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At EKU WF we desire for students to gather in community to experience God, grow in their faith, and serve people. With everything we do we work towards a reality where every student is loved, happy, and whole in Christ.



Eastern Kentucky University Wesley Foundation

May 2020

Senior Recognition

No one could have known what a weird year we were in for when the school year started back in August 2019. Finals week has arrived and despite the chaos of the COVID-19 pandemic disrupting our regular way of doing ministry, we have persevered. I want to share with you our three "seniors". Each of them are tremendously wonderful people and it has been a privilege to get to know them over the last few years. I use quotation marks around the word senior because much like our unconventional year, our three seniors are unconventional. Olivia graduated back in December and continued to serve in our ministry, Rob will not graduate until December 2020 but his internship will take him away from Richmond in the fall, and Matthew still has a summer class to complete before he's done. I have asked each of them to share their college journey in their own words.

Matthew Yonts

"My time here at EKU has been spent exploring myself personally and professionally to help me discover who I am on a deeper level. The Wesley Foundation has been very helpful in that process and has always given me a family that I know will love and support me and always tell me what's really best for me. Currently, I am about to start a part-time job performing airfield maintenance at Lexington Bluegrass airport but will hopefully get hired somewhere as an operations worker (doing runway inspections, keeping things in compliance with regulations, etc). I hope to return to school soon for a Master's degree to pursue a career as an airport planning consultant, a career path that I have only recently discovered but strongly feel led to go down."

Robert Beaty

"I came to Eastern Kentucky University from Somerset Community College. I was new to Richmond and I was like my favorite hymn, "I am just a stranger here". But I was able to make great friends that will last me a lifetime. As I get ready for my internship in the fall, it seems my college experience flew by. It seems just yesterday I was a freshman at the local community college and now in a couple of months, I will graduate. After graduation in December, I will have to enter the workforce. Hopefully, I can find a job in either Kentucky or Tennessee with the Good Lord's help and guidance."

Olivia Leonard

"My name is Olivia Leonard and I graduated from EKU last semester, in December 2019, with my Bachelor's in psychology with a religion minor. I have continued working on the WF Leadership team post-graduation, however, this will be my last semester as I will be starting my Master's this fall at Asbury Theological Seminary. I greatly enjoyed my time at EKU, finding a home within this community. The Wesley Foundation has been a part of my life even before attending EKU, as my parents met and fell in love here years ago. I had been looking forward to being a part of this ministry myself for as long as I can remember, making this end all the more bittersweet. Being able to experience and lead this ministry for the last 4 years has been nothing short of a blessing. The memories and friendships I have made within this Wesley Foundation are some that I will carry with me forever. Although I will miss being here, I am beyond excited for this next chapter of my life in Seminary and to see God continue to work in my life."

Matthew, Rob, and Olivia, on behalf of the EKU Wesley Foundation, thank you for all the ways you've contributed to this ministry.

To all of our students and partners in ministry, please be in prayer for these seniors as they enter into a new season of life.

Grace and Peace to you all.

Rev. Brandon McGinnis
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Giving and Support

We are always in need of and dependent on other's financial giving. Thank you to the many who support us already for your generosity. If you are able to give, please do. We could not do it without you.

- Mail-in check to EKU Wesley Foundation 401 University Drive Richmond KY 40475
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A big thank you to all the individuals and groups that signed up this school year to provide a meal for our Tuesday night dinners. As the time gets closer to the fall semester our Tuesday night dates will posted on our meal train. Here is the link if you are interested in helping with all the details you will need.

<https://mealtrain.com/rnw447>

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