

carry on.

Connecting Alumni & Friends of L.I.F.E. Bible College, Mount Vernon Bible College, L.I.F.E. Bible College East, and Life Pacific College

The Road Less Traveled

By Nicole Perez '00

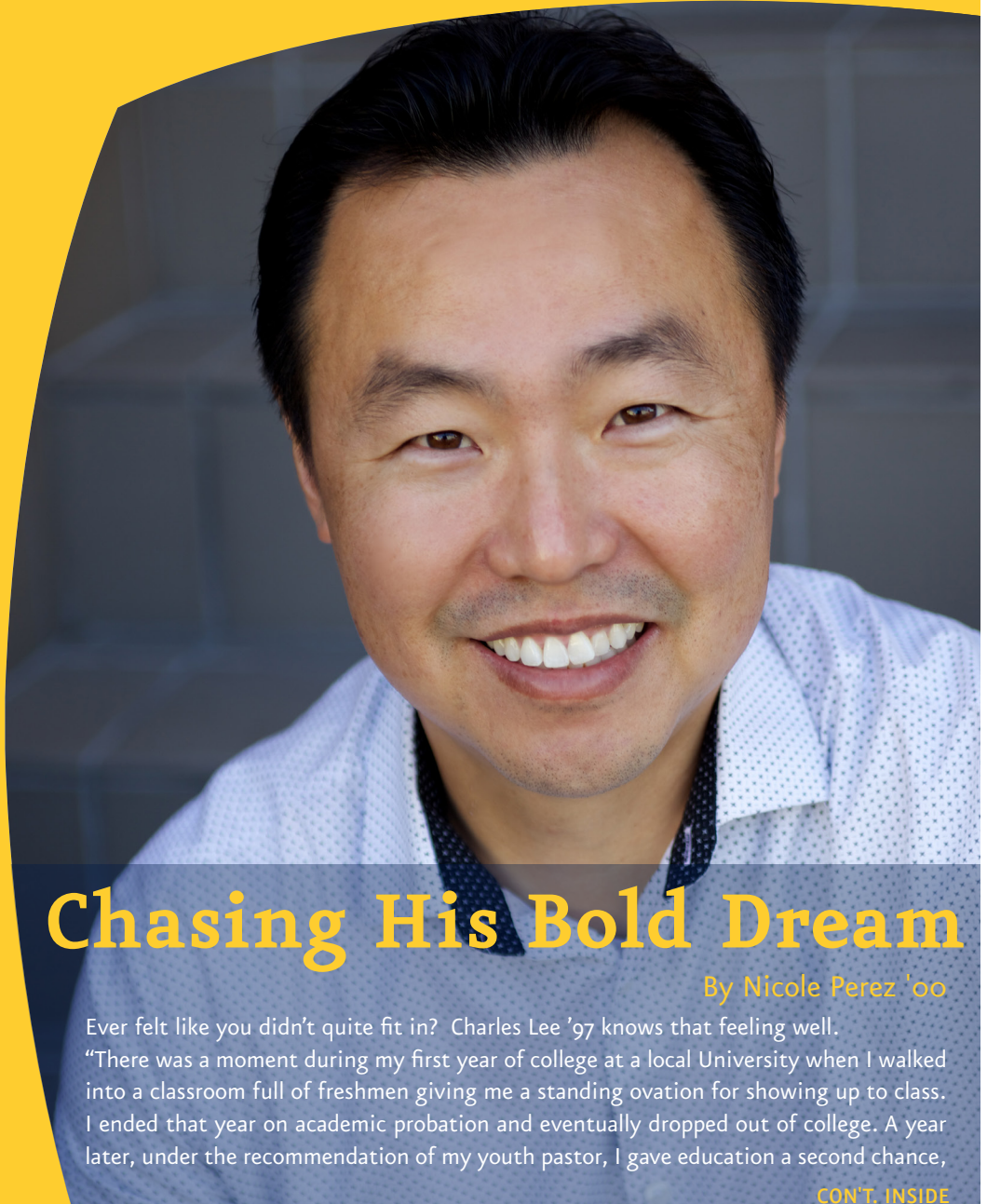
Ministry can best be described as serving others and showing them the heart of Jesus. As a Family Service Counselor at Montecito Memorial Park, Aaron Stewart '02 is able to be an example of Jesus' love and compassion as he provides care and guidance for families dealing with, and preparing for the loss of loved ones.

On a typical day, Aaron assists individuals and families with funeral preparations for recently lost loved ones, as well as those making arrangements for the future. He views his position as a fantastic opportunity for ministry. He says, "I get to love people at their most raw state, and meet their needs at the most difficult time in their lives.

Serving a person in a vulnerable time of need is a great ministry. Death is something that unites us all as human beings. Every day it's a new interaction in a one-on-one setting with Muslims, Atheists, Coptic Christians, Buddhists; they are facing questions regarding eternity."

This type of position not only affords Aaron the opportunity to talk about the Lord, he also has the opportunity to share how Life Pacific College prepared him for this profession: "At least once a week someone asks me why I'm doing what I'm doing – that's

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Chasing His Bold Dream

By Nicole Perez '00

Ever felt like you didn't quite fit in? Charles Lee '97 knows that feeling well. "There was a moment during my first year of college at a local University when I walked into a classroom full of freshmen giving me a standing ovation for showing up to class. I ended that year on academic probation and eventually dropped out of college. A year later, under the recommendation of my youth pastor, I gave education a second chance,

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Dr. Jim J. Adams

President's Pen

We had a busy summer! With the 2015 Foursquare Connection in Anaheim this year, Life Pacific College hosted convention-goers from across the U.S. (and literally around the world), as they enjoyed presentations and toured our lovely, tree-lined campus. The next evening, a record number of alumni from L.I.F.E. Bible College, Mt. Vernon Bible College, L.I.F.E. Bible College East and Life Pacific College gathered for our annual reunion dinner and a time of reminiscing, reflecting, and rejoicing.

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Chasing His Bold Dream

CON'T. FROM FRONT

and went to a small private college in Southern California [LIFE Bible College].”

Nevertheless, those feelings of inadequacy persisted. Charles felt he could neither relate to the students at LIFE nor keep up with the course requirements, and dropped out of college a second time.

But he didn't give up. “I returned to Life Pacific with the help of some amazing faculty members and students who encouraged me to keep at it,”

he said. “I told myself that this would be the last time trying to go to college. Fortunately for me, something finally clicked. I found a renewed commitment to education. I eventually graduated with honors and went on to grad school to study philosophy.”

Ironically, Charles became Professor Lee to Life Pacific College students, teaching for nine years, until he eventually transitioned out to pursue other things including writing a book, *Good Idea. Now What? How to Move Ideas to Execution*, and starting a business strategy firm, Ideation. Now, as the CEO & Founder at Ideation, an innovation agency, he is using his gifts, business skills, and passion for people to help brands from various industries innovate business strategy, products and services, design, web, and events. As an inspirational intellect with profound vision, he has led the development of innovation strategies for Fortune 500 businesses. This creative endeavor has also afforded him the opportunity to be invited as a key presenter at several events for leading brands such as Toyota, Wells Fargo, NBCUniversal, William Morris Endeavor, CAA, and even the White House.

Addressing the Class of 2015 as this year's LPC commencement speaker, Charles

encouraged the graduates to dream bold, work hard, and to recognize the true marks of success. He reminded the graduates that ideas are “impotent without action” and require the hustle and hard work to see them come to fruition. “Want to prove your ideas? Do it. Don't argue with your words. Rather, argue with your execution,” he said. “Perspiration is the fuel that allows inspiration to move forward. Our legacy will ultimately be the collective result of the small steps we took in life to pursue our purpose.”

As someone who has sought out new challenges and creative ways to serve God, Charles was a great encouragement to both graduates and commencement attendees as he reminded them, “Stay humble, faithful, and focused on purpose. We are not called to be successful, we are called to be faithful to the call He has given each of us. We are here for a reason: to live a life that fully honors God and his distinct purposes for each of us.

“Who would have ever thought that a son of a poor immigrant family with very few opportunities in life would ever end up in this place? I'm here by God's grace. I'm humbled and grateful for the journey God has allowed me to experience thus far in life. This is not the end of the story, but it's sure a nice reflective pause along the way.”

President's Pen

CON'T. FROM FRONT

Prior to that, the class of 2015 had participated in commencement ceremonies at historic Angelus Temple. Both there as well as at Connection, I had the privilege to present honorary doctorates to Ted and Sou Olbrich, who have served as Foursquare missionaries in Cambodia for nearly two decades.

Following Connection, I then traveled to Cambodia and had the opportunity to meet their national Foursquare board of directors as well as Cambodian district supervisors and divisional superintendents, in whose presence I once again presented the honorary doctorates to the Olbrichs. I was absolutely overwhelmed by the response of the Cambodian Foursquare leadership as Ted and Sou received their degrees. We at LPC had had no idea of the strong impact these honorary doctorates had in terms of affirming the ministry of the Olbrichs in Cambodia. That ceremony fully underscored the significance of the decision made by our

faculty and board of trustees to confer these degrees.

One of our former LPC students, Sam Tolle, currently serves as a missionary in Cambodia. He told me that there currently are close to 6,000 Foursquare churches and meeting places in Cambodia – all of which began with a single orphanage started by the Olbrichs some 17 years ago.

Later in the summer, LPC's Master of Arts in Strategic Leadership program held its first off-site residency in the Denver, Colo. area, in partnership with the Gateway District of Foursquare Churches. We brought together 13 Foursquare pastors and leaders along with international students and others from the U.S. in what can only be described as a greenhouse environment of accelerated learning and burgeoning growth. Imagine it: 19 pastors and leaders together 24/7 for an entire week, dedicating 100% of their energy and passion as they engage in a dynamic process of what will be a two-year journey,

learning and thriving together. Members of this cohort run the gamut from pastors to entrepreneurs to artists to civic leaders; ranging in age from late 20s to 55 plus. Our LPC team graciously and efficiently serve the needs of these students under the outstanding leadership of Director of Graduate Studies, Dr. Remi Lawanson.

We finished the summer by welcoming 150 new students to LPC. It warmed my heart to see young adults from the youth group I serve in checking in for their dorms! I was also touched to see so many alumni and pastors at our orientation with their own sons and daughters. Amongst them were Pastor Doug Andersen, JJ (Hamilton) Vercellono, Pastor John Fehlen and Chaplain Shawn McCammon. We are truly a close family, investing together in our next generation of leaders!

You are invited to join us as we celebrate

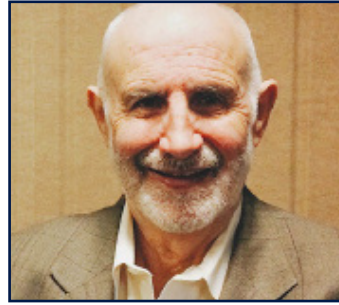
GOLDEN REUNION

Honoring the Maturian Class of 1964 and the Kletonian Class of 1965

Lifetime of Service awards will be presented to



Miss Mary Lou Canata, Class of '64



Dr. Jack Hamilton, Class of '65

Saturday, October 10, 2015 | 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Rolf K. McPherson Chapel

Reservations: \$25 per person

Call (909) 706-3028 to reserve your seat

**Credit card payments will be taken over the phone,
or mail a check to the Life Pacific College: Alumni Relations**



The Road Less Traveled

CON'T. FROM FRONT

my opportunity every single time. I tell them why I went to college: I went to LIFE to learn how to effectively minister to people. That's my story. I truly want to help them. I'm serving them out of love."

Aaron credits his experience as a LPC student on the mission field as being one of the biggest contributing factors for how he is able to easily communicate and bond with people of varying backgrounds. Along with the daily opportunities he has to pray with others, he has been selected as the keynote speaker for his company's candlelight services. This, he says, is one of his favorite parts of the job, as he is able to share with hundreds from all backgrounds about the Prince of Peace.

As a licensed Foursquare minister, becoming a Family Service Counselor was certainly not the path of ministry Aaron expected, but he sees God's hand in it all. He says, "It took

years figuring out what God wanted for me; God has plans for everyone. God's plan is for us is to do whatever He's called us to do, no matter what the setting is. I was looking for something else and He brought this opportunity. I love it – it wasn't even on my radar – and I'm succeeding in what I'm doing."

Like many LIFE graduates, Aaron serves in his local church as a volunteer in a variety of areas. Aaron's word of advice for anyone who finds themselves treading along a non-traditional path of ministry is this: "Be faithful, keep praying, and don't be afraid of change. Embrace the change. The good times and the hard times help form you into what God wants to bring you to."





LIFE PACIFIC COLLEGE

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Life After Life - Updates on the Class of 2015



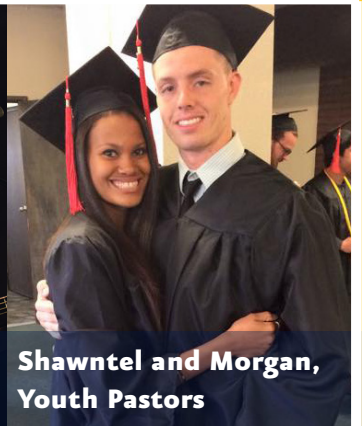
Ryan and Sean, ministers at The Father's House



Jessica, Administrative Pastor



Joe, Youth Ministry



Shawntel and Morgan, Youth Pastors



Marcus, Young Adults Ministry



Victoria, Worship Leader



Jake, Youth Pastor



**Lauren, Children's Pastor
Marion, Assisting Minister**



Zac, Youth Pastor