



From our new National President

Dearest friends,

This has certainly been and continues to be quite a year. I am so very thankful that as Christians and FHU Associates we share the bonds of friendship and service. Those bonds give us joy and strength that enable us to accomplish so much for good. We talk, laugh, weep, and share ourselves for the sake of others. Our sweet Carole Childers led us this past year, even though her body was wracked with cancer because she knew that the work we do for students lives on for generations. We will miss her calm, gracious spirit and hard work but rejoice that we knew her. We loved her and what she stood for in this world. Let's continue to love and work for the students as she did. Let's help them come to a "second home", if you will, where they can learn "how to live, and how to make a living". Many of you will recognize that phrase and smile.

Admittedly, the world we live in has changed, but good works are still good works. They are needed now, more than ever. We may have to change how we do things but we can still accomplish so much. For example, the Chester County chapter hosts a Victorian Tea Party in the spring each year. That didn't happen in 2020 because of the COVID-19, but we adapted. We are hosting a Tea Party for Two, via curbside, consisting of a decorative box filled with delightful tea party fare that can be shared with someone special.

We have a sweet sister here, Susan Sain, who is making FHU masks with proceeds going to a scholarship in memory of Carole Childers. Who would have thought we would ever be wearing masks in everyday life, but out of darkness comes light. We adapt; we make something good out of the bad.

Each chapter of the Associates has the opportunity to adapt; to make plans to continue the great work everyone is doing. I know for a fact that our students appreciate, especially now, our efforts to provide scholarships. I work with them on a daily basis; even during this time via email. They need us.

As your incoming national president, I ask for your prayers, patience, and ideas. I am blessed to be able to work with you and hope to see you soon. All of you have my gratitude and love.

In Him, *Shirley Eaton*

Stay in touch.

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THANK YOU to our 2019-2020 National Officers!

President	Carole Childers
Vice-President	Shirley Eaton
Secretary	Nancy Bennett
Treasurer	Joyce Bloomingburg

WELCOME to our 2020-2021 National Officers!

President	Shirley Eaton
Vice-President	Diane Smith
Secretary	Shila England
Treasurer	Chris Gann

Since our spring 2020 national meeting had to be cancelled, the new officers proposed by the nominating committee were shared with all chapter leaders and were elected via acclamation after receiving no additional nominations. While they began their duties as of June 1, 2020, they will be officially installed in a ceremony planned for our first national meeting at the beginning of the 2020 fall semester.

2019-2020 Year-End Report

Thank you for being a part of the fundraising efforts of the FHU Associates this school year. This year was full of challenges, and you rose up and met them with love and hope. In the summer we rejoiced because the renovations of our home base, the Hardeman House, were finally completed and we could again have an office, a place for meetings, and a revenue stream from rentals. It has been in near constant use this school year, and is a jewel on our campus. We anticipate the addition of new landscaping very soon that will only add to her beauty. What a blessing the generous donations from the Hardeman and Bradshaw families have been to our organization and to the university as a whole!

In the fall semester, my husband John and I were asked to work with FHU's study abroad program. While I was temporarily reassigned, Diane Smith took over my duties and coordinated fall activities beautifully; we owe her a big "Thank You!" Homecoming looked a little different since we were not involved in a big breakfast or lunch in the Auxiliary Gym, but we had a success with our silent auction, vendor booths, and our own display area.

The spring semester started with a successful Lectureship and many Associates from many chapters coming together. It was a great week! Then, as many of us were planning the rest of our spring and summer events, COVID-19 hit. We were faced with fundraiser cancellations and other social distancing precautions as well as the heartbreaking death of our National President, Carole Childers.

Because of your good work, we were able to meet our scholarship goals for this school year without having to dig into our "just-in-case" surplus. We were able to transfer \$10,000 of that surplus to our endowment and still leave a cushion. Thank you. Thank you for your love for our university students. We pray that our fall semester will see students returning to campus and the beginning of normal operations. We pray that your summer will be filled with good health, quality family time, and joy.

—Debbie McLaughlin, FHU Associates' Executive Coordinator

2019-2020 FHU Advancement Awards

By David Newberry, Assistant Vice President for Development Services



The FHU Office of University Advancement (which serves as the bridge between FHU and the Associates) recognizes the valuable contribution of the FHU Associates over the years. Because of the hard work and selfless attitudes, the Associates are directly responsible for more than \$3 million given to the university over the past 50+ years.

The Office of University Advancement honors two special members of the Associates each year who have distinguished themselves in areas of service. The LaVonne B. Scott "Heart of a Servant" Award and the "Leap of Faith" Award were conceived as a way to honor exemplary service and to say "Thank you" for the great work that the Associates as a whole (and these two members, in particular) are doing. The "Heart of a Servant" Award is named in honor of LaVonne Scott who continued to work tirelessly for the mission of the FHU Associates until she was in her 90's. This award is given to an Associate who exemplifies the heart of a servant – who is happy to work at projects (even in the thankless jobs), who is excited about our mission, and who does not ask for recognition, but who deserves to be honored.

The "Leap of Faith" Award is given to the Associate who is an innovator, an encourager – an Associate who, perhaps, is responsible for getting a new project off the ground or who came up with a "big new idea" and had the courage to follow it through. This award honors the Associate who says "We can do that!"

Below are this year's award winners along with the nomination letters we received, explaining why these two ladies are so deserving of these awards.

LaVonne Scott "Heart of a Servant" Award – Lynne Golson

Mrs. Lynne Golson is deeply committed to the purposes and goals of the Freed-Hardeman University Associates and it is because of her dedication and hard work on all Associate projects that we highly recommend her for the 2020 LaVonne B. Scott "Heart of a Servant" Award. What does it take to have the heart of a servant? First of all you must have the right heart. Lynne Golson has the heart of a deeply committed Christian and from this heart springs her servanthood for the Associates.

Lynne has been an Associate since moving to Henderson in 2005. During her time in the Associates she has served as Chester County President and Secretary. While serving as the 2017-19 President, Lynne promoted membership and through her determined focus on acquiring and encouraging membership the Chester County chapter increased in number as well as active participation. It was her belief that all ladies in all the area congregations should feel welcome to join. She created a thorough list of potential members and all were invited to the first meeting of the year where they were welcomed and given information about ways to become an involved member. Our membership grew by a large percentage during this time.

Lynne exhibits a servant's heart by encouraging active membership through her example of hard work. She willingly works at all projects performing any job that is needed — cleaning, planning, organizing, cooking, calling, shopping, transporting items from here to there, and then working at the event greeting patrons with a smile and a cheery welcome. She does all these tasks willingly with no thought of recognition for herself; her goal is to do whatever it takes to get the job done, always hoping to raise more money for student scholarships.

During Lectureship week you can find Lynne working behind the scene and serving upfront to welcome and serve patrons at the Lectureship Kitchen. She has served in the capacity of a daily kitchen leader in past years, but has taken on a new role this year, serving as the Chester County Calling Committee chairperson. The Calling Committee chairperson is a thankless job, however, an essential part of most Associate projects. Lynne willingly took on this responsibility and handles it very well, guaranteeing that all events are organized and properly equipped and staffed. This careful organization by Lynne assures all projects are successful.

Mrs. Lynne Golson continues to impress us as she selflessly does more than her share to further the aims and goals of the Associate Projects. It is because of her dedication to our mission and her heart for the students of FHU that we believe Mrs. Lynne Golson is very deserving of the "Heart of a Servant" award and we hope you will give her your utmost consideration.

Sincerely, the officers of the Chester County Associates—Brenda Knight, Dawn Hollamon, Shirley Eaton, and Diane Smith

"Leap of Faith" Award – Carole Childers (awarded posthumously) *(Note: This nomination was submitted before Carole's death on April 12, 2020. She will be sorely missed by the FHU Family and the FHU Associates, in particular.)*

The officers of the Chester County Chapter would like to nominate Carole Childers for the FHU Associates Leap of Faith Award. Carole exemplifies a great faith in the Lord and His promises as well as a strong belief in the purpose and mission of Freed-Hardeman University. She has given 40 years of time, talent, and loyalty to the university and we believe that she is more than deserving of this award.

Prior to moving to Henderson 20 years ago she was active in the Crockett County Chapter. Since then she has served two different terms as president of the Chester County Associates as well as chairwoman of the National Membership Committee. Currently she is the outgoing National President, having served two years in that capacity. During her tenure she has shared the goal and mission of the Associates with visitors, encouraging them to start chapters in their respective locations.

Carole has made service as an Associate a mainstay of her extracurricular activities. She loves helping organize events such as the Lectureship Kitchen in February and the Homecoming Breakfast. She works tirelessly in everything, from working the hugely successful rummage sales each semester, to providing roses to graduates. If there is catering to be done, Carole is always ready and willing to help prepare and serve the meal.

She welcomes students with a cheerful smile and loving heart; seeing their current needs and amazing potential. She and her husband Tom frequently open up their home to students, encouraging them in every way. We truly believe Carole Childers is a living example of what a recipient of the Leap of Faith Award should be.

Sincerely, the officers of the Chester County Associates—Brenda Knight, Dawn Hollamon, Shirley Eaton, and Diane Smith

Freed-Hardeman University Associates National Meeting Feb. 3, 2020, Sports Hall of Fame Room, Brewer Sports Center By Nancy Bennett, National Secretary

The Freed-Hardeman University Associates who met during the annual Bible lectureship, Feb. 3, 2020, were welcomed by National President Carole Childers. Martha Alls led the opening prayer and Nancy Bennett presented a devotional on spiritual spring cleaning.

Following the devotional, Nancy Bennett gave the minutes of the last meeting which were approved and Joyce Bloomingburg presented the treasurer's report.

Debbie McLaughlin asked that members send either email messages or paper notes to recipients of Associates scholarships. She provided notepaper for the messages. She also reported that the group has a surplus in the annually-designated scholarship fund. The executive committee proposed that part of that be moved into the endowed fund and that some funds be saved for unexpected expenses. Martha Alls moved that once the final numbers are known each year, the committee should determine the amount to transfer to annually designated scholarships and how much to hold in reserve. Diane Smith seconded the motion which was accepted.

The Lectureship kitchen got off to a great start. Monday's lunch sales were \$1,700. Much food had been contributed by various chapters—so much so that on Monday there was enough pie for the week!

Susan Kimpel reported that orders for the study book continue to come in. *How Shall I Be Remembered? Vols. 1, 2 and 3 are in stock. Cookbooks, Treasury of Recipes, I and II, and Come On In! are also available. The national booth had \$300 in sales after the first day of Lectureship.*

Since the restoration of Hardeman House, it has been busy, according to Laurel Sewell. It has been used for a birthday party and to house some university guests, she said.

A committee to nominate officers for next year was appointed. The committee consists of Laurel Sewell, Brenda DePriest, Genia Southall and Nancy Bennett. They were tasked with providing a slate of nominees by the annual spring meeting.

In chapter reports, Jeanita Estes reported that the Booneville chapter still bakes every weekend for sale in local restaurants. The Crockett-Haywood chapter recently earned \$1,500 with a bake sale. Chester County's spring rummage sale is set for April 22-25, 2020.

Members were reminded to submit nominees for awards to be presented by the FHU Office of Advancement. The awards are LaVonne B. Scott Heart of a Servant Award and the Leap of Faith Award.

Carole Childers will present a \$30,000 check to the university Tuesday, Feb. 4, 2020, to be used for scholarships.

Dates for upcoming events are Spring Meeting, April 17, 2020; Chester County Rummage Sale, April 22-25, 2020; and Victorian Tea Party, May 2, 2020.

These minutes will be officially presented for acceptance at the Fall 2020 national meeting. Any corrections can be mentioned at that time.

2019-2020 Giving

Even with some chapters' spring events cancelled because of social distancing, we still met our \$65,000 annual scholarship commitment AND added over \$7,000 to our endowed scholarship account! Did we give less than we have the last few years? Yes, because of fundraiser cancellations. Did we still give generously to benefit our FHU students? Yes! We will give you our detailed year-end financial report that shows giving by chapter at the first fall meeting like we usually do. But here are some highlights:

TOTAL TO ANNUALLY-DESIGNATED SCHOLARSHIPS:	\$68,188.84
TOTAL TO ENDOWED SCHOLARSHIPS:	\$ 7,660.00 (Actually, a total of \$18,660 was added. See below)
TOTAL ASSOCIATES' GIVING 2019-2020:	\$75,848.84

At our February meeting during Lectureship, we told you of a surplus in our annually-designated scholarship account. Financial Aid has given out \$65,000 in scholarships each year while we have raised significantly more than that the last few years. Since we made enough this year to meet our 2020-2021 scholarship commitments, we did not have to use any of that surplus. So, we transferred a total of \$11,006.00 into our endowment and we still have a "cushion" of \$16,679.61 to either transfer to endowment in the future or to leave in case we have another lean year because of extenuating circumstances. What a blessing! What a wonderful job our chapters have done! Thank you.

A few other notable items from our year-end fundraising:

1. Total income at Lectureship (kitchen, coffee, booth) 2020: \$17,798.11
2. Total Homecoming income Fall 2019: \$3,804.55
3. Hardeman House rental income (first time in 3 years because of renovations!): \$2,478.56
4. Study book and Cookbook direct sales: \$1,248.91
5. Local Projects from our hardworking chapters: \$36,343.50

Stay tuned for our Fall National Meeting date and plans; we will send out an email to chapter leaders as soon as plans can be finalized.