



Tiffany and Josh Boyd



Amy and Jason Jeffreys

2000s

Joel Thickins (00) completed an M.B.A. at Melbourne Business School in Australia.

Becky Downard (00) was ordained as a Nazarene minister at the District Assembly in Pasadena, Calif.

Bret Martin (01) is a youth pastor in Burbank, Calif., and is attending seminary.

Jeri Gerjits (03) teaches first grade in Modesto, Calif.

Shawn Benson (03), Brandon Lincicum (03), and Seth Schmidt (03) are missionaries with Youth with a Mission in Pichilemu, Chile.

Beth Downard (03) is a nurse in the Pediatric Intensive Care Unit at Children's Hospital in Orange County.

Rebecca (Fosback) (04) Mills graduated with a degree in home economics and now lives with her two daughters in Olathe, Kan.

Ashlee Harlow (04) was admitted to the University of Texas (Austin) for graduate studies in kinesiology.

Heather Richardson (04) was hired as a development officer at PLNU.

Marriages

Raymond Fierro (99) and Yvette Vejar were married Jan. 13, 2002.

Tom Teschner and **Kara Lunstad (00)** were married July 20, 2002. Tom is finishing a degree at the University of San Diego and Kara is a middle school counselor.

Jason Jeffreys and **Amy Kerr (01)** were married Sept. 21, 2002. He is a corporate trainer and she works as a planning analyst for The Boeing Company.

Josh Boyd and **Tiffany Nelson (99)** were married June 20, 2003. Josh is working on a doctorate in clinical psychology and Tiffany is in sales.

Phil Wood (02) and **Jennifer Watkins (02)** were married June 20, 2003. He is a youth pastor and she teaches middle school.

Phil White and **Nicole Stephens (01)** were married July 4, 2003.

David DiFalco and **Christine Butler (94)** were married Jan. 24, 2004. They live in Germany where they work for the Church of the Nazarene Eurasia Regional Office.

Daniel Langford and **Sara Copher (95)** were married Feb. 14, 2004. Daniel is an account executive for a cell phone firm and Sara is a senior marketing manager for an auto finance company.

Mitchell Simkovsky and **Amy Cullifer (98)** were married Feb. 14, 2004. They live in El Cajon, Calif.

R.J. Ray Jr. and **Rachel Livingston (02)** were married Feb. 14, 2004, and now live in San Jose, Calif.

Jeremy Smith and **Heather Dowd (01)** were married April 3, 2004, and live in Sacramento, Calif.

Births

Nicholas Luke: born to Jay and **Amelia (Stronach) (97) Pfeifer** on Feb. 4, 2003.

Andrew Joseph: adopted by **Sean (96) and Hollyn (Sanders) (98) Martin** on Feb. 14, 2003.



Sheryl Smeed

Oh, These Young People Today

When I was in high school and college, sometimes I'd hear people say, "Oh, these young people today!" It was usually after we had done something silly and they were saying it while shaking their heads.

In talking with some of our students about their jobs this summer and their long-term goals, I find myself saying, "Oh, these young people today!" But I'm saying it with respect and awe as I look at their priorities, interests and values.

Here's a sample of the jobs our students have been holding this summer: fire fighter in Nevada, children and youth pastor, high adventure guide at Hume Lake Christian Camps, nanny for two families (40-60 hour weeks) and assistant at the San Diego Mediation Center.

There seems to be a strong emphasis on serving others and gaining new experiences while earning money through a summer job.

Sixty-five of our students have gone on LoveWorks ministry trips this summer, serving in countries from Tanzania to Poland. These students raised the money for their trips. They are helping with facility construction, children and youth programs and projects related to poverty and unemployment.

I admire the choices and initiative of all these students. As an alumna of this university, it makes me proud that these are current students who represent Point Loma Nazarene University.

The next issue of the Viewpoint will include a full schedule of events for Homecoming Weekend, Nov. 18-20, and profiles of the 2004 Alumnae of Point Loma award recipients and Distinguished Achievement Award recipients



Rachel and R.J. Ray



Phil and Nicole White



Jennifer and Phil Wood

Jillian Grace: born to Lance and **Melissa (Lively) (95) Reichert** on May 12, 2003.

Wesley Gabriel: born to **Craig (97) and Jeri (Steele) (97) Aring** on June 27, 2003.

Everett Isaac Weatherby: born to **Kenneth (00) and Erin (Weatherby) (97) Longson** on July 17, 2003.

Margaret Grace: born to **Steven (90) and Carrie Wells** on Aug. 7, 2003.

Luke Christopher and Logan Mark: born to **Mark (96) and Brandi (Landsem) (96) Johnston** on Sept. 4, 2003. Sibling: Haley Joy, 2.

Garon Jaymes: born to **Richard (87) and Christa Smith** on Oct. 27, 2003. Sibling: Brantley.

Kristofer Mark Neil: born to Neil and **Brenda (Silbaugh) (84) Merzoian** on Nov. 24, 2003. Siblings: Sherianne, Jordan, and Taylor.

Matea Nicole: born to Christopher and **Heather (Fox) (99) Bendinelli** on Nov. 29, 2003.

Donovan Carl: born to C.J. and **Keriann (Strahm) (01) Johnston** on Dec. 3, 2003.

Luke Jackson: born to Brian and **Jerasha (Harness) (98) Wickersham** on Jan. 1, 2004.

Jeremiah Matthew: born to Aaron and **Kandi (Crees) (90) Trickett** on Jan. 13, 2004. Siblings: Rachel, 5; Joshua, 3; and Joel, 2.

Jacob Rawlings: born to **David (99)**

and Lori (Bowers) (98) Georgia on Jan. 22, 2004.

Luke: born to Dave and **Ayme (Vander Spek) (99) Pankratz** on Jan. 29, 2004.

Grace Elizabeth: born to Jerry and **Helen (Huddleston) (90) Hazel** on Feb. 11, 2004. Sibling: Hannah, 4.

Anabela Beatriz: born to Miguel and **Sandra (Cuevas) (93) Sutter** on March 15, 2004. Sibling: Catalina Marcela, 3.

Ella Kate: born to Matthew and **Sharlene (King) (94) Nordquist** on March 29, 2004. Sibling: Erik Matthew, 2.

Brian Andrew: born to **Doug (93) and Jennifer (Muller) (93) Wilkinson** on April 17, 2004. Sibling: Adam, 2.

Cameron Michael: born to **Brian (94) and Tami (Monck) (89) Voshell** on April 20, 2004.

Aiden Bryan, Linsey Faith, and Emily Hope: born to Bryan and **Amy (Freeman) (96) Wolfe** on April 23, 2004.

Elsie Ruby: adopted by **Elma Castro (86)**.

In Memoriam

Frank Leroy Dabney (48) passed away March 14 in Yuba City, Calif. He was a Nazarene pastor throughout the western United States for 47 years. He is survived by his wife of 61 years, Fauneil; their three children: **Joan Farmer (62)**, Cynthia Briscoe and **Timothy Dabney (81)** and their foster daughter, **Windy Lovett (80)**.

One Child at a Time

ALUMNA FINDS INNER-CITY TEACHING "REALLY REWARDING"

By Kimberley Berry Jones

Not far from the majestic ocean view of PLNU, where **Molly (Anderson) Petersen** studied to become a teacher, is a school where 100 percent of the students qualify for the free breakfast and lunch program.

Not far in miles—but a world away. It's a world Petersen (00) chose for teaching. She just finished her fourth year at Wilson Middle School in inner-city San Diego.

"Every day I wonder if this is really what I am supposed to be doing. Teaching is a lot harder than I thought it would be, but it is also really, rewarding," says Petersen, who teaches reading and social studies to sixth graders. "I keep doing it because there are a few kids in every class that make it worth it—kids that I get to influence in a positive way. And I tell them this every day," she continues.



Molly Petersen with her students at Wilson Middle School.

Petersen's students are from across the map, both in reading level and in country of origin. Primarily Spanish speakers, kids at Wilson Middle School also come from Cambodia, Somalia, China, Vietnam and other countries. They are at all levels of reading and language acquisition — a juggling act for Petersen to meet all their needs.

That world, far from PLNU, also is one where violence and poverty are the norm. Hardships at home have a significant impact on the ability to learn at school. A student was behaving particularly badly in Petersen's classroom one day. She found out the child had watched as his mother was shot and killed the night before, and then helped his five siblings escape danger.

"I'm responsible to teach them the curriculum, but I also try to teach them skills to make life better for themselves," Petersen said. "The best thing about teaching middle school is the kids are grown up enough that you can really connect with them at a level that can influence their lives."

And she's doing that one child at a time.

Kimberley Kimberley Berry Jones (90) is a freelance writer in San Diego.