



Spring is coming!

## President's Corner: George Scranton: Questions 2020

The individual and corporate inequities, injustice, pain, suffering, and death we have observed and/or experienced this year have been staggering. I want to ask two questions: Why? and What?

When I think of individual suffering I run quickly to the Book of Job and look at his response to all his losses. He responds with the question **Why?** "Why did I not die at birth, come forth from the womb and expire?" Job **laments** his birth and his life in general for 23 verses. When personal suffering strikes us, I think we are naturally driven to ask "Why?" We too are driven to respond by some form of **lament** ('Why?' 'How long?' and 'Where are you God?'). I think both responses can be healthy, even though we seldom (if ever) get sufficient "answers" to our question of WHY?

H. M. Kallen's translation (***The Book of Job as a Greek Tragedy***) of two pivotal verses in Job (42:5-6) puts the whole book in context for me and coheres with the three friends' original intention to "**comfort**" Job. In response to God's self-revelation Job says: "Before now I had only heard about you by the hearing of the ear, but now mine eye has seen you and I recant my challenge and **am comforted** amidst dust and ashes." (My emphasis.) Job did not "repent" for any "sin" that caused his loss and suffering. God also vindicates Job to his friends. In response to Job's questioning lament, and his friends' inability to comfort him with their simplistic answers and their blame and condemnation, God "shows up." God finds Job on his ash heap of pain and loss but did not bring Job the "answers" that he had asked for in his 'Why' questions. However, God did provide the "**comfort**" that Job desperately **needed**. Sometimes, in personal suffering and questioning, with time and perseverance we too may experience an epiphany of God's presence, which does not answer our questions, but mysteriously brings us the enduring and healing **comfort** we so dearly **need**. —> p.8



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### Purpose for The Emeri-Times

*"to edify, encourage, and connect emeriti faculty; to profile emeriti achievements (past and present); to provide news and information about members and SPU; to encourage emeriti to continue to be involved in world change."*

The Emeri-Times newsletter is distributed by the Office of the Provost.

## *Provost Laura Hartley*



Provost Laura Hartley oversees undergraduate and graduate faculty and academics, working with President Dan Martin to establish and champion an academic and faith-based vision for Seattle Pacific.

Prior to stepping into this role, she was the associate provost for student academic success and dean of the College of Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences at George Fox University. In the classroom, Provost Hartley has taught linguistics, intercultural communication, and first-year experience courses. Her discipline of linguistics gives her an appreciation for “the incredible diversity that is part of the human family.” Learning from those differences, she explained, is crucial for a fuller appreciation of how God has designed us to be in relationship with him and with each other.

### *The Provost’s Tea for Emeriti*

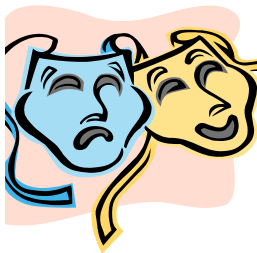
Our usual tea with the Provost would be in March but due to pandemic concerns it may be a virtual tea on Zoom. Look for a message from the Provost’s Office.

Staff in the Provost office: **Maliea Lowe-Hale** [lowehalem@spu.edu](mailto:lowehalem@spu.edu)

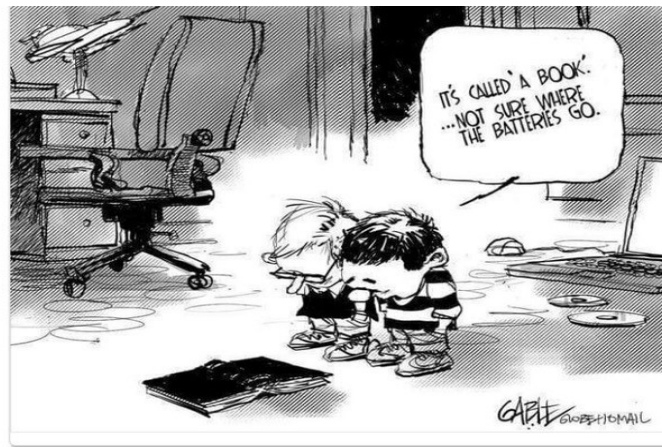
Check this website throughout the winter and spring for schedule updates: [Emeriti Faculty](#).



**Emeriti at SPU basketball game.** Right before the pandemic last February, Emeriti faculty enjoyed the women’s and men’s basketball games with refreshments and half-time game analyses by the coaches. The GNAC conference announced that it will not participate in a conference this season due to COVID-19. However, SPU and other nearby teams will schedule some games without an audience. We look forward to the time when we can have games plus fans in the audience. Check [spufalcons.com](http://spufalcons.com) for updates.



**Winter and Spring Theater Productions—none are scheduled at this time. Check the [Current Season website](#) for updates.**



Emeriti updates—even though college life as we have known it is changed for winter and spring 2021, emeriti updates are plentiful:

**Joanne Atwell-Scrivner (Rich Scrivner) Associate Professor, Department of Health and Human Performance, 2019.** My husband and I are good, getting a bit claustrophobic, but still enjoying our time together. We were sad to cancel many trips (France, Ireland, Northern Ireland and around the US) but did manage to go to our cabin in Oregon. This particular trip was eventually eliminated because of the Oregon fires. Fortunately, our cabin survived but the area is devastated and we have tried to bring various supplies into the area when we visit.

We have enjoyed the small things in life, exercise CD's, walks around the neighborhood and some isolated trails in Bellevue. Other special times such as music while cooking, working on cards and gifts and breaking into dance. We are hoping that our 2021 plans will come to fruition, especially our son's marriage, but we will see.

**Kathleen Braden Professor of Geography SBGE, 2016.** While 2020 was a difficult year, there were two bright spots for me: in February, we welcomed my first grandchild, Elliott, and this summer, I was thrilled to see the NeoWise comet. My famous internet cat, Henry (aka Henri le Chat Noir), passed away peacefully here at home and I will soon be releasing via Amazon self-publishing a little book of verse about life with all the cats in my household.

**Doug Durasoff (Dana) Professor of Political Science, 2010.** Lots of things were cancelled, especially our planned summer in Sweden, with two weeks in Russia with the Yale Russian chorus. One saving grace is living on a golf course with lots of outdoors at our doorstep – a real blessing. Another is the development of “virtual music groups”—we actually did participate in a music festival in Georgia (not the USA one!).

The other big one is church – we “go to church” more regularly now than ever: live church every Sunday at 10:30 on Zoom with “coffee hour” afterwards for chatting and we produce “virtual choir” every week. Each voice records separately at home, and they are put together by our tech genius to sound like a pretty good choir. You can go to past services at [prospectseattle.org](http://prospectseattle.org) under “[worship videos](#)” to check us out and perhaps join us. These blessings among many others, especially family, have made this tough year pretty good. Blessings to you all for 2021!

**Ruby Englund (Dave, died 2015) Associate Professor of Nursing, 2007.** I am staying healthy and happy though I am hibernating. I am reading books on my Kindle, currently reading Daughters of Yalta and have Einstein downloaded on the Kindle waiting to be read. My yardwork gives me exercise since the big cypress tree and maple tree in my yard keep me raking up the leaves and such. I do miss going to the nursing home where I went each week to sing hymns and play the piano. My weekly volunteer work at the Queen Anne Food Bank where we made sandwiches was brought to a halt as well. I am grateful that my church service is Live Streamed and my church class meets each week on Zoom. I am impressed with the resilience of the SPU students and faculty and keep in touch with the nursing faculty who have adapted teaching methods for the theory and skills practice. I pray for wisdom for Dr. Martin each day and many others as we all face the challenges of this world. May we each find joy and peace in the New Year.

**Eric Hanson (Susan) Professor of Music, 2016.** I continue to play golf twice a week, teach the Adult Christian Education class at our church and help our 5 year-old grandson navigate kindergarten via Zoom. We are looking forward to the end of the pandemic so we can get together with rest of the family and get back to the music lab.

**Dan Harris (Phyllis), Professor, Chair of Business and Economics, Director of Social and Behavioral Science, 1990.** Considering all the things going on, it is worth focusing on some blessings. Philippians 4:8 points our thoughts to positive attitudes. Our family here have been working out what the scripture says: whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. This is a list to think about. Don't let current cultural turmoil distract you from God's blessings.

**Doris Heritage (Ralph), Assistant Professor of Physical Education, 2002.** It is difficult for me to read or write or walk right now and I cannot even use the computer. The physical therapy I am doing is helping and with God's help, I am getting better. Dr. Ken Foreman always told us "you only get what you expect." I expect to get better – read, write, walk a little better and maybe jog someday. God willing. I have plenty of time to pray for SPU and Camp Casey. We still keep in touch with the athletic department especially track and XC coaches.

**Emily Hitchens (Lowell B. Park), Professor of Nursing, 2008.** We are living quietly, walking in between rain showers in the neighborhood which is close to Salt Water State Park. We socialize via zoom for Church, AAUW, book club etc. We also enjoyed the Christmas offerings such as Taproot Theatre, Behold, The AARP Chicago Nutcracker Ballet, the Salvation Army (England) and Pink Martini to name a few. Looking forward to getting the vaccine and maybe doing some in country travel! Take care. I talk to Dr. Cathy almost every Saturday and she is doing well. She now has two grandchildren, both doing virtual school. Her son, Dr. Charles Washington is now the Medical Director for 9 hospital Emergency Departments in Boise. He also has an MPH from Emory University so he is in the 'first responder' category and well prepared for the pandemic. Cathy has a new address: 4037 E. Clark Tower Lane Meridian, Idaho 83642

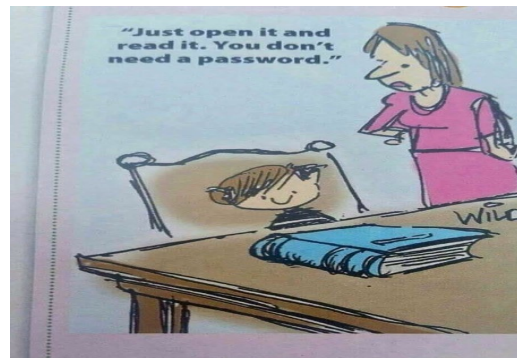
**Ramona Holmes (Ron Bekey), Professor of Music Education, 2019.** This year started with a wonderful trip with my husband, Ron, to Oaxaca, Mexico for hiking, butterfly watching and the "Day of the Radishes", which includes a display of enormous radishes that have been uniquely carved. We came back to a world with limited travel. Finally, we were grounded in Portland and so I finished my book, "Resilient Voices: Estonian Choirs and Song Festivals in World War II Displaced Person Camps". It will come out through Routledge Press in early 2021. I have another book started that uses the newspapers from my father's WWII destroyer to tell a story of the end of WWII from a young sailor's perspective.

It was great to see the fabulous "Behold" put on by the SPU music department. I miss seeing family, friends, and dear colleagues. I hope to see you all soon. Hugs to all of you!

**William Kauppila (Carol), Clinical Instructor of Business, 2017.** William and Carol Kauppila will be spending their 18<sup>th</sup> winter living in Honolulu during the months of January, February and March 2021. Bill is retired from working and teaching in Hawaii and is now a volunteer tour guide at the Arizona memorial. Carol is a volunteer at a thrift store that earns money to support under-privileged Hawaiian children.

**“Just Open it and read it.**

**You do not need a password.”**



**Mike Macdonald (Karen), Professor of European Studies and Philosophy, 2007.**

We could, of course, focus on the many horrors of 2020 but the year was filled with ups and downs as always. Lots of reading; spiritually, Mike enjoyed focusing on the Bible in Mexico for devotions in Spanish, and re-read most of it in our month stay in Mexico. Lots of films and TV. Strongly recommendable is an older movie, "The Bishop's Wife" (1948, Cary Grant and Loretta Young). One's mortality and ultimate demise is always an important theme, but in a pandemic even more so. One important book in particular is Atul Gawande's *Being Mortal*, a prominent doctor identifying, medically, the process likely before all of us. 2020 also included 3 cruises cancelled, but two get-aways in our tent trailer to Leavenworth and Coeur d'Alene, as well as the wonderful month in Puerto Vallarta. Like we said: ups and downs. To conclude with more positives: we and our kids are mostly healthy and doing well, and our faith still is the cornerstone in keeping us focused. God exists, is in ultimate control, and we continue to thank Him for things too many to mention.

**Vicki McClurg (Jim), Assistant Professor of Nursing, 1998.** What a truly memorable year this has been with COVID-19 complicating everything from work and school to health care. It's been a reminder of the importance – and blessing – of God's word, prayer, friendships, and professional healthcare workers!

While the world became increasingly preoccupied with this new, deadly virus, we were already waging our own medical battle in earnest as a result of my diagnosis of aggressive multiple myeloma. Our calendar filled with phone consults and 85 (!) separate hospital trips for doctor's appointments, x-rays, MRIs, radiation, blood tests, chemotherapy, etc.

Getting into remission and then receiving a stem cell transplant was a miracle of modern medicine (not to mention, the Lord's hand on me). On April 30<sup>th</sup> I celebrated a new "birthday" when all my old bone marrow had been killed off and I received all new stem cells to engraft into my bones. These cells had been "harvested" from my own blood several weeks earlier. However, my body doesn't take kindly to changes and Mothers' Day was celebrated in the hospital to try to get temperatures and blood chemistry back into the normal range. I was in Swedish Hospital for 12 days until they figured out that my fevers were from my body trying to reject all the new blood cells my new bone marrow was producing (engraftment syndrome), and not from an infection. I had to be tested for COVID-19 three times during that 12 day period.

I'm slowly regaining stamina and immunity. I was fortunate to be going through this at a time when everyone else had to wear a mask and social distance so that I didn't really miss any large gatherings or social events because there were none. I made it through without any illnesses or infections, so far. We have been so blessed by the prayers, gifts, food and notes from so many of our friends and family. We pray for the longest possible remission, of course, but when cancer returns, (as they say it will) God will be waiting with more of the comfort and direction He's provided so far.

**Gaile Moe (Dave Craig), Professor of Family and Consumer Sciences, 2019.** My husband, Dave, and I moved to Spokane this past summer to be closer to our daughter and her family. It's definitely odd moving to a new place during a pandemic because it's hard to establish new relationships while limiting social interaction and also because you can't really explore the cultural amenities or opportunities for service that a city might offer. We are bubbled with our daughter's family and have been able to help with our granddaughters' online schooling (grades two and five)

*Continued from page 5—Gaile Moe* as they come to our home two or three days each week. I have great admiration for the public school elementary teachers delivering their curricula through Microsoft Teams and for their dedication in supporting their students.

The Spokane area has lots of outdoor recreation opportunities and we have found it easy to hike, bike, and cross country ski. With the onset of winter, we are getting used to cold temperatures and snow. As I write this note, we have about two inches on the ground and expect more later on in the week. Our health has been very good and for that and so much more I am so grateful. I just read *No Time Like the Future* by Michael J. Fox and in it he quotes his father-in-law, Steven Pollan, "Gratitude is what makes optimism sustainable." I like that little practical and nourishing quote. I miss my colleagues at SPU and am so proud of their work in Christian higher education. May God bless us all in 2021.

### **Ray Myers (Ruth- SBE), School of Education and School of Science/Mathematics, 2005.**

We have not been hermits this year and thank the Lord we have not become ill with the COVID-19 virus either. Below is a sampling of activities we have done since February 2020: Ray teaches our Sunday school class every week by meeting together with about 18 friends from our Greenville Free Methodist Church via Zoom. We attend our local FM church every Sunday via YouTube. We have had several cookouts with our families in the country and at a nearby State Park (Carlyle Lake State Park). We worked with a son and a grandson to power wash and paint the exterior of a rental house we have here in Greenville, Illinois. We power washed the exterior of our home. We took a quick trip to Washington State in March to pick up one of our sons to live with us in Greenville, Illinois.

We celebrated our 60th wedding anniversary in two ways; first with a special dinner out in St. Louis, MO in June, then in October with a 10-day trip up to Michigan to see several relatives, do some rock collecting along the shore of Lake Huron and Lake Michigan, and visit communities in the area where Ray grew up (Traverse City, Thompsonville, Interlochen, Frankfort and other communities around the Lakes). We also camped in several State Parks along the Northern Great Lakes and found some nice specimens of Petoskey Stone along the shores. Near Ray's hometown of Thompsonville, we met a farmer after we pulled into his farm lane to turn around, and it turned out that Ray had gone to high school in nearby Copemish with him. They were in the same small class of just 19 students (which was the largest class in the high school)!!!

We had a full Thanksgiving dinner with our children and several grandchildren and great grandchildren. Between Thanksgiving and Christmas, Ruth and I made several gifts for our family members: matted and framed poetry in Colorado Aspen wood and made necklaces from polished gem stones we have collected over the years. On Christmas day we had our nearby families over for dinner and gift exchange. What a great year, even with the turmoil of COVID-19 and the contentious election. Praise God for His faithfulness and the gift of His Son Jesus to give us salvation and the gift of His Holy Spirit to give us Peace!

**Phillip L. Oakes, widower of Annalee R. Oakes, who was Dean of School of Health Sciences.** Annalee departed to heaven October 25, 2019. She worked and taught nursing most of her life. I am able to survive in my condo/apartment except the kitchen floors and sinks call me often. Same height and weight, but now at 90 better looking, Ha Ha!!

**The dog is checking GPS to find the stick that is in plain sight.**



**Christina Roseman, C. May Marston Professor of Classics, 2001.** During the pandemic, I miss dining in our lovely residential dining room and the friendly exchanges in informal meetings. I miss the ability to get Geek Squad (or my son-in-law) in to chase down computer problems. However, I am grateful for enough vision and coordination to paint, that all my kids including new great grandson are well, and – that the young man interested in interviewing me about Pytheas and Thule was able to reach me: rumors of my demise are premature as yet. Thank you, Marilyn!

**Marilyn Severson, European Studies and French, 2004.** In this “year of wonders” (using the title of Geraldine Brooks’ novel), I consider myself to be very fortunate—and with a positive mind at least 95% of the time. It is different to spend my first Christmas in a comfortable Hearthstone apartment, with speaking to staff folks bringing dinner and later eggnog as my only “live” contacts. A family Zoom call put me in touch with 12 people and three dogs in different locations. The decorations at the Hearthstone uplifted my spirit as did the Christmas Eve service from my church by Zoom. Now to approach 2021 with thankfulness for many blessings, including technology! I never thought I’d say that, but teaching French via Zoom, participating in Sunday worship through Facebook, reading e-books on my tablet are a few of the benefits. Bonne Année to my Emeriti colleagues. May we be able to meet in person in the New Year!

**Arlo D. Tiede widower of Della Tiede, Professor of Nursing, Dean, 1981.** I have never been in jail – this is as close as I want to get. Yes we have spent many days in “lock-down”. I miss seeing and talking with the other “inmates”. I do see my daughter Marliece and her husband Louie. She does my grocery shopping. I am very glad to be here near family. Her children and families are not far away, but I do not see them very often. I do get out to drive for my meds, post office and bank. Many of the stores have curb-side service. My odometer turned over to 94 years on November 1. Take care. I pray all people will come to Christ.

**Thomas Trzyna (Martha, deceased 2020) Professor of English, 2017.**

You must read Tom’s article on the Seattle Times opinion page December 5, 2020. “A resolution for 2021: Reaching for Resiliency. <https://www.seattletimes.com/author/tom-trzyna>

This is a poem from Tom’s *New Poems\** book:

*Variations on Verses from Jonah and Job*

The numinous whale, no mythical beast,  
Swallows us whole, felicitous feast.  
Fearsome in frolics, though not keen to destroy,  
It claims it transfigures sorrow to joy.  
The waves of its wake leave open, behind,  
Bright and becalmed, a path for the mind.

\*Trzyna, Tom *New Poems* Resource Publications, Eugene OR, 2020, Page 58

**Vernon Wicker (Jutta), Professor of Music, 2002.** Hello everybody and Thank you!



*Continued from page 1—President's Corner*

So, perhaps an appropriate response to the personal losses and suffering many have experienced this year is to offer a **questioning lament** to God – and then leaving it to God to “show up.”

Addressing the Coronavirus pandemic Walter Brueggemann (***God and the Pandemic: A Christian Reflection on the Coronavirus and its Aftermath***) writes: “Actually, the best answer I’ve heard in the last few weeks has not been to the question Why? It’s been to the question What? **What can we do?**” In relationship to the pandemic there are some obvious answers as to ‘what’ we can/should do. We can all choose to “love our neighbors” and be safe ourselves by following the few obvious rules given to us by science.

The Black Lives Matter Movement has brought into stark relief the continuing issues of White Privilege and the injustices that are systemically integrated into our nation’s governing, financial, social, educational, and policing systems (as well as in our “religious” institutions and churches). What can we do? We can take advantage of this potential “turning point” in our nation’s history and take positive (individual and corporate) steps toward establishing a more just nation for all our black and brown sisters and brothers. ‘What’ each of us can do will depend on the individual, but we can all LISTEN to what this movement has to say to us, and then join our voices and actions together, and with humility move forward on the road to racial justice together. We can all become better informed by reading significant books that help us move forward with appropriate information, attitudes, and actions in our movement toward mutual reciprocity and racial justice. (***Becoming Brave: Finding the Courage to Pursue Racial Justice Now***, by Brenda Salter McNeil and ***White Awake: An Honest Look at What it Means to be White***, by Daniel Hill [with a foreword by Brenda Salter McNeil] are excellent resources.)

‘What’ can I do to help in the quest for justice and equity for all? ‘What’ can I do to address the homelessness crisis in our city (and nation)? We can ask the “What?” question – we can **lament** the world we find ourselves in at the beginning of 2021 – and then we can find appropriate ways to engage positively in that world.

I look forward to 2021 with HOPE. I ‘hope’ for an end to the coronavirus pandemic. I ‘hope’ for significant positive steps in our movement toward racial justice in our nation. I ‘hope’ for some positive movements (‘solutions’) to our poverty and homelessness crises. And while I look forward with HOPE, at the same time I **lament** to God regarding the great needs we have in our world. In doing so I join with Job in asking God the three questions inherent in a lament: Why? How Long? Where are you God? And I also ‘hope’ to the comforting presence of God in an ‘shows up’. GAS



eventually experience epiphany when God





## May Their Memories be Eternal



**LILYAN SNOW**, born October 15, 1934, passed away on Nov. 29, 2020. She and Donald B. Snow were married for 67 years. She served in the School of Health Sciences for 14 years before retiring in 1998.

She attended Stanford University and San Jose State University in California. She completed her doctorate at The University of Washington and later became Professor of Nursing at SPU. This brief bio on Lilyan appeared in the spring 1998 issue of *Response* magazine upon her retirement. "Lilyan Snow came to Seattle Pacific to teach community health nursing in 1984. She has been the curriculum development expert for the School of Health Sciences, and has served as co-director of the graduate nursing program and chair of the Nursing Graduate Studies Committee. She also had been the faculty chair and participated in the Japanese/Taiwanese nursing exchange programs. In addition to her work at SPU, Snow was a volunteer for Shanti, an organization that pro-



**DAVID DICKERSON** died on Aug. 28, 2020, at the age of 87. Dickerson was vice president of academic affairs at Seattle Pacific College and also dean of the faculty from 1976 until 1990. Prior to joining SPC, Dickerson taught English and literature at his alma mater, Greenville College, where he eventually headed that department.

In 1993, Dickerson announced two new positions at SPU: dean of arts and sciences and dean of professional and graduate studies. This distinction of arts and sciences served as the roots of today's College of Arts and Sciences.

A Renaissance man, Dickerson reveled in music, literature, drama, and the visual arts. "A Shakespeare scholar, he taught courses in his academic field during his years at SPU," said Marilyn Severson, professor emerita of French. "I remember his quotes from Shakespeare's plays offered in meetings, conversations, and presentations."

Dickerson left SPU in 1992 to teach at Judson University in Illinois for seven years before he and his wife, Betty Ann, retired in Seattle. In retirement, he taught several semesters in China and Kenya.

Dickerson is survived by his wife and their children, Geoffrey Dickerson '80, David Ray '86, and Lisa Dickerson '89, along with the extended Dickerson family. *Picture from Response 2020.*

**REITA KRIENKE.** We learned in October 2020 that **Reita Krienke**, wife of the late Professor Emeritus of Physics Karl Krienke, passed away on April 7, 2020. She and Karl were married for 58 years before he died in December 2018. Karl was a professor of physics and mathematics for 44 years, retiring in 1997. They both regularly attended emeriti functions. Rita and her sister Rosalie (spouse of emeritus Dr. Robert Hughson) were from Nebraska as was newsletter editor Evette Hackman. Reita, Rosalie and Evette all had the same college major. A happy friendship developed from that common bond. We shall miss her.

Important dates for Winter and



Spring 2021

### **Marston Lecture**

Recording available on February 9, 2021

### **2nd Annual Diversity Lecture**

Tuesday February 2, 2021, 11am-12pm

“Justice and Shalom”, a Zoom panel discussion

Lecturers: Rev. Dr. Mae Eise Cannon, Rev Dr. Grace Ji-Sun Kim, Dr. Randy Woodley

Registration link and webinar details coming soon!

### **Palmer Lecture**

Wednesday, February 24, 2021, 7-8 pm, Lecturer: Dr. Esau McCauley

Zoom link will be sent via email

**Weter Lecture** postponed to Autumn 2021

**Walls Lecture** postponed to Autumn 2021

**Emeriti Tea**, Hosted by the Provost, Tuesday, March 23, 2021

Zoom link and time will be sent via email

### **Retirement Dinner**

Thursday, May 6, 2021

Further details coming

### **Ivy Cutting**

Further details coming

### **Graduate Commencement**

Saturday, June 12, 4:00 pm

Further details coming

### **Undergraduate Commencement**

Sunday, June 13, 7:00 pm