

# PRESIDENT'S PERSPECTIVE

The battle raged back and forth as the clock drew ever closer to zero. We cheered. We yelled. We screamed. And we tried to remain dignified during all of it. After all, I do serve as the president of the University. As the game drew to a close, my wife and I jumped out of our seats with hands raised in the air as our men's basketball team pulled out a close



victory. The following morning, we realized she had burst a blood vessel in her eye from cheering so hard. "Intense" does not do justice to the competitive spirit my wife and I possess, and on this particular day, it showed. "Back the Jackets" left a mark.

Each year, my family walks in the Cedarville homecoming parade with the volleyball team. Watching four enthusiastic, hard-working freshmen grow up on the court these past four years means this team will always hold a special place in my heart. Rachel, Samuel, and I even created posters to support them. At each home game, we cheered as loud as we could, rooting them on to victory, and my children enjoyed dancing to the music during breaks in the action. On more than one occasion, the student section has lured me to the middle of the controlled chaos that occurs when our outside hitters send a ball descending toward the court at what seems like 70 mph. Four of these girls graduated this year. I had trouble controlling my emotions, just as I did on senior night.

Sports have always held a special place in my life. I still bear scars from baseball. I learned hard work and determination from football and basketball. I experienced the thrill of victory in karate, and I had the joy of flying high in the pole vault. God has used sports in my life to develop character and teach me many lessons.

Perhaps those experiences have affected my belief that a coach has a special opportunity to mentor players. Coaches can teach a Philippians 2 mindset of considering others before yourself. They can help players understand service and ministry, and they can cast a vision to use athletics for more than just fame and glory. Ultimately, athletics can be used as a platform for spiritual growth and proclaiming the Gospel. At Cedarville, we expect spiritual growth to be the norm. From the honor call in volleyball, to note cards and prayers for opposing teams, we want to make an impact on others for the Gospel locally and abroad. From the women's soccer Bible study, which my wife helps lead, to the private character-building discussions between teammates and coaches, we want to see our athletes become better people — better followers of Christ more than anything else.

In the following pages, you will read about our athletes. I think you will discover that athletics at Cedarville has always been about more than just winning. Our athletes aim for excellence. They desire the prize — not just a trophy to adorn the case in the Callan Athletic Center, but an eternal prize of honoring Christ and making a difference for the Word of God and the Testimony of Jesus Christ.

Steadfast in Christ,

Thorn White

Thomas White, President

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Cedarville University is a Christ-centered learning community equipping students for lifelong leadership and service through an education marked by excellence and grounded in biblical truth.

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Cedarville University will be an exemplary Christian institution known for commitment to academic excellence, submission to biblical authority, passion for the Great Commission, and intentional discipleship that transforms lives for godly service, vocational distinction, and cultural engagement.

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Paul Phillips/Competitive Image

# I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.

Philippians 3:14

# **FEATURES**

# 2 GOLDEN OPPORTUNITY

CLEM BOYD When Grace Norman '20 brought home the gold medal in the 2016 Paralympic Games in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, she not only achieved a hard-earned victory, but she gained a platform for making Christ known among schoolchildren, business people, fellow collegians, and countless others.

## 6 FINISH LINE

CLEM BOYD For the first time, Cedarville University track & field made the platform in two relay and two individual events at the NCAA Division II Indoor National Track & Field Championships. But the bigger story is the teamwork, mutual support, and desire to glorify Christ that permeated their effort.

## 9 STRONGER BODY

CLEM BOYD Cedarville athletes are committed to diet and exercise regimens that maximize their potential. In a similar way, they're also committed to grow in God's Word, fellowship, and ministry. Learn how Cedarville coaches employ a game plan for discipleship with each Yellow Jacket team.

# 10 HIGHER CALL

STEPHEN PORT '13 The Cedarville volleyball team had a breakthrough season, earning its first berth in the NCAA Division II volleyball tournament. The team's success on the court was only part of this year's plan, however. Its number one goal? Be a team on mission.

# 12 THE BIG PICTURE

PHOTO FEATURE BY SCOTT HUCK Take a look at all 16 Cedarville NCAA Division II teams and find out how you can follow them on social media.

### 14 JACKET VISION

NICK CARRINGTON '10 The Cedarville Sports Production Team has taken livestreaming to a whole new level, with multiple cameras and television-caliber production quality. It has distinguished Cedarville as one of the top livestreaming universities in NCAA Division II.

# 17 BALANCING ACT

PHOTO FEATURE BY SCOTT HUCK Yellow Jackets left fielder Gunnar Stinson '19 balances the demanding schedule of a student-athlete, while maintaining rigorous spiritual disciplines to keep him focused on Christ in everything he does. Walk with him through a normal day in the residence hall, at the dining hall, on the field, and in the library and discover the God-honoring dedication that marks Cedarville athletics.

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"I've looked forward to running for Cedarville most of my life," she shared. "To finally be on the team, it's very exciting."

# **GOD'S PLAN**

Norman was born without her left foot and ankle and her right big toe due to an amniotic band disorder. Because of the condition, fetal parts in the womb, such as fingers, toes, and limbs, are caught in fibrous bands, and amputated.

A team of her dad's engineering students developed an early swim foot prosthetic for Norman when she was 9 years old. Since then, she has graduated to prosthetic limbs that have propelled her beyond laps in a pool to the gold medal stand.

"I'm very grateful for my prosthetic," Norman affirmed. "If I would have not been born like this, I probably wouldn't have been given these opportunities to compete on a world stage and share my faith with others. God had this plan for my life all along."

Hard work and dedication are integral to an athlete's life. For Norman, she has the extra motivation of knowing this is God's course. "He has a reason and plan for me," she said, "and I have to trust that His plan is perfect for my life."

# **INSPIRING EXAMPLE**

While Norman understands the gravity of what she accomplished in Rio, she was also a little stunned by the response. "I've definitely been surprised," she offered. "I knew a lot of people were supporting me, but the amount of congratulatory feedback has been amazing, whether it was just my hometown, my teammates, or people I don't even know who were touched by my achievement."

Little girls have approached Norman and told her she has encouraged them to run cross country. Others have been inspired to face their own challenges. And her counsel to them? "Don't let anything in life stop you, whether disabilities, or circumstances," she said. "God placed those in your life to grow you and challenge you, not to stop you."

# RAISED PLATFORM

Since her accomplishments in Rio, her platform to share Christ has grown exponentially. It started with innumerable newspaper, online, and television reports, and continued with Facebook and Instagram. "I give glory to God in my social media posts," Norman said.

And there was that invitation to the nation's capital. On September 29, 2016, Norman, along with other U.S. Olympic and Paralympic medalists, was invited to the White House where she was congratulated personally by the president and first lady.

Back home in Ohio, and also in Utah, where she trains, doors opened for her to speak with elementary and high school students. "Sometimes I'll focus more on my work ethic, and sometimes more on the actual race in Rio," she



said. "But it's also been a really good way for me to share my faith. I attribute my strength to the Lord and acknowledge His working through me."

# **POWERFUL STORY**

And she's shared that hope at a neighboring university as well. On February 24, 2017, Wright State University, located in nearby Fairborn, Ohio, honored Norman during halftime of a Wright State Raiders basketball game. Norman shared her experience in Rio and honored God in a Cedarville video that played on the center court jumbotron.

She signed autographs during and after the game, where tracts were available that explained her relationship with Christ.

On May 4, the Public Relations Society of America, Dayton Chapter, honored Norman with its Newsmaker of the Year Award. And what a newsworthy story, by the power and grace of God, Grace Norman has to share.

Clem Boyd is Managing Editor of Cedarville Magazine.







hey've come from 32nd in their region to one of the top programs in the nation. It's been a journey through injuries and frustration. But this spring, the Yellow Jackets track & field team broke the finish line tape.

Olivia Esbenshade '17, Carsyn Koch '18, Lyndsey Smith '19, and Olivia Kundo '20 finished third in the distance medley relay (DMR) to earn All-America honors at this year's NCAA Division II Track & Field Indoor Championships. Their time of 11:19.55 wiped out their own school record by more than 10 seconds, and they registered the third-fastest performance in NCAA Division II indoor history.

Daniel Michalski '18, Josiah Bernard '18, Ethan Gatchell '19, and Wyatt Hartman '17 ran 9:53.72 in the men's DMR, second-fastest time in Cedarville's history, and earned All-America honors for their eighth-place finish.

In addition to the DMR, Koch competed in the 800-meter; Esbenshade and Michalski ran the mile. Koch, who ran the 800 at the Olympic Trials last year, repeated as NCAA champion, crossing in 2:05.65. Michalski earned his second All-America honor, finishing seventh in the nation at 4:09.45. Esbenshade ran 4:52.47, one of the top five-mile times in Cedarville women's indoor track history.

# **LONG ROAD**

The program's turnaround is especially sweet for seniors like Esbenshade. "I've struggled with a lot of injuries and missed going to nationals by one place two years ago," she related. "None of the girls my freshman year had even broken 19 minutes in a 5K race, and now the whole varsity is running 17s."

"I never thought about making nationals as a freshman," Koch shared. "It wasn't in the realm of possibility. We've realized you don't have to be superhuman, but it does take hard work."

And the right atmosphere. "Coach Bo [Jeff Bolender '91] would never toot his own horn," she offered. "He's taken this team from where we were freshman year to now. This program is phenomenal."

"Each person brings an attitude of pushing one another," Smith said. "You hear us cheering and screaming for each other till we lose our voices. Twelve of us went to nationals (four each on men's and women's DMR, plus four alternates), but the whole IIO-member team helped us get there."

# **TEAM VICTORY**

Track and field is often referred to as a "team of individuals." Not so with Cedarville.

"We encourage each other to work hard, eat well, and sleep right," noted Koch. "We can't run 400s with Lyndsey, but we can cheer her on."

"It's been really cool coming in as a freshman having Carsyn and Olivia help me," offered Kundo, who ran the 1,200-meter leg of the DMR. "They've really pushed me. If I didn't have them, I'm not sure I would do as well."

"We've met athletes who don't have supportive teams," said Esbenshade. "That makes us really thankful. Our team supports us no matter what."

"I've roomed with Tim and Ethan, and I live in the same unit with Ethan and Wyatt," Michalski added. "It's hard to get much closer, unless you run with your brothers. These guys are my brothers."

# DIFFERENT FINISH LINE

Because of their eternal perspective, Cedarville's athletes, even during intense competition, keep their focus on the right kind of prize.

"We've met girls who've struggled with injuries and they're nervous, and we've prayed with them," Esbenshade said. "We pray for a good competition for them."

"I've enjoyed a lot of conversations with competitors at meets, sharing life views," Michalski said. "I've just tried to be one beggar pointing other beggars toward the Bread."

"This is our platform," added Smith. "God's given us these talents not just to show people how fast we are. Maybe we were at nationals so we could talk with another girl and share how much we've appreciated the Christian atmosphere on our team.

"We don't want to glorify self; we're glorifying Christ."

Clem Boyd is Managing Editor of Cedarville Magazine.



# Passing the Baton

When 800-meter runner Carsyn Koch '18 competed at the U.S. Olympic Trials last year in Eugene, Oregon, she had a running partner during the after-race cool down. Was it a coach? How about a former Yellow Jacket who traversed the same path.

Jane (Romig) Brooker '86 was the first Yellow Jacket to participate in the Olympic Trials: Indianapolis, 1988 (800- and 1,500-meter); New Orleans, 1992 (800- and 1,500-meter); and Atlanta, 1996 (800-meter).

"With some people, you have an instant connection," Brooker recalled. "That's Carsyn and me. We just have this kindred spirit relationship, even though I'm a lot older than she is."

Part of that stems from sharing a unique, high-level race experience, Brooker shared. But it also had to do with the Yellow Jackets. "Carsyn is such a genuine person," said

Brooker. "At the trials, God used her to serve another athlete. She was carrying the torch of being a Cedarville athlete."



Brooker saw

Koch again last fall at a homecoming dinner honoring legendary Cedarville cross country coach Elvin King '64. "During my speech I handed a baton to Carsyn. I know that baton will be well taken care of."

# **STRONGER BODY**

BY CLEM BOYD

Cedarville University athletes are known for great work ethic, team spirit, and talent. They are also known for bringing Christ into every game, set, meet, and match. Coaches employ a discipleship strategy that encourages athletes to have Gospel impact through their sport.

Before Cedarville women's soccer matches, players write notes to the opposing team, sharing testimonies and offering encouragement. "After the game, players pass out the cards," Head Coach Jonathan Meade said. "They ask the opposing player if they can pray for them."

For Hannah Velloney '17, that was a gamechanger. "The Lord gave me a deeper understanding of the Gospel's power," she said. "I've cultivated deep discipleship in my own team and encouraged believers and those searching for truth on opposing teams."

Men's soccer held biweekly prayer times and praise and worship before home games. "They also met in discipleship groups to spur one another to good works," noted Head Coach Brett Faro.

The golf team studied Philippians 4:8, led by chaplain Nick Boucher, M.Min. '15, M.Div. '20. They also committed to play with praise. "We can play hard but have a thankful and humble perspective," said Head Coach Ryan Bowen '91

Former player Derek Hostetter '08 led Bible studies and devotionals for men's tennis. "One day he

talked about how with God on his side, David wasn't the underdog, and the next time he shared ways to interpret Scripture," offered Head Coach Alan Edlund '75.

Kathy Miller, wife of Pastor Craig Miller '79 at Grace Baptist Church in Cedarville, and team Chaplain Becky (Selden) Kuhn '78 led women's tennis Bible studies. "We share burdens and pray for one another as sisters in Christ," commented Head Coach Dee Morris.

Kristen Heydt '17 grew in her faith. "We have learned how amazing Jesus and His love is," she said. "I love my team; they have helped me grow closer to the Lord."

Cheerleading accountability partners studied a book or discussed devotionals. "Team members share testimonies throughout the year to gain a deeper understanding of who God made them to be," said Head Coach Kristin (Hoovler) Miller '00, M.Ed. '16.

Men's basketball met in small groups twice a month for accountability and prayer. "We want players to see how the struggles and success they face in basketball are lessons for the rest of life," said Head Coach Pat Estepp '98, M.Ed. '08.

Women's basketball assistant Katie Carmichael '18 led a discussion of *Seated With Christ*, and Chaplain Kristi (Walker) Coe '95 led weekly Bible studies. "We prayed before games, asking that God be glorified through our attitudes and actions," said Head Coach Kari (Flunker) Hoffman '05.



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A college athlete's focus can easily be consumed by common themes: playing time, starting or subbing, wins and losses, varsity or JV. But for the 2016-17 Cedarville University women's volleyball team, the consuming focus has been this humble but profound thought: "Who are we that we get to be a part of this?"

The team first asked the question after the 2014 season, when head coach Doug Walters challenged his team toward a higher calling. "I wanted it to be student-athlete led and driven, because that would create buy-in," Walters explained.

After their sophomore season, he charged rising captains Abby Shelton '17 and Rachel Krikke '17, along with teammates Angela Becker '17 and Kristin Cardwell '17, with this task: figure out how the team can best represent Christ — on the road, in class, in chapel, or wherever they might be.

# MORE THAN A TEAM

The core change came in the way players began to view their team as a whole.

"We wanted to be a family that was on mission together," explained Shelton. "That meant acting like a family, not just a team. That meant holding each other accountable, having those tough conversations, and not letting people gossip or complain about workouts."

Most families, however, do not live life in front of cheering fans. During the fall 2016 season, the Lady Jackets played in front of crowds of several hundred to thousands, a rare experience in NCAA Division II and even at some Division I matches. And that doesn't even account for the many who livestreamed their contests.

# SWEETER KIND OF SERVE

Part of the culture change that began in spring 2014 was not just about kindness and character, but about looking beyond the team to actively bless others. Players made dozens of cookies and wrote notes to each academic department and student organization on campus. The goal? To give back the love they received from professors and peers.

According to Shelton, it was Becker and Krikke who spurred that movement, which has reaped deeper relationships across campus.

"We are brothers and sisters in Christ, and that's what we're about," said Shelton. "It wasn't about getting them to come to games. It wasn't about us. Who are we that we get to be a part of this?"

# **ELEVATING THEIR GAME**

That question was certainly on the Lady Jackets' minds when they received their first-ever bid to the NCAA National Tournament after winning their fourth Great Midwest Athletic Conference Tournament in the last five years. They finished the regular season with a strong 26-8 record.

Krikke sensed a higher purpose for the team during the tournament. "I just don't think God's done using us yet this season," she told Shelton.

For each member of the team, it wasn't about winning the match, though that was one goal; it was about expanding their mission field. That opportunity came in the win-or-gohome fourth set against in-state rival University of Findlay. Down by four and losing momentum early in the set, junior captain Krissy Pratt '18 gashed her shin diving into the bench for a ball. When the tournament director approached her to ask how he could help, Pratt didn't miss a beat.

"Have the people in the stands pray for me," she said.

"You want me to do what?" the director replied.

"Go ask my team's parents to say a quick prayer for me," Pratt repeated.

From her own team, word spread. What happened next was nothing short of a "God thing," according to Walters: a gym full of people — including the opposing team and their parents talking to the Lord together. It was just one of many practical manifestations of the Lady Jackets' unabashed Gospel mindset.

# **VOLLEYS OF GOSPEL** CONVERSATION

Take, for example, the practice of each team member praying for one or two members of that week's opposing team. After spending the week in prayer, then praying as a group after the game, each Lady Jacket sought out her player(s) and, after offering a quick prayer and often a Gospel conversation, gave her a New Testament and a note with contact information.

"While a lot of times we do get shut down," Krikke said, "we build some amazing relationships."

Several years ago, a Lady Jacket received a text from a recent Hillsdale College opponent explaining how attendance at Hillsdale's team Bible study had increased after playing



Cedarville, and that team members were coming with their gifted New Testaments.

Ultimately, that's the kind of longterm impact Walters hopes his team continues to have. "This team is very Kingdom- and Christ-centered, which will always be our goal," he said.

# LEGACY WITH ETERNAL **IMPLICATIONS**

As Shelton and her senior teammates reflect on their four years and ponder the legacy they're leaving behind, they return to a familiar refrain.

"Our heart is that Cedarville volleyball will always be a family on mission, and that everyone gets invited in," she explained. "It's been so fun to witness what God's doing here. We've gotten to know Him through this sport, to know and share His character, and to see how great He really is.

"Who are we that we get to be a part of that?"

Stephen Port '13 is Digital and Social Media Manager for Cedarville University.



# PICTURE

PHOTO FEATURE BY SCOTT HUCK

Cedarville University is home to 16 NCAA Division II sports. Follow them at **yellowjackets.cedarville.edu**, Cedarville University Yellow Jackets on Facebook, and @CUJackets on Twitter. Individual teams are also active on social media, sharing news and photos with their fans. Click the "social media" link on the Yellow Jackets website to follow your favorite team.



















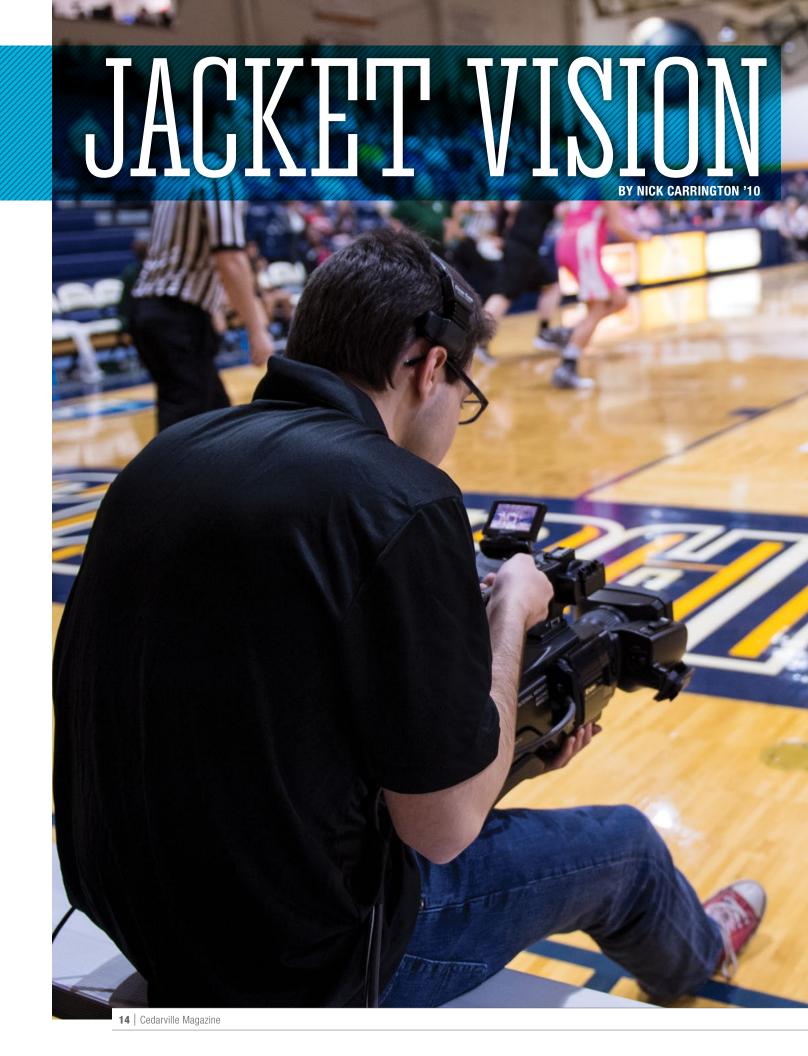














edarville University attracts athletes from all over the country. For family members of these athletes, distance can make it difficult to watch their student-athlete compete. Fortunately, since 2011, these parents, grandparents, and other relatives have been able to watch sporting events online, thanks to the Cedarville Sports Production Team.

The team is the brainchild of Jim Kragel, Associate Professor of Communications, and comprised entirely of broadcasting and digital media students. Two team members are paid, while others serve as volunteers or work toward class credit. For the last three years, this group has broadcasted more than 60 Cedarville athletic events a season, mainly soccer, basketball, and volleyball, with announcers, replays, and sometimes sideline reporters.

Even on a small budget, the Sports Production Team produces an exceptional livestreaming experience. "We have the highest-quality broadcasts of anyone at our level," said Kragel. During the 2016–2017 season, the entire livestream has been in high definition for the first time, including replays. They also use four or five more cameras than anyone else in the Great Midwest Athletic Conference (G-MAC).

Through donor gifts, Cedarville University Athletics has supplied equipment and helped expand the team to support the large broadcast schedule. Originally, the team had three or four members. Now, they have between nine and 11.

Alan Geist '83, Cedarville's Athletic Director, believes livestreaming has been great public relations for Cedarville's athletic teams and foresees increased sponsorships as more organizations and potential donors see the quality of the broadcasts.

However, Geist sees the biggest impact on recruiting. That's because coaches can tell parents they can watch their son or daughter online, even though they can't always attend games in person. "We get a lot of emails from family members," said Geist. "They are thrilled they can watch their loved one play."

Other programs in the G-MAC have taken notice. Geist explained that Cedarville is "known within the conference for livestreaming and livestreaming well. We owe a lot of the quality to Jim and his team."

Kragel emphasized the broadcasts' excellence has more to do with the abilities of his students than the equipment.



In the livestream booth, (L-R) Sports Information Director Mark Womack '82; Associate Professor of Kinesiology Kathy Freese, a former Cedarville women's basketball, softball, and volleyball coach; and Assistant Sports Information Director Jim Clark '75. In the background is Associate Professor of Communications Jim Kragel.

"The students here are just amazing. You get one kid with a bad attitude, and it changes everything. We don't have that."

The experience in live production has also been invaluable to the future careers of students. "Live production is difficult," said Kragel. "Our students are getting better entry-level jobs because they have experience producing live events."

In the fast-paced world of live production, experience makes all the difference. "The leadership skills you learn are so important. You are multitasking like crazy," student producer Kate Hartsock '18 said. Fellow producer Noah Taylor '17 agreed. "We've had to learn to deal with tough, realworld scenarios."

These real-world scenarios include directing the faculty, staff, and alumni that serve as announcers during broadcasts. Even though Taylor and Hartsock are still students, the older announcers respect the producers' subject knowledge. "It doesn't feel like students and faculty," Taylor insisted. "It feels like a colleague relationship."

Not only have team members gained experience that will help them succeed in the future, they have also built a special community that makes the hectic schedule enjoyable. "The team has a fun reputation," said Hartsock. "We love hanging out with each other."

"There is a lot of laughter and joking on the team," Kragel added. "We have a lot of fun together."

While the partnership between Athletics and the Department of Communication has paid off for both, they hope viewers see more than top-notch athletes competing. Both departments want their collaboration to assist Cedarville in proclaiming Christ. With that in mind, some of the commercials during streaming have highlighted Cedarville University's distinctive culture and mission.

"These broadcasts might be some people's introduction to Cedarville as a Christ-centered institution," said Geist. As relatives get the chance to see their loved one play, they will hopefully also see the One for whom Cedarville athletes compete: Jesus Christ.

Nick Carrington '10 is Assistant Professor of Professional Writing at Cedarville and a blogger for Redleg Nation, "a community for obsessive Cincinnati Reds fans, since 2005.'

PHOTO FEATURE BY SCOTT HUCK

Cedarville student-athletes lead very active lives. Not only do they give their all as members of their Yellow Jacket team, they also must keep up with the rigorous course load of a Cedarville education. For fall 2016, Cedarville men's teams scored a cumulative GPA of 3.221, and the women's teams 3.508. This academic year, the NCAA honored Cedarville as one of 26 Division II schools in the country to earn its prestigious Presidents' Award for Academic Excellence. Yellow Jackets left fielder Gunnar Stinson '18, a business management major, exemplifies the kind of balance Cedarville athletes maintain between academics, faith, and sports. Follow him as he navigates a day in his busy athletic and student career.







- It's probably 6:50 a.m. and I'm doing a quick rundown in my head, thinking about what I'm going to do that day.
- Heading out the door at 7 a.m. for breakfast. I keep all my books in there, minus one, so my backpack is heavy!
- Walking out of Brock Hall with my roommate, Ben Luckhof '19, an international student. His parents are missionaries in the Philippines. We usually grab breakfast a couple times a week.
- I usually have my devotions at breakfast. Right now, I'm reading Ezekiel. I've really been struck by the paradox of God's mercy and wrath.
- On Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, I don't have class till 1, so I normally catch up or get ahead in my classes. I study in either the Stevens Student Center, like I was this day, or the library.
- I usually sit with the same group in chapel, a mix of volleyball and baseball players and athletic trainers. Dr. White spoke that day on letting your yes be yes, and your no be no. Better to under promise and over deliver, than over promise and have to ask for an extension and forgiveness.
- 1 I have accountability with Adam Southerland, Resident Director at Brock, once a week at lunch. He'll ask how life is going, what I'm reading in the Word, and how my reading impacts what I'm doing. I'll ask him about

- issues I'm facing, and he'll offer scriptural and personal advice. We go through everything.
- I met with my Principles of Organization and Management instructor, Professor John LeBlanc. My group is doing a presentation, but we needed to move our time because of a baseball game. Professor LeBlanc is also my academic adviser.
- This is right before batting practice, when I go into the cage. I work on having a short swing so I get to the ball quickly. I also work on hitting the inside of the baseball so I can drive it to the opposite field or up the middle.
- Iplay left field. During practice, we take ground balls to the middle, left, and right; then Coach Kip will hit us line drives, and we work on fly balls. I work on my route to the baseball, being in a good throwing position once I've caught the ball, and getting behind the ball so I have extra momentum to throw the ball in with quickness and authority.
- After practice we always circle up with Coach Manes and pray together.
- Hanging out with Danielle Wolgamot '18, a pitcher on the softball team. She's dating my friend and teammate Marc Russell '18. A group of us study together regularly in the library. The library is my second home.

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# Do You Know Him?

The following is an excerpt from a January 17, 2017, chapel presentation by Matt Carter. Listen to his full remarks at cedarville.edu/chapel.



In Matthew 7:21, Jesus says, "Not everyone who says to me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of my father who is in heaven will enter. Many will say to me on that day, 'Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in Your

name? And in Your name cast out demons? And in Your name perform many miracles?" Then Jesus said, "I will declare to them, 'I never knew you. Depart from me, you who practice lawlessness."

How can a person know all these facts, even do things for a person, but not be in a relationship with them?

In college, I was on the honor guard for the governor of Texas. And after one event, they tell us, "Go to the buffet line before you go back to Texas A&M." I'm reaching for a piece of cauliflower, and this huge hand comes in. I look up and it's Nolan Ryan. I said, "You're Nolan Ryan." He looked at me and said, "Yes, I am."

There's something I realized in that moment. I'd studied him as a baseball fan my whole life, but I did not know him. And he didn't know me. If Jesus Christ walked into this room, would you know Him, and would He know you?

You enter into a relationship with Him through faith. "Lord, I am trusting in You as my Lord and Savior; I'm offering everything to You." Then, it's an every-single-day, deepening relationship with Him. When Matthew 7 comes, and you're standing face-to-face with Him, it won't be an introduction. It'll be a reunion with your best friend and the love of your life.

Matt Carter is Pastor of Preaching and Vision at The Austin Stone Community Church in Austin, Texas.

# The Real Cost

The following is an excerpt from a March 21, 2017, chapel presentation by Paige Patterson. Listen to his full remarks at cedarville.edu/chapel.

In Genesis 22, God says to Abraham, "Take your son, whom you love more than life itself, and sacrifice him to me." "Hold on, Lord. You said through this child my offspring would be as the sand of the sea. How's that going to be?"



The next day, with Isaac and two men with him, he began the journey to Mount Moriah. Taking the wood from the donkey's back, he placed it on Isaac's back, and the two of them journey to the top of the mountain.

Isaac says, "Dad, didn't you forget something? I don't see a lamb for the offering." "My son, God will provide a lamb."

Isaac stood there as Abraham bound him. With trembling hand, that old man is ready to do what he didn't think he could do. There is a voice. "Don't hurt that boy. You think you love him Abraham? You cannot appreciate the love I have for

There is a sound behind him. The ram is caught in the brambles. God has provided a lamb.

Go with me to the bottom of the hill. Walk a little ahead of Abraham and Isaac. Who do you see? That's your heavenly Father. And look at Isaac; you know that man. That boy. That only begotten Son of God, the Lord Jesus.

And the wood is the cross of Christ. We see the Son placed there. This time, the ram and the boy are one.

What is the cost of your whole life? More than you could ever pay. All to Him you owe. Please never stop being grateful to God the Father for His fabulous love.

Paige Patterson is President of Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Fort Worth, Texas, and a Cedarville University Trustee.

# Jesus Is Faithful

The following is an excerpt from a March 29, 2017, chapel presentation by Sam Allberry. Listen to his full remarks at cedarville.edu/chapel.



I want to focus on three aspects of Jesus' experience in Luke 22:39-46: His isolation, His distress, and His faithfulness.

Jesus and His disciples are in the Garden of Gethsemane. He tells them to pray, but they're

not with Him. Physically Jesus is on His own as He withdraws to pray, but spiritually He's on His own as well.

Jesus is on His own in this mission. What He's about to do, only He can do. What we most need, only He can provide. Jesus does understand loneliness.

Secondly, we see His distress. He came to earth as a real human; He experienced real human feelings. But here we see Him experiencing something we've not seen in Him before: deep anguish.

Why such distress? The answer comes in verse 42, "Father, if you are willing, remove this cup from me." Each of us spiritually has a cup, a cup of God's anger at our sin, and it is that cup Jesus is staring into. This is not a cup Jesus has any business taking for Himself, but He's willing to take it for you, and He's willing to take it for me.

Look at His prayer in verse 42: "Not my will, but yours, be done." There is something in Jesus even deeper than the distress, and that is His longing for you and me to know His Father. Jesus sets aside His own peace and prays for the Father's plan to save you and me to be fulfilled.

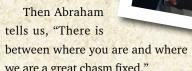
We know from other accounts of this scene that Jesus calls God, "Abba." It's not a childish name, but a deeply intimate one. Because of what Jesus is about to do, we get to call God that as well, because Jesus was faithful.

Sam Allberry serves as Honorary Minister at St. Mary's Church in Maidenhead, Berkshire, United Kingdom.

# **Scripture Is Sufficient**

The following is an excerpt from an April 12, 2017, chapel presentation by Al Mohler. Listen to his full remarks at cedarville.edu/chapel.

In Luke 16, the rich man sees Abraham and Lazarus. He cries out, "Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus to dip the tip of his finger in water, that he might put it on my tongue."



we are a great chasm fixed." The rich man says, "If you can't send Lazarus to me in hell, then send Lazarus to my brothers on earth, that he might

warn them, lest they also come to this place of torment."

Abraham says, "They have Moses and the prophets. Let them hear them." The rich man says, "No, Father Abraham! But if someone goes to them from the dead, they will repent!" What the Bible can't do, a dead man coming back can do. That makes sense. But it doesn't to Abraham. "If they will not hear Moses and the prophets, neither will they be convinced if someone should rise from the dead."

Jesus is saying to His own disciples, "If they will not hear the Scriptures, then they will not believe, even if someone were to rise from the dead!"

When it comes to evangelism, the Scripture is sufficient. We can't all of a sudden trick ourselves into believing that somehow we can come up with some experience of such explosive power, that we can do what Scripture evidently isn't powerful enough to do.

Jesus was raised from the dead, and the vast majority of those who had denied Him before, denied Him after. If they will not hear Moses and the prophets, then they will not believe. How do we know that Jesus Christ is Lord and Savior? The Scripture is sufficient alone.

Al Mohler is President of The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, Kentucky.

View, listen to, or download past chapel services from our chapel archive at **cedarville.edu/chapelarchive**.



BY NATALIA KIRYCHUK '19

The Hive has always been an integral part of student life at Cedarville University, but after 17 years, the student body has outgrown the snack shop and the entire space is in need of a makeover. The University is asking alumni and friends to come together in a \$500,000 renovation and expansion campaign to update The Hive into a new, energetic hangout for students.

Construction will take place summer 2017, with an August 15 grand opening set for live broadcast on the Cedarville University Facebook page.

The Hive was created in 2000 as an alternate eating space to the campus dining hall. The design, then

classic, is now in need of an upgrade. Lighting is dim and the floors

> Traffic flow has always been an issue, as lines

worn and dated.

of customers hinder students from getting drinks, finding a seat, or even getting to the door.

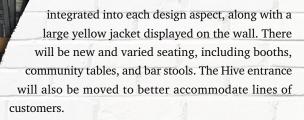
The new space will fix these issues by expanding the eatery into the next-door game room and storage closet. The space will become one unified area with updated flooring, seating, lighting, and a new stage area with an accompanying sound room.

"We want this to be a place of vibrant community," said Chad Jackson '05, Cedarville's Creative Director and lead designer on the renovation project. "The community is there; we're just working to create the space."

Having twice the capacity with a bright and inviting décor, the expanded Hive will be a welcome space for Yellow Jackets to relax, eat, study, and build eternally significant relationships.

"Our goal is to alleviate pressure during times of high volume and expand our student interest during times of low volume," said Jackson. "This will be a space where students can come and feel comfortable."

The new design for The Hive will feature a hexagon motif



"This is a wonderful opportunity for alumni, parents, students, and friends of Cedarville University to invest in the lives of students," said Rick Melson, Vice President for Advancement. "The project provides a greatly expanded and renovated

space for the campus community to gather, not only for meals, but for ongoing conversation, study, and discipleship."

Commitment to the project is high. The class of 2017 devoted its Senior Class Gift to help fund The Hive expansion, including a mosaic tile to be displayed on the floor leading up to the counter.

"We decided to contribute to The Hive expansion because the hallmark of our four years at Cedarville has been the amazing community,"

said Senior Class President Jonathan Lyons '17, a music education major. "This mosaic will represent the class of 2017's commitment to seeing those who come after us enjoy the Cedarville experience to the fullest."

"I am very excited about the upcoming renovation to The Hive," said Donna Fifer, Manager of the Hive. "I believe current and prospective students as well as alumni will be impressed when it is revealed in the fall."

Alana Haslow, the interior designer for Cedarville's Health Sciences Center, contributed ideas to the project, along with students from the International Center for Creativity (ICC), where Cedarville's third- and fourth-year industrial and

innovative design students take classes.

"Students need to experience actual project parameters in order to be effective on the job someday, and these types of collaborative projects are so valuable for that type of experiential learning," said Jim Stevenson, President of ICC. "It was a fun and very valuable experience."

"The ideas ICC gave us were a good launching off point to show how the space could be used," said Jackson.

Kayla McConnell '17 was the project lead for the team of ICC students.

"Our goal was to transform this space from a quick pass-by on campus tours into the grand finale," said

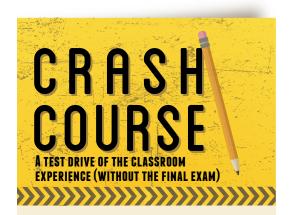
McConnell. "While The Hive will always be the setting of some of my favorite memories from Cedarville, I am excited to see it transition into its next chapter of life."

Now, your gift can help provide a community-enhancing gathering space for a whole new generation of Yellow Jackets. To learn more about the renovation and view a 3D video rendering, visit cedarville.edu/hiverenovation.

You can give to The Hive renovation and expansion campaign by visiting cedarville.edu/hiverenovationgift.

**Natalia Kirychuk '19** is a student writer in the Cedarville University Public Relations office.





### PROGRAM TITLE

Physical Activity and the Christian Life

# **COURSE COORDINATOR**

Evan Hellwig

Chair, Department of Kinesiology and Allied Health, Professor of Athletic Training

## DESCRIPTION

Physical Activity and the Christian Life (PACL) explores the role of physical activity in a Christian's life from a scriptural, physiological, and psycho-social perspective. Emphasis is placed upon developing and continuing active, healthy Christian life practices.

### **BIG IDEA**

- · Teaches why it is important for Christians to be physically active and helps students develop their own plan for biblical stewardship as it relates to caring for their bodies.
- · Includes weekly writing assignments and labs that give students opportunities to apply concepts and principles discussed in the textbook in practical ways associated with physical activity and stewardship.
- · Requires students to participate in a variety of aerobic and strengthening activities up to five times a week for a full 12 weeks. To accomplish this, they need access to a safe, appropriate place to exercise, regardless of the weather, such as a fitness center, recreation center, weight room.

# **LEARN MORE:** cedarville.edu/alliedhealth

"For a long time, I thought I was worth less than other people because I wasn't physically fit. In PACL, I learned I am loved and my weight doesn't change the sacrifice God provided to establish a relationship with me. Dr. Hellwig took personal interest in me and my well-being and helped me in my pursuit of physical fitness. As a part of my PACL experience, I collaborated with athletic training and exercise science students to create a personalized workout plan. I'll forever be thankful, both for this class, and for Dr. Hellwig's help."

Joshua Southard '19

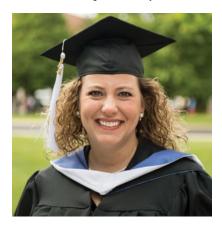
# **Commencement Features Record Class**



A record-breaking 796 students received their degrees during Cedarville University's 121st commencement on May 6. The largest graduating class in Cedarville's history saw 703 undergraduate students and 93 graduate students earn degrees.

Graduate students received degrees from five programs: 45 earned their Doctor of Pharmacy, six the Master of Ministry, 14 the Master of Business Administration, 12 the Master of Education, and 16 the Master of Science in Nursing.

This year's commencement marked the end of two particularly incredible



Cedarville journeys. Tara Winter started college in 1996. After a series of lifechanging events, she attended school one class at a time. After 21 years, three children, and two changes in major, Winter saw the fruit of her hard work: Cedarville's last degree in sociology and an accomplished dream.



Jeremiah Pennington's journey began after a 2011 earthquake and tsunami devastated Japan, where he served as a responder in the U.S. Navy. Convicted to follow Christ and make an impact on children, Pennington enrolled as a special education major. Through a full load of coursework, fulltime job, and full house of four sons, Pennington earned his degree and will serve as an intervention specialist at Fairmont High School in Kettering,



Ohio, next year.

During commencement, seven students received the Faculty Scholarship Trophy for achieving a perfect 4.0 grade point average: Laura Katherine Allen, early childhood education; Sarah Emma Berman, pharmaceutical sciences; Lindsey Anne Chiu, early childhood education; Matthew Tyler Cumberland, biblical studies; Taylor Elizabeth Hobbs, psychology; Mary Katherine Kearney, electrical engineering; and Kaitlyn Marie Morse, early childhood education.

Chandra Swiech, biology, and Matthew Cumberland, biblical studies, received the highest honor for a graduating senior — the President's Trophy. This honor recognizes leadership, ministry, community and campus involvement, athletic performance, and academic achievement.





Thomas White presented the President's Trophy to Chandra Swiech.



Thomas White presented the President's Trophy to Matthew Cumberland.

# **Upcoming Events**

### June

- 5-9 Academic Camps: Engineering, Music, Worship, Writing
- 12-16 Academic Camps: Nursing, Theatre, Worship
- 12-23 WAVE
- 19-23 Academic Camps: Athletic Training, Engineering, Pharmacy, Spanish
- 26-30 Academic Camps: Art and Design, Forensic Science, Geology, Psychology

# July

9-21 Missionary Kid Transition Camp

## August

- 18-20 Getting Started Weekend
- 21–24 Fall Bible Conference
  - 28 Convocation Chapel

## October

**6–7** Homecoming and Parents Weekend

cedarville.edu/events

# **CAREERS CEDARVILLE**

# **JOIN OUR MISSION-DRIVEN TEAM**

cedarville.edu/jobs

# RE-TWEETS TWE

Sahara Volt @Sahara Volt · Apr 17 Pastors in Liberia & Ghana to receive 100 solar lights made & funded by Cedarville University engineering students.

Dan DeWitt @DanDeWitt · April 21 God is doing something special in the middle of the cornfields in central Ohio. You should come check out @cedarville.

Peyton Hill @sPeytonHill · April 22 @DrThomasWhite will love to know @cedarville is being represented here thru testimonies at the International Friendships Banquet at OSU.

Isaac Wright @I\_Em\_Wright · April 27 Can't wait to spend #my1000days at @cedarville. Thanks for the care package! Katie @betweentwoears • May 3 39 days until worship camp at @cedarville with @CUHeartSong and @becca\_barrels and I honestly can't wait.

Drew van Esselstyn @fcadrew • May 4 Love bringing @cedarville folks on staff. Excited for the start of this journey! Can't wait to officially welcome you to @MidAtlanticFCA!

# A Legacy of Faithful Service

Thirteen faculty with a combined total of 360 years of faithful service to Cedarville retired at the conclusion of the academic year. After these beloved professors were honored in chapel on April 13, alumni and friends took to social media to share stories and notes of appreciation. We pray God's blessings as each one enters this next phase of the Lord's plan for their lives.



Pictured front row L-R: Charlie Pagnard, Senior Professor of Music, 40 years; Wes Baker, Distinguished Professor of Communication, 40 years; Rebecca Baker, Associate Professor of Theatre, 18 years; Sandra Harner, Senior Professor of Technical Communication, 36 years; Kathy Freese, Associate Professor of Kinesiology, 26 years; Lynne Funtik, Information Services Librarian and Assistant Professor of Library Science, 23 years; and Steve Gruber, Professor of Education, 17 years. Back row: Galen Smith, Professor of Economics, 36 years; Mike Lopez, Professor of Communication, 33 years; Terry Chamberlain, Associate Professor of Fine Art, 20 years; Bob Clements, Associate Professor of Theatre, 14 years; Harry Anderson, Assistant Professor of Accounting, 14 years; and John McGillivray, Associate Professor of Kinesiology, 43 years.

# **Clevenger Farewell Concert Packs the House**

Standing room only — that was the scene at the farewell concert for Chuck Clevenger, Senior Professor of Music, on April 24 in the Dixon Ministry Center. Faculty, staff, students, friends, and alumni filled the Recital Hall, lining the walls and sitting on the edge of the stage. Clevenger is stepping down from full-time to part-time status at Cedarville. Among other selections, he performed an original five-part composition inspired by Florence, Italy by colleague Steve Winteregg, Professor of Music.



# **HeartSong Live Album Lifts Jesus High**



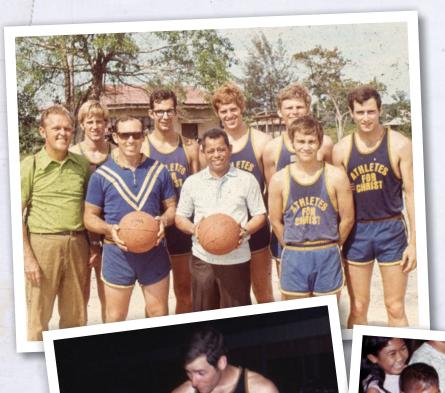
HeartSong teams recorded a live album March 25 in the Dixon Ministry Center, with close to 900 students, local community members, and other friends of Cedarville in attendance.

Praise the King was HeartSong's first major recording in the Jeremiah Chapel since its renovation last summer. Songs include Your Love Awakens Me, by Phil Wickham, Resurrecting by Elevation Worship, and the title track, Praise the King, by Corey Voss.

"The album is centered on bringing praises to the Almighty King, glorifying His name over self," said Ashlynn Kelly, Ministry and Event Coordinator for HeartSong Ministries.

Downloads of Praise the King are available through iTunes, Spotify, and CD Baby. You can also order CDs from mkt.com/cuheartsong. Proceeds will be used to continue HeartSong's ministry at churches, schools, and camps.





# Team on a Mission

In 1971, the Cedarville men's basketball team, led by Coach Don Callan, launched a Cedarville missions movement when it traveled to the Philippines. Loren Reno '70, Vice President for Academics, played for the Yellow Jackets during the 1970 season and is pictured bottom left. This trip launched Missions Involvement Service (MIS), founded by Callan and Harold Green, former Campus Pastor and Vice President for Christian Ministries. MIS is now known as Global Outreach, and has sent more than 6,000

faculty, staff, and students locally and around the world on mission with the Gospel of Jesus Christ.



# Competitive, Unified, Selfless: Honoring the Lord in Sports

We worked hard to elevate our play by sprinting, running stairs, throwing, fielding, hitting, lifting, scrimmaging, and working on different mental aspects of the game. By our trip to Florida in February, we were ready to fly.

With 10 freshmen and nine upperclassmen on our team, our expectations this season were high. Our freshman class was strong, and our upperclassmen experienced. Going into 2017, we had a young team, but we also had a talented one, and when you mix talent with hard work, good things happen.

Exactly one week before takeoff, we met in the locker room to set team goals and lift the Florida trip and the season up in prayer. It was good to discuss our goals for this season and how we wanted to accomplish them, and it was sweet to bring them before our Father, ask for His help, and acknowledge that we can do nothing of value without Him.

I've had so many conversations with my teammates about how much we love this team. It's been such a blessing getting to know my teammates better and build friendships with them. We have great girls on our team, and I was excited to bond as a team through the highs and lows of the season.

Our theme for this season was "Act of Worship." We want to use this sport as a

means to worship God and bring glory to our Savior, Jesus Christ.

Romans 12:1–2 says, "I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect."

We know that softball is not the most important part of life, but we also know we can glorify God if we approach it with the right heart and mindset. We want to play our best and compete hard so that others will see Christ in us on the field. We want to be unified so that Christ is glorified. We want to be selfless because Jesus is selfless. We want to honor our King with what He has given us to do, and at the moment, that is softball. We cannot do any of this without His help and guidance through the season.



Kelsey Caldwell '19 is a Yellow Jackets softball second baseman and outfielder. This preseason post first appeared on the Lady Jacket Softball Blog.

# LADY YELLOW JACKETS FLY HIGH WITH OUTSTANDING SEASON

As Kelsey Caldwell noted in her In Closing column, the Lady Yellow Jackets were ready to fly at the beginning of the season. And fly they did — all the way to the No. 1 seed in the Great Midwest Athletic Conference (G-MAC) tournament in May. They posted a 30-15 overall record for the regular season, 21-4 in the G-MAC. Congratulations, Lady Yellow Jackets, on a great season and for honoring the Lord with your talent, your sportsmanship, and your team effort.

# WELCOME TO CEDARVILLE'S

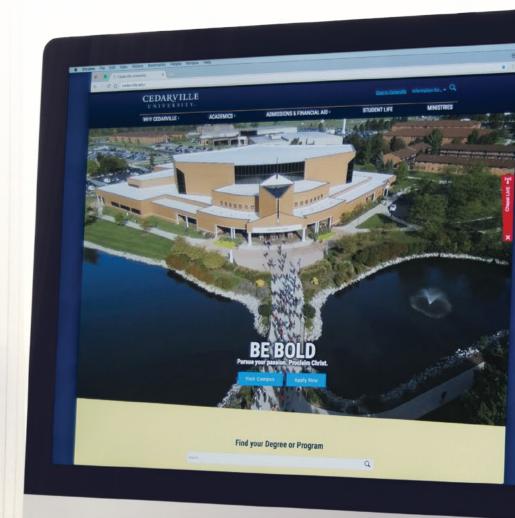
# NEW FRONT DOOR

We've rebuilt Cedarville's website — our virtual front door to the world — from the ground up. It's easy to navigate, engaging, accessible, and mobile friendly. We hope you'll stop by for a visit and share the site with prospective students:

- Watch chapel live at 10 a.m.
- Explore programs
- Apply for admission
- Schedule a visit
- Make a donation
- Enjoy engaging videos
- Browse the latest news
- Search for whatever interests you!



for the WORD OF GOD and the TESTIMONY of JESUS CHRIST



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**REGISTRATION OPENS JULY 10** 

Register at cedarville.edu/homecoming