

# Kaleidoscopes

## Expanding Patterns of Our Faith

Ohio Wesleyan University Baccalaureate Service  
May 10, 2019 7:00 p.m.  
Gray Chapel

The Class of 2019  
Baccalaureate Service  
Gray Chapel  
Ohio Wesleyan University  
Delaware, Ohio  
May 10, 2019  
7:00 p.m.

*“Kaleidoscopes: Expanding Patterns of Our Faith”*

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*“There's a time for everyone, if they only learn,  
that the twisting kaleidoscope moves us all in turn.”*

**BACCALAUREATE SERVICE**  
**Ohio Wesleyan University**  
**The Class of 2019**

7:00 p.m.  
Friday, May 10, 2019

Gray Chapel  
Ohio Wesleyan University

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**Processional of Our National Flags**

*Prelude - Psalm 19, by Benedetto Marcello*

Luke Tegtmeier  
*Organist*

**University Greetings**

The Reverend Dr. Rock Jones  
*University President*

**Caroline Hamlin, Class President**

Caroline Hamlin, '19  
*Class President*  
with Jack Shadoan, '19 and Megan Price, '19

**Religious Life Awards**

The Reverend Jon Powers  
*University Chaplain*

**Student Leader Greeting**

Mollie Marshall, '19  
Abigail Ralph, '19  
Noah Spicer, '19  
*Baccalaureate 2019 Co-Chairs*

**Hymn "God's Kaleidoscope and Ours"**

*Text: Chaplain Jon Powers, dedicated to the class of 2019*

*Tune: United Methodist Hymnal # 408, "The Gift of Hope"*

*Traditional English melody, adapted by Hal Hopson 1972*

*(The organist will play the hymn completely through one time, as we stand to sing)*

1. The twists and turns of these four years  
Together here to live and learn  
Now come to this, our night to share  
What we've become in common care.
2. From many nations, faiths, and fears,  
From many cultures, needs, and creeds,  
From diverse homes and families  
We've come to claim this patterned path:
3. That we have grown in depth and breadth,  
That we have grasped life's mysteries  
That we have learned to lead and serve,  
And always care for those in need.
4. Yet we have also grown to grasp  
The value of our different ways:  
The ways we pray and praise and plead,  
The ways we serve and learn and lead.
5. So praise be You, our Common Light!  
You shine divine through each one here,  
And cast Your patterned prism'd art  
Uniquely on each mind and heart.

**Our Holy Qu'ran**

Ahmed Hamed, '20

**Our Roman Catholic Reflection on a Jewish,  
Christian, and Muslim Holy Text, *The Book of Wisdom***

Serena George, '19

**Our African Dance**

Eva Churu, '19, Raissa Kanku, '19,  
Nana Ama Osei, '21, Joy Buraima, '22

**Our Buddhist Prayer**

Cindy Huynh, '19

**Our Protestant Reflection**

Maddie Lancaster, '19

**Our Gospelyres**

*"Lift Every Voice and Sing"*

Ares Harper, '19,  
Aliyah Owens, '21, TaTyana Payne, '21,  
Brandon Solomon, '20

**The Senior Class Comes Forward**

Luke Tegtmeier  
*Organist*

*At this time, we invite all members of the graduating class to the  
stage for candle lighting and singing of the alma mater.*

*"Alma Mater"*

1. Ohio Wesleyan, Sweetly and strong  
Rises our hymn of praise for thee alone;  
Heaven re-echoes it, loud let it ring,  
Ohio Wesleyan! Loyal hearts sing.
2. Ohio Wesleyan! Proud is thy crown.  
Rarest of laurels e'er Vict'ry has known;  
Noblest achievements have hallowed thy name,  
Ohio Wesleyan! Deathless thy fame.

**The Benedictory Blessing**

Noah Spicer, '19  
The Reverend Dr. Robert K. Sweet Jr.

**Postlude**

*Suite Gothique: Menuet*  
*Leon Boellmann*

Luke Tegtmeier  
*Organist*

## THE BACCALAUREATE COMMITTEE 2019

The word *liturgy* means “the work of the people.” Tonight’s liturgy illustrates that original meaning. This service is a prayerful, earnest, and semester-long effort of the Class of 2019. Their goal has been to bring together and celebrate the kaleidoscopic patterns through which the Holy has touched their lives, informed their faith, and molded their character over the past four years at Ohio Wesleyan University. Like any kaleidoscope, these four years together have been at the same time patterned and chaotic, personal and corporate, sorrowful and exultant. This celebration tonight is not intended to be comprehensive or complete, but rather allusive and illustrative. All the sights and sounds of this evening are a collage of praise to our God of every faith and every face, a tapestry of thanksgiving to acknowledge that “we have not come this far by our own power.”

**Baccalaureate Committee:** *Senior Co-chairs:* Mollie Marshall, Abigail Ralph, Noah Spicer; *Senior Members:* Delanie Baker, Mona Lynch, Sydney Quinn, Ben Whitbourn

**Ex-Officio:** Ahmed Hamed, Bridget Roddy, Class of 2020; Leia Ashikawa, Humza Nasir, Maia Virgei, Class of 2021; Anna Fender, Ellie Shoemaker, Class of 2022; Associate Chaplains Mary Jeffries and Chad Johns, ‘02, Assistant to the Chaplain Sharon Hayes, ‘17, and University Chaplain Jon Powers.

**Honoring Our National Flags**

*The flags placed at the front of Gray Chapel this evening represent all the nations of our Class of 2019. These flags represent:*

**Cape Verde**

**China**

**Colombia**

**Democratic Republic of Congo**

**Greece**

**India**

**Japan**

**Pakistan**

**United Kingdom**

**The United States of America**

**Rwanda**

**Vietnam**

## **Gray Chapel and the Rexford Keller Memorial Organ**

Gray Chapel has long been Ohio Wesleyan's major chapel, concert hall, lecture hall, and place of gathering for the campus community. For over a century, some of the world's leading performers and preachers, speakers and scholars, have held forth in this sacred space. Among the more recent are Congressman John Lewis, Gloria Steinem, and Immaculée Ilibagiza. The chapel is named in honor of Brother David F. Gray, President of the Board of Trustees in the 1880s. In 1888, Acting President and Professor McCabe made a plea for a chapel to be built somewhere between University and Monnett Halls. Brother David F. Gray pledged \$10,000 toward such a building. When University Hall was built, the construction of the chapel was named in Brother Gray's honor.

The glorious Rexford Keller Memorial Organ, installed in 1980, was designed for Gray Chapel and was constructed by Johannas Klais Orgelbau of Bonn, Germany, one of the world's most prestigious organ builders. This splendid instrument is one of only eight built for America by the Klais firm. (The organ at Asbury United Methodist Church in Delaware, Ohio, is the most recent.) It has mechanical linkage to the valves that admit air to pipes. This permits the musician infinite control over the shadings of the music. The organ, in a case of European white oak, contains 4,644 pipes arranged in 84 ranks and ranging from more than 20 feet in length to one-quarter of an inch. The pipes are composed of special alloys of tin, or of mahogany, pear wood, or redwood. The pipe shades, which are both decorative and functional, are covered with 22-carat gold leaf. The Klais instrument is the third organ to be housed in Gray Chapel since the chapel was constructed in 1893. It is one of the largest and finest modern mechanical action pipe organs to be found in an educational institution in the United States.

We are grateful to those who came before us for these dedicated resources which make this chapel and organ available to us for the worship of God. It is a solemn blessing, in the midst of an academic institution, to have such glorious facilities in which to praise the source of all knowledge and truth.



## UNIVERSITY RELIGIOUS LIFE AWARDS

Each of the Religious Life Awards honor an individual who exemplifies a faithful witness to the ethical, spiritual, and missional values of Ohio Wesleyan University, as delineated in the University's Charter of 1842 and the University's current Statement of Aims, as demonstrated in leadership both on campus and in the community, including church or other faith community affiliation.

These institutional honors, presented each year at the Baccalaureate Service, were cited by the John Templeton Foundation as one of the reasons for honoring Ohio Wesleyan University for its "Spiritual Growth program" in *The Templeton Guide: Colleges That Encourage Character Development – A Resource for Parents, Students, and Educators* (1999). The John Templeton Foundation declares such programs vital for college life.

"Students searching for meaning, connectedness, and significance present both a challenge and an opportunity for colleges and universities. Programs that foster spiritual growth provide a means to develop a vision of moral integrity that coheres and connects belief to behavior. Exemplary programs (*such as Ohio Wesleyan's*) affirm the integral role that spirituality and religion often play in shaping character."

This distinction has been reaffirmed in recent years by the Lilly Endowment, Inc., The United Methodist Church, the National Catholic Campus Ministry Association, the National Interfaith Youth Core, President Barack Obama's Interfaith and Community Service Campus Challenge, and The President's Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll.

**The Bliss and Mildred Wiant Award for Outstanding Leadership in  
Interfaith and Intercultural Relations**

***Mollie Marshall***

*“Mollie was the co-logistics leader of a Spring Break Interfaith Service Week team for which I was a staff adviser. The group traveled to Philadelphia to explore different religious traditions, how they interact in the city, and how they could work together even more effectively for the greater good. I knew Mollie's work would result in a positive and life-changing trip for the team - and it did. Mollie was organized, prepared, compassionate, respectful, engaged, and engaging. And as a good logistics leader should, Mollie always know where we were going and why - what could we observe, learn, and share. Her leadership helped to make us all feel comfortable as we learned more about, and participated in Sikh, Muslim, Hindu, Jain, Jewish, and Mormon services. Mollie exemplifies the power and potential of looking at the world through an interfaith lens and channeling all of that potential for good.” - Cole Hatcher, OWU  
Director of Media and Community Relations*

*“Mollie is the perfect candidate for this award. Among her many positive traits, she is warm, friendly, compassionate, professional, positive, and hard-working. We meet special people in our lives - ones that stand out not only for what they do, but also how they do it. Mollie has mastered both.” - Mark Shipps, ‘70,  
former OWU Vice President for University Relations*

*“I honor Mollie for her leadership as a quiet leader; an individual who kept the team well-organized and communicating clearly throughout our long trip. She's not someone to take the stage at every chance, but when she speaks, others listen. Her thoughtful and sensitive perspectives added depth to the team's conversations. Finally, her commitment to promoting Interfaith dialogue makes her a great candidate for this award.”- Dr. Lynda Hall, Professor of Psychology, and Associate Dean for Academic Performance*

**The Bishop Gerald Ensley Award for Outstanding Christian Leadership**

***Milany Duarte***

*“Milany came to us four years ago by way of Cape Verde and Connecticut. She knew very little of Ohio or OWU, but she jumped into campus life with two feet, starting with the Service Fresh X orientation experience. Through Fresh X, she got to know the two places that would see her grow in faith and eventually lead in faith: the Delaware City Vineyard church and the Wilderness Ministry. Later that year, she got involved in Young Life and began mentoring high school students in the community. She served and gave faithfully of her time to those young people for two years before stepping into a leadership role with the Delaware City Vineyard college group. She has been an integral and vibrant part of that church community for four years now. After a semester away in Morocco, Milany returned to campus to offer her leadership and linguistic abilities in the role of moderator of the House of Linguistic Diversity (she speaks six languages)! And this, her senior year, she led a spring break Wilderness Trek group through an exploration of Christian spiritual disciplines in the deserts of California and Arizona. Through her four years, Milany’s wide perspective on the world, her deep and childlike faith, and her joyful spirit have been a rich and enduring blessing to our OWU community.” - William Hayes, Associate Chaplain, Director of Wilderness Ministry*

**The Cheryl McGinnis Award for Outstanding Catholic Leadership**

***Serena George and John Homan***

*“I have a dogmatic certainty: God is in every person's life. God is in everyone's life. Even if the life of a person has been a disaster, even if it is destroyed by vices, drugs or anything else - God is in this person's life. You can - you must - try to seek God in every human life.” - Pope Francis*

*“Wisdom without science is unable to penetrate the full sapiential meaning of the created and the material cosmos. Science without wisdom leaves man enslaved to a world of unrelated objects in which there is no way of discovering (or creating) order and deep significance in man's own pointless existence.” - Thomas Merton, American Trappist monk, writer, theologian, mystic, poet, social activist, and scholar of comparative religion*

*“I am so excited that John and Serena will be receiving this award together! I cannot think of more deserving people. John and Serena are two of the most devout Catholics I know, and they inspire me to be a better person, and to become stronger in my faith. I feel so blessed to have had the chance to get to know them better over these last two years.” - Fiona Roddy, '22, Newman Club Vice President*

*“Both individually and together, John and Serena have continually blessed us all with their deep, quiet, solid, faith witness. They are both liturgical role models, each with a passionate personal prayer life, and solid theological integrity. They are both academically diligent, superb scholars, with minds that mine the depth and breadth of diverse academic disciplines. Most importantly, they both live the Heart of Jesus in their own hearts, with compassionate care for all others.”*  
- Rev. Jon Powers, University Chaplain

## **The Rabbi Andi Fisher Berlin Award for Outstanding Jewish Leadership**

*Alex Wiener*

*“When we can fully embrace all of ourselves, we become whole. When we honor every individual in our community, we develop skill and emotional depth otherwise inaccessible. May each soul, each element of the divine in us, find its place in our community. And through them, may we find the highest of ourselves.” - Rabbi Andi Fisher Berlin, ‘93, I am Rebecca*

*Once there was a gentile who came before Shammai, and said to him: "Convert me on the condition that you teach me the whole Torah while I stand on one foot." Shammai pushed him aside with the measuring stick he was holding. The same fellow came before Hillel, and Hillel converted him, saying: "That which is despicable to you, do not do to your fellow, this is the whole Torah, and the rest is commentary, go and learn it." - Babylonian Talmud, Shabbat 31a*

*“With quiet, gentle grace, Alex has been a solid, substantive leader among us all at Ohio Wesleyan University. She stepped up to serve as President of Hillel during a year of tumultuous transitions of leadership among the student body, and a year of traumatic chaos and violence through the religious, social, and political world. Her calm confidence, organizational skills, and personal commitment to stabilizing a faltering aspect of our university’s faith community helped prepare the way for a year of resurgence. The Hillel community is a core component of our interfaith campus, and Alex has successfully restored it to solid ground. Alex has been a great help, even after her presidency, in ensuring the comfort of Jewish students and being a great resource!” - Rev. Jon Powers, University Chaplain and Sam Winkler, ‘20, Hillel President*

**The Robert and Bette Meyer Award for faithful witness to the ethical,  
spiritual, and missional values of Ohio Wesleyan University  
as delineated in the University's Charter and Statement of Aims**

***David Soliday***

*“For the past five years, David has been a staff leader/advisor to the Lakota Spring Break Interfaith Service Week, traveling to three different sites in South Dakota with students, to learn about the Native American community on their reservations. He has presented a number of Sunday services for our fellowship to reflect on what he has learned. David also coordinated with the local AME Church for members of our UU fellowship to visit as guests for two of their Sunday services, as a way to encourage getting to know other members of the Delaware community.” - Dr. David Lever, Associate Professor of Chemistry*

*“David is extremely dedicated both to the OWU community and to broader social-justice concerns. He always goes the extra mile (or sometimes extra 10 miles) to help people with technology issues, especially when they are related to social-justice projects. David also participates in community social-justice events, such as the march last summer to protest the detention and separation of immigrant families. David is soft-spoken and humble, and would never brag about all that he does for OWU. But he provides crucial support for many of us; and he often goes far beyond the call of duty to support social-justice-related projects.” - Dr. Shari Stone-Mediatore, Professor of Philosophy*

*“David Soliday exemplifies OWU's values both on-campus and off-campus. Others know more about his activities on-campus and his involvement with OWU's service trips. I know David best in his function as a board member, treasurer, and tech advisor of Sustainable Delaware Ohio (SDO). He has also attended meetings of One People, a local group that wants to improve community relations in Delaware. Not one of his 206 bones is a mean one. In everything he does, he is soft-spoken, considerate, knowledgeable, honest, sincere, and understanding.” - Dr. Thomas Wolber, Associate Professor, Modern Foreign Languages*

**The Bishop Francis Enmer Kearns Award for faithful witness  
to the ethical, spiritual, and missional values of Ohio Wesleyan University  
as delineated in the University's Charter and Statement of Aims**

***Dr. John Stone-Mediatore***

*“Both in and out of class, Dr. Stone works to promote understanding, equality and acceptance in the Ohio Wesleyan community. On numerous occasions, I have seen him go out of his way to support and assist students with issues unrelated to his job description. In class, Dr. Stone encourages students to share their beliefs and provides an accepting environment for all. Dr. Stone is an excellent role model for all students, providing not only education but guidance and support.” - John Keller, ‘20*

*“John has been a dedicated instructor in UC 160. He goes out of his way to learn the individual stories of his students and to prepare materials that captivate their interests and that assist them in their transition to Ohio Wesleyan. I especially appreciated his willingness to step in and teach a section late last summer when one of the individuals scheduled to teach left the university suddenly. In addition, John was an active participant in last fall’s Teaching Circle discussions which focused on improving the pedagogy employed in first year courses.” - Dr. Lynda Hall, Professor of Psychology and Associate Dean of Academic Performance*

*“John goes far beyond the call of duty in working with students both in an academic and mentoring capacity. He spends many hours in his office helping students with their papers. Students also know that he is available for them, whenever they are facing any kind of practical or existential struggle. Many students have come to John with personal struggles that they don't feel comfortable discussing with anyone else.” - Dr. Shari Stone-Mediatore, Professor of Philosophy*

## **John and Charles Wesley Lifetime Exemplary Service Award**

Geraldine Spurlock

Ohio Wesleyan University's "middle name" claims our historic link to John and Charles Wesley. John Wesley is considered to be the father of Methodism. His brother, Charles, was a prolific poet who wrote more than 6,500 hymns. John and Charles were founding members of a small Oxford University campus ministry group, derisively called Method-ists because of their methodical intellectual and spiritual disciplines. As the second-largest Protestant denomination in America today, the United Methodist Church maintains 123 colleges and universities, 13 of which include "Wesley" or "Wesleyan" in their name.

John Wesley's commitment to biblically-based social justice was captured in his famous dictum, "The world is my parish." Both brothers were equally committed to the rigors of academe as foundational to faith formation. One of Charles Wesley most frequently quoted hymns includes this line, "Let us unite the two so long divided, knowledge and vital piety."

These two core principles of Methodism – biblically-based social justice on a global scale, and spiritual discipline anchored in intellectual integrity – are the foundational values for this award. The award is not presented annually; rather, it is reserved to honor those faculty or staff at Ohio Wesleyan who, over a significant period of time, have demonstrated a consistent and profound impact upon the intellectual and spiritual formation of our students.

This year the recipient is Geraldine Spurlock.



*“A powerful prayer-warrior with a deep, abiding faith, gentle wit, and competence laced with compassion, Gerri Spurlock has had a profoundly positive impact in so many ways on so many students, faculty, staff, parents, and alumni. A wise woman of few words, it takes only a few wise words to sum up her many years of dedicated service and inspiring presence among us: Keen mind, sharp pencil! She is known by all to be a kind, sympathetic, quiet listener; but, wow, can she be stern and hold the line when it’s in someone’s best interest for her to do so! Most international students will attest that she doesn’t exactly make non-resident tax compliance fun for international students, but she sure makes it a whole lot better, and when all is done, some will even admit it was sort of fun. Gerri also absorbs a lot of frustration that international students have with health insurance and medical claims; and in the process, without most students even realizing it, she supports and educates at the same time: she encourages students to take responsibility and be their own advocates, but she is always there for them, no matter what! The folks in the patient accounts office at Grady Hospital, may tremble whenever her calls come in to them, but they know not to mess with Gerri! We all so look up to her, lean on her, and admire the way that she has faithfully, prayerfully, professionally, and lovingly served our students, their families, and this institution over the years.” - Rev. Jon Powers, University Chaplain, Darrell Albon and Lisa Ho, Director and Associate Director of International and Off-Campus Programs*

## OWU's Motto & Seal

*"In lumine tuo videbimus lumen"* is Ohio Wesleyan's official motto. In English, it means "In Thy Light We Shall See Light" or, more plainly, "In Your Light We See Light." The motto is a quote from Psalms 36:9. The biblical "thou" is obviously a reference to God who is the creator of all life and the light in the darkness. After all, OWU was founded by Methodists in 1842 who looked at God as the bedrock of all things. The open book we see in OWU's seal is therefore the Bible, not just any old textbook. Maybe it even shows the page from whence the quote was taken. Thirty-two light rays or spokes emanate from the tome in the form of a wheel – the light of God's inspiration and guidance. The number 32 is no coincidence. Those interested in numerology know that it is a holy number laden with both Christian, non-Christian, and pre-Christian meanings. It often suggests completeness and perfection. There are 32 pieces on the chess board. Some have claimed that the face of God would be formed by 32 letters of the alphabet if we knew them all. An interpretation that makes sense in the context of a university is to say that the number represents the 32 areas of inquiry, paths of wisdom, and/or God's ministries. Surrounding the Bible is a triangular shield (the trinity) that protects us from worldly sins and wickedness. A shield is an armorial device, but there is no complementary sword or spear. It is intended for defensive and peaceful purposes only, not for militant ones. If we trust God's word, i.e., the Bible, we are safe and protected. There could be other meanings hidden in plain sight, but the essential message is clear: Ohio Wesleyan University was founded as a school deeply rooted in biblical values, as a shiny city upon a hill, and a righteous fortress in an imperfect world. Its graduates were meant to be followers of God, peacefully doing His will and performing His work. It might also be noteworthy to point out that OWU's seal does not condemn, reject, and retreat from the world. On the contrary, the world is the stage, theater, or arena where we must stand, speak, and act. OWU sees itself not separate from the world, but as a part of it.

## **How is Ohio Wesleyan University related to the United Methodist Church?**

### **1842 Official Charter and Current Statement of Aims**

Since its founding, Ohio Wesleyan University has maintained its connection with the Methodist (now United Methodist) Church, offering a quality of scholarship, leadership, and service that has enriched both Church and Society. Its charter provided that “the University is forever to be conducted on the most liberal principles, accessible to all religious denominations, and designed for the benefit of our citizens in general.” In spirit and heritage, the University defines itself as a community of teachers and students devoted to the free pursuit of truth. It attempts to develop in its students qualities of intellect and character which will be useful no matter what they choose to do in later life.

One of the three primary objectives of the University is to place education in the context of values. Liberal education seeks to develop in students understanding of themselves, appreciation of others, and willingness to meet the responsibilities of citizenship in a free society. It recognizes that trained sensitivity to private and public value issues, grounded in a sound grasp of various cultural heritages, is important for maturation and for living a good life. It accords high honor to intellectual honesty. Consistent with our Methodist tradition, Ohio Wesleyan University encourages concern for all religious and ethical issues and stimulates its students to examine their own views in light of these issues.

### **Official Affiliation with the United Methodist Church**

In keeping with these sacred and social commitments, and based upon a regular review of its academic program, religious life, student life, and financial standing, Ohio Wesleyan University remains officially affiliated with The United Methodist Church as a United Methodist institution of higher education. Given the recent action and continued conversation of the global General Conference of the United Methodist Church, Ohio Wesleyan University clearly confirms our unwavering support for our LGBTQIA+ community, a commitment ingrained in the Ohio Wesleyan culture and structure for decades and distinctly reflected in our governance and policies for students, faculty, staff, and alumni.

## **Special Notes of Thanks!**

***Rachel Bush, '19*** for her profoundly insightful bulletin cover

***Tiffany Moore, '20*** for her artistic video design

***Ahmed Hamed, '20*** for his extra-mile administrative efforts

***Jill Kerins and Mike Pavlechko*** in Graphics/Duplicating Services  
for their creative skills and saintly patience

***ABM Housekeeping Services***

***Elaine Chun, Chuck Della Lana, and Joe Peterson*** for  
Superb Sound and Media Equipment and Service Support

***Darrell Albon and Gerri Spurlock*** of the International and Off-Campus  
Programs Office for the national flags

***Doug Thompson*** for his tireless attention to web communications

***Chad Knutson and Dr. Glen Vanderbilt*** for technical theater assistance

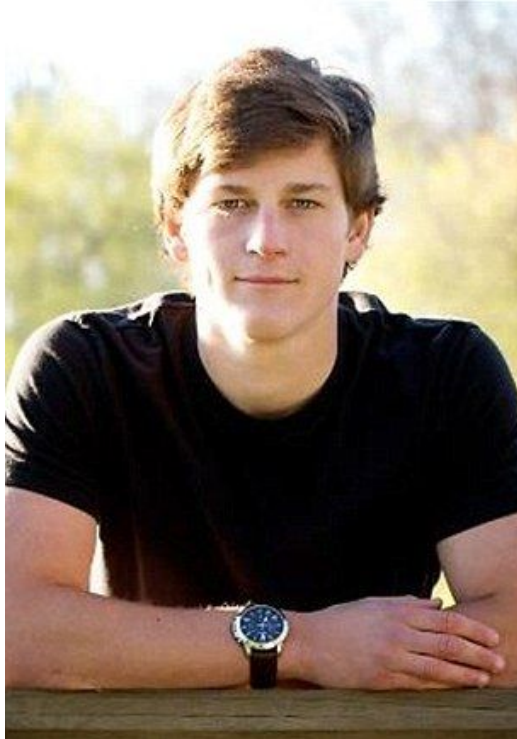
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***Sharon Hayes, '17 and Chad Johns, '02*** for their creative writing,  
editing, and meticulous organizational skills

***Maddie Matos, '21 and Noah Spicer, '19*** for their excellent staff support

***Mary Jeffries*** for her endless energy and soulful creativity

**In Sacred Memory  
of our classmate  
Luke Anthony Gabbert**



We take a moment to reflect on a classmate, not able to be with us today, other than in spirit. To share recollection and to reflect upon Luke Gabbert, are his friends, Megan Price and Jack Shadoan:

*If it weren't for Luke Gabbert, one of the first friendships I made as a freshman, I may have never become the devoted, resilient, mature individual I am today. Whether you knew Luke personally or witnessed his talented left-footed shots on Roy Rike, Luke's presence made an impact on the class of 2019. From his determination to his goofy and spontaneous personality, Luke would not go unnoticed.*

*It didn't take long for Luke and I to become close friends. If we hadn't decided to sit next to one another during Dr. Busch's personal health class, the class would not have been as meaningful and enjoyable. Luke kept me focused and dedicated to my school work which was already a challenge for me to do in the first place. We would compete to see who would get a better grade on exams, and he even woke me up at 5:00 a.m. the morning before our final to review and study (he ended up beating me by 5%).*

*Luke was the big protective brother I never had. My fondest memory of him was one night when I tried walking back to the dorms alone, assuring him I'd be okay. With no questions asked, he walked me all the way back. Along the way, we made a quick pit stop at the T-store where we wasted all our food points on an abundant amount of snacks. Since that night, I make sure no one walks home alone whether they're a friend or an unfamiliar face.*

*I look back on my freshman year and I can tell you I would have never expected to endure the heartbreak of losing a best friend, but I also didn't expect I'd grow as much as I did in the months to follow. I am forever grateful for the long cherishable seven months I got to share with Luke and for the everlasting legacy he left on the lives that were privileged to know him. As someone close to me once said, "you never realize how strong you are, until being strong is the only choice you have." - Megan Price, '19*

*I was privileged enough to get to know Luke in high school when we played soccer together. I can not tell you how happy I was when he decided to commit to OWU. Even after knowing him for only two seasons of club soccer, I could immediately tell that he was hard working, persistent and had a type of grit about him when he was playing on the field.*

*At Ohio Wesleyan, we were freshman on a team that mostly consisted of upperclassmen. He was always someone you could rely on for advice both on and off the field, and we always would seek each other out when we had questions about soccer, school, or just about life in general. One thing that always stuck out to me about Luke was the way he was able to brighten up anyone's day. I was lucky enough to have Luke's locker right next to mine in the locker room (almost like we planned it). It was always a special part of my day when I was able to come into the locker room before practice and we would have conversations about each others' days, how classes were, and how we did on exams. Every single time, I would leave the locker room with a smile on my face, and it was always because no matter how bad my day was, or if I just bombed an exam, Luke always found a way to make me feel better and a way to make me laugh and look on the bright side of every situation.*

*Losing one of my best friends was one of the hardest things I have ever had to go through in my life and although Luke may be gone, I will always carry what he taught me, in my heart. He helped me grow as an individual and for that, I want to say, "Thank you Luke." - Jack Shadoan, '19*