# HERITAGE SOCIETY FEBRUARY 2023



**Eden Theological Seminary** 

### **Cloud of Witnesses**

#### Connecting Across the Generations: Siebert Family Blessings

Generations of the Siebert family connect with Eden Seminary and make other connections possible.

In June of 2022, Leslie Siebert reached out to Eden Seminary to inquire about the status of a family scholarship she remembered hearing about. As a third generation Siebert, Leslie was in the process of doing her estate planning and was happy to learn more about "The Rev. Warner H. Siebert, Sr. Scholarship fund," named for her grandfather, and established in 1982 by Mrs. Pauline Siebert, in honor and memory of her husband and their many years of ministry together. Leslie passed the information on to her mother, Mrs. Joyce Siebert, who passed the information on to other Siebert family members. Joyce and her family reignited passion for funding the family scholarship at Eden. "The Rev. Warner H. Siebert, Sr. Scholarship fund" became the connecting point.

Rev. Siebert, Sr. graduated from Eden in 1927 soon after the Seminary moved to its current Webster Groves location. The next generation Siebert, Warner Jr., earned a Doctor of Ministry degree from the seminary in 1978. The family tradition of ministry was well underway. Eden's commitment to equipping leaders for the church continued.

The Siebert scholarship fund, through the years, has supported the journeys of Eden students as they moved through their own journeys of theological education. Those students themselves made connections with each other. The connections made possible through this scholarship —with people whose names the family may not know — are significant in binding them together.

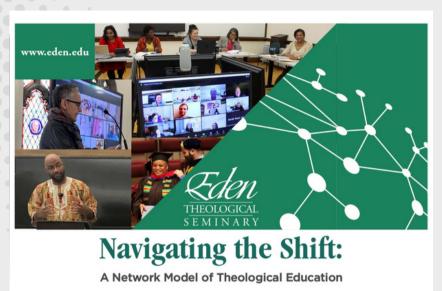


Warner and Joyce Siebert wedding. June 15, 1954, Bethel Evangelical and Reformed Church, Chicago, IL. Left to right: Warner Siebert, Sr., Pauline Siebert, Joyce Siebert, Warner Siebert, Jr.

The Siebert family gained renewed energy this year around connecting with each other and with Seminary students through this Eden scholarship, making additional contributions in memory and in celebration of husband and father, Warner H. Siebert, Jr..

Eden is giving thanks to God for the ministries of the Siebert family across the generations and for the love that connects them to each other, to the Seminary, and to the generations of students and the church that benefits. We are grateful for their inspiring family legacy of preparation and hope for the future.

## UPDATES: A NETWORK MODEL OF THEOLOGICAL EDUCATION AFFIRMED BY THE LILLY ENDOWMENT WITH \$5 MILLION GRANT



This project will participate in a network of progressive seminaries, undergraduate schools and ecclesial judicatories. The network will create new capacity for seminaries through course and faculty sharing and will increase demand for and access to theological education for students in undergraduate programs for those seeking ministerial authorization through their ecclesial bodies. Eden is calling this contextual education meets distance education.

#### CHARITABLE GIFT OPPORTUNITY

Beginning in 2023, donors over age 70 ½ will be able to make a Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD) in exchange for a charitable gift annuity (CGA).

In the final hours of the 117th Congress, provisions of the Legacy IRA Act included in an omnibus spending bill (the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2023 or H.R. 2617) passed the House and Senate and were signed into law by President Biden. This created this new charitable gift planning opportunity.

See exactly how a CGA with Eden can offer lifetime payments for you and support Eden well into the future. Please call us at Eden (314) 918-2691 for your personalized benefits projection.

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Contact us in the Advancement Office 314.918.2691 or advancement@eden.edu