



SUMMER 2016

# Significance

CHANGING THE WORLD THROUGH CHARITABLE GIFT PLANNING

SEATTLE PACIFIC UNIVERSITY

## The Reinmuths: A legacy of love and honor

When he retired from 39 years in the pulpits of six different United Methodist churches, John Reinmuth dedicated himself to becoming adept in something else for which he has a natural bent — personal financial planning. He founded Wellspring Financial Planners PLLC and conducts workshops that help people find “financial wholeness.”

“I don’t need the income,” John says, having practiced careful stewardship all his life. “But I do like helping young people just starting out, and persons facing the death of a spouse or retirement issues.”

While still a senior at Seattle Pacific College, the biblical literature and psychology major started thinking seriously about how he might one day make a significant financial contribution to what would soon be his alma mater. He continues to ponder the impact of eventually funding a major Seattle Pacific lectureship. Meanwhile, John has established fully funded scholarship endowments in honor of two people he loves and admires.

One is his first wife, Janet “Jan” Fosberg Reinmuth, SPU Class of ’65, who died in 2013. They met at Seattle Pacific and were married between final exams and John’s graduation day in 1966.

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## MESSAGE OF APPRECIATION



We completed the 2015–16 academic year at Seattle Pacific University on June 30. What an amazing year it has been! Enrollment continues to remain strong with nearly 4,200 students enrolled from 45 states and 39 countries. *U.S. News & World Report* ranked SPU number 2 in

“Best Colleges, Best Value” for 2016. Nickerson Studios, the newest building on campus, was dedicated following an extensive remodel. A former martial arts studio and marine equipment company, it is now Music’s new home for classes, music recording, practice space, and performing. Seattle Pacific Seminary was recommended for accreditation. Fund raising already reached the second highest year ever prior to the close of the year at nearly \$10 million. And at Commencement, we kicked off a year of celebrating SPU’s 125th anniversary celebration.

We are indeed grateful to God for our many friends who support the University. You make current gifts to the Annual Fund, gifts in support of the SPU Endowment that will permanently support multiple generations of students, and planned gifts that will provide future resources to Seattle Pacific through donors’ estates. These gifts are, in fact, an investment in the lives of SPU students that directly contributes to the impact they will have on our culture, their families, and countless people over their lifetimes. Some will become teachers that will influence young hearts and minds, or pastors that will communicate the timeless Word of God, or nurses that will provide medical care and compassion to those in need. The return on this investment is enormous!

As we draw closer to Autumn Quarter, I ask that you join us in prayer for God’s blessings on the University and for another amazing and successful year ahead.

Warmly,

Louise Furrow

Vice President of University Advancement  
furrowl@spu.edu

### CONTINUED FROM COVER

Commencement this year marked his 50th class reunion and what would have been their 50th wedding anniversary. John took Jan’s memory with him into the Founders Circle ceremony and enjoys knowing that the John W. and Janet M. Reinmuth Scholarship Endowment helps students studying to be teachers.

An elementary school teacher for nearly two decades, Jan was also a substitute teacher and pastor’s wife. “She poured her life into teaching, with a good many 60-hour work weeks,” John says. “She’d make extra curriculum materials of her own to keep the kids engaged.” The Reinmuths set aside her income to help fund a college education for their son and daughter. Jeff Reinmuth is a 1997 SPU graduate and Jennifer Reinmuth Murphy is a graduate of Western Washington University and holds a master’s degree from Rutgers University.

The other person John wished to honor with an SPU named scholarship endowment was New Testament scholar Edward Blair, a 1931 Seattle Pacific graduate, and later a professor of religion and dean of the Religion Department at Seattle Pacific. After his retirement, Edward sat under John’s preaching at Stanwood United Methodist Church. He died in 2008. To honor their friendship and Edward’s contributions to education, John and Jan established the Edward P. Blair School of Theology Scholarship Endowment in 2010 to provide scholarships to graduate and undergraduate students in the SPU School of Theology.

“Ed authored eight books,” says John, voice tinged with respect, “including the *Abingdon Illustrated Bible Handbook*, which sold more than 100,000 copies. He often expressed his gratitude for the scholarship assistance he received as a student at Seattle Pacific.” As Seattle Pacific students, John and Jan, too, were recipients of donor-funded scholarships that helped them finish strong. And son Jeff was able to complete his SPU theatre studies thanks to a variety of scholarships.

The Reinmuths admired the quality of SPU graduates and were proud to be numbered

among them. Says John, “Without exception, we were taken by the integrity of their lives, their faith in God, and their service to others.” When Jan passed, her estate made it possible to finish funding the two Reinmuth endowments.

John’s life took another emotional turn last January when he and Kathryn Joyner were married. Her first husband, Gray, died in 2012. She struggled with matters of finance and redefining her goals now that he was gone. Shortly after Gray’s death, she met John when

he served as the guest preacher at her church. She asked him to help her with those finances. “He brought such a warm, pastoral quality to his financial advice,” says Kathryn, a career librarian and a graduate of Florida State University. A friendship developed, which blossomed a year after Jan died.

Now married, they are working on

a joint estate plan to supplement their estate plans for separate assets. “God has blessed us in our combined income, and we’re considering what we can do for others,” John says. In notes of thanks, students who receive scholarships often write that they could not study at SPU were it not for the financial assistance. “As a student, I worked to help pay for school,” says John, “but kids struggle to do that anymore. It’s a different world.”

Kathryn has always had a heart for young people, for 34 years working with children in public libraries and private school libraries. She even spent three years as a librarian in the Riyadh International School in Saudi Arabia’s capitol, where her husband was on assignment with the U.S. Department of the Treasury.

Now retired, Kathryn still volunteers one day a week in an elementary school library in Port Orchard, Washington, what she calls her “regular dose of kids.”

In honoring those who have meant so much to him, John is helping a new generation of students to succeed. He and Kathryn have a renewed zest in their life together, enjoying a deeper faith in God. It is a good life sweetened by open-handed generosity.



## HISTORY OF ACHIEVEMENT

# Celebrating a university 125 years young

“I believe I have been blessed, and called, to essentially live out my life in one place,” says John Glancy, Seattle Pacific University Class of 1970. Much of John’s boyhood revolved around the Seattle Pacific campus, where he rode his bike in Tiffany Loop and attended church in McKinley Auditorium.

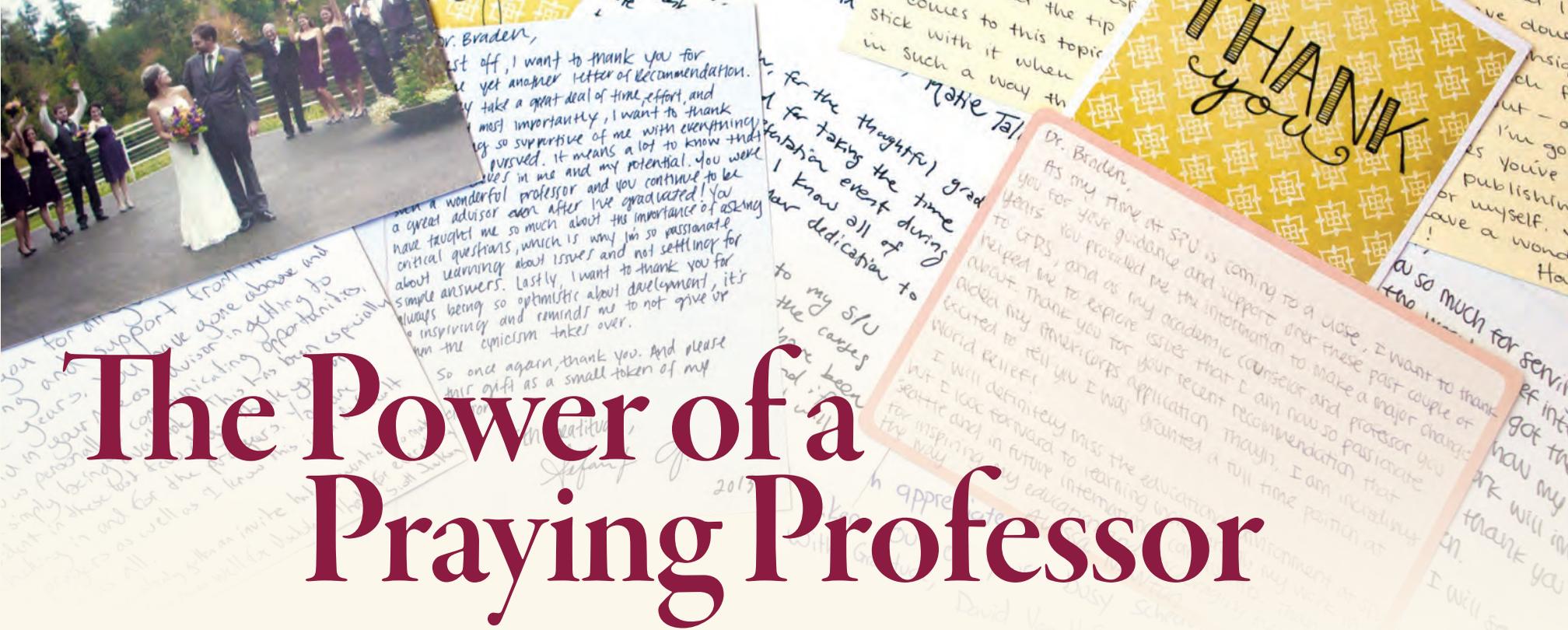
John went on after high school to earn his SPU undergraduate degree in 1970, and, in 2005, a doctoral degree. Since joining the SPU staff, he has enjoyed a 41-year career promoting SPU and directing graduate programs.

Today, as director of the institution’s 125th Anniversary Celebration, John works with others on a number of events to mark the University’s sesquicentennial. Among them:

### Alumni Grand Reunion, October 7–8, 2016

All SPU alumni will share in one of the largest gatherings in SPU history. A weekend of activities includes multiple reunions for classes, academic programs, and special interest groups. Also featured will be A Taste of SPU All-Reunion Dinner and singer David Crowder in concert.

It will be all hands on deck for the Alumni Office, reports Alumni Director Bryan Jones. “The Founders Circle Reunion, usually held during Homecoming, will be included in Grand



# The Power of a Praying Professor



Kathleen Braden

She pauses over the box of memorabilia containing expressions of student gratitude from her 34 years in the classroom. The wedding photo and thank-you card for the electric tea kettle that “served us well in these winter months.” A handwritten note celebrating “you have gone above and beyond in your role as advisor in getting to know us personally.”

The contents of the box make the decision to retire bittersweet. Geography and Global Development Studies Professor Kathleen Braden remembers each of the writers, their desire to leave their mark on the world, and their hard-won efforts to secure a well-rounded liberal arts education. She not only gives thanks for them by name but also for the Seattle Pacific donors who simultaneously stepped up with financial contributions which fund scholarships and reward academic achievement.

“I, my faculty colleagues, and Student Financial Services, research and pass along scholarship opportunities to students, even after they’ve graduated,” says Braden. “Faculty familiarity with our students is what adds value to an SPU diploma.”

It’s also what fills a box of remembrance and appreciation.

“As my academic counselor and professor, you helped me to explore issues that I am now so passionate about,” writes Alyssa Newton Van Hofwegen ’10, who pursues a degree in graduate social work at the University of Michigan. Kathleen helped Alyssa, a Dean’s Scholar Award recipient, secure an internship in refugee resettlement with World Relief while a senior at SPU.

“(You) piqued my interest in central Asia with a good conversation about where God’s at work in the world ...,” writes Hannah McMillen ’11, assistant to the Head of Office at the International Criminal Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia. “Thank you for providing expertise, constructive criticism, and encouragement ...” Hannah received both the Philip W. Eaton Scholarship and the President’s Scholar Award while a student at SPU.

“Thank you for checking in and for the prayers,” writes Scott Jackson ’14, in his second year as an immersion coordinator for Jesuit Volunteer Corps Northwest in Portland, Oregon. “You are in my prayers as well ...” He plans on graduate school or seminary. Scott’s SPU education was propelled, in part, by the Barnabas Servant Leader Scholarship and the Trustees’ Scholar Award.

“My honors project would never have happened without your support and guidance,” writes Lisa Anderberg ’10, a runner and recipient of two SPU athletic scholarships and the Trustees’ Scholar Award. “I’m so glad you challenged me to think critically and write on a topic that was so perfect for my interests.” Lisa was awarded a graduate fellowship to study international development and social change at Clark University in Massachusetts.

In its level of detail, Kathleen’s letter of recommendation for Lisa could have been written only by someone who took a deep and committed interest in her students. “I keep items students have written so I can show their development in my letters of recommendation,” Kathleen says. “I also ask students for their resumes so I can refer to their co-curricular and volunteer work in order to paint a holistic portrait.”

That personal degree of care and counsel was not lost on Katie Talbot ’10. She was a recipient of the Wesley Lingren Scholarship and is today director of operations and sustainability at Reformation, a California firm that makes clothing without exploiting either people or the environment. “Dr. Braden, if I ever do end up in the classroom,” Katie wrote her mentor upon graduation from SPU, “I will remember your pedagogical style.”

Generous donors and dedicated faculty — they form a powerful partnership for students, one that gets results and boxfuls of thanks.

Reunion with special emphasis on milestone reunions for the classes of ’51, ’56, and ’61.”

**FOR MORE INFORMATION:** [spu.edu/grandreunion](http://spu.edu/grandreunion).

## SPU Fine Arts Exposition, May 2017

See an alumni/faculty art exhibition, one-act plays written by students, and a combined music and theatre presentation. Tour the University’s new music production facility, Nickerson Studios, where many of the activities will be held.

## 125th Anniversary Gala Celebration, May 2017

Held in Fremont Studios, this invitation-only dinner event will feature a video history of SPU, inspiring stories from SPU alumni, and a time of vision-casting by President Dan Martin.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION:** [spu.edu/125](http://spu.edu/125).

Be sure to watch for further details on all the 125th Anniversary festivities that John, Bryan, and their hardworking teams have planned.





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Friends from the Class of '66 gather at their 50-Year Reunion.

# The Wellspring Society

## Going Beyond

On May 11, 2016, a unique group of SPU supporters gathered in Upper Gwinn Commons for the annual Wellspring Luncheon. What makes them so unique and important to the University?

- They have gone beyond simply making a current gift to SPU to planning a future gift through their estate plan.
- They have gone beyond making annual cash gifts, typically from their discretionary income, to planning a future gift from the sum of their real estate, retirement accounts, and other assets that make up their total estate.
- In some cases they have gone beyond giving away their money in the form of a current charitable gift to using their money to establish a planned gift that provides them with income and tax benefits as well as a gift to SPU later on.
- Most importantly, they have gone beyond helping only current students with their annual gifts to helping multiple generations of future SPU students.

If you have already included SPU in your estate plan, but are not sure whether we have included you as a member of the Wellspring Society, please contact Marlon Sandlin, director of endowments and gift planning at 206-281-2257. If you haven't yet included SPU in your future plans, but are interested in "going beyond," please let us know how we can be of further assistance.



## Top 5 "future" gifts to SPU

There are many ways that our friends give financially to Seattle Pacific. Here are the five most common ways to make a future gift to help SPU students:

- 1 Name SPU to receive a bequest gift through your will.** This is a time-honored way of leaving a final gift to causes you care deeply about, as well as to your family. It can be a percentage of your estate, a specific amount or asset, or the residual of your estate after other obligations are met.
- 2 Leave part or all of your IRA to Seattle Pacific.** Naming your children or your estate as the beneficiary of your IRA account will cause these assets to be subject to income tax. But this tax is avoided if a charity such as SPU is named as beneficiary.
- 3 Name SPU as beneficiary of a life insurance policy.** This future gift to SPU is simple to arrange for and is not subject to the delaying legal proceedings of probate.
- 4 Transfer cash, real estate, or securities now to SPU for a life-income plan.** Agreements such as a Gift Annuity or Charitable Remainder Trust provide retirement income, tax benefits, professional management, and a future gift to SPU.
- 5 Give your home to SPU but keep living in it.** A Retained Life Estate allows you to deed your home to the University now, receive a significant income tax deduction, keep living in it for as long as you want, and know that at your passing it will be available to SPU to help our students.

For more information on any of these planning opportunities, contact Marlon Sandlin, director of endowments and gift planning, at 206-281-2257.



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