thoughts on reparations?

ZA I think reparations should be given to African Americans. However, I think they should be given in the form of things that will transform the collective—maybe free college tuition, home ownership, maybe some land ownership, or investment in Black-owned businesses. Do I think everybody should get a \$50,000 or a \$100,000 check? Absolutely not.

Q. What's the next step for Principia?

BM I don't know that we can talk about next steps until we talk about what's going on at Principia now. . . . The questions that students from Africa get will curl your hair. There are preconceived notions that Africans are inferior in some ways, that they are more animal-like than Americans, that they don't “get it.” This is what our African students have to contend with.

Q. What should I, as the College president, do about it?

BM I think you have begun. This is a good example of what we should be doing—ongoing conversation where we're not pulling any punches about how we're treating people at this college.

DW In my heart, I'm thinking, Why do I have to be the one to tell you guys what to do? Why is it up to a panel of Black people to say, “All right, how do we change things?” . . . I know how it affects me and how it's affected my students here and the guys I'm really close with. But to ask “What do you want us to do about it?” seems like a cop out. I would turn the question around to you and other people in the audience: “What are you guys doing to fight against racism yourselves?”

ZA I think one of the greatest barriers is this idea that somehow if we bring up race, . . . we're against everybody else. That's not true. Everybody should just be open and listen. We need to figure out a way to move forward together. >>

CLOSING STATEMENTS

As the 90-minute mark approached, President Williams invited the panelists to offer a few final words, excerpted here.

BM

We need to be better critical thinkers. Christian Science is a critical-thinking religion.

ZA

Author MK Asante Jr. says that observation must become obligation. We've all observed it. . . . Now the work must be done.

TP

Reach out to people who are different than you. . . . We can all be more embracing of others.

DW

Approach conversations about race with love three times and then humility. So, love, love, love and then humility.

JB

If your tuning in means as much as our being here, then we'll find a way to make Principia—and hopefully this world—a better place. ■

PROGRESS UNDERWAY

After this summer's Black American Principia Alumni Panel, feedback flowed in expressing gratitude that the topic of race had been aired forthrightly—and hope that it would be the first of many such conversations.

That has proved true, on a smaller scale. This fall, the College sponsored a Faith in Action speaker series that tackled praying about racism and the harm caused by being colorblind. And several groups of School and College faculty and staff met weekly all fall to discuss Mica Pollack's *Everyday Antiracism: Getting Real about Race in School*.

But the Summer Race and Faith Series did not *launch* the campuses' discussions of diversity, equity, and inclusion. Faculty, staff, and students have been growing their understanding of these issues for years now, sometimes with the help of outside experts. The School developed a diversity and inclusion statement in 2017–2018 and has held regular diversity workshops with consultant Alison Park for School faculty and staff, along with one for Principia's Board of Trustees. In addition, after reading *Unconscious Bias in Schools: A Developmental Approach to Exploring Race and Racism* by Tracey Benson and Sarah Fiarman, faculty and staff spent part of their August professional development in workshops led by Fiarman.

The National Conference for Community and Justice led diversity, equity, and inclusion training sessions for the College's Student Life Department. The College has also formed an Equity and Inclusion Working Group tasked with helping the community continue and expand its work toward equity and inclusion through a diversity audit, climate survey, preparation of an equity and inclusion statement, and education and programming. Dr. Jennifer Stollman, a diversity and inclusion professional consultant, is supporting this initiative.

Off-campus activities have played important roles in furthering discussions of diversity over the years as well. School faculty and students regularly attend the National Association of Independent Schools' People of Color Conference (for adults) and the simultaneous Student Diversity Leadership Conference (for students). And on campus, curricular changes and student-led activities during International Month and Black History Month have helped foster a more inclusive School community.

More work is needed for Principia to become a truly equitable and inclusive community, but a foundation now exists on which to build—and we all have a part to play.

—Trudy Palmer

BIBLICAL FOUNDATIONS FOR HEALING RACISM

by Dr. Barry Huff (US'98, C'02)



THE BIBLICAL antidote to racism is “the conviction that we are made in the very image of God.”¹ This proclamation by Rev. Adam Taylor invites us to read Genesis 1:27 as a call to see and treat Black lives as royal reflections of God that matter deeply to God and therefore must matter to each one of us as the image of God.²

Exodus depicts God hearing the cries of the oppressed and taking concrete actions to liberate enslaved people by toppling the Pharaoh of systemic oppression (see Exodus 3:7–10). Imagining the God of the exodus today means hearing the cries of George Floyd and taking concrete actions to heal systemic racism.

The Bible abounds with examples of authors and characters confronting prejudice and injustice with messages of equity and inclusion:

- Isaiah 56:7 challenges discrimination with God’s declaration, “. . . my house shall be called a house of prayer for all peoples” (NRSV).
- When officials throw the prophet Jeremiah into a cistern, Ebed-melech the Cushite speaks out against their injustice and intervenes to save Jeremiah’s life (see Jeremiah 38).

- Acts 8:26–40 depicts the Spirit guiding Philip to converse with and baptize an Ethiopian eunuch.
- Jesus’ parable of the Samaritan challenges prejudice, broadens our sense of who our neighbor is, and calls us to express love tangibly to our neighbor (see Luke 10:25–37).
- The beginning of the Lord’s Prayer grounds our antiracist prayers and actions in the understanding that we are all the children of the same divine Parent (see Matthew 6:9).³

At the heart of early Christianity was the healing of inequity, division, and discrimination. Jesus and his early followers dismantled unjust hierarchies and exemplified the equality and oneness of all God’s children, a unity that embraces diversity (see Galatians 3:26–28).

Tragically, later New Testament authors conformed to the inequities of the surrounding culture when commanding enslaved people to obey their masters (see Ephesians 6:5 and Colossians 3:22). These passages were abusively applied in the 19th century to justify slavery, but Mary Baker Eddy spoke out against “the robbing of people of life and liberty under the warrant of the Scriptures” (*The First Church of Christ, Scientist, and Miscellany*, p. 266).

Using the term *man* generically, Mary Baker Eddy drew on Exodus and Paul to proclaim humans’ “divine right” to freedom, describing “the land of Christian Science, where fetters fall and the rights of man are fully known and acknowledged” (*Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures*, pp. 226–227).

The past century includes inspiring examples of progress as Black Christian Scientists resiliently demonstrated this equitable vision and persisted for their rights to be “fully known and acknowledged” by other Christian Scientists. The history of Principia and of some Christian Science churches also includes painful examples of discrimination against people of color that must be recognized, repented of, and rectified.

In the words of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., “Now is the time to make justice a reality for all of God’s children.”⁴ Now is the time for justice to “roll down like waters” (Amos 5:24, NRSV). Now is the time to live biblical messages of equity, liberation, diversity, inclusion, and oneness grounded in the conviction that we are all the majestic image and beloved children of God. ■

An associate professor, Dr. Barry Huff is chair of the Religious Studies Program at Principia College.

¹ Adam Taylor, “Five Smooth Stones to Heal the World,” plenary address at the Ecumenical Advocacy Days, Arlington, VA, 6 April 2019.

² See Adam Taylor, *Mobilizing Hope: Faith-Inspired Activism for a Post-Civil Rights Generation* (Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 2010).

³ See Ibram X. Kendi, *How to Be an Antiracist* (New York: One World, 2019).

⁴ Martin Luther King Jr., “I Have a Dream,” speech at the March on Washington for Jobs and Freedom, Washington, DC, 28 August 1963.



IDEAS COME TO LIFE IN THE SCHOOL'S NEW IDEA LABS

by Heather (Blamey, C'01) Biró

Robotics, software engineering, mechanics, circuitry, digital media arts. This reads like a college course catalog, but peer over the large monitor in one of the two new School IDEA Labs, and you'll find a fourth grader fully focused on animating her digitally drawn car. Across the lab, her classmate is adding the final pieces to a miniature Ferris wheel. Later in the day, the kindergarten class will use the lab to explore the relationship between wheels and dowels to accomplish a task or solve a problem. This isn't college for kids. Or, maybe it is!





In the Upper School IDEA Lab (formerly the Social Center), upbeat music is playing throughout the industrial-looking room, and freshmen are scattered at workstations that resemble large fidget spinners. Students are working with partners on a variety of projects. One group is testing its solar car in preparation for an upcoming race. Another team is designing a trustworthy bridge that meets budget, material, and weight parameters.

“It looks toy-ish here,” admits STEM Facilitator and Integration Specialist Tommie Traylor, “but it has a real-world connection.” That connection meets the objectives Principia’s EdTech staff laid out in early 2019, when the initial concept for the IDEA Lab was discussed. They recognized the value of integrating STEM (science, technology, engineering, math) learning with the traditional academic curriculum as a way of developing skills in communication, collaboration, critical thinking, problem solving, information literacy, and adaptability.

In spring 2019, the EdTech staff began researching various lab models, meeting with leading lab developers, and traveling to schools throughout the country to observe labs in action. The team knew they needed more than a fabrication laboratory (Fab Lab), which provides the tools to execute STEM-related projects but lacks curriculum.

Ultimately, their journey led to a partnership with Creative Learning Systems, and in April 2020, two Creative Learning Systems SmartLabs, renamed IDEA Labs, were installed on campus.

Students at all levels (except Preschool) have access to the labs, working within eight broad topic areas: Circuitry; Computer Graphics; Digital Communications; Mechanics & Structures; Robotics & Control Technology; Scientific Data & Analysis; Software Engineering; and Sustainability. The IDEA Labs’ approach to learning is highly personalized, empowering students to shape their learning to meet their individual interests, abilities, and learning styles.

Upper School students and the upper-elementary grades rotate from project to project throughout the year, while younger students engage in whole-class, teacher-led activities. Middle School students use the lab’s curriculum to enhance core integrated studies classes. All grade levels are learning to become markedly more self-reliant.

Lower School IDEA Lab Facilitator Mollie (Midyett, US’94) Grant uses the motto “ask three before me” to encourage students to problem solve with their peers first and become more independent along the way. “The whole purpose is to teach them to be problem solvers,” she says. “If they struggle, it’s



totally okay. They will figure it out. And that is what makes this process so rewarding.”

Creative Learning System SmartLabs are in more than 600 schools nationwide, but Principia’s are the first two in the region. This distinction provides opportunities for community engagement ranging from student-to-community giveback projects to STEM summer camps for Principia and other St. Louis-area students.

And next time you get a hankering to assemble a hydrogen fuel cell activated with a solar panel to spin a fan, you know where to go! ■



Elsah Dinky, Rudolph Tandler, circa 1940, Courtesy of the Principia Collections, Elsay, IL

"A VERY BIG BLESSING"

COLLEGE WARTIME RECOLLECTIONS

by Bill Rupp (C'50)

A member of the 1927 draft class—the last for World War II—I registered for the draft before I headed to Principia College in September 1945.

Relatively speaking, there were just a handful of men versus a great many women students. I was assigned to 27 North. At the end of the hall, there was a room that housed the first returning veterans of the war. These guys were ancient, in their mid- to late-20s. We 18-year-olds pretty much stood in awe of them.

As freshmen, we were required to tip our beanies to girls, upperclassmen, and, of course, faculty and staff. Actually, it was kind of fun, and we got a lot of big smiles and greetings. Being of German descent, I had never seen too much smiling. But I learned that smiles are contagious, and I used that knowledge many times later on.

FINDING A SECOND HOME

My hometown draft board wasted no time in sending me a call to duty. I was to report for a pre-induction physical at Newark, New Jersey. As I had only

been at Principia a week or so, this was a low blow. I took the card to the dean of men, Major Hubbell (US'08), who sent a letter requesting that the physical be transferred to Illinois. That gave me about six weeks more at the College, and another transfer from Jerseyville to Chicago delayed my departure a bit more.

When “we” couldn’t dodge the draft board any longer, it did seem that everyone turned out to see me off. Truly, in just that short time, I had found a second home.

MILITARY DUTY

After a few days in the Army, I was transferred to Fort Dix, New Jersey, and a master sergeant gave me some very thick army regulations about how to set up a separation center to discharge the troops coming home. In short order, we had a functioning officers' separation center, and I was promoted from private to sergeant in less than a month. Later, I got another stripe before I left Fort Dix, 14 months after arriving there. And I even got smiles out of the other soldiers!

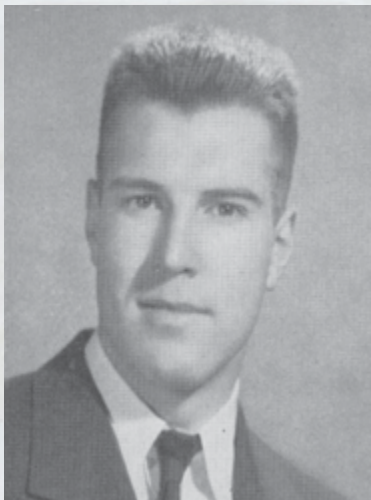
I found out in December of 1946 that I would be out of the Army in time for the start of Principia's winter quarter in January 1947. I got in touch and was assured there would be a place for me.

DELIVERING THE MAIL

During my previous time at Principia, I had the job of driving the mail truck. This involved taking the College mail from the Receiving Office to the Elsah Post Office. While it was being processed, I continued on down to the dinky tracks (the only surface system alongside the Mississippi River at that time) to meet the dinky (a bus on train wheels), which was bringing the incoming mail. I would then return to the post office with the incoming mail, which had to be sorted for the College and Elsah Village. There was enough time after that to take the College mail up to the Receiving Office and return with the outgoing mail to meet the dinky, which had made a round trip to Grafton.

The mail, both into and out of the College, was bulky—with a good percentage made up of laundry cases. Due to the

war, there had been no new washing machines for a number of years, so college students all over the country sent their laundry home.



Bill Rupp, 1950 yearbook photo

Upon my return to Principia, I checked to see if that mail job was still available. It was. Alice Condit was the postmaster in Elsah. She just barely tolerated me, often snapping instructions. This must have been her way of testing me. We became friends and stayed that way until her death at 103.

Very often, on the arrival of the dinky, Mary Kimball Morgan, the founder of Principia, would be there with her caregiver on their car outing. She would smile and wave to Jack, the dinky driver, and me—quite a treat!

INSPIRATION AND ADMONITIONS

In January 1947, the College was about 50-50 men and women. We had veterans, ranging in rank from full colonel to private first class and in age from 40 to 19. Some had been shot down and

spent years in prison camps, and one worked behind the lines as a spy against Germany. The interesting thing to me was that, in the classroom, age seemed to level out.

One of the highlights was Major Hubbell's weekly morning meeting with the Men's Quad. To my knowledge, no male student ever missed a session, and you wouldn't want to. Major was an inspirational speaker. Occasionally, there would be admonitions, too, without mentioning names. We all knew it was meant for certain of us and immediately stopped whatever we were doing. The one for me was to keep my motorcycle quiet until after 7:00 a.m. The one for our military reserve pilots, who did their weekend flying out of Lambert Field, was to stop their low flights over the campus.

A VERY BIG BLESSING

My most memorable moment came at graduation. Dr. Gertsch, with just a touch of a Swiss accent, read the graduates' names. The last was "Miss Shirley Ann Young, Wahoo, Nebraska." The uniqueness of Wahoo, and Dr. Gertsch's way of pronouncing it, brought laughter from the audience. Three months later, Shirley Ann changed her last name from Young to Rupp—just before I was called to active duty in the Korean War. I received a direct commission as a second lieutenant and was given command of an Army post office in Korea.

Principia, along with my Elsah Post Office experience, not only set me up for my return to the Army but also enabled me to find my life's mate for 68 years. My Principia experience was a very big blessing! ■

LOWER SCHOOL LEADERSHIP IN ACTION

by Heather (Blamey, C'01) Biró



Members of the 2020–2021 Leadership Council. (Due to pandemic-related protocols, students were photographed in their class cohorts and then joined together digitally in one image.)

Standing from left to right: Ciara (4th), Valentina (5th), Grace (4th), and Wallace (5th)

Sitting from left to right: Arwynne (5th), Zoey (4th), and Ilaria (5th)

What do Principia School students have in common with presidents, prime ministers, CEOs, and generals? They are all experienced leaders. That's right! Leadership doesn't come with a formal position of authority. It needn't come with years of experience. And, at Principia, it's not just for a few.

Every Lower School student (K–5) learns to practice leadership through a culture of student empowerment that has grown out of a comprehensive leadership-development initiative, in conjunction with the School's adoption of *The Leader in Me* program, developed by Franklin Covey. This culture of empowerment is evident in greater responsibility, resourcefulness, and

expressions of kindness, consideration, and inclusivity among students.

Leadership Council

Lower School Principal Heather Tibbetts knew that, to be effective, any leadership initiative would need to be led by students. "I wanted students to see that leadership doesn't just come

from teachers telling them about it,” Tibbetts says. Rather, she wanted to promote “a peer group that could be good models of leadership qualities.” With that in mind, Tibbetts formed a Leadership Council. Composed of student representatives in grades 4 and 5 who consistently demonstrate good leadership, the council provides a variety of opportunities to take the lead:

- Modeling leadership for peers
- Morning greetings/helping with end-of-day pickup
- Leading the Pledge of Allegiance
- Planning spirit events
- Organizing service opportunities
- Fundraising for school/service needs
- Touring and conversing with visitors and guests

To be considered for the council, students must apply and be endorsed by their parents and staff members. They must also be willing to give up their lunch/recess period for monthly council meetings. A faculty committee reviews the applications and considers each student’s character strengths in the areas of leadership, responsibility, caring, trustworthiness, and respect.

The council begins by talking about leading themselves first and making good decisions. They learn about problem solving and conflict resolution while identifying qualities of good character and discussing what it means to be obedient, respectful, courageous, and persistent. Then, they are asked how they are modeling these qualities for others.

After defining leadership, the council is tasked with identifying opportunities

to put leadership in action. “The level of energy and enthusiasm around the council’s leadership ideas was amazing,” Tibbetts says.

One of their ideas was to build a “buddy bench” for the Lower School playground. If a child had “no buddy” to play with, he or she could sit on the bench. This would give other students the opportunity to model leadership by going to the buddy-less student on the bench and inviting the child to play.

Leading beyond Campus

Many of the council’s service projects directly benefit the School, but the council is also challenged to think beyond what affects them and to be leaders for the world. Physical education teacher Jane (Herrmann, US’78, C’82) Harrison is experienced at infusing leadership and character into her lessons. “We talk about what leaders might be thinking about,” Harrison says. “What would they be doing to inspire others, to embrace others in things?”

Last winter, when bushfires were wreaking havoc in Australia, the council recognized an opportunity to contribute something positive. They organized care packages by having students decorate and write greeting cards filled with inspiring messages and citations from the Bible, the *Christian Science Hymnal*, and *Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures*. Scores of cards were mailed to Christian Science churches and societies throughout the continent, uplifting the members and spreading love.

Current fifth-grader Avenly, who served on last year’s council, reflected on the

Australian project with fondness. She recalled the group’s supportive culture and all the ideas that were shared throughout the council term. “Your ideas can be as weird or as funny as you want,” she says. “Nobody will criticize you.”

Fifth-grader Arwynne is currently serving on the council. She echoed Avenly’s perception, adding, “I like that we compromise and listen to others. That’s being a leader.”

Fifth-grader Rex, a former council member, recognizes that spirit of unity. “I think my strongest leadership quality is to make sure everyone is included in the conversation,” Rex says. “And my favorite part about being on council is that it is service, but in a fun way. It’s the best way to do service!”

Developing Leadership Habits

Each month, the Leadership Council helps introduce one of Stephen Covey’s seven principles from his *Habits of Highly Effective People*. These are the seven principles (in bold), along with the Lower School’s “shorthand” for them:

1. **Be Proactive** (You’re in charge.)
2. **Begin With the End in Mind** (Have a plan.)
3. **Put First Things First** (Work first, then play.)
4. **Think Win-Win** (Everyone can win.)
5. **Seek First to Understand, Then to be Understood** (Listen before you talk.)
6. **Synergize** (Together is better.)
7. **Sharpen the Saw** (Balance feels best.)

>>

“We’re connecting the seven habits to the seven synonyms [for God],” says Harrison, who served as acting Lower School principal this fall. “The kids start recognizing how those habits become part of their daily life and how they really are living what God wants them to live—as an expression of His qualities.”

While the Leadership Council is open only to students in fourth or fifth grade, interest from lower grades was so strong that Tibbetts decided to form a Spirit Council, open to students in kindergarten through third grade. The election-based Spirit Council leads the Lower School in songs and cheers, decides the themes of school spirit days, and helps with other, smaller leadership roles.

All students are learning to demonstrate and recognize the seven habits and the synonyms for God related to them.

“We talk a lot about what leadership looks like,” Harrison says. They’ve become “habit spies,” identifying peers exhibiting that month’s featured habit. Students document the good they see others exhibiting on a slip of paper, which they drop into a special Magnifying Leadership Box. Alerted, in part, by these notes, the teachers put “Mag Tags” on students who are being leaders by MAG-nifying the good.

This organic, student-centered way of developing leaders fits perfectly with Principia’s approach to character unfoldment, bringing out the innate and unlimited potential in each child. ■



This fall, Acting Lower School Principal Jane Harrison delivered ice cream to highlight the leadership habit of being proactive. (See below.)

“We’re connecting the seven habits to the seven synonyms [for God].”

Creative Activities Reinforce Leadership Habits

Lower School leadership rallies take place every Friday morning to reinforce the month’s leadership habit in a tangible, relatable way. Here are a few examples of rally activities used to build leadership habits.

To help students visualize the importance of **Putting First Things First**, a teacher talked about all the fun things she might like to do instead of her work. She scooped a cup of dried beans into a large glass container to represent each fun activity that might occupy her time. Once the jar was full, she tried adding a large rock (representing her work), but it did not fit. She then reversed the process. She emptied the container, put the rock in first, and then was able to add all the beans around the rock.

To learn how to **Be Proactive**, students heard a true story about a child who petitioned his local government to change an outdated law preventing ice cream trucks from driving through his town. Following the story, a homemade ice cream cart visited each classroom. Students were served ice cream as they discussed ways they, too, could be more proactive.

To illustrate the idea of **Begin With the End in Mind**, student groups detailed the steps for making a peanut butter and jelly sandwich. A teacher was then tasked with making the sandwich using **ONLY** the written directions. In some cases, how many pieces of bread were needed wasn’t specified or that you need a knife to spread the jelly. It became a big mess and proved the importance of beginning with the end in mind.

A Peek at the College's Fall Art Exhibit

Photo by Nan Phelps



Painter Carolyn Lord (C'78)

senior capstone exhibitions, and, second, to bring the contemporary art world to campus by regularly featuring exhibitions by nationally and internationally recognized artists, including exhibitions of work by accomplished Principia College alumni.

In fall 2019, Ryan began working with painter Carolyn Lord (C'78)—a former student of Principia College art professors James Green, James Schmidt, Judith Felch (C'67), and Glenn Felch (C'68)—to plan an exhibition for the following fall. Before long, however, pandemic lockdowns complicated that effort, and Ryan and Lord pivoted to a virtual exhibit. *In the Presence of Nature: Paintings by Carolyn Lord*, which focuses on her recent paintings, opened this past fall. Lord also visited several studio art classes via Zoom.

Lord's exhibit runs through January 31, 2021. Another online exhibition, *Conceptual Reveries: A Survey of Multi-media Works by Jim Sconyers, Jr., 2003–2020*, runs through February 28, 2021. You can view both exhibitions at principiacollege.edu/jksgallery. ■

In addition to teaching in the Department of Art and Art History, Studio Art Professors Paul Ryan (C'77) and Duncan Martin (C'76) codirect the James K. Schmidt Gallery, which opened in fall 2017 as part of the renovated Voney Art Center.

The gallery has two primary purposes: first, to organize the annual juried student exhibition and the annual

Photo by Custom Photographic



Coastal Tidepool, 2020, watercolor on paper, 22" x 30"
Courtesy of California Watercolor Gallery

Photo by Custom Photographic



Fish Rock Retreat, 2019, watercolor on paper, 22" x 30"

Alumni News



Dear Alumni and Friends!

As I reflect on 2020, I am filled with gratitude for all the ways that Principia alumni and friends have gathered together. We miss being with you in person—cheering on the sidelines at Homecoming or singing carols

at a Principia Club Christmas Sing—but we are so grateful you’ve journeyed with us online, learning, connecting, and even singing!

Last year taught us that Principia alumni and friends join together in a spirit of unity and camaraderie. October’s online College Homecoming showcased that spirit of solidarity. From taking a virtual tour of campus to watching alumni from around the world perform in an online concert, you put the heart into Homecoming.

That same weekend, more than 300 alumni, family members, and friends laced up their running shoes and participated in our virtual 5K. A variety of results and photos of runners poured in—everything from zipping past a castle in the Czech Republic to summiting a mountain in Colorado. For Gwen Beacham (C’88), it was a way to reconnect. “As I ran,” she said, “I felt solidarity with my fellow alums running all

over the world today, and I reflected with gratitude on my experiences running cross country and track at Principia College ‘back in the day.’”

Unfortunately, it will be a bit longer before we can see you in person. In keeping with governmental guidance, we have made the difficult decision not to hold College Reunion or Summer Session in person in 2021. However, we will continue to devise new ways to connect virtually.

Keep an eye out for upcoming virtual events—from Bible talks to concerts, book clubs to political commentary. We’ll even be adding exciting lifelong learning opportunities! For more information, visit principiaalumni.org often for updates.

Our alumni family is an expansive one, and we are filled with gratitude for each and every one of you.

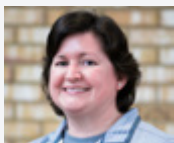
With gratitude,

Merrilee McFarland (US’99, C’03)
Director, Alumni & Field Relations
merrilee.mcfarland@principia.edu
314.514.3146

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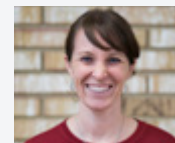
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John Weiss (C’82)
St. Louis, MO

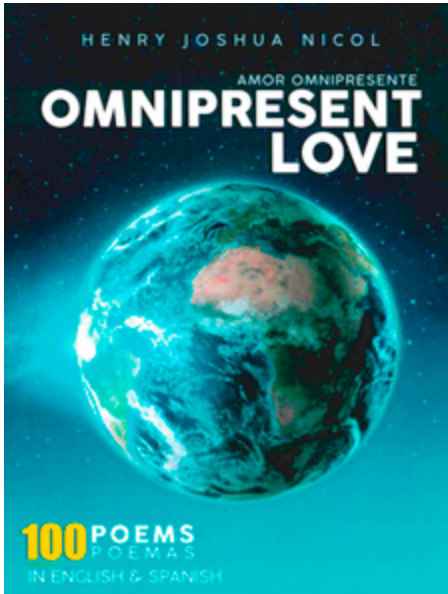


Susie (Andrews, US’66, C’70)
Williams
Goleta, CA



Sarah Ungerleider
(C’21)
Student
Representative

Members of the Alumni Association Board are regional volunteers for Principia who serve for three years, representing the interests of Principia’s alumni around the world.



A bilingual book of poetry written by Henry Joshua Nicol (US'67). See below.

67

After recently retiring from Christian Science nursing, **Henry Joshua Nicol** wrote the book *Omnipresent Love / Amor Omnipresente*, a collection of his poems in both English and Spanish that address many of the pressing issues facing the world today, including the need for peace. As the back cover explains, “Today the world needs not chemical or nuclear warfare nor any warfare but consciously to pray in a mental environment of peace, and love, and sincerity in the Omnipresence of God’s love.” The book is available on Amazon and at Barnes & Noble. For an autographed copy, contact Henry at hjnicol@mindspring.com. See photo.

83

Rich Bachus shared news about a gathering in Michigan: “Principia alums made a strong show of force at the annual Christian Science Men’s Weekend this past September. From an intense 50-mile bike ride to a leisurely paddle down the Platte River, the



Principia alums who attended Men’s Weekend at Camps Leelanau and Kohahna in Michigan. Front row, from left: Paul Olsen (C’11), Seth Anderson (C’03), and Eric Olsen (C’07). Second row, from left: Peter Lewis (US’83, C’87), Paul Dixon (US’83), Doug Hoff (FS’05), Ron Meyer (US’07, C’11), and Steve Creighton (US’99). Third row, from left: Paul Sander (C’09), Colin Vogt (C’87), Rich Bachus (US’83), Blair Anderson (US’87), Ken Corson (C’64), and Tom Bisbee (C’11). See US’83.

gathering (which was held at Camps Leelanau and Kohahna in Maple City, MI) was packed with action. What began five years ago as a good excuse for a group of St. Louis Principia dads and grads to meet in beautiful Northern Michigan for a biking adventure has grown into an annual pilgrimage for Christian Science men from across the country. It’s one of the few opportunities for men to enjoy Camp Leelanau, even if they never attended as a camper or sent their kids there.” See photo above.

88

In May 2020, **Dr. Christian Koch** successfully defended his dissertation, “The Warren Buffett Project: A Qualitative Study on Warren Buffett.” This completed his doctorate in business administration, which he began in January 2018 at the University of South Florida. He currently lives in Atlanta, GA.

College / 1980

80

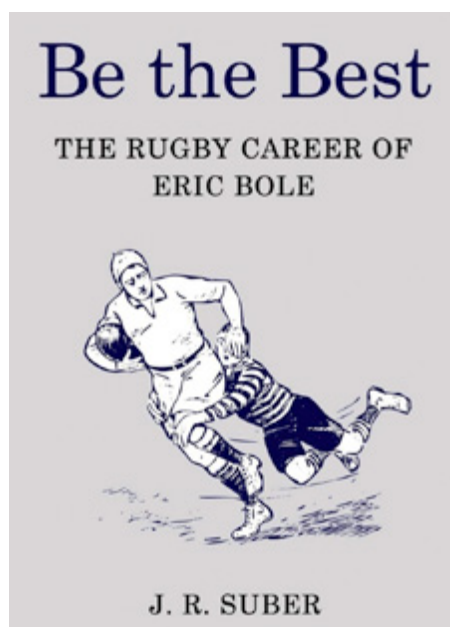
Caleb King’s first published book is *Teenage Jesus*, available on Amazon and Kindle. A coming-of-age story, it follows the adventures of Nazarene teenager Joel as he and his pals discover what it means to be a friend, especially to the slightly odd Jesus. See photo.

Right: Cover of a new book by Caleb King (C’80)





Former Principia College swimmers (plus Leelanau alumni Nate Lillge) and all their kids on the Northern California coast at their fourth annual summer camping trip in July 2020. Front row, from left: Ben Lillge, Hannah Johnson, Nate Lillge, Colin Fendon, Nelly Schmidt. Second row, from left: Mike Johnson (C'01), Davis Johnson (hidden), Holly (Thompson, C'03) Johnson, Maggie Lillge, Jenny (Stallard, C'03) Lillge, Jess (Mattson, C'04) Fendon, Mason Fendon, Kristin (Mattson, C'02) Schmidt, Addison Schmidt, and Mackenzie Schmidt. Back: Ian Schmidt (C'01).



Cover of a new book about Eric Bole, CSB, written by James Suber (C'11). See C'11.

08

Ian Forber-Pratt (also US'98) helped launch the Institute for Child Welfare Innovation, a campaign that works to bring ideas, people, and agencies together to implement proven child welfare programs in communications across the country. This campaign will impact the lives of 10,000 children and families around the United States.

11

James Suber self-published *Be the Best* about the rugby career of Eric Bole, CSB. Bole worked at Principia from 1951 to 1968 and later served on the Board of Trustees. During the 1940s, he was an accomplished rugby player in

England. He captained the rugby team at Cambridge University, played for England during the Victory Internationals, and won three County Championships playing for Lancashire. *Be the Best* is available on Amazon. See photo.

Share Your News

Your classmates wonder what you've been up to!

Email alum@principia.edu, or post your news online at principiaalumni.org/classnotes.

Never Too Old to Be Blessed

By David Cornell (C'59) with Virginia (Bivens, C'61) Cornell

I grew up in Minnesota and Virginia “Ginni” grew up in Idaho. Our parents directed each of us to consider various colleges. We both eventually settled on Principia College as the best place, and in fall of 1955, we arrived as freshmen. We met in the introductory chemistry lab of Dr. Ernest H. Lyons (US’26, JC’ 28) that fall. Dating some, but not exclusively, we established a relationship that survived for decades.

Ginni married a friend from Idaho in 1958, and subsequent travels delayed her graduation from 1959 to 1961. That marriage lasted 34 years. In 1962, I married Linda Rhodes Johnson, a student at the University of California, Berkeley, where I was completing my PhD. Linda and I kept in touch with Ginni through annual Christmas cards and letters.

**“I garden alongside Ginni.
Ginni learns Morse code and
logs radio contacts alongside
me . . .”**

I began teaching physics at Principia College in 1964. Linda moved through various College staff positions to become assistant to the president of the College. As I taught, I traveled to various state and national meetings of physics teachers to share and improve my teaching skills. One such meeting was held at Boise State University. Since Ginni was living in Boise then, Linda and I arranged for a brief visit—Linda’s and Ginni’s first personal introduction to one another.

More recently, in August 2017, the nation was treated to a total solar eclipse. Fortunately, the center line of the eclipse was just a short drive from Boise, and it was convenient for Linda and me to travel there. So I set up a family eclipse-viewing session for Ginni, her niece, Linda, and myself. We



all stayed in a motel in Ontario, Oregon, where amateur and professional astronomers set up instruments to view the event. I brought along a six-inch Dobsonian telescope with solar filter. After enjoying a marvelous eclipse view, Ginni invited us to visit her Boise home for the weekend. During the following year, in 2018, we also visited her in her McCall, Idaho, cabin.

Shortly after the 2018 cabin visit—and following 56 years of a happy marriage—Linda passed on. In June 2019, I invited Ginni to visit Edmonds, Washington, to hear the Sno-King Community Chorale sing *Hunchback of Notre Dame*, in which I sang in a starring role. That visit culminated in our engagement. Three months later, we were married in McCall, with daughters Laura Cornell (US’82) and Diane (Cornell, US’83, C’87) Figaro participating.

Today, Ginni and I share and support one another’s life interests. I garden alongside Ginni. Ginni learns Morse code and logs radio contacts alongside me and cheers me on at the piano.

This is written in the hope that it will inspire others to believe that life’s adventure continues to unfold. You’re not too old at 80 to feel the blessing of the Divine.

SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

We welcome your news and photographs. Items for the next issue are due April 1, 2021. Please follow these submission guidelines:

NEWS: Please provide first and last names for all Principia alumni mentioned in the news you share. Principia reserves the right to edit and abbreviate news submissions.

PHOTOGRAPHS: Please provide first and last names of all those pictured and indicate who attended Principia. Please make every effort to submit a digital image that meets these specifications: For **digital photos**, please ensure that your camera or smartphone is set to the highest possible image-quality setting. For **scanned prints**, please scan all printed images at a minimum setting of 300 dpi. (Occasionally, smaller images are usable.)

Please submit all images as the original JPEG. We will take care of any photo touchup or resizing that is needed. Do not submit photos dropped into Word documents, PDFs, PowerPoint presentations, etc. Materials sent by mail will not be returned unless accompanied by a stamped, self-addressed envelope. The *Purpose* accepts no responsibility for unsolicited artwork or photographs.

To email submissions, write to alum@principia.edu. Or post your news at principiaalumni.org/classnotes. Send submissions via mail to *Principia Purpose* at this address: The Principia, 13201 Clayton Road, St. Louis, MO 63131.

Lovingly Remembered

Helen (Nixon) Brading (C'36)

Georgine Bush (C'48)

Archibald "Arch" Carey Jr. (US'42, C'48)
Former faculty/staff

Patricia "Patty" Ensign (C'51)

Scott Putnam (C'51)

William "Bill" W. Siebens (US'51)

William "Bill" V. Brannan (US'52)
Former faculty/staff

Lennart A. Palme Jr. (US'52)

Patricia "Pat" Cummings (C'52)

Sally (Stimson) Dorn (C'53)

Robert "Bob" J. Rockabrand (C'53)
Former faculty/staff

Lucy (Ambler) van L. Maas (US'50, C'54)
Former faculty/staff

Jane (Edmondson) Morgan (US'54, JC'56)
Former faculty/staff

Theodore "Ted" Munnecke Jr. (C'57)
Former faculty/staff

David "Dave" T. McCrea (C'58)

Judith "Judy" (Greenblatt) Durning (US'59)

Jane (Sandler) Lang (C'60)

Donald "Don" A. Zacher (C'60)

Martha "Marty" (Stout) Clark (C'61)

Elizabeth "Bette" (Bousquet) Mohr (C'61)

Hebe Annand (C'62)

Roger J. Jones (US'59, C'63)

Marilyn (Utter) Gardner (C'64)

Marshall G. Snedaker (C'64)

George D. Moffett III (C'65)
Former College President

Bruce R. Burton (C'67)

Carol Ann (Briffett) O'Mara (US'68)

Nancy (Ross) Kennedy (US'68)

Richard "Dick" A. Dickson (C'70)

Richard L. Walker (US'70)

Lawrence "Larry" Standard (US'72)

Alix S. Haynes (C'73)

Christine "Chrissie" (Francois) Brown (C'74)
Former faculty/staff

Brian D. O'Halloran (C'74)
Former faculty/staff

Susan "Susie" (Koelle) Olsen (US'70, C'74)

Judith A. Barr (C'75)

Anne (Mayer) Cheezem (C'75)

Peter "Mike" M. Bambach (US'79)

Peter V. Dempsey (C'79)

Laura E. Gutnick (C'79)

Amy (McCain) Hasselbring (US'76, C'80)

Donald D. MacKenzie (US'80)

Charles "Charlie" G. McCook (C'82)

J. "Randy" R. Shute (C'85)

Peter A. Beers (C'87)

Susan (Spitler) Landes (US'83, C'87)

Pamela (Demases) McKean (C'00)

David F. Hurwitt (HON'07)

Brooke (Sam) A. Engel (C'20)
Current faculty/staff

Former Faculty/Staff

Bonnie M. Butler (FS'66)

Mary "Mary Lu" Fennell (FS'73)

Jacquelin "Jackie" Ritchie (FS'83)

William "Riley" R. Seay

Come back to campus **FOR** **UPPER SCHOOL** *Reunion!*

SEPTEMBER 30–OCTOBER 2, 2021

50th Reunioners arrive September 29.

**RECONNECT, REMINISCE, REFRESH,
AND REKINDLE THE REVERIE!**

IT'S REUNION TIME!

Round up your classmates, family members, and memories and head to St. Louis.
All alumni—no matter where life has taken you—are welcome.

Who's Celebrating?

10th: 2011, 2012

20th: 2001, 2002

25th: 1996, 1997

30th: 1991, 1992

35th: 1986, 1987

40th: 1981, 1982

45th: 1976, 1977

50th: 1971, 1972

55th: 1966, 1967

60th: 1961, 1962

65th: 1956, 1957

70th: 1951, 1952

75th: 1946, 1947

80th: 1941, 1942

Affinity Groups:

Baseball

Band & Choir

principia.edu/upperschoolreunion



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with Dr. Gretchen Starr-LeBeau

JANUARY BOOK TALK: *HOW I BUILT THIS*

by Guy Raz

"NOURISHED BY GOD TO HEAL THE NATIONS"

with Dr. Barry Huff

"ODE TO JOY": CELEBRATING BEETHOVEN"

with Dr. Marie Jureit-Beamish

Visit principia.edu/events for a listing of upcoming events and a link to recordings of past events.
These programs are hosted by Principia Alumni & Field Relations and Principia Lifelong Learning.