“Then He took the five loaves and the two fish, and looking up to heaven, He blessed them, and broke them, and kept giving them to the disciples to set before the people. And they all ate and were satisfied.”

—LUKE 9:16-17 NASB

Counting Our Blessings

THE WALLA WALLA UNIVERSITY ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2017-2018

by Emily Huso and Kim Strobel    •    Photographs by Chris Drake
Brandon Rittenour
SOPHOMORE, MUSIC EDUCATION MAJOR

Though Sophomore Brandon Rittenour was uncertain about his future plans when he arrived on campus in the fall of 2017, today he is a confident music education major with a passion for fitness. Rittenour’s WWU story started two weeks before April U-Days in 2017, when he was invited to audition for scholarships in the Department of Music. As an avid cellist, Rittenour decided he might as well audition. Afterwards, he was offered the Yvonne Pickett Memorial Scholarship, a three-year scholarship that awards $6,000 annually to a music major or minor.

“That really surprised me and kind of shook everything up,” Rittenour says. Though previously interested in studying aviation, physics, engineering, or math, he found himself considering music as a career for the first time. After much self-reflection, Rittenour enrolled as a music education major.

During his freshman year, he enjoyed the opportunity to explore other interests, particularly health and fitness. Diagnosed with Crohn’s disease at age 14, Rittenour strives to live a healthy lifestyle. Classes at WWU such as Wellness for Living helped solidify his habits, while Jogging class encouraged him to take his running hobby more seriously. Additionally, joining the WWU Cycling Club helped him develop better cycling technique. By summertime, Rittenour had set some big goals: to train for both a marathon and a century (a hundred-mile cycling ride) and to simultaneously raise funds for the Crohn’s and Colitis Foundation, a nonprofit organization that is researching a cure for the disease.

Today, Rittenour has successfully completed both of his fitness goals and has reached 30 percent of his $2,500 fundraising goal.

Now that his exciting summer has ended, Rittenour looks forward to another year at WWU. “I’m very grateful for all of the generous donors that enabled me to study at a private university with very high-level educators,” he says. “I definitely wouldn’t be able to go to Walla Walla if it wasn’t for that.”
In this season of thanksgiving, we look back over the past year and reflect on our blessings, giving thanks to our creator for His abundant gifts.

A busy school year is underway at WWU with more than 1,800 students enrolled. The freshman class of more than 400 is the largest group of freshmen at WWU in 18 years.

The School of Business is enjoying a beautiful, professional environment in the newly renovated Bowers Hall, and a revitalized Student Development Center is leading the way to connect students with experiential learning opportunities beyond the WWU campus. In 2017-2018, WWU faculty completed advanced degrees in education, chemistry, music, motor learning, and nursing.

From one end of campus to another, students are engaged in activities that facilitate their growth from maturing adolescents to confident young men and women who are eager to change the world. Thank you for your support of Walla Walla University as we seek to provide challenging and relevant experiences to develop the next generation of thinkers, doers, leaders, and dreamers.

Thank You!

ANNUAL GIVING REPORT
Walla Walla University seeks to foster the unique gifts of every individual within a Christian community of faith and discovery. In support of this mission, from July 1, 2017, to June 30, 2018, the university received gifts totaling $9,993,235.

2017-18 ALUMNI CLASS GIVING AWARDS

**Gateway Award**
Highest total giving by class
CLASS OF 1952
$1,614,765
Congratulations to the class of 1952! This number is tough to beat!

**Mountain Ash Award**
Highest class participation
CLASS OF 1958
33% participation rate
Well done, class of 1958! You surpassed last year’s Mountain Ash Award winner, the class of 1955, by nearly 3 percent.

**Orange and Green Award**
Highest participation of a class to graduate in the last 10 years
CLASS OF 2009
3.5% participation rate
The class of 2009 brings strong representation for post-millennial alumni and snags the only award not taken this year by a ‘50s-era graduating class.

**Special Mention**
Most improved participation
CLASS OF 1959
7.3% improvement from last year
The class of 1959 is sneaking up on the Mountain Ash Award with an increase in participation from 19.4 percent last year to 26.7 percent this year.
THOUGH ONE might not think $100 would go very far, for alumnus Karly Joseph, the $100 anonymous gift she received every holiday season while she was a student at Walla Walla University profoundly impacted her life. The former community college basketball coach began attending WWU after she was invited to join the university’s basketball team. Coming from a difficult family background, Joseph wrestled with feelings of pain and despair throughout her freshman year. “I had spent a good portion of high school living in my car. During college, I was on my own with really no parents, trying to make it through,” she explains. “I was really struggling with post-traumatic stress and had a difficult time finding hope in my circumstances.”

As the holidays approached, Joseph was simply focused on daily survival. After an especially challenging week, she received a letter with an encouraging note and a check for $100 from the Silent Santa Gift Fund, an anonymous fund supported by faculty, staff, and alumni, and organized by Loren Dickinson, professor emeritus of communication. “In the middle of a really hard season, it was hope,” Joseph says. “It was a reminder that I’m not alone.” Over the next three years, she began healing from her past with newfound faith and the support of her WWU community. “I’ve seen the Lord take the burdens I carried for so long,” she says. “I felt His love in the most tangible way, in the way that people cared for and loved me.”

Joseph now works full time in the WWU Student Financial Services office as she completes her degree. She is also an assistant coach for the women’s basketball team and is raising her two-year-old daughter. Recently, she began contributing to the Silent Santa Gift Fund. “Every holiday season I’m reminded of the impact that gift had on my heart,” she says. “If I give $100 and it helps one student, that’s enough.”
LEGACY SOCIETY
The Legacy Society honors individuals who include Walla Walla University in their estate plans or make a deferred gift of any size to provide for the work of the university.

Anonymous (16)
Paul and Patricia ’68 Ackerman
Alice Ames
Arlene Anderson*
Kirk and Melody Ayers
Beverly Beem
Jack ’48 and Evelyn Bergman
Darold ’66 and Barbara Bigger
Maxine Blome ’50
Bob ’60 and Georgene Bond
Marjorie Bregar
Robert ’50 and Treva*
Burgess
Daryl and Patricia Burghart
Grace Cafferky ’47*
Merle Calkins
Lois Carscallen
Nancy Carter ’61*
Challis Casebolt ’75
Sue Cason
Douglas ’70 and Carmen Clark
Bernard and Margaret ’60 Cook
Carlton ’66 and Nancy ’66* Cross
Dorothy Curameng
Don ’48* and Orletta ’68 Dealy
Jon and Kathryn Dybdahl
Jim and Vicky Edwards
Joyce Engel ’63
Kerry Ferris
Allan and Donna Fisher
Darius ’06 and Amanda ’05 Fleck
Kerry and Marian ’70 Forschler
Jim ’67 and Christie ’90 Forsyth
Brant Foster
Gary ’67 and Udel ’66 Fresh
Leslie* and Barbara Ann ’62 Fromm
Henry ’62 and Elizabeth Gibbons
Keith ’60 and Elizabeth Gibbons
Theo and Marianne Goltz
Don ’68 and Phyllis ’68* Hall
Jim ’65 and Ruth ’65 Hall
Howard* and Elizabeth Hanafin
Lewis ’42* and Ruth* Hart
Gerald and Orah ’47 Hixson
Stan ’68 and Irene ’70 Hixson
Jeanie Hixson ’72
Lloyd* and Lorena ’43 Hoffman
Archie Howatson
Harold* and Delta Huber
Wynelle Huff
Eunice Johnson
Ed ’66 and Marilyn* Karlow
Robert ’57 and Peggy ’60 Kaye
Alvin ’34* and Susan Kincaid
Clarence ’50 and
Klopfenstein
Mel and Joyce ’73 Lang
Bill ’55* and Rose Lay
Aaron Leno ’51*
Walter and
Luchfield
Sandra Love-Dahl ’62
William ’49* and
Edna Mae ’50 Loveless
Edward ’67 and Ruth ’71
MacKenzie
Dan ’57 and Betsy Matthews
Marja-Leena ’91 McC Chesney
Walt ’62 and Bonnie* Meske
David and Florence* Miller
Lloyd ’51 and Maud ’51* Moody
William ’50 and
Marjorie Moreno
Olen ’52 and Mary ’53 Nations
Ted ’72 and Nancy ’74
Nedderman
Joan Ogden
Calvin ’50* and Alyse Olson
Howard* and Monta Osborne
Effie Pampaian ’39
James ’59 and Della ’65 Park
Troy ’99 and Renee Patzer
Beulah Payne ’52
Tom and Barbara Pelett
Lawrence Perrigoue and
RuthAnn May
Jim Pinder ’96
Jen Pinder ’97
Lloyd and Fern ’55 Piper
Marvin A. Piper ’60
Zelma Netthery Wells Piper*
Hoe ’52 and Mary Pol
James M. and Sandra
Dassenko ’75 Reilly
Avonelle Remboldt ’53
Bob ’62 and Barbara
Richards
Norton* and Lois ’59
Ritchie-Ritter
John ’41* and Kathy ’40
Robertson
Nancy Ann Romine ’82
Alberta Roth ’47
Glenna Ryder
Jimmy Sadoyama ’52*
Doyle ’49* and
Lorelei ’49 Saxby
Robert ’88 and
Janelle ’87 Schmidt
Gerald ’66 and
Shirley ’65 Schoepflin
Don ’49* and
Marcella Schwisow
Gayle Smith
Jaclin Smith
Samuel and Carol ’67 Smith
Ralph ’81 and Franice Stirling
Eldon ’48* and
Barbara ’49 Stratton
Mark ’81* and
Dorita ’80 Tessier
Everett* and Shirley Tetz
Griffith ’57 and
Shirley ’60 Thomas
Alden ’55 and
Wanda ’65 Thompson
Kelly Turner ’96
Philip and Reid Wasser
Ray and Pat Watson
Dorothy Weisz ’49
Betty and Melvin West
Keith ’78 and
Joyce ’78 Wilkens
Stephen ’98 and Kelly Wilson
Virginia Wilson
Tim and Cheri Windemuth
Gerald and Vicki Winkle
Yew-Chong and Lily Wong
Helen Thompson Zolber ’49
* Deceased prior to June 30, 2018

To learn more about joining the Legacy Society, contact Dorita Tessier at (509) 527-2646 or visit legacy.wallawalla.edu/legacy-society.

ENDOWED SCHOLARSHIPS
These endowed scholarship funds provided $970,143.42 in scholarships for WWU students during 2017-18 fiscal year. Funds from the new endowed scholarships will begin to be awarded in 2018-19. Your investments today help secure the future success of Walla Walla University and generations of students to come.

“ When I hear that someone is willing to help me out with financial assistance, it lets me know that I’m not in this alone.”

-Senior, computer science and mathematics double major
Jacob Priddy

For senior computer science and electrical engineering double major Jacob Priddy, what started as a hobby soon became a career goal and a dream. In the years since he learned to program at age 10, Priddy has developed a true passion for computer science and engineering. As he grew older, he dreamed of making his childhood pastime into a lifelong career. Today, Priddy is pursuing this dream at WWU with the aid of scholarship funds from the Stephen and Margaret Tan Engineering/Computer Science Endowment Fund. The fund, which supports WWU students studying engineering and/or computer science, was established by alumni Bernard Pham ’83 and Alwin Vyhmeister ’87, both of whom now work as program managers at Microsoft.

“I would like to thank the donors for the opportunity and for enabling me to be able to go to an Adventist private university like WWU that encourages good Christian education,” Priddy says. As a full-time student who also works as a computer science laboratory administrator on campus, Priddy especially appreciates the scholarship as it alleviates some of the financial burden of attending college. “Having scholarships like these means I am able to get education and do things I want to be able to do without having to worry about money,” he says.

Priddy aspires to work in computer security, a field he became interested in after taking a computer security class at WWU. Following this career path will give him the option of defenses against malware. Thanks to the support of alumni like Pham and Vyhmeister, Priddy is prepared to become a part of the next generation of innovators in this rapidly expanding field. “Their support means a lot to students, myself included,” Priddy says. “It’s just a great help.”

The average scholarship awarded during the 2017-18 Awards Celebration was $1,114. These funds were applied to student accounts during the current school year.

Class of 2012 Scholarship
Class of 2014 Scholarship
Class of 2017 Merit Award
Verlin L. and Thelma (Kumalae) Cochran Memorial Scholarship
Communication Development Course
Computer Science Magazine
L. P. “Jim” Corbett English Scholarship
L. P. “Jim” Corbett History Scholarship
L. P. “Jim” and Jane B. Corbett Student Aid Scholarship
Lee Crain Memorial Music Scholarship
Edward F. Cross Engineering Scholarship
Nancy Cross Memorial English Faculty Development Fund
Vera Davis-Michel Memorial English Scholarship
Edward F. and Clara M. Degering Memorial Educational Scholarship
Claude and Annie Deming Memorial Fund
Loren Dickinson Communications Scholarship
Dietrich/Wilkinson Aviation Scholarship
Frances Dixon Special Education
Dr. Ralph A. Drake Scholarship
Lars and Anna Dybdahl Scholarship
Josephine Cunnington Edwards Memorial Scholarship
H. Russell and Genevieve Ensminger Memorial Scholarship
Engineering Chair Endowment
Stephen and Margaret Tan Engineering/Computer Science Endowment

Class of 1954 Scholarship
Class of 1955 Scholarship
Class of 1956 Scholarship
Class of 1957 Scholarship
Class of 1959 Student Missions Scholarship
Class of 1960 Student Missions Scholarship
Class of 1961 Student Missions Scholarship
Class of 1965 Scholarship
Class of 1971 Scholarship
Class of 1978 Scholarship
Class of 1983 Scholarship
Class of 1984 Scholarship
Class of 1989 Edwin Zaugg Memorial Scholarship
Class of 1996 Scholarship
Class of 1997 Scholarship
Class of 2003 Scholarship
Class of 2009 Student Missions Scholarship
Class of 2011 Shari Booth Memorial Scholarship

Junior Senior Business Scholarship
School of Business Fund
Clair and Myrtle Calkins Library Book Fund
D. Ordell and Margaret A. Calkins Business/ Education Faculty Development
Merle Clairon Calkins Computer Science Faculty Development
Lewis Canaday Memorial Technology Scholarship
Dr. James R. Chambers Memorial Scholarship
Janice P. Chance Memorial Nursing Fund
Dr. Muriel Chapman Nursing Scholarship
Percy W. Christian Excellence in History Scholarship
A. J. and Gladys E. Christiansen Memorial Scholarship

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VOLUNTEERS

Thank you to the alumni and friends listed here who give their time and energy to support Walla Walla University and to many others who give to WWU in countless ways.

Nieta Adams
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Laviera Swanson
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Bill Thompson
Janis Tsujimura
Barbara Vories
Shirley Walde
Verlie Ward
Richard Worley
Valorie Wren

“At Walla Walla, I’m challenged, pushed to grow, and accepted. It’s where I feel at home.”

—Senior, mechanical engineering major

ENDOWED SCHOLARSHIPS

(continued from page 23)

Lovyl and Mary Hagle Memorial Worthy Student Scholarship
Richard and Dena Hammill Memorial Scholarship
Thomas Hampson Humanities Merit Scholarship
Howard E. Hanafin Scholarship
Clyde and Mary Harris Challenge Grant
Pauline Hart Memorial Social Work Scholarship
Richard and Georgiana Hayden Christian Service Scholarship
Rodney Heisler Engineering Scholarship/Grant
Robert A. and Solange Henderson Memorial History Scholarship
Wilma E. Hepker Scholarship
Paul and Frances Heubach Memorial Theology Scholarship
Jess Holm Memorial Scholarship
Juanita Wagner Holm Memorial Nursing Scholarship
Helen and Archie Howatson Nursing Scholarship
Oland F. Hubbs Memorial Theology Scholarship
Vera Johnson Hubbs Memorial Business Scholarship
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Carl and Lucile Jones Nursing Scholarship
Peggy Henderson Kaye Nursing Scholarship
NEW! Robert Kaye, M.D., Rosario Scholarship
Helen Wineberg Kendall Women in Business Scholarship
KGTs Betty Klein Engineering Scholarship
A. H. and Mary Kooreny Memorial Scholarship
Robert H. and Thoma Kooreny Scholarship
Kretschmar Hall Maintenance
Luella Latham Kretschmar Memorial Scholarship
Laura G. Larson Memorial Nursing Scholarship
Rudolf and Anna Klimes Learn Well Physical Education Scholarship
H. Lloyd Leno Memorial Music Scholarship
Leawston/Clarkston Scholarship
Jennie M. Livingston Memorial Library Fund
Dr. C. Stanley Lloyd Jr. Scholarship
Kelly Logan Social Work Scholarship
Romulo and Mercedes Lozano Scholarship
Mary E. Marker Memorial Theology Scholarship
Roy and Lois (Dorland) Martin English Scholarship
Sukhdev Mathauchu Engineering Scholarship
Mathematics Alumni Scholarship
Dorothy and Byron Miller Mathematics Scholarship
Warren Matheson Memorial Christian Service Scholarship
Makita Theology Award
Harden M. McConnell and Alvin L. Kwiram Award
Eldean McDow Music Scholarship
Jacob G. and Lois A. Mehling Business Scholarship
Messenger/Loewen Scholarship
Jack Evan Miles Memorial Scholarship
MariAnne Jensen Moore Memorial Nursing Scholarship
Wilda Means Morash Nursing Scholarship
Joseph and Beth Murray Memorial Scholarship for Resident Assistants
Music Scholarship
Dan and Mary Morrison Science Scholarship
Llewellyn and Vivian Nixon Scholarship
Music Scholarship
Daniel A. Ochs Memorial Christian Service Scholarship
Dr. and Mrs. Howard Osborne Scholarship
Blythe Owen Music Scholarship

Received support from the PEER MENTORING PROGRAM which is funded in part by an anonymous alumni donor.

During the 2017–18 WWU Awards Celebration last April

542 students received scholarships from the endowment funds listed in this annual report.
Amara Johnson

SOPHOMORE, NURSING MAJOR

“GROWING UP, I just thought there was something wrong with me,” says freshman nursing major Amara Johnson. As a child, Johnson was placed in special education classes when she fell behind her peers in reading. “My teachers thought I just needed more practice or that I wasn’t trying hard enough,” she says.

When she began her studies at WWU, Johnson struggled to keep up with homework. Reading remained a time-consuming process. Eventually, she reached out to the Teaching and Learning Center, part of the WWU Peer Tutoring Program, which is funded in part by an anonymous donation from a WWU alumnus. The program provides free peer tutoring and disability support services. Sue Huett, WWU disability support services coordinator, arranged for Johnson to be tested for dyslexia. Scoring high in verbal intelligence but significantly lower in processing, Johnson’s results were consistent with a learning disorder called nonverbal dyslexia.

To Johnson, the diagnosis was a relief. Identifying the problem meant she could focus on finding a solution. “I was just happy to learn it is a real thing,” she said, “because that means there’s a way to deal with it—a way out.” With the help of the TLC, she obtained audio versions of her textbooks and arranged to have additional time when taking exams. Johnson also took advantage of the Peer Tutoring Program, which offers quick tutoring solutions as well as in-depth tutoring for those who need it. “It’s really well-rounded,” Johnson says. “Whether you have a disability or whether you just need proofreading on your essay or help with one math assignment, it really is something that everyone can utilize.”

With the TLC’s support, Johnson has overcome obstacles to unlock her full potential. Today, her goals include becoming a nurse practitioner and earning a chiropractic license. “My big dream is to open up a homeopathic and allopathic clinic,” she says.

“Your support is deeply appreciated and an encouraging reminder that our purpose in life is to help others and live like Jesus!”

— Sophomore, health science major