

# The Gateway

The Quarterly Newsletter from Fellowship Hall

FALL 2015

*In this issue*

## Dr. Jerry Davis honored with “The Spirit of Ray”



Some might say that Dr. Jerry Davis is an institution. He served on the Fellowship Hall Board of Directors for 13 years before joining the medical staff in 2011. He's in the office every week, and a fixture at Hall events. Sometimes it's hard to believe that he hasn't actually been here since the very beginning.

Much like the man this award is named for, Dr. Davis embodies those most admirable of qualities: strength of character, selflessness, and dedication to recovery. As the inscription reads, “he is a mentor, guide, and friend to the addict and non-addict alike. Through his encouragement and generosity of self, he has helped many on their journey of recovery.”

Dr. Davis first became involved with Fellowship Hall through his friendship with the late E. Raymond Alexander, Jr. And how he met Ray Alexander is a funny story indeed.

The story goes, in order to not be thrown in jail for not paying alimony to his second wife, Jerry would need to pay the court \$2000.00. He was to report to court on

Monday morning and resolve the matter. On Monday morning he entered the courthouse with Raymond Alexander, who asked Jerry to confirm that he had the money. Well... he *had* the money, but he didn't have it anymore. Instead, he had spent the weekend, and the money, with friends on a yacht on Lake Norman. “We talk about a tornado going through the lives of people, I certainly was.” Raymond soon tired of these antics and sent Davis a certified letter deposing himself as his lawyer.

Eventually, Jerry started to wise up. At this point, he'd been to treatment once, then once again, and had about 3 months of sobriety under his belt. But the center could not hold and things fell apart. And for what would be the last time.

After downing a 5th of vodka in 30 minutes, he wound up in the emergency room, and up on the psych floor. It was there that he had a life changing encounter. “The psychiatrist there, his name was Dr. Morris, called me into his office, he said, ‘I've talked to the Physicians Health Program, I know that you've been to treatment several times, you've got all the tools of recovery that you need, and it doesn't appear that you're willing to use them to get through these problems you're having. So I want you to get your bag and get the (expletive) out of my hospital.’”

It was a long road back-- he had lost not only his urgent care practice but his medical license as well. He didn't have any money, and barely had a place to live. “All this stuff that I thought defined me as a person, God just took it away. Looked down and said ‘do you hear me now?’ Have I got your attention yet?”

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## ARMFIELD FOUNDATION MAKES CAMPAIGN GIFT

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## CLIMBING THE FRUITED TREE

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### STAY IN TOUCH!



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*Fellowship Hall*

## Armfield Foundation Makes “Changing Lives” Gift

The Edward M. Armfield Foundation, Sr. Foundation continues to be a beacon for recovery with its most recent gift to Fellowship Hall in the amount of \$50,000.00. This gift will be used to name an area in the new Moser Kiser, Jr. Extended Treatment Lodge in honor of the Foundation and its generosity.

“The Armfield Foundation has a long and dedicated history with Fellowship Hall”, says Brad Marino, President and CEO. “This gift is another example of their commitment to making a positive difference for others. We are grateful for the Foundation’s leading gift.”

Edward M. Armfield, Sr. was a native of Asheboro, NC and lived in Greensboro until his death in 1999. His brother, Henry M. Armfield, Jr. played an important role in the founding and creation of Fellowship Hall. Henry served as one of Fellowship Hall’s founding directors, beginning his service in 1969, and continuing until his death in 1981.

The Changing Lives Campaign is in its initial phase to raise \$6 million dollars to construct three new buildings on the Fellowship Hall campus. This construction includes the Mose Kiser, Jr. Lodge and a forthcoming residential lodge, as well as a new outpatient building that will house the expanded Intensive Outpatient Program, the Family Program, and a 200-seat lecture hall for education and training.

Changing Lives Campaign gifts can be made online at [www.fellowshiphall.com/support](http://www.fellowshiphall.com/support) or via the donation form on page 3.

## CHANGING LIVES

### THE CAMPAIGN FOR FELLOWSHIP HALL

A PREMIER PROVIDER OF ALCOHOL AND DRUG ADDICTION TREATMENT



## Golf Tournament Meets, and Exceeds, Fundraising Goal!

Thank you to everyone who came out and played in the 14th Annual E. Raymond Alexander, Jr. Memorial Golf Tournament! Many, many thanks to our generous sponsors for making this another successful tournament. Including several in-kind donations, we collected over \$60,000!

Proceeds will benefit the Fellowship Hall Family Program by providing scholarships for financially qualified family members of guests in treatment. Family members who participate in the four-day program gain a

better understanding of the dynamics of alcohol and drug addiction through education and support.

### Mark your calendars:

The 15th annual tournament will be held on **Friday, August 5, 2016**

### 2015 Golf Winners

**First Place** (pictured): Mike Cooke, Andrew Manly, Chris Little, Charlie Fulk

**Second Place:** Sandy Brady, Patrick Brady, Chris McMichael, Steve Harwell

**Third Place:** Richard Hale, Kory Bell, Drew Hobby, Ed Hobby

**Women’s Straightest Drive:** Anna Dermatas

**Men’s Straightest Drive:** Chris Taylor

**Women’s Closest to the Pin (#12):**

Mel Presgrave

**Men’s Closest to the Pin (#12):** Chris Little

**Women’s Closest to the Pin (#4):**

Stacey Tomlinson

**Men’s Closest to the Pin (#4):** Shane Pugh

**Women’s Longest Drive:** Mel Presgrave

**Men’s Longest Drive:** Parker Dudley



**SAVE THE DATE!**

**Annual Conference  
August 5-6-7, 2016!**

**Downtown Greensboro Marriott**

[www.fellowshiphall.com/annual-conference](http://www.fellowshiphall.com/annual-conference)

*Do you know these folks?*



Staff celebrate Halloween in a photo circa 1987.

(See page 5 for answer)

# Yes, I want to Change Lives!

You may also donate online at [www.fellowshiphall.com/support](http://www.fellowshiphall.com/support)

Please use ballpoint pen to fill out this form. *Make checks payable to Fellowship Hall.*

Yes! I wish to support Fellowship Hall. I would like to give:

- \$5,000     \$2,500     \$1,000     \$750  
 \$500     \$250     \$100     \$50  
 Other \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Name (please print clearly) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

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## Credit Card Information

I authorize \$ \_\_\_\_\_ to be charged to my credit card.

- Visa     American Express  
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My gift is given     In Memory of     In Honor of

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Please notify the following person of my gift:

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Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

**Mail this form to:** Fellowship Hall, Attention: Development  
PO Box 13890, Greensboro, NC 27415

## Fellowship Hall Participates in "Rise Together Greensboro" Community Art Project

On August 26, Jessica Beamon, Fellowship Hall's Communications and Marketing Coordinator, received a phone call from artist Charlie Brouwer. "He reached out to invite us to participate in the community art project, 'Rise Together Greensboro'. He recognized the vital support role that organizations like ours play in our community. All he asked from us was a donated ladder." A ladder. With steps. You can't find a more literal met-

aphor for the foundation of Fellowship Hall than that.

Brouwer's vision for Rise Together Greensboro was to create a symbol of the interconnectedness of a community. "Each ladder represents the hopes and dreams of a part of the community, but when they are all connected, supporting and being supported by each other, they will be able to rise together to create a metaphor for community."

ment to the life changing transformations that take place within Fellowship Hall's walls. From words of encouragement and favorite quotes, to sobriety dates, the ladder is covered with celebrations of life and recovery.

The sculpture was deconstructed on September 27 and each of the ladders was returned to its owner. The Hall's ladder will be on display on campus. Stop by and see it sometime. Maybe you can even add your own mark. GW



Pieced together from hundreds of ladders borrowed from the community, the completion of the monumental sculpture kicked off this year's 17Days Festival and the local debut of the National Folk Festival.

Rather than use just any old ladder, Fellowship Hall invited alumni, friends, staff, and current guests in treatment to decorate a special ladder. The end result is a testa-



Photo: H. Scott Hoffman, courtesy News & Record

3 Artist Charlie Brouwer with Fellowship Hall's ladder

Detail of ladder

Jerry Davis, continued from page 1

After living with his sister in Florida for 18 months, during which time he regained his medical license, the medical board told him to move to Raleigh, and so he did.

After working in Raleigh for several years, Davis moved back to Greensboro, and a chance encounter would put him back in touch with Raymond Alexander. "It was my first week back in town, and I'm trying to go to as many meetings as I can. So I'm downtown at West Market Street Methodist Church on a Wednesday night and I hear this booming voice in the meeting, and only one person has a voice like that, and that was E. Raymond. So I went up to him after the meeting and Raymond was so glad to see that I had finally made it to the room! That was also the night that I asked him to be my temporary sponsor. And from then until the time he died we had an ongoing sponsor/sponsee relationship."

Jerry fondly recalls one of Raymond's most endearing qualities. "Raymond believed in having a good time, in recovery, in anything that he did." Raymond organized a group of golfers that would go play every weekend. He would invite those new in recovery or struggling with recovery so as to provide a support system and set the example that you could still have fun in recovery. "I always looked at Raymond as being the chief cheerleader. He was someone that would be behind you, pushing you the whole way, cheering you on, patting you on the back."

It was that encouragement that lead Jerry to begin volunteering with the Physicians Health Program. He credits the organization with not only saving his career, but his life. "The last time I went to treatment I had no insurance, I had no money, and they put up the front money to send me back to treatment." He was later invited to join their board of directors, and subsequently serve two years as board chairman.

When he got his medical license back, it was difficult to find a job. No one wanted to hire a doctor with his history. He made cold call after cold call to no avail. "I got laughed at a lot". It was that rejection that set him on his true path for advocacy. "I made up my mind that if I ever got back on my feet, I wanted to make it so that no physician who was in recovery, and sincere about recovery, would ever have to go through that same humiliation to get a job."

Through his urgent care practice, Battleground Urgent Care, Dr. Davis helped many medical professionals get back to work simply by giving them another chance to practice medicine, stigma free.

Dr. Davis has also been a senior airman medical examiner with the HIMS program, an occupational substance abuse treatment protocol specifically for aviators, for more than 30 years. "I love working around recovery people, particularly recovering professionals. That's kind of my niche; that's what I do for fun."

In 1998, Dr. Davis joined the Fellowship Hall board, which he served on from then until 2011. During his time on the board, Davis advocated for, and ultimately saw to fruition, the advent of the extended treatment program at Fellowship Hall. At the time, there was no treatment center in North Carolina that offered 90-day treatment. After retiring from the board he began working part time to assist the then medical director. In early 2014 he stepped in as interim medical director, where he served until fall of that year when Dr. Washo was hired.

These days you'll find him around the Hall, decked out in colorful button-down shirts and bow ties. When reflecting on the trials and triumphs of his life, he says that all you've got to do is "stick around 'till the miracle happens!"

Dr. Davis celebrated 24 years of sobriety on September 30. 

To read the full, unabridged article, please visit [www.fellowshiphall.com/news](http://www.fellowshiphall.com/news)

## 2015 GOLF SPONSORS

### Platinum

Rentenbach Constructors  
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Sandy & Patrick Brady  
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Taylor-Made Comfort

### Bronze

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Davis Forensic Group  
Dr. Jerry Davis  
Dedgecock Electric  
Dr. & Mrs. James T. Massagee  
Jim Medford  
Ed & Millie Millis  
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S&D Coffee  
Jerry Shelton Builder, LLC/Realtor  
United Beverages of North Carolina  
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### Friends of Ray

Carol Alexander -  
*In Memory of Clyde White*  
Cory & Heather Barber  
Sarah Beale  
Susan Bray  
Paul Carter - *on behalf of Bikers*  
*Against Child Abuse*  
Alison Coble  
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Stuart & Melissa Gordon  
Vinnie & Mack Gordy  
Dottie Hermanson  
HP Psychological Assts.  
Nancy Kiesenhofer  
Mose Kiser, Jr  
Drew Kraly  
Diffie Lambert  
Claire & Patrick Lanier -  
*in honor of Russell Jacks*  
Stephanie Lanier  
NC Electric Membership Corporation -  
*in honor of US Rep Howard Coble*  
Tom Smith & Toni Knight  
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John Redhead  
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Jane & John Teer  
Thompson Traders  
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### In Kind

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Impressions Promotions  
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Quaintance-Weaver Restaurants & Hotels  
Starbucks  
The Feathered Nest  
The Shoe Market  
Triad Business Journal  
Village Tavern  
Volvo of the Triad  
Boyd Watkins

## STAY IN TOUCH!

We're making efforts to update our database so that we can stay in better touch with you! This includes collecting email addresses so that we can communicate electronically.

Please take a few moments to go online and provide us with your email address.

### COMPLETE ONLINE FORM

<http://tinyurl.com/StayInTouchFH>

### EMAIL or CALL

Natalie Schorr  
Data and Research Specialist  
[natalies@fellowshiphall.com](mailto:natalies@fellowshiphall.com)  
336-553-6611

If you email us directly, please be sure to include:

- First and Last Name
- Preferred email address
- Zip Code
- Your relationship to the Hall (alumni, family, friend, referral source, etc)

If you wish, you can also include your mailing address and phone number.

All information you provide will be kept confidential and will only be used by and for Fellowship Hall correspondence.

# Climbing the Fruited Tree



You've probably seen Claire Lanier at Fellowship Hall events. She's the fair-skinned brunette with gentle hazel eyes and a quick smile.

Claire first became involved with Fellowship Hall when friend and board member Jerry Shelton invited her to join the golf committee. "I readily said yes!" Claire and her husband Patrick, have both become avid volunteers and friends of the Hall, serving as co-chairs for this year's E. Raymond Alexander, Jr. Memorial Golf Tournament. Claire also supports Fellowship Hall as a council member, where she has served as secretary, as a 5th step volunteer, and she played an integral role in facilitating the involvement of several high-profile political and community leaders at the elected officials breakfast this past spring.

Continuing her passion for service, Claire volunteers at Higher Ground, a service of the Triad Health Project, which is a day center for those both infected or affected by HIV/AIDS. "I don't really like to call myself a volunteer; I feel like I get as much out of the house's activities as its guests." At Higher Ground, Claire participates in healing activities and helps plan and set up lunches for the guests, but mostly she spends her time building relationships with the guests.

And it's that compassionate spirit that lead Claire into the medical field, but not without a brief detour.

After studying computing and information technology and political science at Guilford College, Claire worked as the North Carolina data director for a presidential campaign. After the election, she worked for former congressman Howard Coble as his scheduler and community relations manager. She considers Coble her greatest mentor. "He doesn't think he is any wiser than anyone else. Everyone is his equal. He's the epitome of humility. He doesn't talk the talk but he sure does walk the walk, and luckily I've been witness to that."

Not long after graduating from college, Claire says she felt called to the field of medicine. You might say she came by it honestly: her mom is a registered nurse and her dad is an anesthesiologist.

Claire began her journey to medicine while still working for Congressman Coble. She shadowed healthcare professionals, completed her prerequisite, and when Coble retired, she began work as a medical scribe at Wake Forest Baptist Health.

Her drive to advocate for those whose voices and stories often go unheard is what keeps her motivated. "I believe stigmas impede progress and so I am passionate about eradicating the stigma of diseases as varied as alcoholism, HIV/AIDS, and obesity."

Her dedication and hard work towards this effort is demonstrated in one of her favorite quotes:

*"He that would eat the fruit must climb the tree."*

Claire hopes to continue this progress by enrolling in medical school next fall. She hasn't yet chosen a specialty and says that her interests are wide and varied.

In her downtime, Claire's favorite hobby is decorating. "I've never seen a blank wall I didn't want to hang something on." She's also an ardent Harry Potter fan. Not only has she read each book in the seven-book series more than 7 times, she also "identified the diadem of Ravenclaw as a horcrux in book six"... whatever that means! We'll leave the Harry Potter trivia to you, Claire.

Claire and Patrick Lanier live in Greensboro with their cat Annabelle, and dogs Ruger and Etta. 

To learn more about Higher Ground, please visit [triadhealthproject.com/higherground](http://triadhealthproject.com/higherground)

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## The Mose Kiser, Jr Extended Treatment Lodge Opened on July 9



pictured: Tom Smith, Mose Kiser, mayor Nancy Vaughan, and Brad Marino