When God calls a person on to Glory, it is what is left behind that reveals their true identity and impact. Revelation 14:13 affirms, “Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord from now on. Yes, says the Spirit, that they may rest from their labors, and their works follow them.” If you were privileged to know George Theis, former Executive Director, you are aware that his passion for God and for reaching people with the Gospel was clear and contagious. His works definitely follow him.

What exactly did George leave behind? For starters ... he left a well-worn Bible. The study of God's Word was his priority, and he leveraged every opportunity to teach and preach it. He understood that a Bible that is falling apart belongs to someone who is not.

I believe George's greatest legacy is found in the lives he influenced. Perhaps you made a life-altering decision under his ministry. Whether you were a struggling teen, part of the Impact Team, a staff member or student, you knew that he was genuinely interested in your life. He invested himself in others and modeled friendship, godliness, and humility all along the way.

There is no doubt that George cherished his dear wife, Joan, and poured his life into his children and grandchildren. I will never forget the meaningful words expressed by his grandchildren at his recent celebration service. Each testimony revealed the profound impact of his life on theirs as he regularly prayed for and communicated with every single one. What a legacy!

George certainly left an example for us to follow as he focused his energies and passions on the only things that will last forever ... God's Word and the souls of men. What will you leave behind?

Praying for you,

Don Lough, Jr., Executive Director
Word of Life Fellowship, Inc.
Mission Statement
Just as the Bible Institute provided a place for you to learn about God, to grow in your spiritual walk, and to connect with other Christians in true community, we want the Victory Journal to be a place where you can continue that journey. We want to build a community where you can find longtime friends, share testimonies of what God has been doing, encourage others with your stories of change, and learn how you, too, can be involved with the mission of Word of Life.

Be part of the Victory Journal
We want to hear from you! What is God doing in your life? How has He led, helped, or comforted you, even in small ways, since your time at the Bible Institute? If you have a story to share, email us at alumni@wol.org. Whether you have a testimony to give, a story tip to pass on, or would like to hear more about a part of Word of Life, we are here to help. We want to see you in the Victory Journal!

What we’re looking for
The Victory Journal features all kinds of stories about Bible Institute alumni, whether you have short pieces of alumni news or ideas for longer articles. Let us know if there’s something or someone you’d like to see. Fill us in on people or opportunities involved with alumni or Word of Life. And, finally, tell us about yourself! If you have a testimony, remember when, ministry update, or feature article idea, please send it our way.

Are you trying to connect with other alumni?
The Victory Journal will not only tell you stories about other alumni but will also help you connect with them. Periodically, we will let you know about different ways you can find old friends or classmates through events at Word of Life or perhaps in local church ministries around the country. But there’s also a place where you can always go when looking for fellow Bible Institute graduates. Contact alumni@wol.org or visit our Facebook group to connect with other alumni right now.

Where Are They Now?
Yves and Nathan show us how to walk with God in the ministry and in the secular world.

Developing Passions of the Next Generation
Jacinda and Daniel are two young leaders making big plans for the future.

Cover Story
George Theis leaves behind a Legacy that Spans The Globe

A Farewell to Our Editor
We are grateful for Jen Slothower’s years of service managing the Victory Journal.
Nathan Bagg was on the Impact Team before there was one. Being a part of the ministry gave him the opportunity to take to the road alongside Word of Life leaders like George Theis. Nathan made it clear that it was during those three years touring with the Impact Team he was most impacted by George. “George showed me that being a Christian was practical and real,” Nathan says. “He showed me that God was real.” To Nathan, George’s life portrayed a life that trusts in God for the everyday. Nathan said he learned from George that “my walk with God should be daily.”

Today, Nathan sees how his time with George affects how he views his place at work. Nathan doubles as a Bank Branch Manager and an Assistant Vice President. However, Nathan doesn’t claim to be anything special and admits it’s all from God.

This trust in God can be seen in the workplace. He knows that God has placed him where he is, and he trusts God to continue to bless him and use him. As Nathan said, “I work my job with my faith in God to direct my steps. I’ve decided to be content where I am today. Tomorrow may lead to other opportunities, but I wait on Him.” Nathan knows it is this trust in God that sets him apart at work. He admitted that there are people who “stand out for their performance, attitude, and integrity far more than some that claim to be Christians, so I can only think my difference is my trust in God and not myself. While others may find comfort elsewhere, I find comfort in knowing that God has ordered my steps!”

George’s example isn’t the only one he follows. Nathan said, “In the ‘secular’ work environment, it is easy to seclude yourself from others because of your ‘religious’ beliefs. However, I have to go back to Jesus’ example. He came into the world not to condemn it but to save it. Jesus loves all sinners.” To Nathan, walking by faith will produce an evangelism that meets others where they are, even in the same office.
In a personal and even casual way, Yves has the opportunity to connect Eliot Baptist Church members and involve them in discipleship and outreach. His “around the dinner table” approach to ministry means Bible studies and regular entertainment at their house — an effective ministry.

Yves’ Word of Life experience affects what he brings to Eliot Baptist’s leadership. When asked how he is using what he learned at the Bible Institute, Yves said, “Where do I begin! Before, I thought I knew a lot about the Bible. The Bible Institute gave me an unshakable foundation in God’s Word!” Yves also found his calling to administer God’s Word there, a calling that came with a better understanding of Christ’s grace. As Yves went through the class on Galatians, “a deep sense of gratitude and indebtedness towards Christ took hold of me. I had to go further.”

Yves has the opportunity to apply the knowledge and passion cultivated during his years with Word of Life in the context of an increasingly popular form of church government — the Shared Leadership Model. This model consists of several pastors, all equal in authority. This equality can be seen in how the pastors manage their salaries and decisions. Income isn’t based on position — it’s based on need. If one pastor gets a raise, the others do too. As Yves said, the purpose is “shared leadership and unity” and to “show that one position isn’t more important than the other.”

As to decision making, the church is committed to 100% unanimity. “If one Elder says no, we table it for a time, go to God’s Word and pray for wisdom. The only times we’ve regretted this is when we haven’t adhered to it. Does it take time? Absolutely! Do I want to pull my hair out at times? Well, I shave it off so that’s not possible! But is it worth it? Every time.”

Church governance aside, almost 20 years of ministry have made clear what makes an effective ministry. “The most important tool anyone can employ is a commitment to yielding to the Holy Spirit in all things. Without His leading and direction, you’re just doing your own thing — you’re sure to burn out or be fruitless. There’s not a program or strategy or any amount of funding that will have a lasting effect for eternity if not directed and empowered by His Spirit.”
Developing Passions of the Next Generation

Jacinda Schuring, first year Bible Institute student, New York

My parents inspired me in their love and faithfulness in hard times, and the Lord was showing me how much it’s worth doing something that lasts for eternity. Going to college, getting money — it’s nice to have money, but that’s not going to bring me joy. It’s such a greater joy to see someone accept Christ and see change. The Lord was slowly molding me and changing my thoughts, and then the Lord brought me here.”

One way God changed her mindset was through Elias, a 26-year-old man with autism whom Jacinda’s parents had taken in. The way Jacinda talked about Elias revealed a God-given empathy and that eternal perspective gleaned from her parents’ example. The family helped Elias shower, eat, tie his shoes and fold his clothes. But what stuck with me was the fact that not only did she not look down on Elias, she looked up to him. “His forgiveness encourages me,” Jacinda said. “People constantly make fun of him for the way he is, but he doesn’t get mad. Say you call him crazy — the next day he’ll talk to you as if nothing happened. He has a forgiving heart, and he’s showed me how I should be forgiving, not holding grudges. It’s interesting — I’m trying to help him fold clothes, and he’s having a big impact in my life. He’s teaching me!”

As a result of working with Elias, Jacinda developed a passion for reaching the less fortunate and those with special needs. She didn’t shy away from the fact that reaching people like Elias is hard. It takes patience as they are easily frustrated. But when asked why she wanted to reach them, Jacinda answered, “I believe they need to be treated like everyone. They need to be reached with the Gospel. They do understand and they need the Lord to fill the void they have.”

As a result of working with Elias, Jacinda developed a passion for reaching the less fortunate and those with special needs. She didn’t shy away from the fact that reaching people like Elias is hard. It takes patience as they are easily frustrated. But when asked why she wanted to reach them, Jacinda answered, “I believe they need to be treated like everyone. They need to be reached with the Gospel. They do understand and they need the Lord to fill the void they have.”

To this end, Jacinda said she’s at the Bible Institute to acquire experience, ideas and techniques on reaching her special people group. She hopes to get involved with an outreach to the needy as her student ministry assignment.
Up to his senior year, Daniel didn’t know what he wanted to do with his life or even what he enjoyed doing. It wasn’t until a church event showcasing various professions that Daniel discovered his interest in marketing and advertising. Upon listening to a marketer discuss his experience, Daniel identified with it. After graduating, he attended a semester of a Brazilian university where he started on the basics. When asked about his experiences with marketing at the university, Daniel said, “It’s really exciting because you have to be creative. It’s dynamic — the rules of engagement are always different, and you have to be creative for every project. It’s my way of being pushed to the limit of how creative I can be. It makes me feel challenged which is a good feeling.”

His passion was for the creativity associated with marketing, so I asked the obvious question — then why did you come here? “I believe it’s good to understand what you believe in. The core of our life should be Christ. So coming to the Bible Institute is a good way to understand our faith.” Daniel illustrated this with the fact that students memorize Scripture and take Evangelism 101, a class that teaches students the basics of evangelism and pushes them to the streets to practice their new knowledge. To Daniel, those things “help you stand, that’s why I’m here. It’s not related to marketing. College is a cruel place. For a lot of my friends, college was what it took for them to abandon their faith. I don’t think the Bible Institute is an immune system, but it helps you stand firm, and I think it’ll help me through life and college. I don’t think it’ll make me a better marketer, but it’ll make me a better Christian.”

Daniel’s father is John Reimer, Regional Director of Brazil. However, to Daniel, his future isn’t a question of whether or not he’ll follow his father’s footsteps or even where he’ll serve God but of how he’ll use his passion for God’s glory. Daniel said, “I really like Word of Life. Working with them would be a good thing, almost like a dream come true — I guess I’d be third generation staff. I’ve considered it, but I don’t want to tell you it’s what I’m going for. I really want to work with the business companies in Sao Paulo City; it looks like a fun place, it pays well and overall I think I’d enjoy it. Marketing and Bible are two different things, but I’ve learned from asking older and wiser people that whatever you can do, you can use it for the Lord. I could help an organization that reaches people with the Gospel. Anything you choose — God will find a way. God is very creative and smart too. He’ll use whatever skills you have for His glory.”

Daniel Reimer, first year Bible Institute student, New York
GEORGE THEIS
1935 - 2014
George Theis was born in 1935 near Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. But his real life journey began 17 years later when he dedicated his life to Christ at Word of Life Island. This decision profoundly impacted the rest of his life and the lives of all those he would later meet.

George realized he needed to make his life count for God, so he stayed closely involved with Word of Life both during and after his time at Bible College and Seminary. When he finished his studies, he married the love of his life, Joan, in 1959. That same year, they moved to Lakeland, Florida, where George caught a glimpse of what the Lord had in store for him in the years to come.

Arriving in Florida, George’s passion for youth was great but the opportunities for service within Word of Life were few. But that summer, he received a phone call from Word of Life Headquarters about an exciting new project. It was Paul Bubar, and he wanted George to launch the first official Word of Life Bible Club in the state. Some groundwork had been laid by local church laymen so George began building on that foundation.

For the next several years, George spent his days building support for the new Word of Life Bible Clubs by speaking with pastors and young people seeking to live a godly life. It was challenging work, but as his wife, Joan, recalls, “The Lord would just sort of stretch him.”

George worked with Paul and a couple other men Paul had recruited in other states to begin building a comprehensive plan for Bible Clubs. They trusted the Lord to use them and guide them forward. George’s legacy now lives on in many of those same churches in Florida and through the lives that were changed. But this was only the beginning of George’s lifelong ministry. His next assignment would take both he and his wife to the other side of the world — to Brazil.

Because George had proven himself faithful in furthering the Lord’s work in Florida, he was invited to share his gifts with the people of Sao Paulo, Brazil. There, he was asked to help develop a nascent youth program that, at the time, was the only Word of Life camp outside the United States.

George had never considered himself a missionary, but he also understood that God leads his followers to where they need to be. So, after much prayer, he and Joan packed their bags, and, with their first child on the way, made the journey down to South America where they spent the next 20 years in the Lord’s ministry.

When he arrived in Sao Paulo in 1963, George saw there was much to be done. He was particularly concerned about the young people he encountered at camp — most of them had not yet been saved. When he thought about why this might be, he realized that, unlike back home, many camp-goers in Brazil were not routinely exposed to the Gospel in their local communities. With this in mind, he immediately set out to work on several
projects that would further God’s work in Sao Paulo. Among them was a student outreach initiative that involved sharing the popular Moody Science films produced by Moody Bible Institute.

Using the talents he developed while establishing Bible Clubs in Florida, George formed close relationships with several influential local leaders who, like him, had a deep desire to spread the Good News to all who would listen. George’s unique ability to break down barriers and build bridges served him well, and it wasn’t long before he began getting requests to show the Moody Science films to students throughout Sao Paulo.

But before he could begin, his first hurdle was getting the videos translated into Portuguese, which took several months to accomplish. Once he had them, they quickly became one of the most useful missionary tools in the history of Word of Life’s ministry in Brazil.

From there, God’s work moved forward even faster. With the help of a contact he made within Brazil’s Department of Education, George obtained written permission to show the Moody films in any school in Sao Paulo. This was a huge win and a clear answer to prayer. The films eventually became so popular that even administrators at religious schools — which were predominantly Catholic — requested that they be shown to their students for the valuable Christian principles they taught.

In 1973, after more than a decade of service in Brazil, George once again felt the guiding influence of the Lord inspiring him to step out of the environment in which he’d grown comfortable. This time, God led him out of the big city to Recife, Brazil. Here, he spent the next several years establishing a second Word of Life camp from the ground up.

The first Word of Life Brazil camp outside of Sao Paulo was a huge success. Hundreds of youth experienced the life-changing power of God’s Word and many were saved. George would oversee the continued growth of the Recife camp until the Lord called him back to the home office in Schroon Lake in 1983.

Upon his return, he was appointed as a Word of Life Co-Director alongside Jack Wyrtzen and Harry Bollback. George knew both of these men well and, with time, it was clear why God had chosen him for this important role.

After several years of working alongside his mentors, George became the Executive Director of Word of Life in 1991, where he served until 1999. During that time, George oversaw the growth of several ministries and the start of several new ones — including the Word of Life Impact Team. This team was made up of Bible Institute students who took time away from their academic pursuit to serve in churches and Christian schools around the world. As someone who had dedicated his life to supporting young people, this program was very near to George’s heart.

At the end of his tenure as Word of Life Executive Director, George passed on the responsibility to his successor, Joe Jordan, in 1999. George was not finished with his ministry. In the years that followed, George continued to spend his free time sharing the Gospel and helping others learn more about God’s Word.

Everything George taught as a leader at Word of Life, he lived as a husband, father and friend. He studied the Scriptures constantly and always kept the Word of God in his heart. He was always prepared to share a spiritual thought that might change the heart of a young person wanting to know Christ.

His deep concern for the well-being of young people extended beyond those in the ministries he oversaw at Word of Life, to his children and grandchildren. He was above all else a teacher of the Word, and he wasn’t afraid to share his thoughts and feelings about eternal matters with the people he loved most.

George taught by example, always experimenting with new ways to bring the Bible’s teachings to life. His ability to relate the Scriptures to almost any real-life situation was a gift, and it has left an unforgettable impression on his wife, Joan, their three children and their spouses, Keith and Linda Balsley, Steve and Marissol Theis, and Alejandro and Sherri Belmar, as well as their 10 grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

We all miss George very much, but, in many ways, he’s still with us. His legacy lives on in the lives he touched through his lifetime of service. May we all seek to live in such a way that we, too, can be joined in Heaven by those whose hearts the Lord has helped us reach.
George Theis, Harry Bollback and Harold Reimer on the road with Word of Life

“For to me, to live is Christ and to die is gain.”

– Philippians 1:21

George Theis in the 1960’s
Memories of George…

George Theis (1935 – 2014)

“For to me, to live is Christ and to die is gain.”

Pat Welch He was a man of God and an encourager with the spiritual gift of exhortation. He loved discipling young men and had a special ministry with young married couples. He recognized that I loved the Word of God and encouraged me daily, even letting me teach to the women at Word of Life Family Campground each day during the summer. [Also,] he was a family man — he loved his wife and his children and of course his grandchildren. He taught them, he prayed for them, and he loved them fervently.

Douglas Armbrecht I got to know George on a personal level when he and a BI team came to the West Coast and did “Born Again to a Living Hope.” For three weeks George presented the Gospel every night. One night we were in the middle of Portland doing an outdoor presentation. There were almost 200 homeless there as George shared the Gospel. Many were saved. After counseling with a couple of homeless men, I walked up to George and he had tears in his eyes. That is the compassion he had for the lost. He really loved people!

Dave Kate Huizing From the first time George met me, he never forgot my name, even though it was years between meetings. The last time we bumped into each other, he invited my wife and I to be his guests at steak night at the Inn. He always showed love and concern for us.

Adam N Joanna Rushlow He had a very authentic and down-to-earth nature about him. Joanna and I felt honored as the “young kids” when he and Harry invited us to join them every year for a June 12th anniversary dinner. The stories he and Harry shared with us would have us laughing all night.

Gary Fizzano We are saddened that he is gone because we will miss a godly figure in our lives, but we are rejoicing in knowing that he is with the One he loves and the One whom he has pointed us to pursue with all of our hearts. To Joan, you know we love you and our prayer is for peace during this time. He is with the Lord!

Listen, you can forget the words and the messages, but the testimony and walk with the Lord is what we remember, and it’s those memories we will carry with us for the rest of our lives. We will never forget George as he has put so much of his life into ours. See you someday, my friend.
Early on in my time with the Impact Team we had scheduled a tour to California. I’ll never forget George handing me his Word of Life credit card and saying, “I’ll see you in Los Angeles.” In that moment I felt an incredible amount of responsibility, but also George’s trust, and I didn’t want to do anything to break that trust.

George was the worldwide Executive Director of our ministry, but there were times when George would single us out to drive with him in his car so that he could spend time with us or even take us out for lunch individually. In fact, I can’t remember a single time when George wouldn’t take the time to talk about an issue of concern. He and Joan took the time to impact people, regardless of their position.

Right before I went on Christmas break of second year, George pulled me aside and said, “If you could change anything about the radio ministry of Word of Life, what would you change? I want you to write it down. When you come back from break, give it to me.” Here’s the Word of Life Director challenging and believing in this 20-year-old kid. I really took that to heart. I took a lot of time during my break — I wrote down 50 different things of what we could do. That meant a lot to me.

I went with George to Costa Rica one time. He encouraged me to take my bike on the trip. We went to this large school and we had freedom to do whatever we wanted, but the principal said that the kids had to come voluntarily. He said, “None of these kids are going to stay.” George says, “I’ve got this guy who does these bike tricks!” We go into the gym, I build a little ramp; then as the kids are leaving, George says, “Alright, start riding!” So I start doing tricks. No joke — most of the school stayed! We packed the gym out! George shared the Gospel and hundreds of kids got saved.

George really encouraged me to pursue whatever it is that’s in your hand. That was the first time in my life that I had seen the power of the Gospel and the use of practical tools that people could relate with to share the Gospel. Thanks to George for fleshing that out. He never forgot that, and he continued to encourage me to do so. Even three weeks ago I did a BMX video at Word of Life Portugal — I try to look for opportunities to use tools to share the Gospel.

It didn’t really hit me till the Memorial Service when we started singing his favorite song “Crown Him King of Kings.” I couldn’t sing it — I just started crying. It was about exalting Christ. I think that’s what his life was about. I remember he talked about the turtle on a fence post when he became the new Executive Director. The thing you know about a turtle on a fence post is that he didn’t get there on his own. Someone put him there. George was only there because God placed him there, not on his own. That was George’s perspective. He emulated that until the day he died.
Arlene (Moore) Newell ('73) is an independent sales representative with Trading Hope Empowered Enterprise.

Carolyn Howell ('74) volunteers at her church, First Baptist Church of Elmer in Elmer, New Jersey.

James Schaefer ('74) is a lieutenant colonel in the United States Army. He and his wife, Elizabeth, attend Grace Brethren Church in Clinton, Maryland. They have two children; Tom and Grace.

Debbie (Johnson) Schretzman ('79) has her associates degree in elementary education and liberal arts. She is married to Bob and works at a grocery store.

Signe Ann (Bush) Thrift ('79) is a part of the National Christian Choir, an interdenominational choir based in the Washington, DC metropolitan area which ministers through concerts, recordings, tours, and radio.

Peter and Deborah (Wetherbee) Wallace ('86) Peter works as a recruiter and Deborah is a music director at their church, Fredericktowne Baptist Church, in Walkersville, Maryland.

Elmer Shertzer ('91) works in maintenance at North Carolina School of Science and Mathematics and sings in the church and in a barbershop choir. He attends Bethesda Baptist Church in Durham, North Carolina.

John Snow ('91, '92) owns his own company that specializes in retirement and estate planning. He has been a missionary for 17 years. He is head of the missions program at Fellowship Bible Church in Sewell, New Jersey. He is married to Annapaula and has six children, David, Jeff, Kristy, Steven, Isaac and Deborah.

Kevin Starling ('91) is a security officer and also a youth director at Crossroads Baptist in Lakeland, Florida. He recently stepped forward with his faith in God to become a pastor on May 18, 2014 and will be ordained as a minister. He asks you to please keep him and his family in prayer as he reaches out to the unsaved and saved.

Jason Christofi ('92) teaches English as a Second Language at the University of South Carolina and works with the young couples ministry at St. Andrews Evangelical Church in Columbia, South Carolina. He is married to Stephanie.

Andy Hixon ('94, '95) is an elder at First Baptist Church of Evans City, Pennsylvania, and is an operations manager at a small company. He and his wife, Trish, have three children — Caleb, Lilyan, and Moriah.

Brian Baker ('94, '95) and his wife, Lynn, are missionaries with Word of Life Local Church Ministries in North Carolina. They attend Union Grove Baptist Church in Lexington, North Carolina, and have three children — Courtney, Allison, and Corbin.

David Whitehead ('96, '97) is a chef and graphic designer. He attends Bridgetown Church in Danville, Virginia.

Sarah (Risdon) Sheets ('98) is a stay-at-home mom who plans to homeschool her children. She is part of the ministry praise team at Malaga Assembly of God in Newfield, New Jersey. She and her husband, Raymond, have one son, Wesley, 3.

Charles D. Clark III ('01) with his wife, Sonia, lead ministry at New Life Community Church in Nashville, Indiana. Their dream is to someday minister in New England and they are looking into Vermont. Their sons, Luke and Aaron, graduated from the Bible Institute in '14.

Nathaniel Risdon ('03) works in office services for Flaster/Greenberg PC, a full-service, commercial business law firm. He is married to Mary and they have four children — Alice, Jocelyn, Elizabeth and Violet.

Don ('08, '09) and Megan (Beasley) ('06, '08) Shuffler are missionaries with Word of Life Local Church Ministries in Raleigh, North Carolina. They attend The Summit Church in Raleigh.

Douglas Tuls ('09) is a missionary with Word of Life Local Church Ministries in Mount Pleasant, Pennsylvania. He and his wife, Kacey, attend Pennsville Baptist Church in Bullskin, Pennsylvania. They have three children — Maya, Silas, and Seth.

Nelson ('11) and Cheryl (Gredlein) ('06) Buchanan are Word of Life missionaries raising support to go to Asia.

Sarah Hight ('11) is currently a mentor and cook at His Mansion Ministries, a Christian counseling and long-term residential care facility for men and women who struggle with addiction and substance abuse.

Steve Botham ('11) Lord willing, he will be a missionary with Word of Life Local Church Ministries. He and his wife, Karen, attend First Baptist Church in Leamington, Ontario, Canada.

Jeremy ('12) and Anna (Huestis) ('12, '13) Mosley Jeremy is a full-time electrician and Anna works as a nanny. Together they serve in Willow Spring, North Carolina; and have two children; Isaiah and Ezra.
Jen Slothower has completed her time at Word of Life as editor of the Victory Journal. This can only be expressed with a tinge of sorrow, as she was the fuel that took the Victory Journal off the ground. Her love for the Lord, her drive for modernization and her grasp of the industry all combined to set her apart as an asset of progress and innovation. She did the work of building a foundation for the Victory Journal as a whole and raising a skeletal structure for the magazine’s seasonal issues. Her work in conceptualizing the Victory Journal and organizing much of its content does not go forgotten nor does it go unappreciated.

As the editor, she became proficient at adapting verbose articles, bad grammar, and articles that were, simply put, “too wordy.” Her editing allowed the Victory Journal to be pumped full of meaningful articles.

Her work, however, was not restricted to Word of Life. She wrote for the website of the New England Sports Network in Boston and even a short article for the Boston Globe. What makes her work with these papers unusual is that she is and always has been a passionate Yankees fan! If only the Bostonians knew that they had a Yankee mole hidden in their midst.

Jen also wrote articles featured in the Victory Journal. One that personally inspires this writer is “There Really Is A Tree,” an article which awakens readers to the hope we have to use our creative talents to the fullest in heaven, where creativity such as Jen’s will not have any earthly or physical constraints.

Jen, thank you for your contributions in molding the Victory Journal into what it is today. We wish you the best as you keep your visionary spirit shining in future endeavors!

Writing by Aaron J. Clark
In 2015, Word of Life will celebrate 75 years of ministry. Join us this summer in Schroon Lake as we celebrate our anniversary and Harry Bollback’s 90th birthday — every Tuesday night at camp. Claim your 50 percent alumni discount for a stay at Word of Life Inn & Family Lodge by using the code “alumni75”.

We look forward to welcoming you!