Springtime is Here

Hopefully the Groundhog was correct in his prediction for this spring season. It is with that in mind that I send you “warm” greetings from Emmanuel College.

We have entered a new season at Emmanuel – a new year, new semester, and new beginning. Roberson Hall, the new residence hall, is coming along according to schedule, and the Library Plaza is almost complete. Evidence of alumni support is blooming all over campus!

And evidence of how our alumni are changing the world for the better is blossoming across the globe. Read in this issue how a medical missionary, Dr. Stephanie Phillips, and basketball star, Micah Hayes, are using their gifts and talents to enhance the future.

Don’t forget about alumni dinners coming your way. What a great time of fun and fellowship with those who love Emmanuel College!

“Look, the winter is past, … The flowers are springing up, the season of singing birds has come.” (Song of Solomon 2:11-12, NLT)

Blessings!

Michael S. Stewart, President
For Alumni and Friends of Emmanuel College

Mission Statement
Emmanuel College is a Christ-centered, liberal arts institution which strives to prepare students to become Christlike disciples who integrate faith, learning, and living for effective careers, scholarship, and service.

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Emmanuel wants to know what you’ve been doing. Mail your AlumNote with picture to: AlumNotes, Emmanuel College Alumni Relations, P.O. Box 129, Franklin Springs, GA 30639, or send your AlumNote with picture online via the alumni website: www.ec.edu/alumni, or through email: alumni@ec.edu. Pictures must be 300 dpi and saved as a JPEG format. Pictures that are mailed will not be returned. Because of strict deadlines, your AlumNote may not be printed until a later issue.

Online: www.ec.edu/alumni
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P.O. Box 129
Franklin Springs, GA 30639
Mark your calendars now for this exciting weekend at Emmanuel College!

Roberson Hall

NEW RESIDENCE HALL

- Slated to open August 2011
- Occupancy: 90 single; max 130
- Structure is two 3-story towers – one for male students and one for female students – and a gathering hall in the middle.
- Towers will include suite-style dorm rooms. Each suite will have four bedrooms and a kitchen/living area. Each bedroom will have a separate bathroom and large closet. Each tower will have a room of washers and dryers.
- Gathering area will include the following: commons area, lounge, exercise room, study room, business center/computer lab, coffee bar.

HOMECOMING 2011
OCTOBER 7-8, 2011
Celebrating 92 Years of Emmanuel College
REUNIONS:
Golden Graduates
Shaw Leslie Library

READING PLAZA

- Major beautification/landscaping project
- 8’ water feature (fountain)
- Patio tables with chairs
- Wireless Internet
- New lights around library

HOMECOMING 2011
OCTOBER 7-8, 2011
Celebrating 92 Years of Emmanuel College

“MEDICINE IS JUST ONE TOOL I HAVE.... MY MAIN GOAL IS TO SHARE THE LOVE OF JESUS.”

SCALPELS AND SCRIPTURE:

Q&A with aspiring medical missionary Stephanie Asbury Phillips

—by Meredith Legg-Grady

Dr. Stephanie (Asbury) Phillips has been just a little bit busy since graduating from Emmanuel College in 2006. Between earning her Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine degree from Virginia Tech, traveling to Honduras, El Salvador, Peru, and Haiti, and becoming a medical mission coordinator for Spirit-Led Expeditions, Inc., she’s truly become a “Spirit-led world changer,” even in spite of sleep deprivation. Ignoring the allure of money and prestige for which so many doctors strive, Dr. Phillips tries to keep her focus on God and His most vulnerable people groups. Quad magazine caught up with her to ask a few questions about the journey so far.

Q: What inspired you to go to medical school? Did you always want to be a doctor, or was it a surprising turn of events?

A: I knew I wanted to be a doctor at the age of fifteen, when I was on my first mission trip to the Dream Center in Los Angeles, California. We toured a part of the center that was being turned into a clinic for the poor. I was blown away. I realized then that medicine is such an effective way to meet needs and build relationships with people, especially the underserved populations in the world.
Q: What were your biggest fears as you started the program at the Virginia College of Osteopathic Medicine (VCOM) at Virginia Tech?
A: I did not want to lose touch with the Emmanuel College community. The transition was hard because I didn’t know anyone. However, I got involved in a women’s Bible study, and also became chapter president of the Christian Medical and Dental Association at VCOM.

Q: What were some of the most difficult points during medical school? What were the most rewarding?
A: The first two years were most difficult. The workload was overwhelming at times. Studying for 8-12 hours a day is something you really can’t anticipate until you do it. Every morning before a big test (and there were tons of big tests), I would listen to a recording that a dear friend brought back from the mission field of African orphans singing praise songs. The songs reminded me of why I was walking through those doors every day. God had gotten me into med school, so there was no doubt he would carry me through. My family was also really supportive. I could not have done it without them!

The last two years of clinical experience were so rewarding because I actually got to go out into the field and apply medicine. VCOM is focused on international medicine and primary care, so in my third year I got to spend an entire month in El Salvador on a rural medicine rotation. It was amazing. We hiked, with medicine in our backpacks, into rural mountain villages with local community health workers. Also, I went with International Christian Resource on short-term missions to Honduras and Peru.

Dr. Joe Cacioppo, the leader of the organization, became a mentor to me. Going to the Andes for the first time with Dr. Joe was definitely the best part of med school!

Q: What are your eventual career goals?
A: I hope to be a full-time international medical missionary. But because of considerable student loans, I may have to work a couple of years past residency to pay off debt. Medicine is just one tool I have to build long-term relationships with people, but my main goal is to share the love of Jesus. A lot of people cannot grasp why I would want to go into developing countries and practice medicine when there is such a need here…but people who say that simply do not understand the vast and indescribable need of people who live beyond the United States…. not only a need for medical care but a need to hear the gospel of Jesus Christ.

Q: What advice would you give to younger students who feel led to pursue a job in medicine?
A: It is a long road, so make sure you do it for the right reasons. Taking care of people should be your main goal, not making money or obtaining a position of power with the “doctor” title. Through everything, keep your sense of humor and love for people. For those of you who feel called to be medical missionaries, a study found that only 1% of doctors who originally set out to become full-time medical missionaries actually did. I imagine part of the reason for this is the appeal of high salaries. But it’s important, no matter your profession, to stay focused on God’s plans. Surround yourself with people who understand your call and can keep you encouraged and centered on what truly matters.

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**ALUMNI PROFILE**

**DR. STEPHANIE ASBURY PHILLIPS** is the daughter of Jack and Mary Asbury. She has begun her medical residency at AnMed Health in Anderson, South Carolina, where she is specializing in family medicine with a global health track. She lives in South Carolina with her husband, Jonathan.
Emmanuel has long been home to a variety of quality collegiate athletic programs over the years, including men’s and women’s basketball, tennis, soccer, baseball, and softball. This fall, Emmanuel College is excited to announce that it will add men’s and women’s Track and Field, Cross Country, Men’s Golf, and Women’s Volleyball to the tradition of quality athletics.

Mindy Crawford has been named as the first Women’s Volleyball Coach for Emmanuel’s inaugural season and beyond. According to Emmanuel’s website, Crawford previously served as assistant coach of both women’s and men’s volleyball programs at Warner University in Lake Wales, Florida. She played volleyball at Lincoln Christian University, earning numerous honors on the volleyball court. She was a two-time National Libero of the year, received All-American and All-Regional Honors, and was a starter on the 2003 National Championship Team.

Crawford’s experience will provide the team with the leadership needed to get the program off to a quick start in recruiting and team building. “I’m excited about the opportunity to coach at Emmanuel,” said Crawford, “I am looking for just the right players that understand what Emmanuel is all about.” In the short months that she has been the volleyball coach at Emmanuel, Crawford has wasted little time in recruiting quality players that will make an immediate impact on the court.

Crawford signed her first player in early December. Sophia Windover will don the number one on her jersey, as she is the first player to sign with Emmanuel. Sophia found great success playing at several schools growing up, most recently at Kennesaw Mountain High School, where she was voted first team all-area, first team All-State and participated in the Georgia High School All Star Volleyball Game. “I made my decision to accept the offer to attend Emmanuel College for these reasons.” Sophia said. “I love the small college atmosphere, the structure of a Christian education, and the opportunity to help be a part of building something great.” Since the signing of Sophia Windover, Coach Crawford has been able to sign at least five new players to the team, all with great talent and experience on the court.
Former Basketball Captain Gives Back to the Lions

-Tedrick Hudson

W hen you think about the recent success of the Emmanuel College men’s basketball program, you can’t help but think about the team captain, Micah Hayes. Growing up in Decatur, Ga., Hayes has always had to be tough. That proved to translate onto the court into a passionate motivator, fearless defender, and a respected player across the conference. Hayes’ collegiate career at Emmanuel College began in the 2005-2006 season as a role player for Coach Andy Sharpe. His role increased after Sharpe left the program, and the reins of the EC Lions were passed to current head coach, TJ Rosene. Being one of three returners from the 2007 team, Micah was given the honor of being team captain and the responsibility of molding a young squad into championship contenders. He would not fail, leading a 7th-seeded team to the conference finals against NAIA powerhouse Lee University. That year Emmanuel College did something that it had never done before in school history; they made it to the NAIA National Tournament in Kansas City, Missouri. While the team was in Kansas City, he was awarded a Champions of Character scholarship by the NAIA.

The following year, Hayes’ senior campaign, was one of great optimism. The previous year was filled with success, and only one player was lost to graduation. The Lions continued to ride their wave of momentum at the start of the 2008-2009 season by going 9-2 before the break. The Lions would end the regular season with a 20-9 record and a number 2 seed in NCCAA National Tournament. In the National tournament, the Lions steamrolled their way to a NCCAA National Championship behind the leadership of Micah Hayes, who received the award of Tournament MVP to cap off his senior year. Hayes left his mark at Emmanuel College as the captain of the first EC team in any sport to make it to the NAIA National Tournament, the first EC team in any sport to earn a National Championship, and the Men’s Basketball team with the best record in school history. Rounding out his senior year, Micah was awarded the Student-Athlete of the Year by the faculty at Emmanuel College.

Today, Hayes owns a gym in Decatur, Ga., called The Sweatbox, where he is a licensed personal trainer. The Sweatbox is a fitness boutique offering small group and one-on-one personal training along with elite level athletic training. In conjunction to their fitness regimen they provide all of their clients with a diet and supplement plan as well as a workout plan to help them create a fit lifestyle outside of the gym. All of the sessions are by appointment only so that there are no more than four clients per session this helps to ensure that clients are receiving the personal attention they deserve. His passion for sports and training has given him a career in helping his community get physically fit. This preseason, Micah gave back to the EC Men’s Basketball family by spending a couple of days whipping the Lions into shape. His workout with the Men’s team consisted of tire rolls, parachute runs, sled pushes, medicine ball tosses, abdominal circuits, and core work circuits. He is a huge fan of the program and wishes the best for this year’s teams. For more information on The Sweatbox you can contact Micah Hayes via e-mail @ mhayes@thesweatbox.net, mail @ 2752 East Ponce De Leon Unit H, Decatur, GA, 30030 or visit his website @ thesweatbox.net/contact.
1970s

CARL PARNELL (’72) – Dr. Carl Sterling Parnell (’72), a Christian educator, author, and columnist, has completed his second book, which is in an Adobe pdf, eBook format. It is entitled A Brewing Pot of Christian Persecution: America’s Postmodern Anti-Christian Crusade. It was written to prove that Christian persecution does exist in America and that it will worsen in the years to come unless Christians return to their first love, the Lord Jesus Christ. It can be purchased for $5.00 at http://ebooks.faithwriters.com/ebook-details.php?id=565. It is listed under the category of “End Times.” PayPal and credit cards are accepted. His articles may also be read at http://www.faithwriters.com/memberprofile.php?id=50188.

With Child and Cancer:

When I was 6 weeks pregnant with our fourth child, I received shocking news that no mother is ever prepared to hear: “It’s your life or the baby’s life.” I was 38 years old, pregnant, and had stage 3 colorectal cancer. The initial prognosis given to us was very poor. Several doctors explained to us that my pregnancy would make the cancer more aggressive. Delaying treatment was not an option—if I wanted to survive. On the other hand, the weakened immune system caused by pregnancy would make it impossible for me or the baby to survive treatment. The only hope offered to me at that time was to abort and fight for my life.

Believing that all life is created by God for a purpose, abortion was not an option. We knew that God had created this baby, we knew that God knew I had cancer before I got pregnant, we knew that God had the power to save me as well as the baby, and we understood that God was in control. “I know the plans I have for you,” declares the Lord. (Jer. 29:11)

God called me to surrender my will to Him even unto death. As I became obedient to Him, He began to birth a new hope in me. God put a doctor in our path who had seen a pregnant woman with breast cancer undergo chemotherapy with very positive results. He was willing to treat me, but he made no promises. At 14 weeks pregnant, I began the first of 11 chemotherapy treatments to be administered during my pregnancy. I handled the chemo better than I ever expected. It was difficult, but bearable. On August 28, 2010, I gave birth to a perfectly healthy baby boy named Joshua. It had to be Joshua because his name means “God Saves.” How true! One year, 13 chemotherapy treatments, and 31 radiation treatments later, I am cancer free and doing well.

This last year has forever changed my life for the good. I have grown closer to God, learning to trust in His will no matter how frightening it may seem. God has given me a new appreciation for the many blessings that I used to take for granted. I have learned to live without fear, knowing that God is in control. I have learned to find joy and purpose in each day. Every day that I wake up is a good day!

Today, I am getting back to the task of living. As a home schooling mom to Jonathan 11, Luke 6, Emma 4, and Joshua, I have lessons to teach, gardens to plant, bread to bake, dishes to wash, diapers to change, the never ending “Mom, I’m hungry,” and a mountain of laundry waiting for me. I love my life! I will never take my blessings for granted again! Every day I thank God for letting me be His vessel, Bobby’s wife, and my children’s mother.

In obedience to God’s calling, we are available to share our story with anyone or organization.

“I will not die but live, and will proclaim what the Lord has done” (Psalms 118:17). The Bible tells us that we were created to bring glory to God. It is my honor and my privilege to have suffered that others may see the power of our God.

Amy (’96) and her husband, Bobby, live in Carnesville, Georgia, with their four happy, healthy children. They can be reached at hanley5@windstream.net.
LORRAINE WELLS MELTON  
(12/24/1927 – 11/30/2010)

Mrs. Lorraine Wells Melton passed away on November 30, 2010. A wonderful wife, mother, grandmother, and friend, Mrs. Melton will be remembered for her kindness and genuine love for people. Mrs. Melton was the wife for former president, Dr. C. Y. Melton, but was never in his shadow. Not only was she a graduate of Emmanuel College ('52), but she also served at the college for many years. Mrs. Melton was well-known on campus and in the Franklin Springs community. She was devoted to her family and welcomed others from the community into her home, especially those who were friends with her son as they grew up. Mrs. Melton is survived by her husband, Dr. C. Y. Melton ('47); sister, Peggy; son, Jim ('75), and daughter-in-law, Martha ('76); and a host of other family members and friends. A memorial service was held for Mrs. Melton in the Franklin Springs Pentecostal Holiness Church.

SANDY FITZGERALD HARPER

Sandy Fitzgerald Harper ('79) of Marietta, Georgia, passed away December 8, 2010. Mrs. Harper is survived by one son, Gavin Harper, and his father, Daryl Harper; her parents, Cole and Dorothy Fitzgerald; one sister, Karen Fitzgerald Jones ('74) and her husband, Bill ('76); one brother Barry C. Fitzgerald and his wife, Shelly; one niece, Mackenzie, and one nephew, Blake; and her fiancé, John Trudeau. The family would love to hear from Sandy’s Emmanuel friends. You may contact her parents at 8235 S. Lee Hwy., Buchanan, Virginia 24066, or her sister at 1032 Kingston Lane, Colbert, GA 30628. Mrs. Harper was employed by Ikon Office Solutions in Atlanta. She is deeply missed by her family, her many friends, and colleagues. A scholarship is being established in her name for future business students at Emmanuel. Donations may be sent to Emmanuel College, PO Box 129, Franklin Springs, GA 30639, and earmarked for the Sandy Fitzgerald Harper Scholarship Fund.

ELIZABETH ANNE WEAVER  
(02/04/1956 – 09/14/2010)

Elizabeth Anne Weaver ('77) of Selma, North Carolina passed away September 14, 2010 after a courageous battle with cancer. Libby was born in Kenly, North Carolina to the late Clinton “Bill” Weaver and Gladys Barnes Weaver. While at Emmanuel, she made many friends and won Miss Lion in 1976 because of her strong team spirit. Libby loved people and was full of compassion as evidenced by her ministry of mailing cards and healing literature, even in the midst of her own illness. Libby is survived by six sisters and three brothers, several of whom are also Emmanuel alumni, as well as many nieces and nephews. A celebration of her life was held on September 17, 2010. If you would like more information about Libby, you may contact her sisters, Audrey Weaver ('67) at aweaver@mylinc.com or Mary Winslow ('72) at historymom11@aol.com. A memory page has been created for Libby on Facebook.

Jessica Stokely Mole was selected Teacher of the Year at Monte Sano Elementary in Augusta, Georgia, where she is a first grade teacher and has been teaching for the last six years. She completed her Master of Education from Southern Wesleyan University last summer. Her parents, Rev. Ricky ('79) and Jeanette Stokely, took her to New York City to celebrate with her attaining her Master’s degree. They went sightseeing, took in a Broadway show, took a boat ride around the city, and made many unforgettable memories. Jessica and her husband, Joe, live in North Augusta, South Carolina. They attend Steven Creek Community Church.

Caitlin (Reese) and Levi Barnhard ('10) – A lot has happened since graduation in May. On December 11, Levi and I were married at Ft. Benning, Georgia! We are very happy to share this wonderful time in our lives with our Emmanuel family and friends. We are still living in Royston, so we will be visiting EC when possible. Levi will continue playing intramurals too so...GO HAWKS! Thank you all for your continued thoughts and prayers.
The athletic program at Emmanuel College is excited to announce that it will be hosting its first-ever marathon golf tournament this May to raise money for athletics. With all of the plans for growth and expansion, this is going to be a great weekend of celebration for Emmanuel and the athletic program.

The marathon-style tournament differs from a regular golf tournament in that it is similar to a walk-a-thon or jog-a-thon. Before the tournament, pledges are gathered for each golfer. Participants are encouraged to play 100 holes of golf, or as many as possible, at their own pace while enjoying the fellowship of friends and the benefits that will be provided. At the end, each golfer collects his/her money according to how many holes he/she was able to play. All of the proceeds go toward supporting the athletic program.

*Golfers who gather $2000 in pledges/donations will be invited to bring their family and stay at the Hilton Head Marriott Resort & Spa both Friday and Saturday nights at no cost.*

If you would like to participate in any way, including sponsoring a player or making a donation, or would like more information, please contact the Director of Athletic Fundraising, Erin Rosene, at erosene@ec.edu.