

LANCASTER MENNONITE SCHOOL

bridges

FALL 2016



VISUAL ARTS: Teachers, Students and Alumni Making a Difference



Connecting the DOTS

This issue of *Bridges*
focuses on ART.

GARY HILLER
EDITOR

The
next
issue
of *Bridges* will
focus on GLOBAL
PERSPECTIVE.

With more than 130 international students in the student body, LM is certainly a place where "local and global connect." The stories of current students and alumni who are from outside the USA – and those who work with them – can be fascinating and enriching. This is also an opportunity to feature those involved in teaching world languages, world history, global studies and other subjects that provide global perspective.

If you would like to be considered for a story, or if you would like to suggest someone to be featured, please email hillerg@lancastermennonite.org or submit information on line at www.lancastermennonite.org/alumni/update.

Bridges is the community magazine of Lancaster Mennonite School, sent to alumni, parents and friends. LMS exists to transform students so they can change our world through Christlike love, peacemaking and service.

Lancaster Mennonite School admits students of any gender, race, color, national and ethnic origin to all the rights, privileges, programs and activities generally made available to all students at the school. The school does not discriminate on the basis of gender, race, color, national or ethnic origin in the administration of its educational policies, admissions policies, scholarship programs and athletic or other school-administered programs.

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Editor's NOTES



The alumni featured in this issue are current or past artists or art teachers. We have also included a few alumni who are involved in other forms of visual arts, such as photography, pottery and fashion design.

Artists tend to be unusual people, which would be expected of persons whose role is to help us see things in different ways. Such people are often misunderstood.

Although the arts were an integral part of Old Testament worship, and although Christian art flourished in the Renaissance, the Protestant Reformation, and particularly the Anabaptist movement, tended to downplay efforts to communicate through the physical senses. A dichotomy between the physical senses and one's spiritual being was created, with one being earthly and the other heavenly. God was supposed to be experienced through non-tangible means such as prayer, reading the Bible and hearing the Word.

Yet, as **Emmett Murphy '62** aptly expressed, being created in God's image is to be creative. Creativity, perhaps more than intellect, distinguishes humankind from animals. And, as **Velma Magill '62** observed, God created beauty as well as practical things. If God can create a sunset, which is only for the pleasure of the Creator and those who are made in the Creator's image, why can't God's followers imitate the Creator and paint a sunset? Imitation is the sincerest form of flattery.

In preparing this issue of *Bridges*, I was impressed with the spiritual dimension of the featured teachers, students and alumni, many of whom see their art as a form of worship or, at least, a tribute to God.

Not all LM students will become artists by profession, but all LM students benefit personally from the school's fine arts program by engaging with God in the creative process.

Enjoy this issue of *Bridges magazine*!

STYLE NOTE: *Bridges* magazine follows *The Associated Press Stylebook* manual of style except where superseded by MCUSA style guidelines.

Lancaster Mennonite School has six campuses:

Hershey, grades K-12
1525 Sand Hill Road
Hummelstown, PA 17036
(717) 533-4900

Kraybill, grades PreK-8
598 Kraybill Church Road
Mount Joy, PA 17552
(717) 653-5236

Lancaster, grades 6-12
2176 Lincoln Highway East
Lancaster, PA 17602
(717) 299-0436

Locust Grove, grades PreK-7
2257 Old Philadelphia Pike
Lancaster, PA 17602
(717) 394-7107

New Danville, grades PreK-5
393 Long Lane
Lancaster, PA 17603
(717) 872-2506

Saint James School – An Early Learning Center
119 N Duke Street
Lancaster, PA 17602
(717) 397-4858



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Art can express WHAT WORDS CANNOT SAY

For centuries, people of faith have communicated through the arts what words alone cannot express.

LM provides artistic skills, appreciation and opportunities that nourish creativity and a deeper understanding of God and the world.

This issue of *Bridges* features some of the many alumni making an impact through artistic expression. Behind their success is a solid foundation provided by outstanding LM teachers.

Although few graduates will become professional artists, the arts help all students explore ideas and relationships that transcend words or numbers. The

arts also engender innovative problem solving that students can apply to other disciplines.

Arne Duncan, U.S. Secretary of Education, has stated:

Education in the arts is more important than ever. In the global economy, creativity is essential. To succeed today and in the future, America's children will need to be inventive, resourceful and imaginative.



From PreK through high school, LM provides artistic skills, appreciation and opportunities that nourish creativity and a deeper understanding of God and the world.

● ● ● Fall 2016



Colorful, creative artwork — such as these examples from the Locust Grove Campus — lines the halls of all LM campuses. Above, LMH students create a mural in an alcove outside the high school office.



FACULTY focus

KATHY CIACCIA

Kathy Ciaccia holds a B.S. in Art Education from Millersville University. Before coming to LM in 1998, she taught in the Oxford Area School District and at Lancaster Christian School. She currently teaches drawing, design, ceramics and other art courses on the Lancaster Campus.

“What I enjoy most about teaching art is the creativity and enthusiasm the students bring into the classroom,” Ciaccia said. “I also enjoy watching their skills develop as they create beautiful pieces of artwork.”



AL JURINA

It is no problem getting good professional pictures from the Hershey Campus where **Al Jurina** teaches photography.

Almost every Hershey image comes from his camera for *Bridges* magazine, the LM website, school literature and more.

Although IT services and technology instruction are his primary responsibilities, the talented photographer also teaches photography classes and Photoshop. “I enjoy seeing the excitement that students get when they see the vision in their head come to life through photos,” Jurina said. “I also love the opportunity to show students how we can serve God and each other through the craft of photography.”

On the side, Jurina has had his own photography business for seven years. Several of his images have appeared in magazines, but he has not entered exhibitions and competitions, saying, “I would rather focus on the service aspect of using photography to bless others.”



CHAD CALDWELL

Chad Caldwell teaches K-12 art at the Hershey Campus. “I have always loved the power of art to communicate meaning and express feelings,” he said, “and I love sharing this experience with other people.”

Caldwell cites theological underpinnings beneath his desire to teach art. “The God of the Bible is in the process of restoring creation to its original intention; Christian artists have a special opportunity to show some of God’s restorative purposes through their art.”

As a teacher, he has three goals for his students: “I hope to show my students the significance the Gospel has for all of life, including the arts, I hope to nurture a love of the arts that moves beyond the superficial, and I hope that my students begin to recognize that making art can be a true calling and a legitimate way to worship God.”



JENNA LONGENECKER

“Teaching art is the most inspiring, challenging and rewarding career I can think of,” said **Jenna Longenecker**, a 2013 art education major from Eastern Mennonite University who teaches art at the Kraybill, Locust Grove and New Danville campuses. “An art teacher must use her brain and heart to the fullest to guide students through the thoughtful, emotional and enriching process of creating art.”

“The process of creating art can integrate skills and knowledge from several subjects,” Longenecker said. She most enjoys the “ah-ha moments” when students realize that artistic skill can be learned. This often happens when her students practice simple techniques such as shading.

“Art adds value to our lives,” Longenecker stated. “As a former bumper sticker of mine once said, ‘Earth without art is just eh.’”



CAROL DALE

“Teaching was not my first career, but it is my best career,” she said, explaining that she started as a graphic artist and art director. After having children, she began teaching art lessons in her home and then went to Millersville University to get her B.S. degree in Art Education, with additional studies at the University of the Arts and Eastern Mennonite University.

Dale taught for a number of years at Christian School of York and then came to LM in 1999. In addition, she has been teaching art classes at Lancaster Bible College for 19 years.

In her free time she enjoys painting in oil, acrylic or watercolor, capturing the atmosphere of a location or an interesting moment in time. “As an art teacher, it is important to keep my own artwork fresh and interesting,” Dale said. “My focus is color and light. Each work is a chance to push the medium in new and exciting ways and then share those insights in the classroom.”

A member of Lancaster County Art Association, she has received a number of awards at art shows and her work has been exhibited at galleries and shops in Lancaster County and private collections.

Dale’s philosophy of artmaking is derived from the theme of Philippians 4:8: “...whatever is true...whatever is lovely... whatever is admirable, if anything is excellent or praiseworthy – think about such things.”

“It takes courage to make that first mark on a blank piece of paper or an empty canvas,” said Carol Dale. “You are putting yourself out there for all to see. Every time you create art, you communicate a bit about yourself. Your brushstrokes are your handwriting, and your color choices are your mood.”

For 17 years, Dale has been putting that courage into the hearts of LMH art students with excellent results, and she never tires of seeing what they come up with.

“Art is helping others to see through your eyes and feel with your heart,” she said.

“God, as the Master Artist, has given humankind the ability to appreciate the beauty of creation. We are created in God’s image and given the ability to be creative, too. The beauty of the sunset may go unnoticed by other creatures while the colors of God’s paintbrush take our breath away.”

Each semester Dale begins her classes by sharing these truths and hoping that students can appreciate the wonderful gifts of beauty and creativity that God has given each one. “Helping students find their gifts and grow their talents is at the very heart of what we do,” she said.



An accomplished artist, Carol Dale teaches painting and other courses at the Lancaster Campus.



“Helping students find their gifts and grow their talents is at the very heart of what we do.”

PAUL BRUBAKER

Paul Brubaker has been a teacher of photography for more than 24 years. He currently teaches both silver-based and digital photography at Lancaster Mennonite High School. He also has teaching experience at Gonzaga College, a Jesuit school in Washington, DC. Earlier in his career he worked as audiovisual producer and photojournalist at Mennonite Central Committee, as a freelancer and at *Sojourners* magazine, Washington, DC. He graduated from Brown University in Providence, RI, first learning photography at Rhode Island School of Design.





STUDENT spotlight

TIANNA ABEL '17

This LMH senior means business when it comes to art.



When you talk to **Tianna Abel '17** about her future plans, you get the distinct impression that she means business with her art. The astute LMH senior has arranged her schedule to take a wide range of business and art courses as a foundation for her goal to create a fair trade, sustainable clothing brand that gives a percentage of its profits to orphans.

Some significant family connections fuel this interest and also make these big dreams quite realistic. Abel's father is a businessperson whose company does manufacturing in Viet Nam, so she has an entree for setting up her own enterprise there — at least at first. "I would like to have the clothing made in Bangladesh because too many garment workers are not paid a living wage and have to work in unsafe factories," she explained.

Regarding her desire to ultimately help orphans, there is another family connection: her parents are the founders of Brittany's Hope, a non-profit organization dedicated to aiding and facilitating adoptions of special needs children from around the world. In addition to their three biological children, her parents personally adopted 13 more children, and

Tianna is one of them, coming from South Korea when she was 18 months old.

As for using a business to promote social good, she takes inspiration and knowledge from her family's Ironstone Ranch

venture, which helps fund Brittany's Hope with the rental income from weddings held in carefully-restored historic barns on the Abel's property.

"I think LMH has a much greater variety of courses than the school I came from," said Abel. "And the teachers have been very supportive."

Already the entrepreneur, she has started her own photography business taking senior pictures and credits Mr. Paul Brubaker for his help, both in and out of the classroom. She was also quick to thank Mrs. Ciaccia for helping her put together the art portfolio needed to apply to a good art school. And she is particularly thankful for Mrs. Monica Marcinkowski, her Fashion and Design teacher for the past two years, who worked long hours after school to help make the prom dress Abel designed.

Along with thankfulness for the wide selection of courses and the helpfulness of her teachers, Abel also expressed appreciation for the school's spiritual atmosphere. "I learned to be more comfortable with people from different churches," she said. "Hearing different perspectives has helped me decide for myself what I believe."

Abel is seeking a double major in fashion design and fashion marketing with a possible minor in sustainability from one of the country's leading schools for art, fashion and design. When interviewed, she was busily applying to Parsons, the Fashion Institute of Technology and the Rhode Island School of Design, among others.

JAZLEEN JONES '17

Jazleen Jones '17 started to develop her interest in photography when she chose to take Photography I with Paul Brubaker. "I knew I loved taking pictures, so I figured I had to start somewhere," she said. The following year, she enrolled in his Digital Photography class. "The class helped me learn many new things about my camera and showed me the many different ways of capturing scenes." Jones uses her photography skills for the school yearbook.



BREANNA BEERS '17

Breanna Beers '17 plans to major in either education or biochemistry and become a science teacher. However, she believes that the LM art program helps her toward that goal.

"I've always had many different interests," she said. "Along with art and science, I also love writing and reading, I'm interested in technology and media, and I've participated in drama. One interest doesn't cancel out another. In fact, I think they feed and inspire each other. They use different parts of your brain so you can get new enthusiasm for one thing by doing something different. Art helps me think in different

ways and that's really good, even cathartic."

"I think that, regardless of what field you go into, art will serve you well, because it engages a different kind of thinking and makes you think more creatively, which will help you in any field, whether it's teaching or business or even working in a lab. Also, both art and science serve to point us back to God as our Creator, whether it's in a gorgeous painting or the intricacy of cell biology."



KAYLIN BERRY '17

Kaylin Berry '17 is currently taking Drawing 1 with Mr. Caldwell at the Hershey Campus. "I like how Mr. Caldwell is very spiritual about art," Berry said. Berry won a drawing contest for the school yearbook cover at the end of last year, and her art has been exhibited at school. "I am thinking that, instead of going to college, I will go to a trade school for art and see how far that takes me."



ADA GARLIN '19

Ada Garlin '19 is currently participating in tenth grade art at the Hershey Campus and spends her activity period in Art Club as well. Her favorite thing about her art courses is that she has the opportunity to talk to her art teacher, not just about art alone, but also how art connects to God and faith. "Mr. Caldwell is a really awesome guy!" she said. At this point, she is thinking about becoming an illustrator or graphic artist.



JIAXIN WU '17

"At LMH I had the opportunity to try many forms of art," said **Jiaxin Wu '17**. "Here I was able to try ceramics, stone sculpture, oil painting, acrylic painting and so on."

"Mrs. Ciaccia always encourages me," Wu said. "She helped me realize how talented I am, which I never thought before."

As a sophomore, Wu won the Landis Homes Art Purchase Award and her work hangs in the Landis Homes collection. Last year, she won Silver Keys in both sculpture and drawing in the Lancaster Young Artist Awards competition. She is applying to the Rhode Island School of Design and Parsons The New School for Design.





Featured ALUMNI



Renny Magill '87 holds a B.A. in Art from Asbury College and an M.F.A. in Painting from Pennsylvania State University. His paintings have been juried into group exhibits at Lebanon Valley College, Lancaster Museum of Art, Millersville University, and Elizabethtown College. In 1998 and 1999 his paintings received a first place and honorable mention, respectively, at Lancaster Museum of Art's annual Open Award Show. In

RENNY MAGILL '87

2000, two of his paintings were chosen to be part of a three-year traveling exhibit coordinated by Christians in the Visual Arts. He and his mother, **Velma Magill '62**, have exhibited paintings at Landis Homes and more recently had a solo exhibit at Steeple View Lofts in Lancaster.

"During high school, I took many, if not all, of the art classes offered and enjoyed them and felt an affinity with the other students," Magill recalled.

In his senior year, he won a Gold Key in the National Scholastic Art competition. This affirmation influenced him to pursue art at Asbury College. But LM's influence did not stop there.

"In the year between college and graduate school, Mary Lou Houser invited me to serve as a guest instructor for two advanced painting students," Magill recounted. "This chance to reconnect with LMH teachers and to interact with students who

had an interest in pursuing art after high school motivated me as I was preparing to head to graduate school."

Although he is an accomplished artist, Magill makes his living by raising funds for not-for-profit organizations. He is currently vice president of development at Brethren Village Retirement Community, but finds a connection between his vocation and avocation.

"I draw many analogies between the work that I do as a non-profit leader and my process of painting," he said. He also remains connected to LM and to classmates such as fellow artist **Douglas Witmer '89**. "One of the enduring influences on me has been my ongoing friendship with **Douglas Witmer '89** (facing page). He continues to push himself as an artist, and I am always learning from his growing body of work and his keen insights about painting."



Tim Gierschick II '95 is a Philadelphia-based artist who has exhibited throughout Pennsylvania. He has more than a decade of studio practice as an independent artist, over a decade of professional work within

TIMOTHY GIERSCHICK II '95

the museum and cultural institutional world of greater Philadelphia, and several years of directing and curating a small arts exhibit space. Gierschick works at the Barnes Foundation as a preparator, and is a founding member of the artist collaborative gallery Tiger Strikes Asteroid as well as former director at Second Space Arts.

After graduating from LMH, Gierschick received his B.A. in Fine and Studio Arts from Messiah College, where he was the Messiah College Art Club vice president and secretary. One of his first jobs was as an art handler at the Winterthur museum in Winterthur, Delaware. He went on to become a resident artist with Olivet Church Studios, Fairmount, Philadelphia.

His paintings explore connections that bridge time, nature and movement. There is a design element to his work that draws from folk art, graphic design and modern art. The LG Tripp gallery said of his work, "The product of Gierschick's controlled hand, geometric forms of flat color overlap in surprisingly complicated and visually appealing compositions."

Gierschick stated, "Art is almost always about connections: making them; breaking them; repairing them; looping them; pretending they exist; pretending they don't. And despite the abstracted nature of my own work, the deliberative act of making connections is really the long, snaking backbone that connects all the work I make."

DOUGLAS WITMER '89

Douglas Witmer '89 has artwork displayed in major national venues, and his abstract paintings are exhibited around the world.



In his formative years as an artist, **Douglas Witmer '89** was deeply impacted by the work and life of the late **E. Warren Rohrer '46**, one of Philadelphia's leading abstract painters of the late twentieth century.

Witmer's work combines simple geometric forms, emphatic color and subtle manipulation of surface textures. With such spare imagery, one may wonder what thought or emotion he was trying to convey.

"When I begin a work, I usually don't start with a particular feeling," Witmer said. Instead, he describes making artwork as "entering into a kind of relationship between myself and the art making process" and then "follows and moves toward the feelings that arise."

Witmer uses reduced imagery in order for the work to be very clear and direct. "I see my work as offering an alternative in a visual culture dominated by speed and complexity," Witmer said. "My hope is that it can activate the sense that you simply feel yourself seeing."

Like E. Warren Rohrer, Witmer said he draws inspiration from his own personal history of being raised in the Mennonite culture of Lancaster County with deep connections to simplicity, peacemaking and humility. "The idea of simplicity, the idea of humility, those are things I find meaningful. I hope these are among the values that are apparent in what one sees when they look at my work."

Witmer cited "community" as another important value from his Mennonite background that infuses his life. In 2003 he and his brother-in-law opened the Green Line Cafe in West Philadelphia's vibrant University City neighborhood, transforming a

neglected historic storefront property into a bustling community hub. Since then, they have converted two more storefront properties into neighborhood coffeehouses, established a coffeehouse in Center City and are working renovating another neglected property into "Green Line Workspace," a 7,000 square foot building that will house a commercial kitchen and about a dozen artist studios. They also promote creative expression and ideas by supporting local musicians, artists, activists and thinkers with in-house events.

In addition to showing his own artwork, Witmer curates art shows for the Green Line and other venues around Philadelphia. He's also involved in the Museum of Art and Peace at his church in Germantown, the oldest Mennonite church in North America, where he shows art with themes of social justice and peace-making.

Witmer's art is in numerous private and public galleries and has been the subject of several national and international exhibitions. He currently makes and exhibits several bodies of work centered on "color-driven visual experiences": his low-relief, wall-mounted "Fruitville" objects made of found wood and a variety of media; his intimate "School Papers" drawing/painting hybrids on vintage school-grade writing paper; and his more formal and refined paintings on canvas. His work can be seen at <http://douglaswitmer.com>.

"There's a tendency in my art work, not a mission," Witmer explained. "My work is intuitive. But it does come from my background and those values."

After graduating from Goshen College, Witmer obtained an MFA from the Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts in Philadelphia, the city in which he has lived and worked in since 1995.

“I'm always honored to be mentioned in the same breath as Warren Rohrer '46. On a Goshen College art department field trip, I saw some paintings that resonated with me and inquired about the artist. Learning he was from Lancaster County, I wrote to him and we exchanged correspondence until he died in 1995. I visited him at his home and studio, I attended several openings of his Philadelphia exhibitions, and he was an important mentor to me. The example of his life and work continues to inspire me. I still relate to his family here in Philadelphia, and in 2014, I felt privileged to include one of his paintings in an exhibition I curated. It was also quite a personal thrill for me in 2011 when the Woodmere Art Museum hung one of my paintings along with one of Warren's.

But long before I knew of Warren, there was Velma Magill, my art teacher at Locust Grove, who gave me a lot of encouragement.

Mary Lou Weaver Houser was my high school art teacher. Her art room was truly a creative haven. She infused students with a deep sense of social justice and how art could be a transformative power in the world. This outlook has stayed with me.

Since graduation I've stayed connected to a core group of my fellow alumni artists such as Renny Magill '87, Tim Gierschick '95 and Michael Landis '83."



Featured ALUMNI



VELMA MAGILL '62

- For 32 years Velma Yoder Magill '62 inspired artists at LM's Locust Grove Campus — and still encourages them today.

“

I began pursuing art because of the encouragement I received from Mrs. Magill. She encouraged me to continue learning about different approaches to creating, which helped me develop a more complex understanding of art.”

When **Velma Magill '62** was an LM student, the school did not offer art classes. But a physics teacher, Luke Shank, told her, “You need to be an artist.” Maybe it was because the budding artist drew pictures on her school papers and took more interest in that than in math and science!

Looking back after 32 years as an art teacher, Magill believes, “Kids need the creative element to balance all the math and science that can make people think in boxes.”

Magill was also frustrated that the austere local Mennonites tended to disdain art. “Why weren’t the arts important to Mennonites?” she wondered. “The arts were important to God in the Old Testament.”

Magill started to pursue art at the age of 21 after she was married, feeling that it was a God-given gift. “After my first life-threatening incident, I felt I was given a second life and decided to

use my gift for God,” she related. “God created beauty, so art is a tribute to God’s creation.”

Velma received a B.A. in Art from Millersville University where she won the Workman Painting award, and she participated in both graduate and workshop studies at the Massachusetts College of Art. She continued her art studies at Bennington College in Vermont.

In 1980 she joined the faculty at the Locust Grove Campus.

About teaching art, she says, “All the rules and all the curriculum can kill the spirit.” One of her goals in teaching was for her students to “experience joy in creating.”

As an artist, she has won many awards and has been juried in multiple shows along the East Coast. “Much of the language of my work is from the creative nature of God,” she said. “Painting, for me, is listening to the inner voice of God.”

HANNAH SAUDER '11

Hannah Sauder '11 graduated from Goshen College in 2016 with a degree in communications and minors in graphic design and international studies. She is interested in helping people discover their creative potential through technology and art. She currently serves as outreach and volunteer coordinator at Assemble, a community space for arts and technology in Pittsburgh. “I want to provide opportunities for students to express their creativity and build confidence in their creative abilities,” she said.

After being encouraged by **Velma Magill '62** at the Locust Grove Campus, she enjoyed studying under Carol Dale and Kathy Ciaccia at LMH, “I was inspired by the encouragement, constructive feedback and patience of both Mrs. Dale and Mrs. Ciaccia,” she said. “I appreciated the atmosphere of collaboration in my LM art classes, and both Mrs. Ciaccia and Mrs. Dale encouraged me to continue seeking collaboration with other artists.”



Photo by Cara Rufenacht Creative

FREDERICK JOHN LAMP '62

An expert in African art, Frederick John Lamp '62 is retired as curator of African Art at the Yale University Art Gallery and lecturer in Theater Studies.

While at LMS, **Frederick John Lamp '62** was a member of the art club, and his senior yearbook blurb wondered: "A future Rembrandt?"

Rather than becoming a studio artist, however, he gravitated toward curating and teaching art history, dance and theater, with a specialty in African arts.

"Some of my favorite teachers at LM were former missionaries (Omar Eby and Grace Wenger) whose stories about Africa augmented my growing fascination with the liveliness of African music, dance and art compared to my stiff Mennonite, Pennsylvania Dutch, upbringing."

After obtaining a B.S. in Art Education from Kent State University, Lamp taught art in public schools in the U.S.A. from 1969 to 1973.

His experience in Africa began with a Peace Corps assignment in 1967-1969, teaching English and art. "As a Peace Corps volunteer, I fell in love with Africa and its artistic culture," Lamp said.

Lamp went on to earn an M.A. in African Studies from Ohio University and a Ph.D. in the History of Art from Yale University. He then taught African art history at Yale University, Johns Hopkins University, Maryland Institute College of Art and several other universities and colleges.

Specializing in the performance art of Sierra Leone and Guinea, Lamp has conducted research and published widely with fellowships from the National Gallery of Art, the Fulbright Scholar Award, Social Science Research Council, the Smithsonian Institution and the National Endowment for the Arts. From 1995-96, he held a Senior Fellowship at the National Gallery of Art, Center for Advanced Study in the Visual Arts.

Although becoming a curator and lecturer at Yale was a great honor and pleasure, with exceptional colleagues and students to inspire him, he most enjoyed his many research tours in Africa, immersing himself and challenging himself



in a different way of life, system of thought and artistic perspective. "My passionate ambition has always been to convey to the world the magnificence of African artistic achievement through my writing and photography, and I hope and believe that this will be my legacy," Lamp said.

Lamp is an avid photographer of the world and has published hundreds of his photographs. Aside from his profession, he has written *Connecticut by Bicycle: 50 Great Scenic Routes*, highlighting his photography. He continues to write and create in New Haven, Connecticut.



PHOEBE ANN ERB '64

For decades, **Phoebe Ann Erb '64**, Chestnut Hill, MA, worked anonymously as a textile designer, painting designs that wound up on fabrics for countless articles of clothing and furniture. "Most people never think about who designs the print you see on a dress," she said.

Erb's designs took inspiration from art throughout the ages, even prehistoric art. "I've been delving into design history for decades," said Erb, who has authored five books on period designs. "I like the idea of combining things from different periods of time and in new situations."

In college she majored in English and secondary education, then went to teach English in Borneo with the Peace Corps. When she returned to the US, she said, "I wanted something more creative, so I went to the Fashion Institute of Technology in Manhattan to learn how to design printed fabrics and set myself up as a freelance designer."

For thirty years she sold her work to the textile markets while teaching studio courses, publishing articles, organizing exhibitions and giving illustrated talks about print design. Awards from the Pennsylvania Council on the Arts, Mass Cultural Council and John Anson Kitteredge Educational Fund supported this work.

Erb has shifted away from design work into fine art as computers have reshaped the business, and she now creates collage works from the remains of textile designs and other materials that fill her studio. Her work has been exhibited in the Boston area and featured in the *Boston Globe*.



Ted Book '90 currently teaches art at Millersburg Area High School in Dauphin County.

“**My parents sacrificed to send my three siblings and me to LM. At the time, I didn’t fully grasp the blessing of being educated in such an encouraging and uplifting environment. As a parent and a teacher in the public school system, I now understand why they chose to do that.**”

TED BOOK '90

Ted Book '90 is hesitant to point out any particular LM faculty member who influenced him, saying, “The whole faculty and my classmates were all a part of creating a great foundation for who I am today.”

After graduating from LMH, Book attended Penn State University to study art and earned a bachelor’s degree in art with a concentration in sculpture and a minor in business. “For several years I had enjoyable jobs creating things,” Book related, “but I felt as though I was not making the impact on people that God was asking of me.”

In 2004 Book felt God leading him to minister in the public schools. He decided to go back to school to earn his teaching certificate in art from Millersville University and was hired by the Millersburg Area School District in 2006. “I have done my best to exhibit in my school the type of role model behavior that I had the opportunity to experience while at LM,” Book said.

Nearly 30 years after graduation, Book is still receiving encouragement from those involved with LM. While Book was working toward his Master’s degree, Mary Lou Houser, his LMH art teacher, gave him advice on how

to teach art. These discussions with Houser also shaped the direction of his own artwork.

“During my time as an art teacher, I’ve developed a greater appreciation of using art to share God’s truth. I have created several paintings to music for our annual faculty talent show. These paintings were evangelistic, but were well-received.” Most of the paintings have been donated to individuals and churches throughout Millersburg.

Book earned an M.A. in Art Education from Messiah College, which culminated in an art exhibit at the Ned Smith Center for Nature and Art in Millersburg. This exhibit contained 30 ceramic-based pieces centered around the theme of the names of Jesus Christ. Book’s “My Rock” was one of 123 pieces chosen from nearly 1,800 applicants to be in the “Art of the State” exhibit at the State Museum in Harrisburg this past summer.

Book recently displayed a solo exhibit of ceramic pieces titled, “Vessels of Light.” Book said, “These pieces were designed to portray that even though we are broken and imperfect, it’s those imperfections that allow the light of Jesus to be seen in the dark.”



CINDY BIRKNESS '81

Cindy Wenger Birkness '81 recalled that during high school she spent a lot of time drawing horses with no higher goal than to draw realistically. Then Mary Lou Houser, her art teacher, challenged her with the question “What can **you** say with your art that no one else can say?”

As the mother of a 23-year-old son with special needs (autism and intellectual disability), Birkness now feels that she has something unique to say about autism and can give people a window into the difficulties and joys of life with a special needs child. She recently showed some of her paintings at Garden Spot Village and gave a talk about the creative process and autism. One of her images is pictured above.

After LMH, Birkness went on to obtain a B.S. in Art Education from Eastern Mennonite University, then taught for two years at Ephrata Mennonite School and one year at Lancaster Mennonite when Mrs. Houser was on sabbatical.

DONOVAN ROBERTS WITMER '93 JEREMY HESS '97

For the past 13 years, Jeremy Hess '97 and Donovan Roberts Witmer '93 have been capturing compelling images for clients across the East Coast.

In 2012 Witmer transitioned from his career as a magazine editor, creative director and staff photographer to join the commercial division of the Jeremy Hess Photographers' team. In the years since that transition, Jeremy and Donovan have had the privilege of partnering with local, regional, and national brands to create compelling visuals. They launched The Premise Studio in January 2016, as joint creative partners.

Hess and Witmer believe in the value and power of stories to connect brands to their audience in a genuine way. Understanding their clients' premise — the "why" behind

what they do — brings clarity and sets the direction for their work. At their core, they are both visual communicators, not just photographers, and have expanded into video and film production that gets to the heart of what makes a brand special.

After graduating from LMH, Witmer earned a B.A. at Messiah College, majoring in Communications, Journalism, Photography and Spanish. Hess' path took him to Colorado Mountain College for an Associate of Arts and Sciences (A.A.S.) in Professional Photography. Both Hess and Witmer credit their LMH photography classes with instructor



Paul Brubaker as laying an early foundation for their interest in photography. See their work at www.thepremisestudio.com.

LIZ HESS '83

Liz Hess '83 may be the best-known fine artist amid the LM constituency. For one thing, she has regularly donated art to benefit the school, including a special series of historic scenes of the Lancaster Campus that culminated in "The Beginning", which sold for \$7,000 at the school's October 8 benefit auction. Altogether, her art work has raised more than \$50,000 for the school's Kristin Palazzo Visual Arts Memorial Endowment. These scenes are affordable and available as postcards through the school and in her downtown Lancaster gallery on Gallery Row.

For another thing, she is a successful entrepreneur and has been a mentor to other alumni seeking to sell their artwork. Using a representational painting style, Hess makes her art available in a variety of products.

One of her most popular collections is the Red Umbrella series. Following the solitary figure

with the red umbrella, Hess takes the viewer on a journey to many beautiful locales. Departing from her typical style of representational art, she sometimes ventures into the crazy world of illustrated felines and canines in her "All about Cats & Dogs" collection.

Hess was chosen to be the artist for the USGA 2015 Women's Open Golf Championship at the Lancaster Country Club. Her painting of the eighteenth hole was featured on posters, prints and notecards sold at a merchandise tent open to the 100,000 tournament spectators from all over the world. Also, the club gave each of the 156 pro golfers one of her prints.

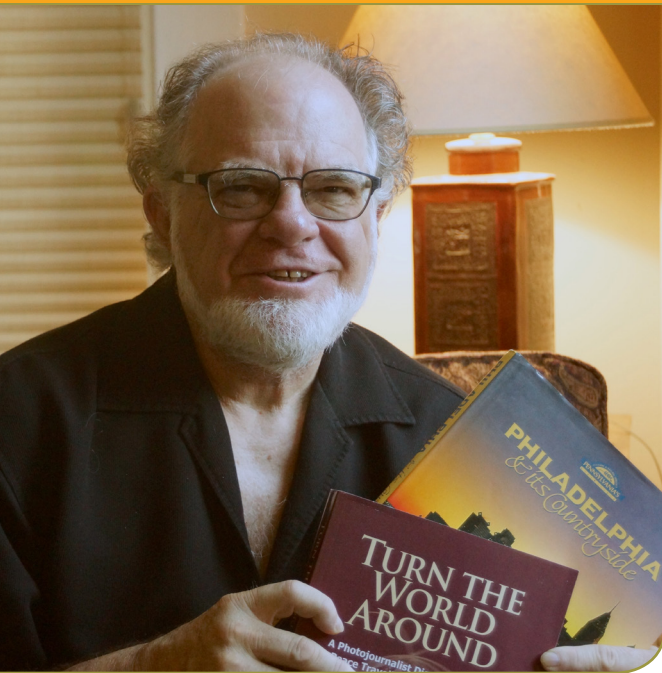
Hess said that the artist she idolizes most is the Master Painter, who has "filled Earth with form, color and patterns too beautiful for any human being to recreate."



Liz Hess '83 is featured in LM's 75th anniversary book *Bridging Decades, Embracing the Future*.



Featured ALUMNI



BLAIR SEITZ '63

- One of LM's most distinguished alumni in the field
- of photography is Blair Seitz '63, the internationally-
- recognized photographer of 21 books.

• been exhibited by the Natural History Museum, NY, the World Exhibition of Photography, Virginia Museum and numerous other galleries.

• Book titles include *Philadelphia and its Countryside, Pennsylvania Tapestry: Views from the Air, Pennsylvania's Natural Beauty* and *Amish Ways*. Seven of his books compose the series, *Pennsylvania's Natural and Cultural Heritage*. His latest book, published by Voyageur Press, which he also wrote, is titled *Pennsylvania, Yesterday and Today*.

• For nine years Seitz lived and worked in Kenya and the Philippines, traveling to many Asian and African countries to fulfill assignments for Camera Press, the United Nations and many magazines. "During my time in Africa and Asia I photographed and my former wife, Ruth Hoover Seitz, wrote about many EMU/LMS graduates, including **Ira Kurtz '59** (China), Don and **Anna Ruth '45 Jacobs**, (Kenya) and Leon and **Nancy '62 Stauffer** (Philippines). I have photographed

many MCC projects for various promotional publications including the Garissa, Kenya, irrigation project, the Kilimanjaro Medical Center and a Somali literacy project."

He published a memoir of his Africa and Asia years called *Turn the World Around: A Photojournalist Discovers Paths to Peace on a War-torn Planet*.

Seitz collaborated with LMS graduate and friend, **Don Kraybill '63**, on his books about Amish culture.

At LMH, Seitz edited the Laurel Wreath under the supervision of Omar Eby, and appreciated teachers Lydia Glick and Helen Longenecker for helping him start literary groups as a form of artistic expression because the visual arts were not allowed to be offered at the time.

Since 2011, he and his artist wife, Judy, have resided in West Reading, PA, a revitalized small town with an art scene where he is presently a member of the town's Art Plus Gallery.

Blair Seitz '63 grew up in the Slate Hill Mennonite congregation near Mechanicsburg, PA, and attended LM as a dorm student. In his youth, Seitz shot plenty of film behind his home near the Yellow Breeches Creek and today has 60,000 images to his credit, including the most comprehensive collection of landscapes, historic and cultural subjects in Pennsylvania. Seitz's photographs have been published in *NY Times Magazine*, *Newsweek Time*, *National Geographic Traveler* and many other international publications including the *Guardian*, *London Sunday News* and *South China Morning Post*. His photographs have



LOIS HESS NAFZIGER '70

Lois Hess Nafziger '70 is a Fraktur artist. Fraktur is both a style of lettering and a highly artistic, elaborate Pennsylvania Dutch folk art. Nafziger has developed a line of Fraktur-inspired note cards (Bookmark Cards) based on Fraktur pieces made by German-speaking Mennonite school teachers of southeastern Pennsylvania between 1740 and 1830. The Mennonite schoolmaster Christopher Dock gave *Vorschriften* (wise and instructive words surrounded with symbolic birds and flowers) to his students as rewards for their good work and behavior. Nafziger's cards are designed to carry a message to a friend and then, with the snip of a scissors, be turned into a colorful bookmark.

GORDON DIMMIG '13

Alumnus Gordon Dimmig's photo of alumnus Wendell Baer hung in the Smithsonian.

Gordon Dimmig '13 was chosen as the student winner of the "People in Wilderness" category of "Wilderness Forever: 50 Years of Protecting America's Wild Places," a juried photography competition in conjunction with Nature's Best Photography and the Smithsonian Institution.

Dimmig's photo was part of an exhibition of 50 images at the Museum of Natural History in Washington, D.C., which is one of the Smithsonian Institution's museums. His photo was on display on the second floor of the museum and was also published in *Nature's Best Photography* magazine. Along with his winning entry, Dimmig had two other photos that made it into the Top 100 as honorable mentions.

Professional, amateur and student photographers from all over the world submitted more than 5,000 entries. Dimmig's image was a favorite of the judges because of the sophistication of the photographic composition, the technical quality of the image and the serene calm evoked by the image.

His winning entry, "Fly Fishing on Big Salmon Lake," features fellow LMH alumnus **Wendell Baer '13**. The photo is a simple black-and-white composition where Wendell is facing away from the camera, casting a fly rod, his line shooting out over Big Salmon Lake, Montana.

While at LMH, Dimmig took Photography I and Photography II with Paul Brubaker, a member of the school's fine arts faculty.

"LMH had some huge impacts on me," said Dimmig. "It gave me the foundation in Christ that I could build on as I went into college. Additionally, many of my interests and career goals were first sparked at LMH where I could be pushed academically while getting involved in clubs like Yearbook, which gave me an artistic outlet for my photography."

Dimmig is currently studying environmental science at Juniata College and is considering doing field research with birds or wildlife.



Gordon Dimmig '13 with "Fly Fishing on Salmon Lake" in the Smithsonian Institution

KEITH HERSHBERGER '90

Keith Hershberger '90 is a potter who has made a living working with clay for more than 20 years. After graduating from Goshen College in 1994 with a B.A. in Art with a focus in ceramics, he worked as a production potter, a musician, a freelance graphic designer and a ceramic artist. He currently works at Manchester Craftsmen's Guild as a teaching artist in the ceramics studio and as the exhibition coordinator. At MCG, Hershberger loves working with students, pushing them to learn new things and enjoying their fresh creativity. However, he is phasing out of teaching to spend more time on his own work in the studio.

Hershberger enjoys art in almost all of its forms and dabbles in any that interest him at the moment. He particularly enjoys making pottery that is both attractive and useful. "Using a handmade object is like having a conversation with the maker, and I like the idea that I can help create, and even share in, the small moments in the day when we allow ourselves to sit down for a moment and have a cup of coffee."

Hershberger's work may be found in galleries and shows throughout the east coast and Midwest, and at the Highland Park Pottery Tour, a neighborhood-based house tour of ceramic artists homes and studios to view and purchase their work. His work has been published in *500 Prints on Clay* and in *Graphic Clay* by Jason Burnett and can be seen at www.keithhershberger.com.

"In a world that is too fast, and often too dark, my goal is to make space in the day for beauty," Hershberger said.





Featured ALUMNI

JULIA EBY SWARTZ '70



As a little girl, **Julia Swartz '70** would borrow her mother's oil paints and begin developing her skills. While going through grade school and high school, Swartz took advantage of the art courses that were offered at the time.

After graduating from LM, Swartz studied oil painting with the late

Jay McVey of Ephrata, PA, but marriage and children absorbed most of her time. It wasn't until all three children were in school that she could invest the time to eventually become a well-known local artist with galleries in Lancaster and Intercourse.

Swartz joined the Lancaster County Art Association (LCAA) and began studies with tutors such as Lynn Yancha. A trip to the New York Art Expo and several other New York galleries in 2001 was the spark that began a serious study of oil impressionism on canvas and her current style of textured, bold, color on color, palette knife, impressionistic oil on canvas paintings.

Since 2003 Swartz has exhibited and sold her work in more than 50 juried art exhibitions and has won numerous awards such as the Peoples Choice Award from Lancaster Museum of Art 2005, First Place Oil

Painting from Bel Air Arts Festival and Best of Show in the Canandaigua NY Arts Festival. Swartz has been commissioned to paint many subjects including President Judge Michael Georgelis, whose portrait now hangs in the Lancaster County courthouse.

In March 2007, Swartz opened her own gallery in downtown Lancaster's Gallery Row, and later a second gallery in Intercourse, PA. She has now retired and closed the city location, but her husband continues to manage the Intercourse store.

Although it is satisfying to please people by creating art to customers' specifications, Swartz loves the opportunity to, without limits or boundaries, create an image that creates a feeling. "I have always loved beauty, so making my paintings beautiful is important, but also I want you to feel something when you look at my paintings."

DEB GEIB SMITH '83



Deb Geib Smith '83 grew up with the gift of drawing. Her interest in art began at an early age and continued through her school years. But it wasn't until 1987, with the

encouragement of her husband, **Dean Smith '83**, that she seriously pursued a career as an artist. **Liz Hess '83** has also been a perennial source of encouragement and inspiration.

Private lessons with local artists, classes at the Pennsylvania School of Art & Design, and watercolor workshops with Jeanne Dobie and Lynne Yancha have all added remarkable growth and development to her watercolors. Her fascination with dramatic lighting, luminous shadows, and bright color play a major role in her paintings.

In all of her work she strives to communicate joy. "The joy of color, light, and emotions that come from living in a world created by a loving God," she said. Believing her talent is a God-given gift, Smith puts a cross beside her name. "The art classes at LMH with Mrs Houser helped me

grow and realize the gift I was given," Smith recounted.

A signature member of the Philadelphia Watercolor Society, (PWCS), and the president of the Lititz Village Art Association (1999-02), Debra has exhibited her award-winning work in numerous juried shows including the Longs Park Arts and Crafts Festival (one of the five major juried arts and crafts shows in America). Her paintings are part of the corporate collection of MBNA Bank of America, and private collections throughout the United States and abroad. In November of this year, she opened her own studio in Lititz.

Smith's art may be seen at Debra Smith Watercolors (Facebook) and DebSmithWatercolors (Etsy).

BRENDA BURKHART BLANK '74

Brenda Blank '74 was always interested in art, filling out her school schedule at LMH with as much art as possible, but not until three years ago did she really dive into it.

"I always looked forward to my art classes with Mary Lou Houser," said Blank. "She exposed me to various mediums, which added to what I already enjoyed. I particularly remember walking around campus in search of things to draw and paint during class time and for assignments."

Although she learned watercolor technique many years ago, only recently has she taken time to explore and develop it. She soon found herself receiving a number of commissions for paintings such as historical buildings and family pets. She recently launched a website (www.bjblankart.com) because people kept asking to see her work.

Ultimately, Blank wants her art to be "more of a message than just a decoration for a wall." For some of her more decorative pieces, she hopes that, when others view her work, they will see a new beauty in themselves and in the world around them."

Other pieces have spiritual inspiration. Blank explains, "God speaks to me with images and color, and at times what I paint is a picture that I saw in my mind's eye during worship, Scripture reading or prayer. My greatest desire is that others will hear God's voice through those paintings. I pray that, through my painting, my hands would be instruments for grace, healing and



freedom in the lives of others."

Blank and Houser still occasionally reconnect to discuss art. More recently, fellow alumna, **Liz Hess '83**, has also been a resource and source of encouragement.

REGINA MARTIN '76

Regina "Gina" Martin '76 spent her early years on a small seven-acre farm near Lewisburg, Pennsylvania, before attending Lancaster Mennonite High School as a dorm student. Her mother, **Frances Kreider '56** wanted her daughter to share the same educational experience she had enjoyed.

"I am thankful that my parents made sacrifices which allowed me to attend LMH, and I appreciate the important life lessons learned during my three years there, and these lessons still follow me in my journey each day."

After graduating from LMH, Gina made Lancaster County her home. It seemed a safe and familiar place, and she spent many years in the restaurant industry.

As an artist, Gina considers herself a late bloomer. The decision to earn a

B.S. in Art Education from Millersville at the age of 30 was a pivotal point in her life. It was in painting class where Gina met her husband, Fred Rodger. She also grew in her passion for creativity through painting.

In 2006 Gina became a founding partner of the Red Raven Art Company. Around that time, many local Lancaster artists lost their home when Central Market Art closed its doors. To replace that outlet, "Gallery Row" on North Prince Street was conceived. "It took a huge leap of faith to start an art gallery business," Martin says, but the Red Raven celebrated its tenth year in April, 2016.

Her sources of inspiration are ordinary everyday objects. She said that her challenge is "to uncover the extraordinary in her own voice." Her goal is "to approach art-making



with an open mind, exploring the creative process through observation, intuition, experimentation and happy accidents." For her, painting is both a struggle and a joy, continually striving to develop a more sophisticated eye while holding onto the elements of playfulness.



Featured ALUMNI



Emmett Murphy '62 explores the possibilities of carved and painted wood.



Murphy discusses his 2014 art installation with LMH students.



Murphy's 2014 art installation at night

J. EMMETT MURPHY '62

J. Emmett Murphy '62 is a man who loves to provide different perspectives. He certainly cannot be confined to any niche, and one never knows what he will be creating next.

Bubbling over with creative energy, he recalled his LM experience with fond enthusiasm. One of his many stories is of the time he entered a major poster design contest that required the signature of the entrant's art teacher. Because LM had no art department at the time, history teacher Myron Deitz offered to sign the submission form. "When my entry was judged in the top 1% of thousands of high school entries from across the U.S., he congratulated me and said, 'You may be on to something!'"

Murphy cited Dietz as being his favorite teacher, but added, "Omar Eby, Charlie Longenecker and Grace Wenger weren't far behind in the daily motivation and inspiration."

Many of his traditional oil and watercolor paintings of fruit, vegetables and flowers would fit anyone's definition of fine art. Landscapes in oil and watercolor are based on frequent trips to Alaska, Montana and

Yellowstone as well as the Adirondack, Berkshire and Green mountains.

However, Murphy continues to explore the possibilities of cast glass, carved and painted wood, and interactive multimedia constructions, including manipulated digital photography.

In 2014, when asked to make a banner for the Bridges to the Future kickoff event, artist Murphy immediately had something much bigger in mind. "My vision was for the bridge to become a giant chrysalis that would gradually change colors with unfolding LED-balloon-lit wings protruding from the sides and small candle-lit luminary 'eggs' lighting the path to the entrance," he said. "A cocoon for each student and friend to emerge from." Murphy also came up with the idea to include students' dreams on the balloons that filled the bridge.

"Accepting a literal interpretation of 'God created people in his own image,' I find great satisfaction in being creative on some level on a daily basis. Even more rewarding is seeing people, who view my work, become inspired to find their own levels of personal creativity."



NAOMI KENNEL YODER '46

Naomi Kennel Yoder '46 may be the first LM alumna to obtain a Master of Fine Arts degree, according to her niece **Velma Magill '62**. Now living in Amsterdam, Netherlands, Yoder attended the Tyler School of Art, worked as an art teacher and illustrated *Words of Cheer*, a popular Mennonite periodical given to children who attended Sunday School. In 2009 she displayed some of her woodcuts at LM's Fall Festival art show. Magill credited her "Aunt Naomi" for being among the pioneers of Mennonite women in art and an inspiration to her own art career.

RENAE GOCHNAUER '14

Renae Gochnauer '14 is currently in Orvieto, Italy, studying art and Italian. She's been working with several different media including ink, charcoal, egg tempera paint on boards, and most recently, Adobe products for graphic design. "I'm learning an immense amount and developing more every day as I continue to expand my range of abilities," Gochnauer said.

A psychology major with an art concentration at Houghton College, Gochnauer is in Italy with the Gordon-in-Orvieto program that is affiliated with several Christian colleges. This program typically invites professors from varying universities and backgrounds to participate, including professors from Messiah and Wheaton colleges as well as Italian instructors.

"I have made incredible progress as an artist and as a person through the total focus on art, the individual attention given by professors, and the

Orvieto art community," Gochnauer reported. "My professor's ability to integrate life, faith, looking, poetry and artistic expression into a rich vision freely shared with us has inspired me to work past my own preconceptions, hesitations and fears to create art I previously may not have attempted."

Her projects have included a large 7'x4' on-site drawing in Orvieto of conte and charcoal, a self-portrait in egg tempera on prepared board, a replica of St. Francis by Giotto and several city studies of Orvieto.

While at LMH, Gochnauer won the Landis Homes Art Purchase Award. "The privilege of receiving the Landis Homes Art Purchase Award in high school was a beautiful gift of affirmation in a field that I already loved, and the support of my teachers for this passion only aided in the progression of my skill and vision as an artist," Gochnauer said.



Renae Gochnauer '14 with her drawing of an Orvieto, Italy, scene

LAURA BUCHEN BRENEMAN '02



Laura Buchen Breneman '02 is senior manager of styling at American Eagle outfitters, styling all campaign and editorial spreads, website and in-store display guidelines. She previously worked for Ralph Lauren for ten years as a womens designer and concept designer. After graduating from LM, she attended the School of Fashion Design where she was a recipient of the Helen Lee Scholarship for excellence in art, design and textiles, and the Mary O'Brian Scholarship for design capabilities. While working at Ralph Lauren, she started a line of leather baby shoes and accessories manufactured by Amish leather workers in Lancaster. Her BU-KIN line is sold on line and in NYC shops. She is married to **Mark Breneman '02**.

JOE HOTTENSTEIN '67

Joe Hottenstein '67 started as a signmaker when everything was hand-lettered and hand-drawn. After ten years of making signs, he started a photography studio and, in 1980, was contracted to be the photographer for the Pennsylvania State Senate, a position he held for 33 years. After concluding his photography career, he returned to one of his favorite art forms: sculpture in bronze and hydro stone. He and his wife, Joyce, own Mennonite Your Way tours, and Hottenstein works on sculpture when not leading national and international tour groups.



Winners of the Landis Homes Art Purchase Award

Each year since 1995, Landis Homes selects a piece of artwork from the LMH Spring Fine Arts Festival to become part of a permanent art collection on the retirement community campus. In return for the work, Landis Homes makes contributions to the LMS art department and to the students to help further their education.

1995 Nigel Green
1996 Kristine Hess
1997 Jeremy Hess
1998 Fumi Ono
1999 Aelee Lee
2000 Joshua Kiehl
2001 Joshua Hunt
2002 Ashleigh Clark
2003 David Hunt
2004 Abigail Groff
2005 Mary Joy King
2006 Jodi Baliles
2007 Kristen Ciaccia
2008 Erika Christopher
2009 Jennifer Shenk
2010 Carli Bowman
2011 Hyobin Chung
2012 Renae Gochnauer
2013 Meghan Good
2014 Emily Blank
2015 Brianna Scheidt
2016 Su Youn Na



The first six LMS art students whose work was selected for recognition by Landis Homes returned for a reunion show in May 2000. Front row (from left): Aelee Lee (1999), Joshua Kiehl (2000), and Fumi Ono (1998); back row, Kristine Hess (1996), Jeremy Hess (1997) and Nigel Green (1995).



Featured ALUMNI

BARBARA S. MARTIN '83

Barbara S. Martin '83 fondly recalls her time at LMH, with art classes and yearbook design work being her favorite memories. "Those high school years gave me the freedom to pursue activities that later became my career," Martin said.

After LMH Martin graduated from Pennsylvania College of Art and Design, majoring in communication arts. "My choice of career was inspired by my classes with Mary Lou Houser, the LMH art teacher at the time, and the time spent working on the high school yearbook," Martin recalled. "I thoroughly enjoyed my time as editor, although page layout was my preference, not writing."

After college Martin was hired as an art

director at a Philadelphia advertising agency, where she worked for two years before starting a freelance graphic design firm, Studio 1292, and worked with many Central PA advertising agencies.

In 2012 she joined Global Disciples as communications manager, where she currently works. "It has been a pleasure these past four years to use the creative gifts God has given me to further the Kingdom through the design of attractive materials that communicate God's work in the world and motivate people to be involved."



ALICIA BYLER '86

Alicia Byler '86 has worked off-and-on in the studio in one way or another ever since high school and college, showing her work locally and in a few shows nationally, but her creativity is best known in the world of retail, specifically antiques and vintage home furnishings and fashion. When she opened her first shop, Mommalicious, in May 2005, she distinctly felt the synergy of creating beauty of a different sort, setting up displays as if they were a still life painting. "I created art out of life and it made me very happy," Byler said.

"I have been a painter/collage artist since the late 1980s and still consider myself first and foremost an artist," Byler

said. She holds a diploma of fine arts from Pennsylvania College of Art and Design and a B.F.A. in painting from Millersville University, and she has worked as a visual art instructor, assistant industrial designer and coordinator of art exhibitions. Byler closed Mommalicious in September and will open another vintage and antiques retail shop, Telltale Dress, in Lancaster this summer.



Photo submitted by the artist as shown.

GLADYS ZEISET '64

Gladys Zeiset '64 is primarily a self-taught artist who enjoys working with oils and acrylics to paint florals, snow scenes, seascapes, animals and birds, with an occasional portrait.

"I get inspired by God's creation, whether it's the delicate petal of a flower or the beauty that surrounds us with the change of seasons," she said.

Besides selling art in the Friendship Heart Gallery, she sells originals, prints and note cards at local art shows and through her website.





CHRISTINE BAER '10

A chapel service in middle school at LM's Kraybill Campus ignited a spark that inspired **Christine Baer '10** to work with displaced persons. Today, Baer has made a name for herself on the forefront of the Syrian refugee crisis in central Pennsylvania, and the articulate advocate for refugees has been featured in many news media, locally and nationally, speaking on their behalf as the congregational resource developer for Church World Service, Lancaster.

Baer generates, coordinates and maintains congregational and community support for refugees resettling through the Immigration and Refugee Program. She has been tirelessly educating the Lancaster community about the circumstances of the refugees and how congregations and individuals can help.

The statistics seem to come easily for Baer as she speaks to the media, church groups and anyone who will listen. "There are 805,000 people in urgent need of resettlement," she said.

"Fewer than one percent of refugees get resettled."

Although persons from many countries need assistance, the Syrian crisis is foremost in her mind. "It is the worst humanitarian crisis of our time. We need to stand up and take action."

Baer still remembers the chapel service in which a representative from Mennonite Central Committee spoke about the plight of refugees around the world and the need for peacebuilding. The chapel influenced her to take the school's course in conflict resolution. "That course prompted me to pursue peace studies in college," she related.

Baer went on to obtain a B.A. in Peace Studies and Conflict Resolution from Eastern Mennonite University, where she was the 2014 Intercollegiate Peace Fellowship Conference Co-coordinator. She was also involved with student government, residence life and Earthkeepers, and was awarded EMU's Cords of Distinction in recognition of her outstanding contributions to the



university, community and society.

Baer recently served on Lancaster Mennonite Conference's peace curriculum team to update the conference's resources for teaching and promoting peace. She currently volunteers with the youth group at Landisville Mennonite Church and serves on the board of Lancaster Mennonite Historical Society.

Baer has continued to be active in LM affairs. She served on the Alumni Board and, most recently, on the Superintendent Search Committee.

C. BERNIE GOOD '75

Dr. Chester "Bernie" Good '75 is an internationally-recognized leader in drug safety. As a drug safety expert, Good serves on the Food and Drug Administration's Drug Oversight Board. He chairs the advisory panel that oversees pharmacy benefits for the Veterans Administration nationally (\$5 billion budget), and he is also the co-director of the VA Center for Medication Safety.

"I believe that my years at LMH were quite formative in my faith development, my development as a young man, and as a Christian," Good said. "I developed friendships which continue to this day, and I grew as a person."

After graduating from LMH, Good pursued a B.S. in Biochemistry from the University of Maryland, obtained an M.D. from George Washington

University and then did specialized study in epidemiology at the University of Pittsburgh where he is now a professor of medicine and pharmacy.

About 15 years ago, Good helped establish and build a medical clinic in Honduras to provide health care, dental care and pharmaceutical care for a large rural population that had very little in the way of health care prior to his coming to their community. Each year, he takes Pitt medicine and pharmacy students with him to work at the Honduras clinic and counts this as one of his most rewarding activities.

Good also enjoys hearing back from former medical students. "I take pride when they have done well, because I think that I have had a small part of that success," Good says, "and hopefully LM will feel that it has a part in the success of its many students that it



influenced over the years, one of which was me."

Good and his wife are active members of Pittsburgh Mennonite Church.



Alumni Notes



'84

Phil Kreider '84 recently held a successful "Mud 'n' Stones" pottery and photography exhibit at the Parrott Gallery, Community Mennonite Church, Lancaster, which was featured in Entertainment Lancaster. A psychiatric nurse by vocation, Kreider also teaches pottery at Kevin Lehman's Pottery studio and finds his pottery-making to be therapeutic. But not entirely relaxing. "I find the potter's wheel to be stressful at times," he admitted. He most enjoys adding stones to the pottery he makes on the wheel, a practice he started about two years ago. "That's where I lose myself," he said. Cairns (little stacks of stones) embedded in his pottery make his work unique. "Cairns seem to touch people," he said, "and I like making things that connect with people." Kreider took home a Judges' Choice Award at this year's Mount Gretna Art Show.



[CLASS NOTES]

Taylor Kinney '00 made an appearance at the September 11 Lancaster Barnstormers game as part of the "Never Forget: A Tribute to September 11."

Elizabeth Derstine '12 won this year's Everence Money Talks video contest with her video, "Money Talks: The Wallet Diaries."

Jared Schatz '12, Messiah College, finished sixth in the NCAA Outdoor Championships steeplechase, becoming an All-American in the event.

Carissa Gehman '14, Messiah College, earned second-team honors on the MAC Commonwealth All-Star Field Hockey Team.

Angela Shreve Lilley HC '14 and Justin, first child, a daughter, Macie Elizabeth, August 24, 2016

Charlene (Snader) Long '07 and Greg, first child, a daughter, Rosalyn Jade, April 14, 2016.

[DEATHS]

James Sauder '53, Ephrata, PA, July 22, 2016, missionary and minister.

Abram "Abe" H. Clymer '58, Harrisonburg, VA, September 1, 2016, entrepreneur and community leader.

Nancy Ann Shirk '58, Lititz, October 30, 2016, administrative assistant.

Janet (Ranck) Martin '63, Kitchener, Ontario, Canada, September 6, 2016. Martin was recently mentioned in the Winter issue of *Bridges* for her lifelong involvement in ministry with her husband **Wilmer '63**. Most recently, they were co-owners of TourMagination.

Anne Lynette (Landis) Kilheffer '68, Mobile, AL, October 10, 2016, LPN.

John David "JD" Landis '65, Mobile, AL, October 25, 2016, minister.

[MARRIAGES]

Christy Lorah HC '12 and Alex Vacature, July 30, 2016

Dan Baker '11 and Kirsten Baker, July 9, 2016

Benjamin Miller '12 and **Amanda Forte '12**, June 24, 2016

[BIRTHS]

Michael Burkhart '06 and Jayni, first child, a son, Bennett Alexander, June 13, 2016

Darian Shaffer '13 and Shawn Arnold, second child, a son, Gage Thomas, September 28, 2016

[ANNIVERSARIES]

Charles Longenecker '50 and **Barbara Rutt '52**, 60th wedding anniversary, August 25, 2016

'93

Partnering with several other confectionary makers, **Jonathan '93** and **Jennie '95 Groff** have opened the Lancaster Sweet Shoppe in downtown Lancaster, hiring refugees and giving them the tools needed to acclimate to the community and be successful. On November 18, they hosted LM's "Extra Sweet Giving Party" to highlight the Extraordinary Give with music, fellowship and delicious sweet treats from Groff's Candies, Pine View Dairy and The Stroopie Company.

'03

Ben Stoltzfoos '03 was featured in November 8 issue of LNP, the Lancaster newspaper, for opening his third Jimmy Johns sandwich shop franchise at the corner of Oregon Pike and Roseville Road, Lancaster.



CLASS OF 1956 WITH ORIGINAL "AIR FORCE ONE": Doris (Mellinger) Sensenig, Donald Sensenig, Lois (Martin) Zimmerman, Alma Jean (Wert) Yoder, Edith (Weaver) Gehman, Ed Kurtz, Sara Louise (Harnish) Alderfer, Nevin Brubaker, Dorothy Shenk, Marjorie (Hostetter) Swartzentruber, Robert Shenk, Esther (Sauder) Wert, Naomi (Beiler) Keiper, Daniel Wenger, Evelyn (Horst) Sauder, Alta (Zimmerman) Mellinger, John Buckwalter, Nathan King, Anna Mae (Forrester) Weaver, Roy Burkhart, Vernon Mast, Robert Weaver, Daniel Wert, Mary Jane (Harnish) Gerlach, Richard Weaver, John Gerlach.

Class of '56 Reunion Tours Virginia

The class of 1956 opted to celebrate the 60th anniversary of its graduation with a two-day bus trip to Rockingham County, Virginia. Twenty class members and their spouses boarded a touring couch with classmate **Daniel Wenger** as driver. The trip included visits to Mennonite historical sites, Mennonite-related businesses and farms, and Eastern Mennonite University.

A highlight was the Bridgewater Air Park, owned by classmate **Ruth Ann Stoltzfus Glick's** brother, **Karl Stoltzfus '58**, who gave them a tour of the park and his Dynamic Aviation business. Of particular interest was the first official "Air Force One," a Tri-

Star Lockheed Constellation used by Dwight D. Eisenhower, the president during their LM years. Stoltzfus' company restored the aircraft.

With more than 50 years experience in the aviation industry, Stoltzfus is an accomplished aviator and pioneer in developing advanced custom aviation solutions for commercial and government applications such as designing, building and installing various spray systems for the company's fleet of aircraft. Stoltzfus was inducted into the Virginia Aviation Hall of Fame in 2006. (See the alumni section of the school website for a full report.)

'81

Lloyd K. Smucker '81 has been elected to represent the 16th Congressional District. A Republican member of the Pennsylvania State Senate, representing the 13th District since 2009, Smucker won a hard-fought campaign to succeed retired U.S. Rep. Joe Pitts. Pennsylvania's 16th Congressional District is composed of a large portion of southern Chester County, most of Lancaster County, and a sliver of Berks County, including the city of Reading.



Class Reunions

Class of 2010 5th Reunion

Date: Saturday, September 10, 2017
Time: Afternoon
Place: TBA
Contact: Tasha Landis at tashajanae@gmail.com

Class of 1957 60th Reunion

Date: Friday, October 6, 2017
Place: Lancaster Campus (library)
Contact: Ray & Dottie Geigley, geigler13@comcast.net or 717-264-9490

Class of 1962 55th Reunion

Date: May 20, 2017
Place: Enck's Catering, Manheim
Time: Dinner & program at 5 p.m., visiting at 3 p.m.
Contact: Paul Wenger at paul@paulwenger.com

Class of 1967 50th Reunion

Date: Sept. 29 and 30, 2017
Place: LM Lancaster Campus
Contact: David Weaver at davidweaver1947@gmail.com

Address alumni and school news to bloomkg@lancastermennonite.org or call (717) 509-4459, ext. 701.



75th Anniversary Celebrated with Thanks

With **Gina Oberholtzer Burkhart '86** and **Mark Wenger '73** serving as emcees (pictured left), a host of alumni celebrated "75 Years of God's Grace" with a Service of Thanksgiving.

Frances Crowhill Miller '94 and **Karen Moshier Shenk '69** helped with music, and **Maya Dula '17**, along with alumni **John Dietz '72**, **Margaret Allen '58**, **Tasha Leaman Dalen '92**, and **Tyler Kreider '06** narrated historical glimpses written by Merle Good.

Prayers and blessings were offered by persons such as Carlos Romero (left), executive director of the Mennonite Education Agency, and Scriptures were read in different languages by **Joselyn Santiago '08** (left), Don Jacobs, Xiaodong Fan and Elias George.

A book documenting the school's 75 years – *Bridging Decades, Embracing the Future* – was introduced to the public for the first time (see page 27) at this meeting.

A video of the celebration is available on the school website.



Stirring music was provided by an alumni choir, directed by Marcella Hostetler, along with solos by alumni such as **Esteban Nieves '14** and **Kayla Klase Ressler '10** (left). Operatic baritone **John Bucher Hess '53** sang "The Lord's Prayer" and **Merle Good '64** led the singing of a special song he wrote for the occasion (left).

A diverse group of parents, alumni and friends of the school enjoyed the food, fellowship, humor, special presentations and unique merchandise at the benefit auction.





Homecoming and Fundraisers Help LM Students

The 2016 Homecoming raised over \$120,000 in support of students and gathered almost 3,000 people on the Lancaster Campus.

What a fabulous weekend to kick off our 75th anniversary and to support our students! Beautiful weather, orange pumpkins, straw bales and a pep rally helped set the mood, and the good times continued throughout the weekend.

The Chicken and Pork Barbecue under the tent was delicious, including apple pies made by LMH students. The boys soccer game filled the stands, and the Blazer Nation 1981 boys soccer team recognition brought players back who hadn't been on campus since graduating. The post-game tailgating continued past 10 p.m.

Our Service of Thanksgiving Friday evening was a meaningful reflection and celebration of God's faithfulness

during the past 75 years. More than 100 members of the alumni choir lifted their voices high, and an offering of \$3,290 was collected for sister Mennonite schools in Columbia, Africa and Albania.

Saturday morning, runners and hungry breakfast-eaters met under the tent early. The Iron Bridge runners stretched their legs around our cross country course, and young children filled the air with their laughter as they ran the Fun Run.

The weekend went out with a bang as the benefit auction raised more than \$87,000, which was about \$31,000 above last year's total.

— Heidi Stoltzfus, Director of Advancement

"A Conference: Education from an Anabaptist/Christian Perspective"

Saturday, March 4, 2017,
8:30 a.m.-4 p.m.

More than thirty workshops, led by alumni, educators, business people, professionals and pastors will look at why LMS has produced so many entrepreneurs, as well as leaders of nonprofits; the environmental history and stewardship of the main LMS campus; the role of standardized testing in education; discipline practices through the years; the place of athletics in the school's life; how international students have changed the flavor and fiber of LMS, plus many more intriguing subjects.

More information and online registration will be available starting January 2 at www.lancastermennonite.org.



At the benefit auction, **Karl Stoltzfus '58** expressed his appreciation for the Thomas's service to the school and announced that he is donating the four original Liz Hess paintings that he purchased at past auctions back to LMS in their honor.



School News



SENIOR SERVICE DAY: On Senior Service Day, the entire LMH senior class went off campus to serve in 17 different non-profit organizations throughout Lancaster, Chester and Dauphin counties.



MERIT SCHOLAR: Breanna Beers'17 has been named as a National Merit Scholarship Semi-finalist.

Experiential Learning at LMMS

Immersed: An H2O Experience

Lancaster Mennonite Middle School is celebrating the success of the year's first exhibition of student project, "Immersed: An H2O Experience." On Tuesday, October 25, students, their families and friends, teachers and community members gathered to explore student innovations in the areas of water power and conservation, access and quality. The guests could see projects such as an ergonomically-designed water backpack.

Dr. Scott Warner, associate professor of Applied Engineering, Safety, and Technology at Millersville University, asked students many questions and offered feedback. He said he was impressed with the students' projects, their contagious energy, in-depth understanding and their ability to communicate about the real issues they had been studying.



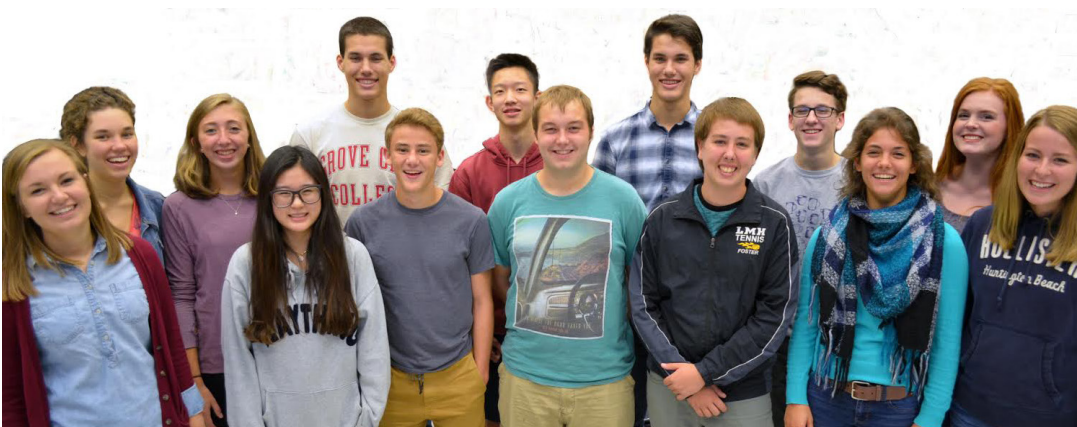
Making Connections

The LMMS*Connect!* second quarter expedition is "A World Portrait: The 100 People Project."

To begin their study about global population data, LMMS students discussed the various groups with which they identify. After attaching hooks to different places in a classroom, students chose a ball of yarn and took turns looping it around the hooks that described them. "The result may look to some like a big tangle," said teacher Janelle Thomas, "but to us it appears colorful, interconnected, and messy in the best of ways!" Students discussed similarities between this project and the ways in which different



groups of people interact. "Sometimes it takes negotiation and cooperation, sometimes lines are crossed and knots occur," Thomas said, "but in the end there's a really beautiful web of experience and insight." Students moved from there into researching data sets for a variety of questions such as global healthcare, racial and geographic groupings, and genetic traits. Projects will be displayed at LMMS's second exhibition of the year January 12.



BANNER YEAR FOR LMH VOCALISTS

In a banner year for LMH vocalists, 14 students qualified for Lancaster County Chorus out of 18 who auditioned. This is an exceptional number of students for one school and very likely the most ever from LMH. Typically, three to six students qualify. Last year, four students qualified. All are members of LMH's select vocal group, the Campus Chorale, under the direction of Marcella Hostetler.

Although the students are the ones formally recognized for their achievement, this level of vocal excellence in a small school is not simply a happy coincidence. The presence of so many of her students in County Chorus reflects Ms. Hostetler's ability to maximize the gifts and talents of her students and motivate them to excel.

The LM students were selected to participate in County Chorus through a rigorous auditioning process open to students from all Lancaster County schools.

COUNTY CHORUS (back row, l-r): Maya Dula, Paige Keener, Peter Millar, Joseph Jing, Ben Millar, Nathan Pauls, Alexandra Butz. Front row: Emily Stevens, Olivia Kim, Ian Martin, Conner McCall, Harley Foster, Kayla Sauder and Mackenzie Brubaker



COUNTY ORCHESTRA (l-r): Dulce Sherk-Zeager, Alarie Hurst, Janell Preheim, Nathan Longenecker, Zhiran "Clover" Zhang

Hershey Campus Finishes Cafeteria and Launches "Seats and Eats"

On August 2 the Hershey Campus held an open house to celebrate and showcase the completed dining hall to school families, donors and the broader community.

Following the success of this Cool Café Campaign, the campus began its Seats and Eats Campaign on November 1 to purchase bleachers for the gymnasium and tables and chairs for the recently completed dining hall. A goal has been set of \$85,000. The

Seats and Eats Campaign is part of the larger goal of completing the school building's entire second floor with an elevator, locker rooms, office area, outside entrance area and additional classroom space.

The campaign started with the Seed Money Project in which each student was given \$25 in seed money to invest and multiply. Students were encouraged to "make something, do something, plan something" individually or together as

a group. The kindergarten through second grade classes are working together to make and sell wreaths.

Miles Yoder, the Hershey Campus principal, hopes this campaign will encourage the school community to use their gifts to advance God's kingdom and learn good stewardship of resources. Yoder says, "Ultimately, this is not about bleachers and tables, but about reaching people for the Lord."

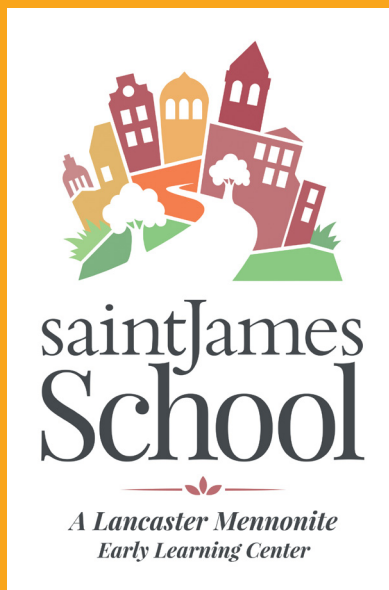


The 2017 LMH Musical:

INTO THE WOODS
Music and Lyrics by
Stephen Sondheim
Book by James Lapine

Feb. 23-25, 2017, at 7 p.m.
2 p.m. matinee Saturday, Feb. 25

Tickets may be reserved by calling the box office at 299-0436, ext. 340, or emailing the box office at boxoffice@lancastermennonite.org.



New LM Campus to Open

Saint James School will soon be accepting applications as the newest campus of the Lancaster Mennonite School system. The innovative partnership, some three years in the making, brings together two of the oldest faith traditions in the county. The venture grew out of LM's desire to establish an urban Lancaster site and Saint James Episcopal Church's decision to return to its historic roots in education. (LM's Lancaster Campus is on the site of a former Episcopal school.)

Saint James School is located in one of downtown Lancaster's finest historic buildings across from City Hall and next to the Lancaster Public Library. The school plans to enroll PreK-3 and PreK-4 students for the 2017-18 school year.

At Saint James School, in addition to the new classrooms and excellent teachers for the Pennsylvania's standard early education curriculum, an arts, music and faith-rich environment means the values of inclusion, justice and peace are lived out every day.

According to Fr. David W. Peck, rector of Saint James, "We will blend the natural strengths of Anabaptist peacemaking traditions with the more mystical and contemplative traditions of the Episcopal Church."

"We hope the new school is itself a powerful statement of reconciliation and unity in a world that is divided by polarities of poverty and wealth as well as politics and religion," Peck said.



An Afternoon of Interviews with 9 Alumni: Vocations and Avocations

Sunday, November 13, nine alumni were interviewed by **Phyllis Pellman Good '66** about how their LM experience prepared them for their vocations and/or avocations.

The alumni interviewed were: **Rebecca Dietz '74**, a clinical social worker; **Fred Winey '90**, teacher and soccer coach; **C. Bernie Good, M.D. '75**, professor of medicine and pharmacy and international drug safety expert; **David K. Sauder '67** (left), commodity trading advisor and business advisor; **Richard Rohrer '91**, non-profit leadership and community development consultant; **Jessica Rheinheimer '12**, collegiate All-American and Registered Nurse at Penn State Cancer Institute; **Willard Gingrich,**

Ph.D. '63, university provost and professor of English; **Christine Baer '10**, 2016 Alumna of the Year, who is a congregational resource developer for Church World Service Lancaster, and **Madeline Bender '89**, a professional opera singer who sang several musical selections between sections of interviews.

Good asked the alumni to reflect on topics such as how they integrate faith into their vocations, the role LM played in who they are today, and what advice they would give to LM present-day students and leaders.

A video recording of the program is on the school website.

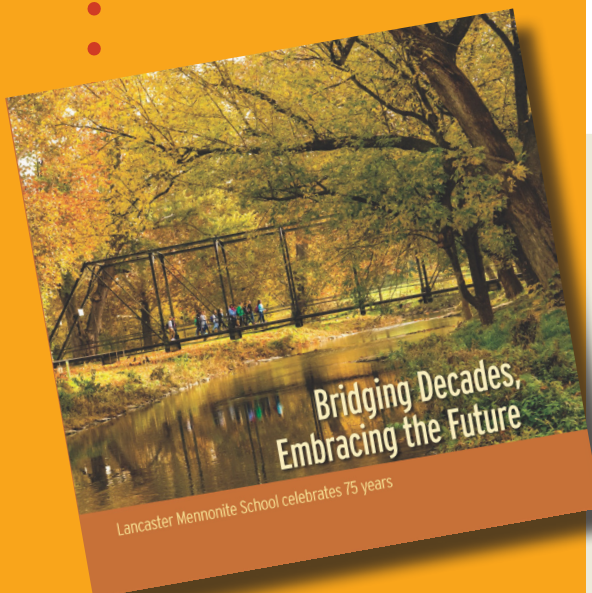
75th Anniversary Book

An attractive, well-designed "coffee table" book is now available to commemorate Lancaster Mennonite School's 75-year history.

The 180-page full-color hardcover book contains 578 of the best photographs from those 75 years, alumni interviews, lists of graduates and administrators, and much more.

To be able to sell on line and accept all types of payment, the school is selling the book on EBAY. EBAY also expedites the shipping and handling of the book. (See link on school website.)

The book is also available through the Lancaster Mennonite Historical Society bookstore and at 75th anniversary celebration events. The cost of the book is \$35.





Stillman Third in State

• **Grace Stillman '17** won the LL League girl's golf title. She also collected bronze at the AA state girls golf tourney, shooting an 84-79 during the two day event. She is the first LM female golfer to win the LL League title and the first to medal at the state level. The 2015 District III champion, she placed second this year. **Maddy Bailey '20** and **Connor Edie '19** (section Honorable Mention) also played in the district tournament.

Blazer Nation Honors 1981 Team

In honor of the late **Dwayne Zook '83**, his son Kyle, daughter-in-law Deb and parents Al and Millie (on left) attended the Homecoming recognition of the 1981 boys soccer team. Other team members recognized were (l-r): Herb Burkhart, Steve Burkhart, Jesse Charles (wheel chair), Chuck Hooper, Scott Hooper, Bryan Martin, Fred Metzler and Albert Stoltzfus. The team won the first of 21 LL League section championships.



Boys Soccer Ranked #11 in State

The boys soccer team tied ELCO for a share of the Section 3 title, winning its eleventh section title over the past 12 years. The team lost to Biglerville 3-2 in the District III semifinals, and could not advance to the state tournament this year. However, the team ended the year ranked #11 in the state.



ALL-STARS

The **girls soccer team** lost in the District III semifinals to last year's state champion, Trinity, 3-2. The team received the Section 3 Sportsmanship Award and the following LL League All Star honors:

- **Marisa Hooper '18**, Section 3 First Team, All League
- **Shae Stoltzfus '18**, Section 3 First Team
- **Calla Ashley '19**, Section 3 Second Team
- **Katie Will '17**, Academic All Star.

The **girls volleyball team** was the Section 3 runner-up and advanced to the District III semi-final game. The team received the following LL League Section 3 All Star honors:

- **Emily Hunter '17**, First Team
- **Cassidy King '17**, First Team
- **Janya Stewart '18**, First Team
- **Sydney Esch '18**, Second Team.

The **field hockey team** received the following LL League Section 3 All Star honors:

- **Mackenzie Brubaker '17**, First Team
- **Mackenzi Bowman '17**, Second Team
- **Paige Keener '17**, Second Team.

The **boys soccer team** received the following LL League All Star Section 3 honors:

- **Ben Coryell '17**, First Team
- **Ben Lefever '19**, First Team
- **Brock Rohrer '17**, First Team
- **Udit Jain '17**, Second Team
- **Adam Peachy '17**, Academic All Star.

At the Kraybill Campus, the Blazers middle school boys soccer team repeated as champions of the Commonwealth Christian Athletic Conference central division.



SIMPLE.
CLASSIC.
FORMAL.
LITERAL.

LM has developed a new logo and visual identity to more effectively communicate its mission of innovative and excellent education as followers of Jesus. During the 75th anniversary celebrations, a new website will include this new visual identity rather than being tied to the past. In addition to the anniversary milestone and the new website this year, there are five reasons why organizations should update their branding and visual identity, all of which apply to LM. They are:

- Leadership Changes – New superintendent appointed
- Mergers and Acquisitions – More new campuses since the last logo was developed
- Changes in Customers – An increase in parents from a younger Millennial generation
- Brand evolution – PreK, more college prep classes, and innovative programs added
- Outdated Imagery – More younger respondents think our current branding is outdated



LANCASTER MENNONITE

A New Look for LM

You may have noticed that Lancaster Mennonite School communications were increasingly referring to the school as simply “LM.” Indeed, the newspapers and much of the general public uses “Lancaster Mennonite” rather than the full name of the school or “LMS.”

Aside from the growing natural use of “Lancaster Mennonite” without the word “School” at the end, LM now has six campuses that have campus names. Communication is much smoother when “school” is dropped when referring to campuses.

An example of a major university using this type of branding is Pennsylvania State University, which is known to all as Penn State. Its campuses are called Penn State York, Penn State Altoona, and so on.

The official name is still Lancaster Mennonite School for formal purposes. Pepsi’s official name is PepsiCo, Inc. (previously Pepsi-Cola Company), but the branding is simply “Pepsi.”

The term “LMH” is still appropriate to refer to Lancaster Mennonite High School on the Lancaster Campus – a designation all the more important now that a high school also exists on the Hershey Campus.

The new logo and logotype (the distinctive font used for the name) was developed through a long process that involved input from all stakeholders, including an extensive survey. The survey results showed that there were generational differences regarding logo preferences, with persons in older generations usually preferring the less

recent versions of various corporate logos. Therefore, it was vital that older persons reviewing the proposed logos lay aside their personal preferences to focus on what appeals to the GenX and Millennial generations.

The survey also revealed some cross-generational preferences. Respondents said they wanted a logo that was simple, classic, formal and literal. These four characteristics guided the selection of ideas brought forth by a team of marketing professionals with extensive experience in branding. If a design was too elaborate, trendy, informal or abstract, it was rejected.

A key design factor was to create a versatile branding package that could be used effectively across all media and in many applications (tee shirts, signs, pens, etc.) without losing design quality or identity. Gary Hiller, LM’s director of marketing and communications, calls this type of versatile design “robust.” The design team spun out variations that use different combinations of a simple color palette to create an array of useful, cohesive options. The official school colors remain the same – black and gold – but a specific tint of each color may be used when a softer effect is desired.

The school is in the process of developing a new website that will incorporate the new visual identity throughout. Concurrently, the new look will take effect on all electronic media, with a target date of January 2. Print materials needed for 2017 will start appearing in early January.





Tieszen Named LM Superintendent



Lancaster Mennonite School is pleased to announce that Pamela (Pam) Kay Tieszen will become the school's eighth superintendent, effective January 1, 2017. This appointment marks the end of a national search initiated on February 5 when Superintendent J. Richard Thomas announced his retirement, effective December 31, 2016, after 33.5 years of service as head of the school.

With input from the community, the search committee developed a profile of six qualities that the new superintendent should possess and, after an extensive interviewing and vetting process, reported to the Board that Tieszen exemplified all six of these characteristics and made a

unanimous recommendation that she be offered the superintendent post. The Board unanimously accepted the committee's recommendation at its October 7 meeting.

The six characteristics of the superintendent profile were: (1) a clear commitment to, and deep grounding in, Anabaptist Christian faith and practice; (2) excellence in leadership at different organizational levels; (3) a well-developed philosophy of leadership, oriented to effective listening, communication, collaboration and leadership service, able to engage with a wide range of audiences; (4) personal interest and effectiveness in developing meaningful diverse relationships and in fostering healthy diversity in community; (5) personal and emotional maturity, with well-developed personal principles of integrity, honesty and humility; and (6) effective experience in actively engaging with multiple and diverse audiences.

Tieszen brings more than 20 years of combined educational and administrative leadership to LM, including two years in collegiate institutional advancement, six years in school administration and 13 years teaching in public and private high schools. She is currently serving as the vice president of institutional advancement at Bethel College in North Newton, Kansas. She previously served as superintendent, principal and board member at Freeman Academy in Freeman, SD, as well as being a member-at-large for Mennonite Schools Executive Council, culminating with a position as the vice president of the Executive Board of Mennonite Secondary Schools Council.

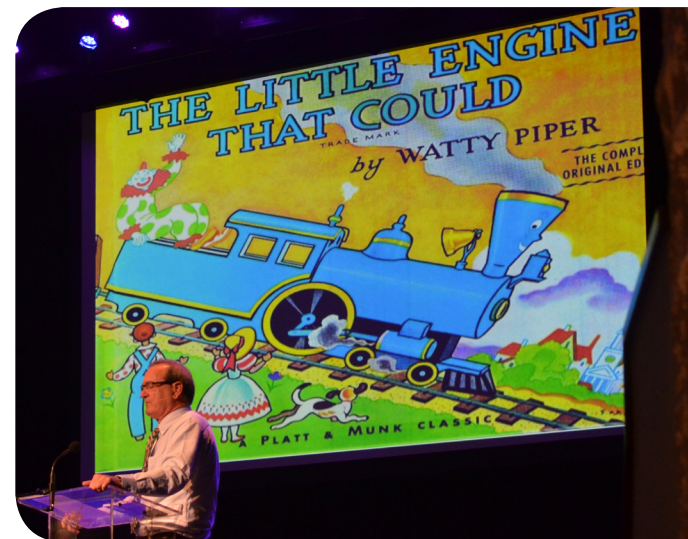
"Pam has demonstrated a lifelong devotion to educational leadership, particularly Anabaptist Mennonite education," reported Andy Dula, chair of the search committee. Along with her professional involvement in Anabaptist-related organizations, all three of her children have graduated from Mennonite schools and colleges.



Thomas' Legacy Recognized

Superintendent J. Richard Thomas, who read the classic "Little Engine That Could" story to the student body on the first day of school for the last time this year (right), ending a 34-year tradition. At a special assembly during Thomas' last in-service day Oct. 27, the five campuses had the opportunity to thank Superintendent Thomas for his many years of service. Then, on Nov. 13, the Board presented him with a plaque at the day's 75th Anniversary event, followed by a reception with family, friends and well-wishers.

The 75th anniversary year is a time of many firsts and many endings. This issue of *Bridges* will be the last published under the leadership of



Superintendent Thomas read "The Little Engine..." on the first day of school for the last time.



LANCASTER
MENNONITE

2176 Lincoln Highway East, Lancaster, PA 17602

Parents: Each alumnus receives a personal copy of *Bridges*. If this is addressed to a son or daughter who has established a separate residence, please give us the new address. Contact Keri Bloom at bloomkg@lancastermennonite.org or call (717) 509-4459, ext. 701. Thank you.

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OPEN HOUSE



All five campuses!
**Thursday,
January 26,
6-8:30 p.m.**

From PreK through grade 12, LM is a place where students are inspired to be the best they can be through an excellent, well-rounded educational experience in a nurturing Christian environment.

Meet administrators and teachers and get a campus tour!

For more information about admissions at all campuses, please contact Christy Horst, director of admissions, at (717) 509-4459, ext. 312, or horstcl@lancastermennonite.org

www.lancastermennonite.org