



Newsletter of the ASA & CSCA

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ASA Holds Its Sixth Winter Symposium

Kathy Sperounis

The ASA held its sixth annual winter symposium on January 24, welcoming 287 registrants from sixteen countries. More than half of attendees were non-ASA members, reflecting the broad interest in the topic. In addition to online participation, thirteen watch parties were hosted across the United States and Canada, creating spaces for local discussion and community engagement. The symposium was co-sponsored by the Council for Christian Colleges and Universities (CCCU), whose support made this event possible.

Titled “The Science of Forgiveness: Intersections with Christian Worship and Life,” the symposium explored how scientific research on forgiveness can inform Christian faith, worship, and everyday practice. Featured speakers Charlotte V. O. Witvliet and John D. Witvliet were joined by facilitator Se Kim, member of the ASA Board of Directors and director of membership and governance at the National Academies of Medicine.

Charlotte serves as a senior scholar with the Belmont Formation Collaborative, where her work centers on whole-person formation, mental health, and human flourishing. She is also a professor of clinical psychology and character formation. Drawing on more than 25 years of research, she shared findings that highlight the emotional, physiological, and relational dimensions of forgiveness.

One key question she explored was what happens when people respond to an offender with unforgiveness, such as hurt or holding a grudge, rather than with empathy and forgiveness. Research shows that unforgiving responses are linked to higher anger and sadness, lower feelings of control, and greater physiological stress, including elevated heart rate and muscle tension. In contrast, “empathy and forgiving imagery ... are associated with more joy and perceived control, and lower physiological stress. The body recovers more



Charlotte V. O. Witvliet



John D. Witvliet



Se Kim

quickly and shows calmer patterns.” In short, the way people respond internally to wrongdoing has measurable effects on both emotional well-being and physical stress.

Charlotte summarized forgiveness as “a gift” and “a calling”—something which unfolds over time, often involving hard work, accountability, and truth-telling. Forgiveness, she noted, “can be an expression of gratitude for God’s generous and sacrificial grace in forgiving us.”

John, senior scholar and program advisor for missional initiatives and professor of theology, worship, and the arts at Belmont University, reflected on why Charlotte’s research matters for theology, pastoral ministry, and worship. He emphasized that while churches frequently stress the urgency of forgiveness, they often lack practical tools for understanding how forgiveness works. Scientific research provides concrete insights into the embodied, emotional, and relational processes involved.

John also highlighted how these findings reshape our understanding of worship. Congregations gather with diverse emotional states and life experiences, and worship practices can help cultivate empathy, compassion, and dispositions that allow forgiveness to grow over time. He closed by recalling a seminary president’s comment that an entire seminary education could be focused on forgiveness, both divine and human, and that “we never exhaust learning about it throughout our Christian life.”

The 75-minute symposium concluded with zoom breakout discussions and additional conversations at local watch parties, extending engagement beyond the main session. The full recording is available on the ASA YouTube channel: <https://youtu.be/NX48hbccoYw>.



PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Dear Friends,

Charlotte and John Witvliet challenged our understanding of what scientific research tells us about the nature and the process of forgiveness at the ASA Winter Symposium on January 24, the same day that Alex Pretti was shot by federal agents in Minneapolis. The next week, as I sat through a zoom gathering of University of Minnesota alums that addressed both the

conflict in the Twin Cities and the loss of Pretti, a University of Minnesota graduate like myself, I tried to apply the lessons of the Winter Symposium. I prayed for the Holy Spirit to give me the ability to see the humanity in all involved while not minimizing the wrongness of actions. This is hard spiritual work. In our breakout session at the Winter Symposium, Charlotte and John spoke of the special grace needed among Christians who are in situations where they experience continuing hurt that remains unresolved.

The present instability affects ASA/CSCA members in various ways. We have members working in the U.S. who are from one of the 75 countries whose visas are now on hold. We have graduate student members wondering about their funding, which is needed to complete their programs. We have early career members wondering about their job prospects in science in the United States. Many U.S. scientists have collaborations with scientists from around the world, who now wonder whether they should continue that collaboration; they even question whether they should visit the U.S. The fear and divisions grieve me. After all, ASA members are from around the world and the Body of Christ knows no boundaries, yet our

Canadian colleagues, in particular, are concerned about crossing the border to the U.S. for any number of reasons—whether it is perceived support for the U.S. government or for safety concerns. Now more than ever is a time to build unity rather than allow politics to divide.

The Sunday Bible reading at my church, soon after the Winter Symposium, was the Sermon on the Mount. As the words of Jesus washed over me, I decided to join others from my local faith community who are visiting our regional detention center. They provide spiritual, financial, legal, and physical support for the many who are displaced, focusing on the humanity of each individual who is made in the image of God. I have been praying for insight into what God might be doing in the midst of the division, and I have begun to see God working in the many ways that neighbors and groups are banding together to serve one another. Technology has been used to divide, but now I see technology used at the local level to coordinate service to our neighbors. My prayer is that God will do a powerful work among us. I remind myself daily that although I don't see the big picture, I am called to be faithful daily and to bring compassion and care to all I encounter.

If you are interested in the reflections of an ASA member in Minnesota, I encourage you to check out psychiatrist Jonas Attilus (<https://substack.com/@jonasattilus>). He recently wrote an essay on his study of ethics at Auschwitz and from watching events in Minnesota (<https://substack.com/home/post/p-186384521>). He explores questions of identity, memory, and collective trauma—all topics that each of us will be struggling with for a long time to come.

May you experience more of God's presence in your life this Lenten season,

Janel

ASA New Members, October–December 2025

Please join us in welcoming these new members!

Matthew Antonio –Niverville, MB
Tracy Balboni –Boston, MA
Madeline Bartels –Calgary, AB
Michelle Bass –Hampstead, MD
Geoffrey Boadu –Phoenix, AZ
Wesley Bollinger –West Palm Beach, FL
Jon Boyd –Chicago, IL
Luz Bravo Z –Rio de Janeiro, Brazil
Laurel Carpenter –Greenville, SC
Gianna Carrier –Bedford, MA
Yijun Carrier –Bedford, MA
Andre Chan –Durham, NC
Christine Cheng –Montréal, QC
Karen Clark –Ottawa, ON
Josiah Coffey –Wenham, MA
David Compton –West Palm Beach, FL
Saf Costa –Manchester, CT
Laurianne Debanné –Outremont, QC
Matthieu Delcourt –Ottawa, ON
Emily Eskiw –Edmonton, AB
Brandice Evans –Tempe, AZ
Abraham Finny –Boylston, MA
Heather Flowers –Toronto, ON
Josiah Franklin –Otterburne, MB
Douglas Gates –Gretna, VA

David Goben –Queen Creek, AZ
Matthew Groff –Orlando, FL
Marsha Guntharp –West Palm Beach, FL
Annie Henderson –Preston, CT
Kaelyn Hinkley –Sweet Valley, PA
Lixiao Huang –Gilbert, AZ
Theunis Jacobs –Mossel Bay, South Africa
Tiffany Kershner –Ponte Vedra Beach, FL
Michael Kolta –Boynton Beach, FL
William Kuebler –Charlottesville, VA
Maria Linell Labitad –Charlotte, NC
Hannah Larsen –Waite Park, MN
Eric Larson –Seattle, WA
Micaiah Lee –Charlottesville, VA
Haw Chuan Lim –Gainesville, VA
Yu-Yang Lin –Vancouver, BC
Aubrey Linaman –Lynnwood, WA
Jason Link –Woods Hole, MA
Truyen Nguyen –Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam
Clifford Norman –Seabrook, TX
David Ochoa –Elizabeth, NJ
Ella Olofson –Elk River, MN
Fernando Pasquini Santos –Grand Rapids, MI
Lana Pidde –Langley, BC
Wayne Poole –Ocala, FL

Daniel Prohuska –Evanston, IL
Rebekah Robson –Oakhurst, NJ
Kimberly Schiffman –Fairfax, VA
Mike Schwinn –Olympia, WA
Igor Sharakhov –Blacksburg, VA
YiLi Smedley –Mechanicsburgh, PA
Patrick Smith –Elkton, MD
Jade Soto –Brooklyn, NY
Nadia Speulstra –Grand Rapids, MI
Foster Stanback –Newport Coast, CA
Devin Stephens –Brownstown, MI
Lauren Stephens –Chesnee, SC
Adelle Strobel –Ottawa, ON
Owen Swanson –Shadow Hills, CA
Kylie Taylor –Burnsville, NC
Josiah Tews –Lafayette, IN
Aden Tom –Wellsboro, PA
Lisa Travis –Tulsa, OK
Dorine Tyr –Moscow, ID
Jiachen Wang –Montreal, QC
Graham Watt –Guelph, ON
Nevada Whitfield –New Baltimore, VA
Courtney Williams –Hershey, PA
Paul Yong –Vancouver, BC
Jeffrey Zabrocki –Fargo, ND

ASA Welcomes Louise Ko Huang to the ASA Board of Directors

Kathryn Applegate

The ASA is delighted to welcome Louise Ko Huang, PhD, to its Board of Directors.

A distinguished scholar, administrator, and leader in the integration of science and Christian faith, Louise brings deep expertise and a personal embodiment of ASA's mission.



Louise Ko Huang

Louise serves as the vice provost for Academic Services at Azusa Pacific University (APU), where she is also professor and a faculty fellow in the APU Honors College. From 2016–2025, she served as director of the Center for Research in Science, where she fostered interdisciplinary scholarship and led programming at the intersection of science, faith, and culture. Louise earned her BS from Cornell University and her MS and PhD from the University of California, Davis. Her scholarship addresses environmental chemistry, sustainability, climate change, and the relationship between science and Christian faith.

A Fellow of the ASA since 2020, Louise's engagement with ASA has been substantial. Since first presenting at the Southern California ASA chapter's 2016 conference, she has contributed to *PSCF* and ASA annual meetings, co-chaired the 2022 Annual Meeting, and hosted ASA Fellows and officers as well as the Southern California Winter Conference at APU.

Beyond her professional accomplishments, Louise is deeply grounded in faith and family. She and her husband, Kevin Huang, PhD, an organic chemistry professor at APU, share two young adult children. Together, they embody a life of scholarship, service, and joyful commitment to Christ. We warmly welcome Louise to the ASA Board of Directors and look forward to her leadership in the years ahead.

CSCA Highlights for December 2025 to February 2026

Arnold Sikkema, Joseph Vybihal, and Vlad Paserin



Members of the Canadian Scientific & Christian Affiliation stand in solidarity with our US colleagues in the ASA during these challenging times. We recognize the difficulties you face amid political and social pressures, and we reaffirm our shared commitment to the pursuit of truth, openness, and rigorous scientific inquiry grounded in faith. We are with you, and we stand together in advancing knowledge and understanding for the good of both our nations.

In recent years, we have held our formal "Annual General Meeting" (AGM) at the ASA Annual Meeting, often connected with a CSCA meet-up dinner. This year, in view of expected reduced numbers of CSCA members in attendance for various reasons, we will revert to our earlier practice of holding the AGM in the Fall, and are working on plans which will make this either a purely online meeting or a hybrid meeting in conjunction with a local event (perhaps in the Hamilton area).

We have launched a partnership with Power to Change (P2C, the Canadian counterpart to Cru) to provide four \$500 scholarships for students pursuing science at university. P2C distributes its general scholarship invitation to many churches across Canada, and this year, they are including information about CSCA in this distribution; see p2students.com/awards for details. We expect this will generate a lot of interest and excitement, as well as local connections.

CSCA members are well represented among the ASA in leadership positions for ASA affiliates: two for the new Affiliation of Christians in AI (including our secretary Joseph Vybihal), one in the Creation Care Affiliation, and two in the Affiliation of Christian Entrepreneurs (including our president Vlad Paserin).



Ramesh Velupillaimani, Daisy Savarirajan, Jennifer Wiseman, and Curtis Baxter (from AAAS) connect at the AAAS Annual Meeting.

Fostering Professional Networking

Dana Oleskiewicz

We learned that the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) would be holding its annual meeting in Phoenix, AZ, in mid-February. This information was shared through the ASA channels to chapter members, with an invitation to connect with ASA Fellow Jennifer Wiseman, who would be in attendance.

ASA Fellow Daisy Savarirajan, faculty advisor to the student chapter at Grand Canyon University, and ASA member Ramesh Velupillaimani and ASA Fellow Ben Sanders accepted the invitation. This illustrates the professional networking that is fostered by ASA efforts.

We continue to welcome such interactions among our members and your colleagues for strengthening professional linkages and educational outreach both regionally and by discipline. Let us know about opportunities in your area that would be of interest to ASA members.

A Strong Start to the New Year with Affiliate and Chapter Activities

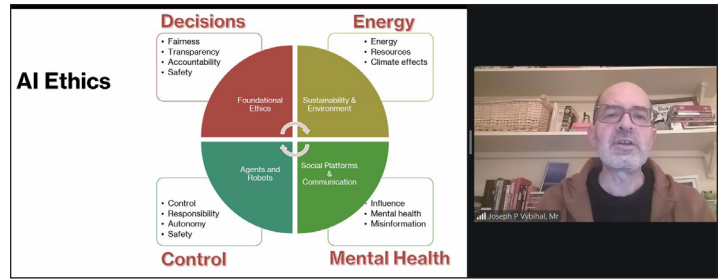
Dana Oleskiewicz

At the start of 2026, affiliates and chapters have been connecting with ASA members and non-members from around the world in record numbers with outreach programming. Over 30 events with nearly 500 attendees have already been hosted with online and in-person participation, with many more scheduled for the upcoming months.

A new ASA affiliate, Affiliation of Christians in AI (ACAI), recently launched. It held its kick-off meeting in early January. This was followed by a well-attended seminar addressing AI ethics on February 24 with Joseph Vybihal from CSCA Montreal Chapter. His seminar extended beyond the scheduled ending time due to the great interest and engagement of the attendees.

The Affiliation of Christian Geologists is experiencing a productive reboot with a recent online event entitled "Inerrancy and Literalism: Navigating Tensions Between Scriptural and Scientific Accounts of Origins," in conversation with John Hilber and Gregg Davidson.

On February 18, the Science Communicators of Faith (SCF) hosted J. Nathan Matias from Cornell University as he presented "Science



Joseph Vybihal, President of CSCA Montreal Chapter, offered information on the ethics of AI.

Communication When Morale is Low." SCF has also published a Lenten devotional booklet, *Prayers, Laments, & Liturgies for Scientific Minds*, available online at https://drive.google.com/file/d/1V5Z52RPo_wC_Em3Ha5RmiJ3A74jvYsW/view.

The Affiliation of Christian Biologists continues to host the highly popular monthly lecture series on evolution and creation. Check the ASA webpage, 2025–2026 Lecture Series, for the complete schedule as well as recordings of previous lectures at https://network.asa3.org/members/group_content_view.asp?group=85561&id=1136882.

The Creation Care Affiliation, emulating the success of the ASA book clubs that have been discussing *The Road to Wisdom*, has been holding an online conversation about *The Seven Pillars of Creation: The Bible, Science, and the Ecology of Wonder* by William P. Brown.



Grand Rapids Lunch Reception

Vicki Best

Kathryn and Brent Applegate offered radical hospitality (one of ASA's core values) at a lovely lunch reception at their beautiful home in Grand Rapids, Michigan, on Saturday, January 31. We had about 20 ASA members, friends, and spouses in attendance for a wonderful time of enjoying homemade soup, bread, and fellowship together.

President Janel Curry and Executive Vice President Vicki Best were with us to share exciting updates about ASA initiatives, future visioning, and the legacy campaign. Board Vice Chair Kathryn Applegate provided an overview of the work of the board and its priorities as well as the strategic

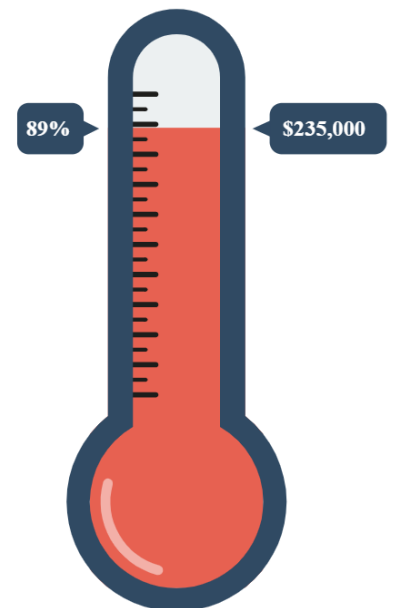
planning process. It was also a prime opportunity to hear from each participant how God is at work in their lives as they serve science, society, and the church as ASA members. Derek Schuurman and Ralph Stearley talked about some of the upcoming activities of the West Michigan local chapter as well.

Our oldest and youngest members in attendance were both Leah's! Leah Van Antwerp, the wife of Alan Van Antwerp (a 60-year ASA member), is 95 years young and Leah Norton is 23 years old, a new student member who was attending her very first ASA event!

Annual Fund Update

Thank you to the many who have already given. If you have not, would you prayerfully consider helping us reach our goal?

GOAL: \$265,000



ASA 2026 Winter Symposium Watch Parties

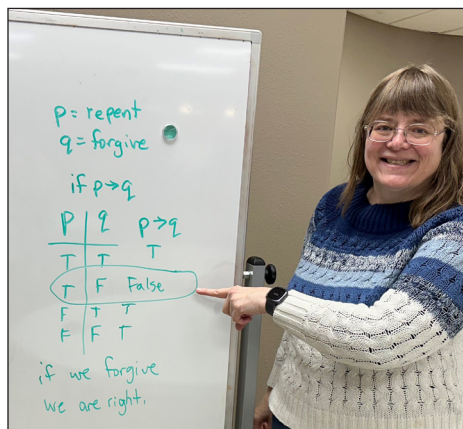
Explore Science of Forgiveness

Kathy Sperounis

The sixth annual Winter Symposium of the ASA was held on January 24, bringing together online participants and thirteen watch parties across the United States and Canada. The symposium featuring Charlotte and John Witvliet explored how scientific research on forgiveness can inform Christian faith, worship, and everyday practice. ASA leaders and volunteers across North America coordinated these gatherings to expand the event's reach and foster meaningful local conversation.

In total, thirteen watch parties—nine hosted by ASA chapters and four by partner groups—welcomed approximately 105 attendees. In addition to the ASA Winter Symposium breakout group, local chapter events were held by the North Star, Red River Valley, and Washington, DC chapters, as well as CSCA chapters in Ottawa and Montreal. Other participating chapters included Samford University and student chapters from Gardner-Webb University and Grand Canyon University. Partnerships included Chesterton House at Cornell University, Calvary Presbyterian Church, Christ Community Church, and a gathering in Houston organized by ASA member Rita Wang and attendee Sawyu Htun.

Even with inclement weather in some places, participants were able to enjoy the symposium safely and comfortably from their own homes, while other watch parties hosted good-sized gatherings. One example came from the Red River Valley chapter, where fourteen attendees enjoyed chili, meaningful discussion, and a memorable moment when Mary Townsend used



Mary Townsend explains Boolean algebra and forgiveness to attendees at the Red River Valley watch party.

Boolean algebra to show why “it’s always beneficial to forgive.”

The watch parties concluded with guided discussions that invited participants to explore topics such as approaches to forgiveness, the biology of forgiveness, accountability, and the role of the scientific community. Conversations closed with these questions: “What does science give faith that faith might not discover on its own about forgiveness? And what does faith give science in terms of meaning, or hope that science alone cannot supply?” Questions on which we can all reflect.

The ASA thanks everyone who contributed to the success of the 2026 ASA Winter Symposium, as these local outreach efforts strengthen the work of the ASA.



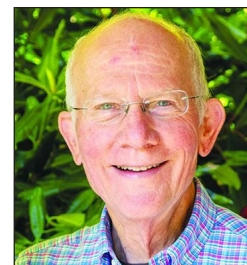
Samford University watch party attendees

Members in Glory

Randy Isaac

Edwin Anthony Karlow

(1942–2025)
 Physics



Edwin Anthony Karlow, 82, passed away unexpectedly from a heart attack on March 28, 2025. Edwin was born to Milton and Vera Karlow on May 13, 1942, in West Hollywood, California, where he grew up and attended Glendale Adventist Academy. He attended Pacific Union College for three years and graduated with a Bachelor of Science in physics from Walla Walla College in 1966. Edwin married Marilyn Edna Cross of Walla Walla, Washington, on September 7, 1964, and they lived in Walla Walla while he finished his university studies. In 1971, Edwin graduated from Washington State University having completed both a Masters and a PhD in physics.

In 1969, a fellow graduate student at Washington State University told Edwin about the American Scientific Affiliation (ASA). He joined the ASA that year and remained a member for the rest of his life. He contributed a suggestion for two “Sabbath Problems,” published in the October/November 1977 issue of the *Newsletter of the ASA and CSCA*.

Columbia Union College in Takoma Park, Maryland, hired Edwin as an assistant professor and the family moved in the late summer of 1971. After being recruited to Loma Linda University, Edwin became chairman of their physics department in 1978, and the family moved to La Sierra, California, that summer. Between 1978 and 2008, when he retired, Ed was involved in a host of activities from university governance to faculty senate to WASC accreditation to audio/visual teams to music recording to university honors program to educational laboratory instrumentation. Through all of those activities, Ed’s core passion remained classroom instruction; he never lost his deep love for the students he counted it his privilege to teach.

After his retirement from La Sierra University, Edwin and Marilyn returned to Walla Walla where they lived happily until Marilyn’s passing on December 7, 2014. Barbara Herdman and Edwin were married April 10, 2016, and they relocated to Barbara’s hometown of Tillamook, Oregon, soon thereafter. While in Tillamook, Ed continued to pursue his interests in physics education, RV camping, and the intersection of faith and science. Ed left this world at peace.

Members in Glory

Randy Isaac

Jimmy Henry Davis

(1948-2025),
Chemist

Jimmy Henry Davis, of Germantown, TN, passed away on November 2, 2025, at Baptist Memorial Hospital in Memphis, TN.



Jimmy Davis

Jimmy was born on March 22, 1948, on a beautiful farm near Natchez Trace State Park between Lexington and Parsons, TN. He was the only son of Maxine and Henry Davis who predeceased him. They were wonderful parents who helped Jimmy make room in his busy life to read and study, laying the groundwork for his future success.

He graduated from Lexington High School. In 1970, he obtained his BS in chemistry at Union University (UU) in Jackson, TN and graduated *summa cum laude*. A mentor of Jimmy's and the head of UU's chemistry department, encouraged many of her bright chemistry students to shoot for the stars, enhancing their chemical knowledge and skills by going to graduate school. Thus, in 1976, Jimmy obtained his PhD in chemistry from the University of Illinois (U of I), Urbana-Champaign. But before graduating, he met his future wife, Christine Menzel, while both were teaching assistants at the U of I. Christine cherished Jimmy and promised she would do all she could to help advance his work and bring happiness to their lives. They were married on May 11, 1974.

After a short time working in advanced chemistry projects at the University of Florida in Gainesville, Jimmy began his lifelong work at Union University (UU) in 1978. He has strived to advance the mission of UU to provide Christ-centered education by focusing on the core values of UU. He held a number of important administrative offices at UU, including dean of the Memphis campus, director of institutional research, associate provost, and vice president.

He always strived for excellence in his teaching, scholarship, and service. Excellence in teaching is reflected in his award of the Alumni Outstanding Teaching Award; his more than ten presentations to other educators on how to teach chemistry using demonstrations; his presentation in China on the future of higher education; and his being awarded the Hammons Chair in Pre-Medical Studies for excellence in teaching pre-medical students.

Jimmy learned about the American Scientific Affiliation (ASA) at a Templeton Foundation workshop related to his course award. He then received an ASA grant to bring guest speakers to campus in support of the course. Jimmy joined the ASA in 1999. He presented papers at the ASA annual meetings in 2012, 2017, and 2022. His achievements resulted in his appointment as an ASA Fellow in 2012.

He was most happy to teach UU's science and faith course with Hal Poe, an ASA Fellow and former board member. They explored the major scientific concepts guiding modern science in relationship to the major faith commitments of the Christian faith to produce constructive dialogue that will mutually inform the two ways of knowing between the Word of God and science. Their course won a Templeton Course Award in 1998. Their work resulted in the publication of five books on different issues of science and Christian faith. Their course formed the basis of their first book, *Science and Faith: An Evangelical Dialog* (2000), which was also published in Romania. The second book, *The Designer Universe*, won the 2003 *Christianity Today* Award of Merit. Their third book, *Chance or Dance: An Evaluation of Design*, was published in 2008 by the Templeton Foundation Press. Their final book, *God and the Cosmos: Divine Activity in Space, Time, and History*, was published by InterVarsity Press in 2012.

Jimmy was a committed Christian, who saw his calling as helping others understand that they are worshiping God by studying the sciences (Phil. 4:8). He incorporated deliberate activities in his classes that caused his students to integrate their science knowledge to their faith.

He has been people-focused both in and out of the classroom as well as when he was an administrator at Union University. This focus was also shown when, for many years, he worked in the Germantown Environmental Commission. Also, it showed when participating with other groups such as the planning committee at Germantown Baptist Church and his Sunday School class. Jimmy believed that valuing people reflects that all people are created in the image of God. He has always taken time to listen and help those in need.

Lastly, Jimmy and Christine have had many adventures in life, but none were as interesting as the birth, in 1986, of Patrick Menzel Davis and participating in his development. Jimmy was so happy in 2024, when Patrick married Eva (Harrison) Davis; both are nurses and, like Jimmy, very kind and generous people.

John E. Richardson

(1939-2025), Electrical Engineer

John E. (Jack) Richardson died peacefully in his sleep on December 16, 2025, following an eight-month journey with pancreatic cancer. He was a devoted husband of 35 years to Marion (Ryder) Richardson.



Jack Richardson

Jack was born to Wilfrid and Elda (Wemp) Richardson on a farm in Wallaceburg, Ontario, on September 2, 1939. His affinity for building things and fascination with electronics from an early age led him to Massachusetts Institute of Technology,

where he graduated with a degree in electrical engineering in 1963. He later earned an MBA at the University of Toronto. Jack was a life-long student of the Scriptures and kept a rich library of his favorite Christian authors and theologians.

The day after he submitted his undergraduate thesis at MIT, Jack began working at Digital Equipment Corporation as an engineer in a "very new field called the computer field." There, Jack enjoyed a 37-year career with Digital in a variety of roles, including sales, marketing, and education. He also produced conferences for major customers worldwide. At his core, he was a teacher—teaching customers how computers could improve their business, helping sales and marketing employees be more effective, and engaging with customers to see what future needs Digital could meet.

In 2000, Jack retired from Digital and began working at Vision New England, a Christian non-profit that supports and encourages churches and individuals across New England. He originally planned to stay for 5 years before settling into retirement, but he found the work fulfilling and meaningful. Jack was dedicated to developing leadership skills in pastors and many other members of church leadership. He stayed on in an official capacity for 25 years until December 2024 and remained involved until his death.

Jack deeply valued both family and friendships. He always made time for family vacations near and far, and often included friends on his adventures. He was a good listener, asking thoughtful questions and remembering details years later. Friends often would describe his humility, integrity,

dependability, and ability to make anyone feel like they had known each other for years within minutes of meeting. In 2017, he began volunteering at Joni and Friends Family Retreats, serving as a one-on-one with campers impacted by disability. In this role, he built relationships with campers of all ages and actively invested in these friendships throughout the year outside of camp.

Jack was a faithful follower of Jesus. He developed a personal relationship with Christ during his sophomore year of college at MIT, served in a local church wherever he lived, and particularly found meaning in teaching adult Sunday School classes to those new to the Christian faith. For over 20 years, he participated in and often led lessons with a men's Bible study that met at 7am on Saturday mornings. His interest in both his faith and his engineering expertise led him to join the American Scientific Affiliation (ASA) in 1963. He frequently attended ASA annual meetings and local Boston area ASA chapter meetings. He remained a member until his death.

Jack had a lifelong love of the outdoors, which spanned from his childhood years on the banks of the Sydenham River in southwestern Ontario, to multi-weeklong canoe trips in Northern Canada and the US for decades in adulthood. Recent travels included Waterton Lakes and Banff National Parks, the Alaskan Highway, and Prince Edward Island and the Bay of Fundy. Jack continued to pick up new outdoor pursuits late in life with enthusiasm, including learning to downhill ski at the age of 65 and trying rock climbing for the first time in his 80s. From his childhood chickens, to woodland creatures he encountered while hiking, and the birds and squirrels he faithfully fed in the yard for over 45 years, Jack cared for all "little animals" in the natural world. Jack also enjoyed classical music, especially Bach, and appreciated it most with others by attending concerts, musicals, operas, and singing in a choir. He had a keen interest in astronomy, and many may remember his delight in sharing the wonders of the night sky with those of all ages.

Following a diagnosis of pancreatic cancer in April 2025, Jack took it upon himself to live his life to the fullest, in the same way he had throughout the past 85 years. He approached the terminal nature of his disease with an extraordinary depth of peace, witty pragmatism, and joy at the promise of being united with his Lord and Savior. Over the final eight months of his life, he set out daily with the mission of "making memories," which included smelling lilacs, canoeing, biking, taking four road trips to Canada, and embarking on a summer-long tour of nearly every ice cream shop in the Greater Boston area.

Roger D. Griffioen

(1934-2026), *Chemist*

Roger D. Griffioen died on January 3, 2026, at age 91. He was born in Grand Rapids, Michigan, on September 7, 1934. Roger attended the GR Christian schools, graduated from Calvin College (now University) in 1956, married his college sweetheart, Kathleen Schepel, in 1957, and obtained his PhD in nuclear chemistry in 1960 from Purdue University. After a year-long postdoc in California at UC Berkeley, he began his teaching career at Calvin College in 1961, where he remained for nearly 40 years.



Roger Griffioen

His time at Calvin was influenced by the changing times. His teaching load varied as the years went by. He served many years as department chair as well as a number of years as Dean of Natural Sciences. Sabbatical and summer research leaves included work at Florida State University in Tallahassee, the

University of Rochester in New York, and the Lawrence Livermore Laboratory in California. He also spent a year in Tucson, Arizona, as the program officer for a corporation offering summer research grants to high school teachers in the field of physics.

In 1968, he joined the American Scientific Affiliation. He was elected an ASA Fellow in 1978 and continued to be a member for the rest of his life.

After an undergraduate research program at Calvin began to discover and track asteroids, Roger was honored in 2003 when their second recognized discovery was named Asteroid Griffioen. Following his retirement from Calvin in 1999, he became involved with the Murdock Charitable Trust. There he was able to resume his work enabling high school teachers to do research in their field of interest until re-retiring in 2014.

For 20 years, Roger sang with the Calvin Alumni Choir, participating in their tour to Asia in 2000. Throughout his life, he played his trumpet at church and in various bands until he participated in his final concert on May 17, 2025. He did it. He played when he was 90!

Miguel A. Martinez

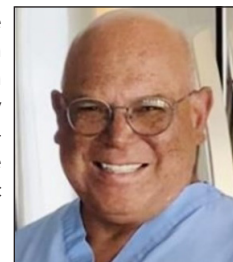
(1956-2026) *Physician*

Miguel A. Martinez of Wenham and Rockport, MA, died suddenly of heart complications on February 10, 2026. He was 69.

Miguel was born on August 17, 1956, in Salinas, Puerto Rico. He moved to Michigan with his family when he was twelve years old. He graduated with honors from the University of Michigan in 1978 and Michigan State University College of Human Medicine in 1982. Miguel did a family practice residency with New England Memorial Hospital and then an emergency medicine residency with Worcester Memorial Hospital. He was Board Certified in both family practice medicine and emergency medicine.

Miguel was a gifted and caring doctor. He loved his work, his patients, and the staff he worked with. He began his career in 1985 as an emergency physician at Beverly Hospital and Addison-Gilbert Hospital. He served in numerous leadership roles, including on the medical staff executive committee, the quality committee, and as chair of the ethics committee. In 1992, he became a clinical instructor in the Department of Family Medicine of the Tufts University School of Medicine. He also chaired the Wenham Board of Health from 1992 to 2012, led a family practice clinic in the Point neighborhood of Salem from 1995 to 2000, and served from 1995 to 2019 as the medical director at Gordon College. In 2017, he became the medical director of Beth Israel-

Lahey Urgent Care Centers in the Boston area, a group which grew to five clinics by the time of his passing. He joined the American Scientific Affiliation in 2022.



Miguel Martinez

Medical missions were important to Miguel.

In 1982, he and Kristina served for three months in Ecuador on a Readers Digest scholarship. He served on several medical missions with the Christian Medical & Dental Associations and was a lifetime member. He also took each of his six children on at least one medical mission trip, serving in Central or South America.

Miguel enjoyed life and had many interests. Some of his friends called him a Renaissance man. He was an active member of First Congregational Church of Hamilton, where he had many dear friends. He loved reading and learning about the Bible. He enjoyed skiing with family and friends. He was a member of the Salem Willows Yacht Club and Jubilee Yacht Club, and sailed and raced many different sailboats—always named Arco Iris or Taino—for more than 35 years. His sailing crew were all very special to him. His newest sport, pickleball, totally took over his old sport of tennis. Miguel painted beautiful paintings which he enjoyed sharing. He loved classical music, especially Bach, and listening to vintage Puerto Rican music and jazz.

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