

# *Hail to MacMurray*

*A Fond Farewell*



*June 18, 2022 4:00 pm*

*Annie Merner Chapel*

The Class of 2020 and their families have waited for over two years for this moment. Please show as much courtesy and consideration as possible to them, as well as those who are here to say goodbye to their beloved alma mater.

- Please silence all electronic devices, including games and cell phones.
- Please do not use flash photography. It interferes with the professional photographer. The chapel will be available for personal pictures after the ceremony is over.
- If your children become restless or begin to cause a disturbance, please be considerate of others. Ushers will provide assistance if you need to leave with your child. Even adults can get restless and need to leave for a moment. Ushers will also assist anyone who needs to leave during the service for any reason, including offering directions to restrooms which are located on the lower level of the chapel (accessible by stairs only).
- Please remember there is no smoking or vaping in the chapel or on the chapel steps.
- Out of respect for the solemnity of the occasion, we must insist that there be no noisemakers, bells, horns, etc. Applause is certainly encouraged.

# Hail To MacMurray: A Fond Farewell

A Celebration of MacMurray College



*\*Designates congregation stands as able*

- \* **Processional:** *Scotland the Brave* ..... TRADITIONAL  
Mr. Kevin Park, *Bagpiper*
- \* **Processional:** *Amazing Grace* ..... JOHN NEWTON  
Mr. Kevin Park, *Bagpiper*  
Dr. Paula Pugh Romanoux '74, *Organist*
- \* **Invocation** ..... Rev. Dr. Camilla Pierce Hempstead '84
- Welcome** ..... Mr. John Nicolay '90  
*Chairman, Board of Trustees*
- Recognition of Honored Guests** ..... Mr. John Nicolay '90
- \* **College Song:** *By Stately Elms Surrounded* ..... PHOEBE KREDER MURRAY, Class of 1890
- |  |   |
|--|---|
| By stately elms surrounded, our dear old college<br>stands<br>And with a faith unbounded, our loyalty demands<br>She guides her daughters all aright, as to her sides<br>they cling<br>And hails them well when dark the night 'neath the<br>shadow of her wing. (Refrain) | Hail to our alma mater, the pride of all the land<br>We will loyal be forever and by her side we'll stand<br>Her fame for aye we will unfold 'til known to all she'll<br>be<br>And oft her stories be retold by us o'er land and sea<br>(Refrain) |
|--|---|
- Refrain:* MacMurray dear, we love but thee, and will be always true  
Thy colors shall our ensign be, the yellow and the blue.
- Greetings from the 17<sup>th</sup> President of MacMurray College** ..... Dr. Beverly Rodgers
- Old Testament Reading:** Isaiah 43 (selected) ..... Rev. Dr. Camilla Pierce Hempstead '84
- Reminiscence** ..... Mr. Bob Zellmann '81

**Choral Music: *A Flower Remembered***..... JOHN RUTTER

**Alumni Choir**

**Ms. Christine Wallace Smith '92, Director**

*A flow'r remembered can never wither  
Forever blooming, as bright as day  
Its fragrance ling'ring  
Like music softly playing  
A gentle voice that's saying,  
"I'll never fade away"*

*I hear the echos of many voices  
Sometimes they're distant  
Sometimes so clear  
Through all the sounds of life  
They seem to whisper  
"Will you remember?"*

*The birds fly homeward across the valley  
Toward the mountains all white with snow  
The birds are gone now  
The mountain snows have melted  
But still I see their beauty,  
These scenes of long ago*

*The birds still fly in other valleys  
The snows have turned to flowing streams  
All things must pass, but memories are lasting  
We will remember...we will remember...*

**Recognition of Alumni by Decade**..... **Mr. David Ekin '77**

*Chairman, MacMurray Foundation and Alumni Association*

**Recognition of the Class of 2020**

Speakers: **Ms. Alexis Moore '20**      **Mr. Charles Brauch '20**

Presentation of Class of 2020 ..... **Dr. Gina Wyant**  
*Final Provost*

Conferring of Honorary Degree ..... **Dr. Beverly Rodgers**  
**Mr. John Nicolay, '90**

**Ms. Cynthia Zahm Siegfried '68, honorary degree recipient**

**Introduction of Keynote Speaker**..... **Mr. John Nicolay '90**

**Keynote Address: *In Praise Of MacMurray***..... **Dr. Allen Croessmann '68**

**A Liturgy of Remembrance** ..... **Rev. Dr. Camilla Pierce Hempstead '84**

This day revives in us memories of our beloved college, which is no more.  
What happiness we shared when we walked this hallowed ground.  
Rutledge, Jane, Katy, Kendall, Norris, Blackstock, Michalson, Harker, Main.  
The names of places we called home.  
What joy when we lived our lives together.  
**This memory is a blessing forever.**

For some of us, two years have passed. For others, it has been decades.  
It feels as if a long time has passed, and yet it seems as if it were only yesterday.  
Our hearts yearn for what we have lost.  
Though the bitter grief may have softened, a duller pain abides;  
for the place where we laughed and learned is silent now.  
The links to current students are broken, but the links of love and memories cannot break.  
**Our lives are bound up with one another's forever.**

Reminiscence ..... Dr. Claire Jerry  
*Former Professor of History and Communication*

As We Prepare To Take Our Leave..... Adapted from the poem "Sparks"..... by Mr. Dave Zak '77  
*Editor, '75 Tartan*  
*Read by Ms. Katie Richardson Petrikin '77*

Though we may leave and our individual voices are not heard here any longer, MacMurray College will hold the spirits and memories of those who have passed within. Mac has done much for us. We have given to it and it has offered much in return.

**But now, we must stand with only our memories of our time here, and look into the mirrored darkness of the future. Time is not easy. Our paths are not always clear.**

Golden ambition of our youth, sown on a universe of hope and fear, sent us searching everywhere as we made—and continue to make—our mark in the world.

**We must be like sparks—flying upward from the fires that Mac lit within our spirits during our time here.**

Sparks... sharing the fire that burns within us, teaching laughter and growth, sharing hands and hearts and hopes. We are each a volume of good times and bad, a story filled with death and life, a gift wrapped in beauty, sorrow, strength, ready and eager to share what we have learned.

**And so we must go, leaving a Mac world that has held us, shaped us, matured us. We move forward remembering our triumphs and tragedies, celebrations and crises, failings, fears and fun. We move forward knowing that MacMurray College will always remain in the stories we share, in the leadership we show, in the memories we honor. And so we must go. Just as sparks must fly from the fire, we must leave this place.**

Going Forth ..... Mr. David Ekin '77

**Retiring of the College Mace**

\* **Alma Mater: Hail To MacMurray**

Hail to MacMurray, the pride of us all!  
Hail to our alma mater, may her standards never fall!  
Hail to MacMurray, we pledge our loyalty!  
Knowledge, Faith, and Service  
shall our ensign ever be.

Wisdom gained through college  
illuminates the way:  
How to meet with reverence the duties of each day.  
Thus our code is molded to lead a loyal clan.  
Wisdom, Duty, Reverence  
shall be our goal and plan.

*Adapted from a song and words written by Mildred Rose Kane and Vivienne Swengel Smith, both Class of '34;  
and from words written by Dale Wolf '61*

We see MacMurray now with the eye of memory, her faults forgiven, her virtues grown larger.  
So does goodness live, and weakness fade from sight.  
We remember her with gratitude and prayers of thanksgiving.  
**Her memory is a blessing forever.**

We remember as well the classmates, roommates, teammates,  
who but yesterday were part of our MacMurray community.  
We remember professors, staff, and friends who are no longer among us  
but who remain a part of this place in our hearts.  
To all who cared for us and labored for the good of this place, we pay tribute.  
May we prove worthy of carrying on the tradition of this place, for now the task is ours.  
**Their souls are bound up in ours forever.**

We give thanks for the cloud of witnesses gathered today, and for those we carry in our hearts.  
Even those who have passed into the mists of memory are alive through us and our stories forevermore.  
**In the midst of our tears of loss are tears of laughter and joy, for we would not be the people we are  
today without our time at MacMurray.**  
**In sorrow and in gratefulness, we bid MacMurray College goodbye.**

Reminiscence ..... **Ms. Sharon L. Mather '04**  
*Staff Member, 1993-2007*

Choral Music: *The Call* ..... STROOPE  
**Alumni Choir**                      **Ms. Christine Wallace Smith '92, Director**

*Come my Way, my Truth, my Life*  
*Such a Way as gives us breath*  
*Such a Truth as ends all strife*  
*Such a Life as killeth death*

*Come my Light, my Feast, my Strength*  
*Such a Light as shows a feast*  
*Such a Feast as mends in length*  
*Such a Strength as makes his guest*

*Come my Joy, my Love, my Heart*  
*Such a Joy as none can move*  
*Such a Love as none can part*  
*Such a Heart as joys in love*

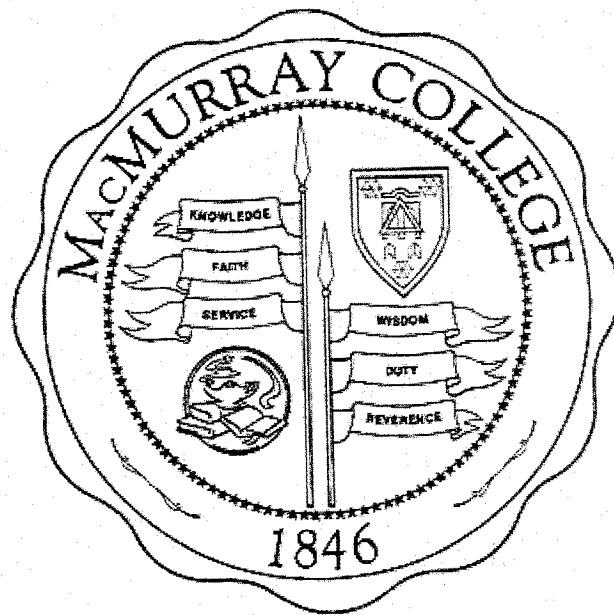
Reminiscence ..... **Dr. Robert Seufert**  
*Professor Emeritus of English*

Special Music: *For Those Tears I Died* ..... MARSHA STEVENS  
**Holy Fools Alumni**                      Acc. by **Mr. Nathan Bassett '84**  
*Former Head Fool*

- \* Full Circle ..... Ms. Katie Richardson Petrikin '77
- \* Benediction ..... Rev. Dr. Camilla Pierce Hempstead '84
- \* Recessional: *Great Day* ..... ADOLPHUS HALLSTORK  
Dr. Paula Pugh Romanaux '74

*-Please remain at your seats until the graduates and platform members pass by-*

*Ladies, please join together immediately following the ceremony on the lawn outside the chapel  
 for the singing of "Our Best to You"  
 led by Ms. Katie Richardson Petrikin '77*



# *A MacMurray Commencement Tradition*

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## *Our Best To You*

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“Our Best To You” is a song learned by MacMurray Women dating back to the late 1940s. It has been sung at various occasions throughout the school year in different settings, depending upon the era of the College. The song was sung beginning in the late '40s by the senior women at the Green Ribbon Ceremony, a rite of initiation for freshman women dating back to 1928. “Our Best to You” was also sung at “pinnings,” a late night ritual held in the dorms wherein a MacMurray woman announced her pinning (fraternity pin), lavalier or engagement.

As a final goodbye, the women of the College gathered in a circle on the front lawn of the Chapel and wished each other a good and happy life by singing “Our Best to You” following the Commencement ceremony. Later, as MacMurray graduates, male and female would marry, fellow classmates would encircle them at some point during the wedding reception and the women of the group would lead the Mac alums in “Our Best to You.”

In singing “Our Best to You” today, Class of 2020 graduates will be joined by alumni from across the decades as we bid a fond farewell to MacMurray by gathering in this cherished tradition one last time on Annie Merner Chapel lawn.

*Our best to you,  
may your dreams come true.  
May old Father Time  
never be unkind.  
And through the years  
save your smiles and tears,  
they are souvenirs.  
They make music in your heart.  
Remember this,  
each new day's a kiss  
sent from up above  
with an angel's love.  
So here's to you,  
may your skies be blue,  
and your love blest.  
That's our best to you!*



## Honorary Degree Recipient

Cynthia Zahm Siegfried '68

Doctor of Humane Letters



Cynthia Zahm Siegfried came to MacMurray College from Madison High School in Madison, Illinois. At MacMurray, she was involved in many, many activities, including Madrigals and other musical pursuits. She received a bachelor's degree in psychology from MacMurray College in 1968. She met her husband, Jim Siegfried, a fellow classmate, at MacMurray, and the two were wed shortly after graduation.

Following the birth of their daughters, Cyndi, Jim and their young family moved to the suburban Memphis, Tennessee area, where she resides today, and she threw herself heart and soul into raising their girls.

When her husband was diagnosed with stage 4 cancer in 2002, she approached his diagnosis with the same intensity that she put into parenting. As an avid reader, she delved into every book or medical journal on lung cancer, caregiving, managing stress in chronic illness, and nutritional rehabilitation after surgery and chemotherapy. She became an expert in these areas.

Cyndi supported her husband through 10 recurrences of lung cancer over 16 years. As she cared for him, her emails to friends and family to keep them apprised of the emotional aspects of the ordeal grew into a blog and that evolved into her book, "Cancer Journey: A Caregiver's View from the Passenger Seat," which was released in 2009. The book was listed as the #1 best seller for Cancer Support on Amazon in 2010.

After the publishing the book, Cyndi and Jim hit the speaking circuit, providing help and hope for individuals facing catastrophic life events. She continued to write as a freelance writer, contributing to periodicals and publications such as: Significant Living, In Touch, Chicken Soup for the Soul, Coping with Cancer, Today's Caregiver, Nostalgia, A New Heart, Today's Christian, and Breast Cancer Wellness Magazine.

In 2003 Cyndi and Jim founded f.a.i.t.H—facing an illness through Him, a support group for caregivers and their loved ones facing cancer. This group has helped hundreds of people through local meetings and online support.

Since 2003 Cyndi has been an ardent advocate for lung cancer awareness and for cancer caregivers. Based on reader contributions, she was selected as the 2011 Caregiver of the Year by Lungevity, a nonprofit organization dedicated to the treatment and prevention of lung cancer.

Cyndi is now a popular speaker who offers hope and inspiration to those touched by catastrophic disease and uses her degree from MacMurray College to help others through these challenging health situations. Sadly, Jim succumbed to his lung cancer diagnosis in 2018, three days before their 50<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary.

# Participants

Organist: Dr. Paula Pugh Romanaux '74

Interpreter: Ms. Carol Hauser '02

## Platform Party:

Mr. John Nicolay '90, Chairman, MacMurray Board of Trustees  
Rev. Dr. Camilla Pierce Hempstead '84, United Methodist Church representative  
Mr. David Ekin '77, Chairman, MacMurray Foundation and Alumni Association  
Ms. Katie Richardson Petrikin '77, Planning Committee Chair  
Dr. Allen Croessmann '68, Keynote Speaker  
Dr. Beverly Rodgers, 17<sup>th</sup> President of MacMurray College  
Dr. Gina Wyant, final Provost of the College  
Ms. Cynthia Zahm Siegfried '68, honorary degree recipient

## Flag Bearers:

Class of 1970 representative	Herb Kasube '71	Kim Davis '72	Lucaas Secrist '20
Jeremy Fennewald '21	Autumn Hobrock '22	Madalynn Kraus '23	

## Reminiscence:

Mr. Bob Zellmann '81  
Ms. Sharon Mather '04, former staff  
Dr. Claire Jerry, former faculty  
Dr. Robert Seufert, professor emeritus

## Alumni Choir:

Ms. Christine Wallace Smith '92, director  
Ms. Karen Hagen Dickhut '80, organizer

## Class of 2020 Speakers:

Ms. Alexis Moore  
Mr. Charles Brauch

## Ushers --Former Staff:

Ms. Malea Gillis Harney '10	Ms. Joanne Ford Leeds
Ms. Christine Littig '12	Ms. Diane Seufert '94
Ms. Sharon Mather '04	Ms. Debbie Wellhausen

## *A special thanks to the Planning Committee:*

Ms. Katie Richardson Petrikin '77, chair  
Mr. Bob Clary '80  
Dr. John Cox  
Mr. Jeff Davidsmeyer '85  
Ms. Pat Doyle-Grace '66  
Rev. Dr. Beth Gallegly Fender '91  
Ms. Lisa Gilmore '97

Rev. Dr. Camilla Pierce Hempstead '84  
Ms. Sharon Mather '04  
Dr. Beverly Rodgers  
Dr. Michael Royer '91  
Mr. Lucaas Secrist '20  
Ms. Debbie Trueblood '99

Special thanks to Dr. Michael Royer '91, whose generous gift to the MacMurray Foundation and Alumni Association made today's ceremony possible.

Sincere thanks to Mr. John Austin Van Hook '64, Lifetime Trustee of the College, for his donation of the lovely flowers for today's event.

A heartfelt "Thank You" to Mr. Michael Hayes for making the chapel available for today's event.

Photography today is by John Casey of Artistic Portraits. All pictures taken today will be available at [artisticportraitsphotography1.shootproof.com](http://artisticportraitsphotography1.shootproof.com). Everyone will have access to all MacMurray photographs taken today for free after entering their email. Photos should be available to download on or about June 20, 2022 and will be available for one year.

Today's program is being videotaped by Robert Schafer of Schafer Productions ([Schaferproductions@comcast.net](mailto:Schaferproductions@comcast.net)) and will be available for viewing and downloading at [www.macalumfoundation.org](http://www.macalumfoundation.org) after July 17<sup>th</sup>.

Border design by Amy Petrikin.

# *Alumni Choir*

## SOPRANO

Karen Hagen Dickhut '80  
Gwyneth Bassett Nelson '77  
Liz Friesen Roscoe '08  
Tina May Brand '94  
Nannette Wolfers Tornblom '72  
Susan Hilaman Vadala '79  
Melissa Whitaker '86  
Melody Hagen Stoner '76  
Carol Duranczyk Haley '89  
Susan Weller '65  
Anna Poplett Troyer '01  
Kim Reid Mohn '86  
Kimberly Stone Edwards '01  
Michelle Bassett Knaack '79  
Kaylee McClanahan '21

## ALTO

Joan Womack Engelmann '94  
Katie Richardson Petrikin '77  
Jamie Pollard '93  
Ellen Green Kuroghlian '67  
Mary Teaney Caldwell '75  
Lauretta Davis '08  
Lee Giles Hirstein '66  
Marilyn Murphy Marshall '77  
Ashley Wittekiend '20  
Danielle Means Stone '08  
Ruth Dutton Stanfill '78  
Beth Saathoff '22  
Kelly Collier '76  
Barb Scott Ozier '76  
Darlene Wilson Gibson '64  
Victoria Foss Schneider '70  
Joanne Hilligoss '77  
Charlotte Sunderland Heaton '58  
Gabiella Generally '21

## TENOR

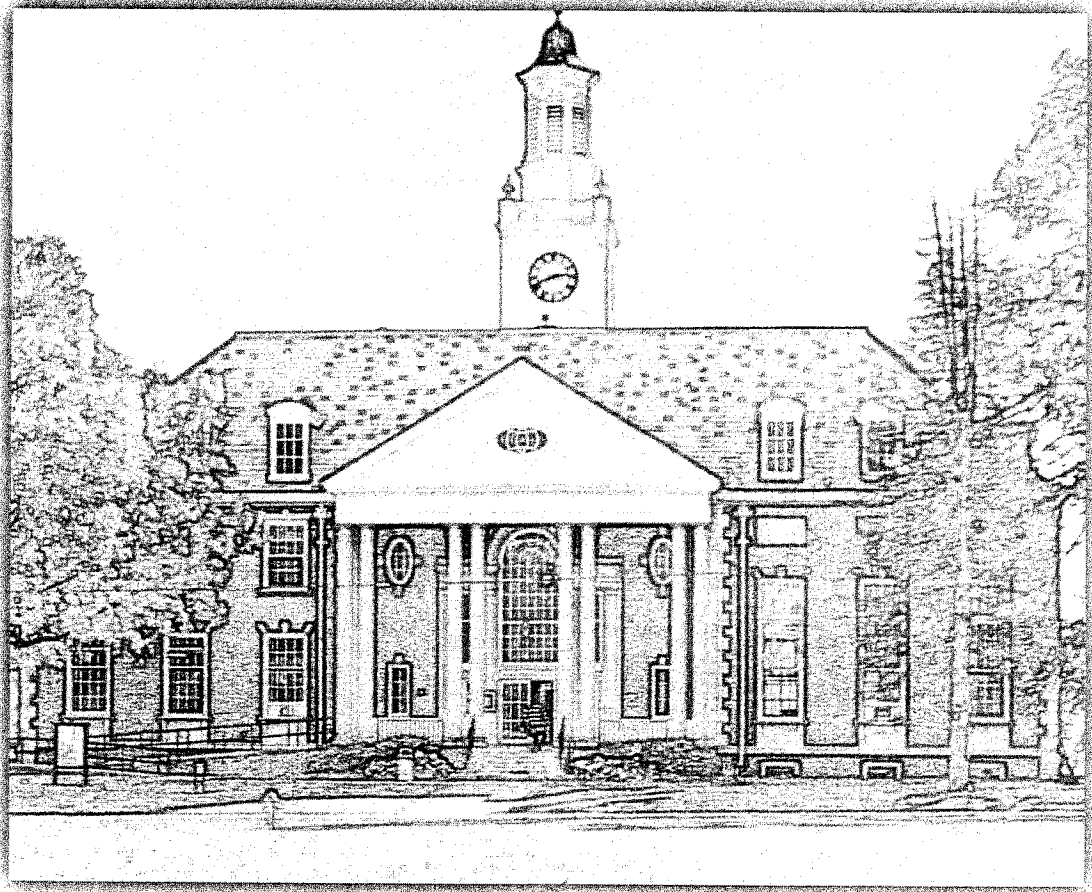
Rick Hall '81  
Nathan Bassett '84  
Jacob Dougherty '22  
Bill Patterson '67  
Herb Kasube '71  
Joe Peebles '89  
William Furry '75

## BASS

Charles Freiburger '71  
Rich Laren '83  
John Austin Van Hook '64  
Mark Stegall '77  
Jim Holmes '77  
Frank Getz '71  
Jeff Davidsmeyer '85  
John Blythe '74  
Paul Packer '90

## *Holy Fools*

Gwen Schallenberg Solomon '94  
Nathan Bassett '84  
Julia Buzard '89  
Katie Johnson Avenevoli '94  
Melissa Whitaker '86  
Tiffany Hermon Warmowski '98  
Wendy Havlik '94  
Sherry Schumann Wei '84  
Rebecca Muzzarelli '13  
Sharon Hazelton Mouri '82  
Karen Smith '80  
Ann Goode Strode '78  
Val Strode '77  
Aalanna Doll Wuitschich '95  
Camilla Pierce Hempstead '84  
Cara Miller '02  
Anne Ziegler-Jacob Lohman '03  
Laurie Smith Bethmann '00  
Claire Jerry, Former Advisor  
Mark Schleeter, Former Advisor



*For those who paved the way*

*Illinois Conference Female Academy 1846-1851*

*Illinois Conference Female College 1851-1863*

*Illinois Female College 1863-1899*

*Illinois Woman's College 1899-1930*

*MacMurray College for Women 1930-1969*

*MacMurray College for Men 1955-1969*

*MacMurray College 1969-2020*

*Thank You!*

