

Distinguished Achievement Citation

Sue Swink Sager

Class of 1955

Sue Swink Sager is an illustrious example of the historic commitment among Ohio Wesleyan alumni to lives of service. She is a true humanitarian, dedicated to serving the people of the world.

Sue Swink graduated from Ohio Wesleyan University in 1955, after which she married her college sweetheart William Sager. In September 1955, they settled in Chicago/Evanston, where Sue began teaching while her husband was in medical school. They were active in the Fourth Presbyterian Church, and in 1960 they were taken under care of the Presbytery as missionary candidates.

Sue and her family served with the Presbyterian Church for ten years in Pakistan at the United Christian Hospital in Lahore. She volunteered in the hospital, taught English as a Second Language to the student nurses, was a substitute teacher at Lahore American School and raised five children. The Sagers left Pakistan in 1973 due to conflicts within and outside Pakistan and returned to the United States, where they settled in Ashland, Oregon. While in Ashland, Sue has served as an elder, deacon, Christian Education chair and president of Presbyterian Women in her church. She also served on the boards (and as president), of the local hospital auxiliary, the Oregon Shakespeare Festival auxiliary, Peach House, Meals-on-Wheels and Church Women United. She took postgraduate courses from Southern Oregon College in Ashland and for several years she taught English as a Second Language at Rogue Community College in Medford, Oregon, teaching at three levels to immigrants, refugees and students.

In 1999, Bill accepted the position as Director of Medical Education at the Good Shepherd Hospital in Tshikagi, Democratic Republic of the Congo. While he taught at the hospital, Sue began teaching English to the student nurses and lab technicians. After their return from the Congo, Sue and Bill spent six months at their church headquarters in Louisville and three months at Nknoma Hospital in Malawi. They have since returned to Ashland.

Over the past twenty-five years, Sue and Bill have been involved in short-term missions to various parts of the world such as Indonesia, Thailand, Mexico, Bolivia, and Pakistan. They have also spent three-month (and several nine-month) sabbaticals in Pakistan, with Bill teaching at Memorial Christian Hospital in Sialkot, Pakistan, and Sue teaching English as a Second Language. She and her family have been active members of the First Presbyterian Church in Ashland where she is an ordained elder and ordained deacon. She takes special pride and joy in her five children and nine grandchildren, and continues to dedicate her time and talent to the international community.

We join her classmates in saluting Sue Swink Sager and recognizing her outstanding achievements through the presentation of this Distinguished Achievement Citation.

14 May 2005

