

# LANCASTER MENNONITE

[www.lancastermennonite.org](http://www.lancastermennonite.org)

FALL 2005

## *Bridges*



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Lancaster Mennonite Bridges is published by Lancaster Mennonite School for alumni, parents and friends. It seeks to highlight our mission to challenge students to personal faith and Christlikeness in daily life. The school welcomes students without regard to sex, race, national or ethnic origin.

**Lancaster Mennonite School** has three campuses:

**LMS-New Danville, grades pre-K to 8**  
393 Long Lane  
Lancaster, PA 17602  
(717) 872-2506

**Locust Grove, grades pre-K to 8**  
2257 Old Philadelphia Pike  
Lancaster, PA 17602  
(717) 394-7107

**Lancaster Mennonite Middle & High School, grades 6-12**  
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*Large cover photo: The high school Campus Chorale—see page 10 for this year's schedule. Small photo: Members of the Western Lancaster County Pastors prayer group met to pray with LMS-New Danville students and faculty during a chapel at the beginning of the school year. PHOTO CREDIT: EDIE HESS*

WHY AND HOW FAMILIES CHOOSE LMS

# Parents place priority on children's education

When Jose Santiago worked as a custodian at a local public school, he heard lots of stories about classroom behavior problems. He decided right then that he and his wife, Carmen, would do everything they could to have their children attend a smaller school where inappropriate behavior is dealt with quickly but compassionately.

Today son Josue is an eighth grader at Lancaster Mennonite Middle, and daughter Joselyn is a tenth grader at the high school. Dad and Mom say the tuition is worth it to have their children receive a quality education with friends who share similar Christian values.

Steve and Jean Good had firsthand experience with Lancaster Mennonite School. Steve came to Locust Grove in fifth grade, and Jean attended LMH 10th through 12th. Both graduated from the school in 1987.

Today they have four children at Locust Grove—Trenton, grade 2; Deanna, grade 4; Kelsey, grade 7; and Austin, grade 8.

"I really enjoyed my years at LMS," Jean said. "Making good Christian friends and the positive influence of Christian teachers are good memories that encourage me to want to give our children that opportunity.

"Of course, I'm also very thankful to have had the chance to get to know and date the boy who would later become my husband!"

Danny and Cheri Miller also chose Christian schooling from the beginning because they wanted their children's education to be in agreement with what they were learning at home and church.

"We value the fact that our Anabaptist beliefs are taught and reinforced," Danny said, "and we like the size of the school, where the children can make friends and continue with those friends through high school."

Their daughter, Keri, is a sixth-grader at LMS-New Danville, son Garrett is in eighth grade at New Danville, and Trent is a 10th-grader at the high school.

"I feel that the children are in a safe place, physically, as well as emotion-

ally, and are in a wonderful place for spiritual growth," Cheri added. "It is important to me that the teachers and staff know the Lord personally and demonstrate their love for Him in their classroom and in their relationship with our children. And it is important that the children have the opportunity to pray and worship, and study and memorize the Word."

**How do families do it?**

Although some LMS families receive financial aid assistance, they are still faced with monthly tuition payments. How can they afford to have two, three and even four children enrolled at the same time?

Jose Santiago works overtime when he has the opportunity. But he says commitment to Mennonite Christian education also is very important.

"Sometimes you just have to think about the education and not so much about the money," he said. "Education is very important."

The Millers say they simply do without when they have to.

"We don't have the newest or latest model of anything, especially in electronics," Cheri said.

"We buy and drive used cars," added Danny, "and since I am a mechanic, I try to keep them in repair and maintained. This is a big savings."

Danny also does home repairs, and he and Cheri limit their spending on entertainment and eating out.

"We are both very committed to living debt free," Cheri said. They've also been blessed with donations from time to time.

"We have been blessed by being given cars, a computer system, vacations, and even a washing machine," Cheri said. "We have received tax refunds that sometimes matched the increase in our tuition.

"We have always felt that God would provide if we were to continue in Christian education, and he has been faithful."

The Goods are also very careful how they spend their money.



*The Millers are, left to right: Trent, Cheri, Keri (front), Danny, and Garrett. Danny is employed at Yellow Transportation, and Cheri works part time at the Strasburg Railroad shops. Both serve as volunteers at New Danville—Danny helps with special events, and Cheri is involved with the site council, Mother's in Prayer (also at LMH), and the Teacher Appreciation Committee. The family attends Middle Creek Church of the Brethren.*



*With Steve and Jean Good, above, are children (counter clockwise, starting at the top): Austin, Kelsey, Trenton and Deanna. Steve farms with his father and brother. They have a broiler chicken operation, a small dairy, and operate Good's Mulch. Jean helps with the farm work as needed but spends most of her time as a homemaker. Steve is PTF chairman at Locust Grove, and Jean is a room mom. Both work with the auction committee there. The family attends Strasburg Mennonite Church. PHOTO CREDIT: CINDY WIDDERS*



*The Santiagos, left to right: Carmen, Joselyn, Josue, and Jose. Today Jose works at Kelloggs Company and Carmen is a full-time homemaker. They attend Good Shepherd Spanish Mennonite Church.*

“We look for bargains, save eating out for special occasions, pack a lot of lunches, and focus on fun family times together that don't have a big price tag,” Jean said.

“Sending four children through twelve years of Christian education is expensive,” Steve added, “but what

would I rather invest in other than my children? How can you put a price tag on Bible teaching and caring, Christian teachers?” n

# Two plans for congregations

By J. W. Sprunger, Director of Church Relations



J. W. Sprunger

**Pastors:** You are cordially invited to visit the New Danville and Locust Grove campuses during their Pastors Day events—March 17 at New Danville and April 10 at Locust Grove. The Lancaster campus held their Pastors Day on September 27. For more information, call J. W. Sprunger at (717) 299-0436, ext. 386.

Lancaster Mennonite School offers two plans for congregations who have a vision for being financially supportive of the school. These plans allow all children in a congregation to benefit from an LMS education, regardless of their parents' ability to pay tuition.

**A Congregational Education Support Plan (CESP)** recognizes the distinct benefits of children attending Mennonite schools and acknowledges that the cost of Christian education is the responsibility of the entire congregation. It is not a way for parents to channel tuition payments through the church. Rather, there should be an understanding that parents are not required to contribute an amount in lieu of tuition or be solicited in a different fashion than any other church member who is interested in church school education. It is a plan that gives all members the opportunity to answer God's calling to work at local missions in the Christian education of their members.

**Partner Church Scholarships (PCS)** is a plan whereby congregations encourage student attendance at Mennonite schools and commit to prayer and financial resources to support the programs at Lancaster Mennonite. A partner church scholarship (currently \$200) is provided to each student in a partner congregation attending LMS. In addition to prayer support, PCS congregations choose one of two financial plans for their contributions:

(1) Congregations commit a specific number of offerings during the year that will be applied to the annual fund of the school. They are asked to notify LMS of the estimated financial support for a given fiscal year.

(2) Congregations commit support for the programs and students at LMS through their budgets. They are asked to notify LMS of the amount they have budgeted for the school's annual fund.

Presently we have 24 congregations committed to the Congregational Educational Support Plan and 65 congregations committed to Partner Church Scholarships. About 450 students benefit from one or both of these programs.

Lancaster Mennonite School is committed to providing an excellent education in a nurturing environment that prepares students for lifelong learning and invites them to personal faith, Christ-like witness, peacemaking and service in a global society. The prayers and financial support of God's people make it possible to train future church leaders and committed Christians for our needy world.

If you would like to discuss how your congregation can become an effective supporter for families in your congregation who desire a Lancaster Mennonite School education, please contact Director of Church Relations J.W. Sprunger at [sprungerjw@lancastermennonite.org](mailto:sprungerjw@lancastermennonite.org) or (717) 299-0436, ext. 386. n

## Churches support LMS in a variety of ways

The following congregations are members of the Congregational Education Support Plan which is described in the above story:

Blainsport Mennonite  
Byerland Mennonite  
Carpenter Mennonite  
Conestoga Mennonite  
East Chestnut Street Mennonite  
East Petersburg Mennonite  
Elizabethtown Mennonite  
First Deaf Mennonite  
Frazer Mennonite  
Goodville Mennonite  
Groffdale Mennonite  
Hernley Mennonite  
James Street Mennonite  
Landisville Mennonite  
Lyndon Mennonite  
Mellinger Mennonite  
New Danville Mennonite  
New Holland Mennonite  
Paradise Mennonite  
River Corner Mennonite  
Sandy Hill Mennonite  
Stumptown Mennonite  
Weaverland Mennonite  
Witmer Heights Mennonite

These congregations are Partner Churches, also described in the above story:

Akron Mennonite  
ACTS Covenant  
Bethany Grace Fellowship  
Blainsport Mennonite  
Blossom Hill Mennonite  
Bossler Mennonite  
Byerland Mennonite  
Carpenter Mennonite  
Chestnut Hill Mennonite  
Community Mennonite of Lancaster  
Community Mennonite Fellowship  
Conestoga Mennonite  
Downing Hills Christian Fellowship  
East Chestnut St. Mennonite  
Elizabethtown Mennonite  
Ephrata Mennonite  
Erb Mennonite  
Erisman Mennonite  
First Deaf Mennonite  
Forest Hills Mennonite  
Frazer Mennonite  
Goodville Mennonite  
Groffdale Mennonite  
Habecker Mennonite  
Hernley Mennonite  
Hershey Mennonite  
Hinkletown Mennonite  
Indiantown Mennonite  
James Street Mennonite  
Landisville Mennonite  
Laurel Street Mennonite  
Lititz Mennonite  
Living Stones Fellowship  
Lyndon Mennonite  
Manheim Mennonite  
Maple Grove Mennonite  
Marietta Community Chapel  
Mechanic Grove Mennonite  
Mellinger Mennonite  
Metzler Mennonite  
Millersville Mennonite  
Millport Mennonite  
Mount Joy Mennonite  
Mountville Mennonite  
Mt. Pleasant Mennonite  
Mt. Vernon Mennonite  
Neffsville Mennonite  
New Danville Mennonite  
New Holland Mennonite  
Parkesburg Mennonite  
Red Run Mennonite  
Ridgeview Mennonite  
River Corner Mennonite

Rohrerstown Mennonite  
Rossmere Mennonite  
Slate Hill Mennonite  
Stony Brook Mennonite  
Stumptown Mennonite  
Sunnyside Mennonite  
Victory Church  
Village Chapel Mennonite  
Weaverland Mennonite  
West End Mennonite  
Willow Street Mennonite  
Witmer Heights Mennonite

These churches have 10 or more students attending the school:

ACTS Covenant Fellowship  
Akron Mennonite  
Brightside Baptist  
Byerland Mennonite  
Calvary Church  
Church of the Father, Son, Holy Ghost  
Crossroads Mennonite  
Community Mennonite of Lancaster  
East Chestnut St Mennonite  
East Petersburg Mennonite  
James Street Mennonite

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# Twenty some years of music-making

By Jan Stauffer, Locust Grove music teacher

This summer I spent a significant amount of time organizing files that had accumulated over the years. It seemed like an overwhelming job to condense many years of teaching material into something manageable. I actually thought of calling the “Clean Sweep” people for help! However, the project turned into a wonderful trip down memory lane.

The files represented 20 years of working together with wonderful co-workers and talented students, growing existing programs, presenting unique programs, and adjusting to a variety of classroom space and equipment challenges.

In sifting through the Fine Arts Festival program files (we have programs dating back to 1974), I came across names of students who have since become part of the Locust Grove faculty. For example, there’s Kari Lefever, who is our first grade teacher; Karisten Buckwalter, third grade; Jeremy Basom, seventh grade; and Tricia Stoltzfus, last year’s learning support teacher. There’s also Jeremiah Denlinger who teaches social studies at the high school. It is a real joy to have former students become your co-workers.

The “Unique Programs” file reminded me of Christmas programs held at Rockford Plantation, Wheatland, the Intercourse Christmas Celebration, Festival of Lights, and 10 years of Christmas programs at Landis Homes. The file also holds programs of the wedding of Mark Cunningham, and

the funerals of Cliff Harnly, Dan Glick, and Vi Bender, where the handbell choirs had the privilege of playing. I also found a picture or two of our handbell choirs combining with the Neffsville Mennonite church handbell choir in 1993 when the Mennonite Church General Assembly met in Philadelphia. So many varied memories!

The most recent file is labeled “Musicals.” With the enthusiastic direction of Gale Martin and a talented cast of students, we have been able to produce *You’re a Good Man Charlie Brown* and *Godspell*, and this year *The Adventures of Dr. Doolittle* will be added.

When I was first hired, I had a cart to roll from room to room for music classes, and I played selections on the record player. For a number of years music classes were held in a single-wide trailer and then later in the double-wide trailer. Today’s music classes are held in a music classroom in the building, and I play CD’s, videos and DVD’s. I think we’re making progress—and some brand new memories. n



Jan Stauffer directs the first Locust Grove junior high choir about 18 years ago.

Editor’s note: At Locust Grove Jan Stauffer teaches junior high music, choir, handbells and piano, as well as drama and Bible. She works with K–6 music teacher Beth Hollenberg, piano teacher Joy Ide, and instrumental music teacher Bill Mitten. (Hollenberg and Ide also teach at New Danville, and Mitten teaches at the Lancaster campus.) Stauffer also works with middle school music directors John Miller (Lancaster campus) and Durrelle Leaman (New Danville) as the three co-direct the junior high choirs in preparation for a joint Christmas concert. Miller taught at Locust Grove from 1973 to 1984, and Leaman has taught strings at Locust Grove the past two years.



Locust Grove music teacher Jan Stauffer, seated at the piano, is surrounded by this year’s 7th and 8th grade choir.

PHOTO CREDIT: CAROL WENGER

# Residence hall program shifts gears

It's fun to get away for the weekend. But have you ever tried 39 weeks in a row?

For some residence hall students at Lancaster Mennonite High School, having to pack up every Friday grew tiresome, despite the many wonderful relationships formed with gracious host families. So this past year the school added the option of a seven-day program.

"It was very consumer-driven," Principal Miles Yoder said about reinstating a program that was available in the 1940s and '50s. "We heard the request and wanted to do something about it."

This fall half of the 54 residence hall students chose to be in the seven-day program. Korean student Kun Yhong, returning for his fourth year in the residence hall, is one of those.

"Before, we had to pack every weekend to go to host families, but this year it's easier," he said.

Grace Kim, back in the residence hall after living there as a freshman, agrees.

"It's more like a home now," she said. "It's more relaxed."

Other students go home over the weekend or to host families with whom they have prior relationships.

According to Residence Hall Director Lew Wagner, those who stay have an opportunity to connect with local congregations, including The Table, a contemporary Brethren-in-Christ church that holds its services in Gym A each Saturday evening.

"I am very excited to have a church on campus that wants to have us worship with them," he said, discussing the school's arrangement with The Table. "I hope our students can make some connections with others attending this church."

Also new in the residence hall this year is a brand new staff:

- **Director Lew Wagner and his wife, Jean**, a residence hall adviser, recently served as relief house parents at Milton Hershey School. Lew also worked at Virginia Mennonite Retirement Community and as the Adult and Family Program director at Spruce Lake Retreat Center. Both Eastern Mennonite University graduates, the Wagners have two children—Kaden, 2, and Elijah, 4.
- **Elizabeth (Beth) Hackman**, an adviser, graduated from Messiah College and completed her student teaching at Bermudian Springs Elementary. She also is a part-time kindergarten teacher at LMS-New Danville.
- **Chad Neufeld**, an adviser, comes to us from Elkwater, Alberta, and is married to Monica Spory Neufeld, fourth grade teacher at Locust Grove. He recently worked with Youth With a Mission in a Discipleship Training School for staff. He attended Carleton University in Ottawa, Ontario.

For Lew and Jean Wagner, their new positions in the residence hall give them the opportunity to flesh out the Philippians 2:4 call to put others first. And they are glad their children can observe that.

"Jean and I have always tried to model by example to our children," Lew said. "We hope Elijah and Kaden both realize that part of focusing our life on Christ is the importance of serving others."

Elijah and Kaden will also observe a rich diversity of students who represent 24 countries and seven states. One of Lew's goals as director amidst this diversity is to have the residents experience



*Above: At end of day it's not unusual to find a group of residence hall students doing homework together on the front porch. Gathered above, left to right, are Youmi Choi, Da Jung Park, Taylor Eberle, Rachel Anschuetz, Erica Brossman, Henok Yohannes and Katia Merzilus.*



*At left: Residence hall student Abel Tadesse plays a game of catch with Elijah, son of Lew and Jean Wagner who serve as director and adviser, respectively. Elijah's brother, Kaden, is in the background.*

how Christianity and its “culture” can transcend any secular culture.

“How we express our walk with God will vary, but as we accept Christ we become part of the family of God,” he said. “I hope each student in the residence hall will understand that they are an important member of that family.”

The feeling of “family” is already very evident in how residents describe their experiences.

“You’re basically living in a house full of friends,” Petros Yohannes, Ethiopia, said. “It’s great!”

For Haitian student Katia Merzilus, those friendships were important in helping her acclimate to a larger school. The residents also point to personal growth as an advantage of group living.

“I’ve learned a lot about myself and how to interact with persons of other cultures,” Carissa Schutz, West Grove, said. “It’s not just two or three hours a day, but all the time.”

Merzilus echoed that, defining her growth as the challenge of “just getting along with people, knowing I can’t have everything my way.”

The specialness of the residence hall doesn’t only bless those who live there. The facility is a crucial ingredient in helping the school achieve one of its core values—“A culturally diverse and educationally inclusive learning community is important for preparing students for life in the church and the local and global community.”

“The residence hall brings a wonderful rich diversity to Lancaster Mennonite,” said Judi Molenkof, who assists Miles Yoder in providing administrative leadership to the program. “Diversity is just very important as we prepare students to live and work in the world and as we teach them respect for all people.” n

## Residence hall timeline

The LMS residence hall program, which began in 1942 when the school opened, has served students for over 60 years. Following are some of the milestones and changes.

- 1942 LMS opens with 151 students. Forty percent live in residence hall, many from Lancaster County. Program includes both five and seven-day options.
- 1949 Current residence hall is built—room for 100 girls.
- 1950s Residence hall drops seven-day program.
- 1973 About 30 boys move into the south wing of the residence hall which houses 50 girls on the other side. Residents now come from places such as Morgantown, Chambersburg, Greenwood and Juanita.
- 1983 Residence hall population at all-time low of 34. Preliminary school board vote in the spring calls for closing facility by June of 1984. However, in the fall of 1983, with a renewed vision that includes changes to reduce costs, the school board votes to continue operating the residence hall.
- 1999 Program experiences growing shift in number of international students. Diversity in school is 13.2 percent, up from 9.4 percent in 1989.
- 2001 Summer residence hall renovations include 131 replacement windows, new front door unit, interior fire doors, new restroom partitions. Painting, carpeting, electrical work follow.
- 2005 Seven-day option is reinstated in residence hall. The global emphasis of the school is enhanced as students are welcomed from Ethiopia, France, Germany, Indonesia, Japan, Kenya, Korea, Swaziland, Taiwan, Tanzania, the Gambia and the United Kingdom. Other states represented are Florida, Maryland, New Jersey, New York, Virginia and Washington D.C.

### Continued from page 4

Lancaster County Bible Church  
Lancaster Evangelical Free  
Landisville Mennonite  
Living Stones Fellowship  
Lord’s House of Prayer  
Manor Brethren in Christ  
Maple Grove Mennonite  
Mellinger Mennonite  
Millersville Bible Church  
Mountville Mennonite  
Neffsville Mennonite  
New Life Assembly of God  
Paradise Mennonite  
Pequea Brethren in Christ

Petra Christian Fellowship  
River Corner Mennonite  
Stumptown Mennonite  
Westminster Presbyterian  
Willow Street Mennonite  
Willow Valley Grace Brethren  
Worship Center

**These churches have 40 percent or more of their high school age youth attending LMS, according to school records and information received from Mennonite Education Agency:**

Bossler Mennonite  
Byerland Mennonite  
Community Mennonite of Lancaster  
East Chestnut St Mennonite  
El Buen Pastor  
Elizabethtown Mennonite  
Hershey Mennonite  
James Street Mennonite

Landisville Mennonite  
Meadville Mennonite  
Mellinger Mennonite  
Mountville Mennonite  
New Holland Mennonite  
New Providence Mennonite  
Old Road Mennonite  
Parkesburg Mennonite  
Red Run Mennonite  
River Corner Mennonite  
Stony Brook Mennonite  
Sunnyside Mennonite  
Witmer Heights Mennonite n

## Students honored in National Merit Scholarship program

High School senior Rhoda Shirk has been named a semi-finalist in the 2006 National Merit Scholarship Program. About 90 percent of the semifinalists become finalists who are eligible for merit scholarships, presented in the spring. In addition, four seniors have been named Commended Students in the program and received letters of commen-



*Left-right: Rhoda Shirk, Scott Umble, Jordan Zimmerman, Courtney Augsburger and Karissa Sauder.*

tion in honor of exceptional academic promise. They are Courtney Augsburger, Karissa Sauder, Scott Umble, and Jordan Zimmerman. The five seniors qualified for the honors by participating in the PSAT/NMSQT test taken in 2004.

King received the Collegiate FFA Outstanding Senior Award this past spring during Penn State's 69th annual College of Agricultural Sciences Department Banquet.

This past summer Lancaster Mennonite High School was awarded the Lancaster-Lebanon League Sportsmanship Award for the 2004-05 school year. The L-L League consists of 24 schools.

A warm invitation is extended to ladies to enjoy a "Girls Night Out" with nationally known singer, songwriter and speaker Kim Bolton from Nashville. The event, to be held Thursday, November 10, at Mellinger Mennonite Church Fellowship Hall, will benefit the Vi Bender Memorial Scholarship Fund. The evening will include a meal at 6 p.m. and a concert at 7:30. An opportunity will be given to make a donation to the Scholarship Fund. If

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High school science teacher Ryan

## Fourteen faculty added to staff at three campuses

The following faculty joined the school this year:

For LMS-New Danville—Elizabeth Hackman, pre-K/K enrichment; Brent Hartzler, Spanish (also high school Spanish); Heather Miller, media center coordinator; and Lakisha Scott, middle school mathematics and science.

For the Lancaster campus—Nevin Hurst, high school (HS) mathematics and assistant chess coach; Ryan King HS science and technology; Stephen Leaman, HS social studies and physical education; Melanie Sollenberger, middle school Learning Support; and Lew Wagner, HS residence hall director.

For Locust Grove—Jeremy Basom, middle school social studies; Lisa Buch, second grade; Shawn Moyer, fourth grade; Cheryl Oeschger, Learning Support; and Jeff Pauls, second grade.



*Stephen Leaman*



*Lisa Buch*



*Elizabeth Hackman,*



*Lakisha Scott*



*M. Sollenberger*



*Shawn Moyer*



*Brent Hartzler*



*Nevin Hurst*



*Lew Wagner*



*Cheryl Oeschger*



*Heather Miller*



*Ryan King*



*Jeremy Bason*



*Jeff Pauls*



you would like to attend the evening, purchase tickets for the concert only, or have questions, please call Marcy Root at (717) 898-6305.

n Former Locust Grove school board member Landis Hershey died August 26. Landis, a staunch supporter of Christian education, was on the Locust Grove board when and for the present site was purchased and the original building was built in the early 1960s. He enjoyed sharing memories of how God provided during those years of transitioning from a three-room school to a school that had two sections per grade. Landis was the father of Betty Hershey Newswanger, assistant principal at Locust Grove and New Danville.

n During Lancaster Mennonite High School's annual Commitment Week this fall, guest speaker Bill Blank talked on "Purpose Determines Priority," drawing from the epistle of James. Blank, a pastor at Maple Grove Mennonite Church, focused on five priorities—belief, behavior, attitude, prayer and planning.

During his talk on prayer, Blank explained that an effective prayer life requires humility, obedience, persistence and expectance.

"Prayer is more than just getting stuff from God," he said. "God wants us to take our prayer life seriously."

That morning many students responded to an invitation to commit themselves to God. Blank encouraged them to share their commitment with their youth pastor or another church leader.

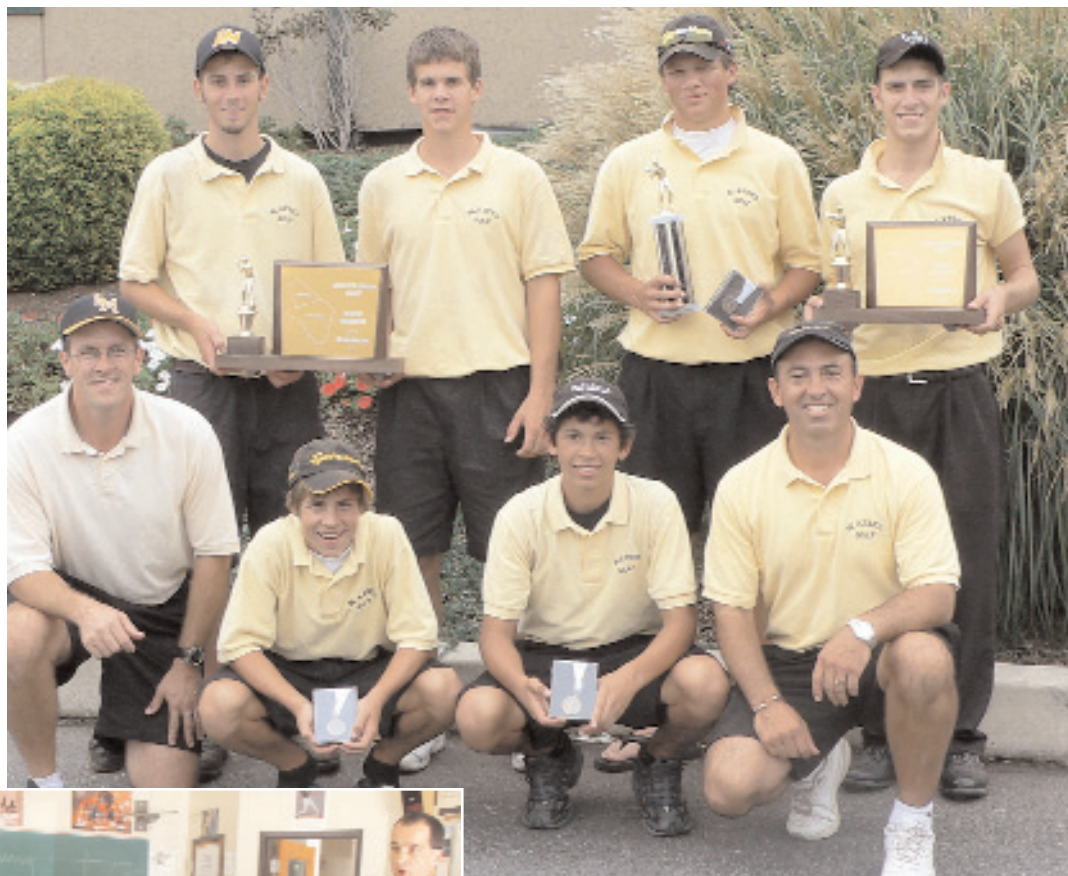
The discussion on planning began with a student drama about Zacchaeus, inviting the students to listen to God and to trusted friends as they make life choices.

"The things we do in life reflect what we really believe is important," he reminded them. "Jesus wants you to hear him call your name," as Zacchaeus did.

The middle school students joined the high schoolers for a joint chapel on Tuesday and heard from Blank during separate chapels the other four days.

n Students at LMS-New Danville have a welcome

October 22	New Danville Chicken Barbecue, 10 a.m.–2:30 p.m.
November 3	Prospective Student Day at Lancaster
November 10	Girls Night Out, scholarship fund raiser, 6 & 7:30 p.m.
November 17–19	High school play, <i>The Comedy of Errors</i> 7:30 p.m.
November 18	Pig Roast/Chicken Barbecue, 12:30–8 p.m.—Lancaster
November 19	Fall Gathering Auction at Lancaster, 9 a.m.
December 11	High School Instrumental Christmas Concert, 3 p.m.
December 13	All-school Middle School Christmas Concert, 7 p.m., Lanc.
December 16	LMS-New Danville K–8 Christmas Concert, 7 p.m.
January 26–28	High School Drama, <i>Torba</i> , 7 p.m.
February 6	Open House, all sites, 6-8:30 p.m.



The LMH golf team won its first ever L-L League Championship on October 4. The team is, front, left to right: Assistant Coach Geoffrey Groff, Matthew Burkhardt, David Denlinger and Head Coach Deryl Denlinger. Back, left to right: Jamie Yoder, Brian Olinger, Michael Burkhart and Jared Vanderhoff.

PHOTO CREDIT: CINDY BURKHART. Averages for the season are Denlinger, 75.15; Michael Burkhardt, 75.58; Matthew Burkhardt, 76.33; Vanderhoff, 77.42; Olinger, 80; Yoder, 82.42; Trent Miller, 84.20; Louis Wenger, 84.20; Joe Troncale, 84.60; Ben Horst, 87.80; and Jeremy Skoloda, 88. "It truly has been an awesome group of guys to work with," said Coach Denlinger.



Bill Blank shares with students in an Individual and Family Studies class at Lancaster Mennonite High School during Commitment Week the last week of September.



Students at New Danville campus enjoy their new lunch program. Serving at left are Food Services Director Dottie Weber and Kristen Lehman. PHOTO CREDIT: EDIE HESS



Guest speaker Loice Byler awards Locust Grove eighth grader Austin Good a gift certificate for being the first student to recite the optional memory verses for Spiritual Life Week. PHOTO CREDIT: JAY ROTH

addition to their schedule this year—lunch! After many years of “brown bagging,” the food services department at the Lancaster campus has begun preparing and transporting hot lunches to New Danville each day where the Family and Consumer Science classroom/kitchen area is converted into a cafeteria that serves 151 students and 20 staff members.

The program offers a choice of a hot entrée with vegetables, fruit, dessert and milk or two sandwiches which replace the hot entrée. Dottie Weber, the Lancaster campus’s food services director, has been the force behind this new service.

**n** In September, Loice Byler was the Spiritual Life Week speaker for the 7th and 8th grade students at Locust Grove. She challenged students to make choices that are pleasing to God throughout their lives. Her five sessions included choosing God, choosing attitude, choosing truth, choosing to be the best one can be, and choosing friends.

Students were invited to memorize Bible verses related to each of these subjects throughout the week. Byler joined the students for lunch each day and was available to talk with students.

Byler is the parent of Joseph and Elizabeth at Locust Grove and Joshua at Lancaster Mennonite High School. She works in the Learning Support Center at the Lancaster campus and is a member of the site council at the high school. She attends West End Mennonite Fellowship. **n**

## Considering LMS for your family?

Prospective students and families may call anytime to schedule visits at any of our three campuses. In addition, here are several visitation events planned for the next several months:

### Prospective Student Days—November 3 and January 26

Prospective students are cordially invited to visit our three campuses on Thursday, November 5, and Thursday, January 26. For times and registration, please call (717) 299-0436, ext. 312.

### Open House—February 6

LMS will hold an open house at each of its three campuses on Monday, February 6, from 6:00 to 8:30 p.m. At the high school there will be an opportunity for students entering grades 9–12 to register for courses for the 2006-07 year. There will be a 7:00 assembly at Lancaster and Locust Grove.

### For more information or to schedule a visit

LMS-New Danville, pre-K to 8: Principal Judi Mollenkof, (717) 872-2506  
 Locust Grove, pre-K to 8: Principal Jay Roth, (717) 394-7107  
 Lancaster campus, grades 6–12: Admissions Counselor Eliza Booth,  
 (717) 299-0436, ext. 312

## Campus Chorale Schedule 2005-2006

November 13, 7 p.m.....	Millersville Mennonite Church
January 8, 10 a.m.....	Erisman Mennonite Church
January 22, 7 p.m.....	Erb Mennonite Church
February 12, 10 a.m.....	Sandy Hill Mennonite Church
March 5, 10:15 a.m. ....	Ridgeview Mennonite Church
March 12, 7 p.m. ....	Metzler Mennonite Church
May 14, 7 p.m.....	Hinkletown Mennonite Church

If interested in having the Campus Chorale present a morning or evening program at your church, please contact Director John Miller at (717) 299-0436, ext. 522, or millerjj@lancastermennonite.org.

# Weekend of fun to benefit our students



John Sauder, right, of John N. Sauder Auto Company, donated this 2003 Chevrolet Malibu for Saturday's specialty sale. He is pictured here with daughter Jacquelyn, an LMS junior. She is displaying several items, including a vintage Honeycomb cover (cover on chair), circa 1940, which has been backed and quilted, no two pieces alike. Also pictured is junior Eric Yoder, treasurer of the high school Student Council. Go to [johnsauderauto.com](http://johnsauderauto.com), stock number 14141P, for more information on car.

**D**on't miss the Fall Gathering & Auction, which will be held for Lancaster Mennonite Middle School and Lancaster Mennonite High School Thursday through Saturday, November 17–19 at the Lancaster campus.

The high school fall play, *The Comedy of Errors*, runs nightly at 7:30 in the Fine Arts Center (see below). On Friday, preface the show with a delicious pig roast/chicken barbecue in Alumni Dining Hall (see details at right). Also that evening—take in the bake stand, silent auction and auction preview—all in Gym A.

Don't miss Saturday's main auction and another opportunity to support LMS students. Enjoy a wide variety of sale items beginning at 9:00 and great food from 8 a.m. that includes an Apple Cafe from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. in celebration of the 25th anniversary of the high school's student apple pie baking contest.

Specialty items at noon include a 2003 Chevrolet Malibu, a Chesapeake dinner cruise, vacation packages, Philadelphia 76ers tickets, furniture, artwork, the winning apple pies and more. Don't miss the beautiful quilts at 1:00. At 2:00 the silent auction ends.

The full weekend schedule is included at right. Proceeds will benefit the annual fund. For more information or to make a donation, call Gail Lanas at (717) 394-7107 or (717) 299-0436, ext. 532.

## Fall Gathering Schedule

### Thursday, November 17

7:30 p.m. High school play: *The Comedy of Errors*

### Friday, November 18

12:30–8 p.m. Pig Roast/Chicken Barbecue  
Adults \$9.00 • Children 3–12 \$5.00  
Take-outs: 12:30–8 p.m. • Dine in: 4:30–8 p.m.

6:15 p.m. Silent Auction begins

Auction preview & Bake stand

7:30 p.m. High school play: *The Comedy of Errors*

### Saturday, November 19

8:00 a.m. Fresh fruit, pastries, quiche

3 v 3 Basketball Tournament Registration

9:00 a.m. Main auction

- Gift baskets and certificates
- Household Items

3 v 3 Basketball Tournament Begins

10:00 a.m. Apple Cafe (10 a.m.–1 p.m.)

Small auction

Children's Activities

12 noon Specialty items

- 2003 Chevrolet Malibu
- Chesapeake dinner cruise
- Tickets to the Phila. 76ers & Hershey Bears
- Tea party for six
- Vacation packages to Hilton Head Island, Dewey Beach, and Kissimmee, Florida
- Wicker loveseat and chair with cushions & 3-piece bistro set
- Sports memorabilia
- Speedway Express wagon
- Hand-crafted Windsor chair
- Arbor and porch swing
- Handpainted wooden bowl
- Romantic getaway with limo ride
- Artwork

1:00 p.m. Quilt sale

2:00 p.m. Silent Auction ends

7:30 p.m. High school play: *The Comedy of Errors*



Former apple pie winners: please send your winning recipe to Gail Lanas at 2257 Old Philadelphia Pike, Lancaster, PA 17602, or call (717) 394-7107. A cookbook is being planned.



Lancaster Mennonite High School students will perform *The Comedy of Errors* Thursday through Saturday, November 17–19, in the Fine Arts Center. Curtain time is 7:30 each evening.

*The Comedy of Errors* is Shake-

spere's farcical comedy about mistaken identity. Twins (two sets of them) are separated at birth but unknowingly come back together as adults, causing a great deal of confusion. The story is set in the 1950s during the era of poodle skirts, hula hoops, and du-wop music. Get ready for some mayhem and a great deal of laughter.

The cast of 33 includes Eric Mylin as Antipholus of Syracuse, Brett Albert as Antipholus of Ephesus, Jacob Kraybill as Dromio of Syracuse, Franklin Peiffer as Dromio of Ephesus, Charlotte

Wenger as Adriana, Kristina Fenninger as Luciana, Peter Kachnycz as the mayor, Geoffrey Matthews as Egeon, Luke Schutz as Angelo the jeweler, Annali Smucker as the Avon Lady, Lindsey Martin as Pastor Aemelia, and Marissa Handwerk as the waitress.

Admission is \$8.00 for adults and \$5.00 for students. Tickets may be purchased in advance Monday through Friday, November 14–18 11:30–3:30, at the ticket office. Or call (717) 299-0436, ext. 340. Tickets will also be sold at the door. n

## CLASS NOTES

**Galen, 1952**, and **Eileen Miller, 1955**, **Benner**, Mount Joy, were recently featured on the Today Show's "Today's Travel." The Benner's have six children, most of whom are involved in the family farm and B&B. The 200-year-old Rocky Acre Farm hosts guests who want to experience a working dairy farm. The original part of the house, built in the 1700s, is believed to have been a stop on the underground railroad.

**James Gochnauer, 1971**, Paradise, has accepted a position as principal of the Followers of Jesus School, Brooklyn, N.Y. The multi-ethnic school of approximately 50 students, grades 1-12, uses an individualized, self-paced curriculum to meet the varied abilities of its students.

**Kay Moshier, 1971**, **McDivitt**, Lancaster, director of housing services for Tabor Community Services, Lancaster, received the Eleanor Taylor Award from the Lancaster Housing Opportunity Partnership, a nonprofit organization that encourages first-time homeownership. Her past work includes positions with Family Services' Youth Parenthood Program, Clare House, Community

## Alumni businesses recognized among top 50 fastest growing companies

Six Lancaster Mennonite School alumni and their businesses were recognized recently at the Central Penn Business Journal's Top Fifty Fastest Growing Companies Awards Breakfast.

The alumni and their businesses are: **Ryan C. Hess, 1990**, C.E.O., and **Quentin Miller, 1987**, broker—Select Services, Inc.; **Keith Brubacher, 1990**, president—Brubacher Excavating, Inc.; **James Shreiner, 1967**, executive vice president—Fulton Financial Corporation; **Kent Martin, 1985**, president and CEO—Signature Custom Cabinetry, Inc.; and **J. Wilson Hershey, 1968**, president—Lancaster Laboratories, Inc. The companies were recognized for demonstrating a minimum of \$500,000 in revenue and showing increasing revenue overall from year one to year three.

**J. Alex Hartzler, 1986**, was the keynote speaker at the breakfast. He is president of WCI Partners, LP, a Harrisburg real estate investment fund which focuses on urban real estate development projects.

Action Program, and Children and Youth.

**Hector Garzon, 1985**, is a pastor at Hardeeville, S.C. He came to LMH from Venezuela in 1984, not being able to speak a word of English. Today he credits the school—"the place that changed my life," he says—for guiding him into his present work.

**Barry Freed, 1986**, Lebanon, recently completed a 2 1/2 year term in Lithuania with Eastern Mennonite Missions.

He has returned to the U.S. for a continuation of service as church development worker and English teacher.

**Renny Magill, 1987**, Akron, has been named director of development and communications at Pennsylvania Environmental Council ([www.pecpa.org](http://www.pecpa.org)). He is president of the LMS Alumni Board.

**Madeline Bender, 1989**, performed a benefit concert for No Longer Alone Ministries on August 5 at the school's

## Greetings from the alumni board president

**S**erving on the Alumni Board has given me the opportunity to regularly visit the high school campus, nearly 20 years after my days as a student. Yes, the campus has changed significantly, and it's exciting to hear about other major campus changes that are on the horizon. But visiting the campus and interacting with faculty, staff, and students has convinced me that the spirit of the experience that shaped my life is alive and well today.

Meeting recently with the 10 members of the Alumni Board reminded me again of the positive, character-building traits I gained as a student. As we opened our meeting, each person shared about their experience—friendships established that have lasted a lifetime, lessons from a favorite teacher that transcended the classroom, and

chapel services that shaped spiritual pilgrimages. Stories just like ours are continuing as teachers pass on their faith to today's students.

How did your days at Lancaster Mennonite High School shape the story of your life? The goal of the Alumni Board is to reconnect your story with the stories taking place today on all the campuses of Lancaster Mennonite School. We are ambassadors for the school's mission, and we invite you to join us in supporting that mission by attending school functions such as the Dinner Theatre and by contributing generously when we call you during the Alumni Phonathon each spring.

As I begin my term as president of the Alumni Board, I thank God for the nearly 9,000 alumni who are scattered throughout the world. It is my prayer that the Alumni Board will help today's students be touched by the school's mission which provides them with an excellent education and equips them to be lifelong learners and a transforma-



**Renny Magill, 1987**. PHOTO CREDIT: JEFF SHANK

tive presence through Christlike faith, peacemaking and service.

## Alumni board announces new members

Six new members recently joined the LMS alumni board. They are: Jonathan Charles, 1970, school board representa-

Fine Arts Center. She is a graduate of Eastern Mennonite University and the Manhattan School of Music, where she earned a master's degree studying voice with the esteemed voice teacher, Joan Caplan. She divides her time between New York and London.

**James W. Hostetter, Jr. 1993**, Holtwood, has been named vice president of internal operations for Keystone Custom Homes. He holds a master's degree in architectural engineering from Penn State University.

**Monica Rohrer-Lederman, 1996**, Sturgis, Mich., graduated in August from Western Michigan University with a masters in medicine. She will work in the emergency room of Oaklawn Hospital, Marshall, Mich. Monica is a graduate of Eastern Mennonite University.

**Kristen Herr, 2002**, Morgantown, graduated magna cum laude from Messiah College with a B.A. in sociology with a concentration in anthropology and a minor in TESOL (Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages.) In April she was accepted as a member of Wycliffe Bible Translators. She hopes to leave for Southeast Asia next summer.

**Kristen Jo Groff, 2005**, Denver, has been named the 2005 *Intelligencer Journal* Female Athlete of the Year. She earned the All-Lancaster-Lebanon League honors in tennis and soccer, plus a state medal in swimming, during her senior year, graduating with a 3.95 grade-point average.

**Rachel Lehman, 2005**, Leola, recently placed second in the grade 9–12 category of the Kay Snow Writing Contest with her descriptive piece, "Guilt Trip." Rachel submitted this piece in the spring as part of her Advanced Writing class at LMS.

**Julia Mickley, 2005**, Denver, has been appointed to serve with Youth Evangelism Service (YES), a program of Eastern Mennonite Missions. She will serve for nine months with Phnom Penn Mennonite Church, Cambodia.

## MARRIAGES

**Brian Stauffer, 1987**, and Christine MacGillis, July 9, 2005. They live in Golden, Colo.

**Greg Hess, 1997**, and Lanessa Weaver, July 17, 2004. They live in Denver.

**David Brubaker, 1999**, and Olivia Roth, July 31, 2005. They live in Ardmore. David is employed by Bearing Point Inc. as a technology consultant.

**Jay Lehman, 2003**, and Kristen Charles, June 11, 2005. They live in Holtwood.

## BIRTHS

Todd Carvin and **Michelle Helm, 1988**, Largo, FL, third child, second daughter, Ella Marie, May 19, 2005.

Ray and **Erica Godshall, 1990, McClellan**, Athens, Ga., a fourth child, first son, David Paul, October 27, 2004.

**Ryan, 1991**, and Sandra Zehr **Kreider**, Kirkwood, a son, Philip Lloyd, April 1, 1999, a daughter, Eliana Jane, December 4, 2000, and a son, Corban Emmanuel, December 11, 2002. Ryan is currently employed in the family business, Kreider's Market.

**Timothy, 1991**, and Dawn **Martin**, Reinholds, third child, first daughter, Hannah Ruth, June 10, 2005.

**Jon, 1991**, and Ann **Metzler**, York, first child, a son, Caleb Edward, July 6, 2005.



Above, left to right: Robert Petersheim, Kim Garrett, Jonathan Charles, Marian Rutt, Jeff Shank and Brendon Landis. PHOTO CREDIT: RENNY MAGILL. At right: Brenda Kauffman.

tive; Marian Hollinger Rutt, 1971, member at large; Robert Petersheim, 1973, member at large; Brendon Landis, 1995, member at large; Kim Garrett, 1996, faculty representative; and Brenda Kauffman, 1976, member at large. Jeff Shank was named director of alumni relations in the spring.

The alumni board meets three or four times a year and sponsors events such as the Alumni Phonathon and the LMS Dinner Theatre which this year is scheduled for Saturday, April 29, in conjunction with the spring musical, *Seussical*. Watch for details in the winter issue of Bridges. n

## Check us out on the Web!

For current happenings, reunion information and more, visit us at [www.lancastermennonite.org](http://www.lancastermennonite.org). You will see campus pictures, students in action, and highlights about our faculty. You can even print the registration form for your student or e-mail the school. Revisit your alma mater and see what's happening today!

## From a student

"I just wanted to thank you and Lancaster Mennonite High School for an awesome school year! I was an international student from Germany last semester, and I've never seen such a great school like IMH. It's been a very good experience for me. By the way, I participated on the exchange with the German school, "Kreisgymnasium Bad Krozingen," in October, 2004, and I am so glad that I came back. I missed it so much."

Matthew and **Paula Stutzman, 1992, Musser**, Millersville, a daughter, Kathryn Elizabeth, May 5, 2003, received for adoption August 29, 2003; a daughter, Ana Marie, May 28, 2004, received for adoption January 18, 2005.

**Daryn, 1994**, and Meg **Sauder**, Strasburg, second child, first daughter, Emma Kate, March 23, 2005.

**Kevin R., 1995**, and Heather **Groff**, Mount Joy, first child, a son, Logan Robert, July 19, 2005.

Joel and **Karen Zeiset, 1995, Short**, Smithville, Ohio, a son, Evan Aaron, April 2, 2005.

**Chad, 1997**, and **Julie Rohrer, 1997, Martin**, Lancaster, first son, Ezekiel (Zeke) David Martin, May 25, 2005.

Jake and **Janelle Beiler, 1997, Stoltzfus**, Goodville, a son, Jacob Tyler, June 7, 2005.

## 1995 CLASS REUNION

Saturday evening, November 26  
The Ritz on Main in New Holland  
Contact: Mark King, (610) 593-5242

## DEATHS

**Joseph Shenk, 1956**, Nairobi, Kenya, died July 21, 2005, after being struck by a truck on his morning run July 9 at Mennonite Theological College, Nyabange, Tanzania, where he was principal. Joseph and his wife, Edith, began service in Tanzania in 1963, one of several mission assignments at that location. Joseph's fluency in Swahili, his love of the East African culture and its people, in addition to his servant spirit, leaves a legacy of fruitful ministry among the Mennonites of Tanzania and Kenya.



*Joseph Shenk*

**John Robert Hertzler, 1987**, died July 24, 2005, near Palanchai, Thailand as a result of a motor vehicle accident. John began serving with Eastern Mennonite Missions in 1987 in Belize. He also served in Costa Rica and Honduras. He and his wife, Janelle, began long-term service in Thailand in 2000.

**H. William Schultz, 1988**, New Holland, August 26, 2005. n

## You saw it here!

- It is not too late to participate in the 3 v 3 Basketball Tournament that will be held November 19 during the Fall Gathering and Auction. Call Jeff Shank today at (717) 394-7107.
- Please, please, please take a few minutes to complete the Alumni Survey today. Go to [www.lancastermennonite.org](http://www.lancastermennonite.org) and click the alumni tab.
- Mark your calendar now for the October 6-8, 2006, IMS Friends and Alumni trip to Washington, D.C. Watch for details!
- The 2005 Alumni Phonathon raised over \$106,000 toward the annual fund which helps keep tuition affordable for our families. Look for exciting new matching information in our next edition of Bridges.
- The proposed amendment to the Alumni Association Constitution, Article III, Section 4, has passed. See the summer issue of Bridges for details.

## Class reunions bring friends back together

Ten classes held their reunions this past summer, and the final one will be held in November. More reunion photos and details will be included in our soon-to-be updated alumni site at [www.lancastermennonite.org](http://www.lancastermennonite.org).



*Above: Harold Stauffer, writer of the 1955 class song, leads classmates in a robust rendition at their 50th class reunion held September 7 and 8. In the foreground are Alice Herr Shenk and Connie Heisey Stauffer. PHOTO CREDIT: DAN HESS. At left, 1990 classmates Jolyn Good Zeiset, left, and Laurie Eshleman Longenecker catch up at their 15th class reunion held August 20. PHOTO CREDIT: JAN GOOD-BOLLINGER.*

# Gievanne Gonzalez Garcia—from NYC to Eastern Mennonite Seminary

**W**hen Gievanne Gonzalez Garcia left LaGuardia Community College in New York City to attend Eastern Mennonite University (EMU), she never dreamed she would end up at Eastern Mennonite Seminary (EMS). But that's where the New York City native is today, serving as director of LEAP—Learning Exploring And Participating, a summer program that gives high school juniors and seniors an opportunity to explore pastoral ministry or other church vocations.

"I love my job and I love working with youth," she says. "Through this program God has opened doors for me to meet many leaders within the Mennonite faith. I've met with presidents of different universities and seminaries all around the country and different parts of the world (Middle East, Europe, Africa, Indonesia)."

Gievanne graduated from LMH in 1999, then in 2004 received a degree in communications from EMU, along with Cords of Distinction honors. While studying at EMU Gievanne was an active member of the Latino Student Alliance, Black Student Union and Gospel Choir. She also worked in the multicultural office, an experience that led to her becoming president of the Latino Student Alliance and director of the Gospel Choir.

She was a student at EMU when her hometown was attacked on September 11, 2001. Not wanting to be ignorant of what was going on in New York City and the country, she applied to the semester-long Middle East cross-cultural program. She wanted to gain a better understanding of why the Middle Eastern people hated this country so much.

"It would take me days if not months to tell you about my experiences in the Middle East," she says, "but I could say that it broadened my personal, spiritual, emotional, and political perspectives in many ways."

All these opportunities, she says, were stepping stones leading to her current position at EMS.

In September of this year Gievanne married her "prince charming," Angel Garcia. They live in Harrisonburg, Virginia, and are considering Emmanuel Mennonite Church as their home congregation. They like the diversity there and the possibility of a Hispanic service. Gievanne and her husband come from a Disciples of Christ background.

## **Her philosophy regarding Mennonite education:**

LMH gave me a greater appreciation for an environment that fostered a positive learning environment and emphasized the Christian morals and values that my family passed on to me. Living in the dorm made me more independent, as I had to work after school to pay for my education; that instilled a sense of responsibility both in my education and in everyday personal decisions. Through my experience at LMH I was able to make a smooth transition to college life.

**How she ended up at LMH:** During my transition from junior high to high school I knew I did not want to attend the school that I was assigned too. I found out about LMH through my older sister from Puerto Rico who attended LMH in her senior year.

**The best thing about LMH:** The best thing about my education at LMH was the one-on-one relationships that I built with my teachers. Through these relationships I built a greater understanding of God's love and grace.

**How LMH helped her be who she is today:** LMH laid the foundation that led to my becoming the director of a Mennonite youth program that calls out and equips the next generation of leaders. LMH began to scratch the surface of seeing beyond my culture, my country, and my way of thinking. It opened doors for me to come to a great university such as EMU which then opened doors to see and be part of the "classroom of the world."



*Gievanne Gonzalez Garcia, 1999*

**Favorite teacher:** It's a tough one because I have a lot of favorites, but I would have to say Myron Dietz. He was a happy, loud, bubbly and unique teacher. He had a great spirit.

**Favorite subject:** Jane Moyer's Career English Class. I always had the attitude that a woman had to succeed and surpass a world that is run by mostly testosterone. Mrs. Moyer prepared me and gave me the confidence and knowledge of how to enter a room during a job interview with my head held high and yet look good and in style while doing it.

**Most outstanding LMH memory:** My best memory of LMH is living in the dorm (residence hall). I was a dorm student—"Go Dormies!"—and there is where many wonderful and fun things happened. I made lifelong friends through the dorm.

## **Places I have been:**

Egypt, Alexandria, Italy, Greece, Indonesia, Jamaica, Israel and the West Bank. She and Angel hope to someday see the Taj Mahal in India and the Great Wall of China. n

# The LMS Difference

Taken from the Superintendent's Annual Report to the Board of Trustees

For the past several months I have been substituting mostly in public schools in Lancaster County. I want you to know that I enjoyed my days more at LMS than elsewhere. . . . Students at LMS are not perfect, of course, but are more respectful, considerate, responsive to correction, and overall more enjoyable students than I have encountered elsewhere. There is a distinct difference!

- LMS Substitute Teacher, May 2005

The teacher quoted above went on to write about LMS developing Christ-like leaders for the world and articulating the heart of the "LMS Difference." While government schools exist primarily to advance the national vision of the United States, LMS exists first to advance the kingdom of God.

The LMS commitment to a Christ-centered education is the heart of our identity as an Anabaptist Christian school. The LMS founders knew that we become like the community that forms us, so they created a school community centered in Christ.

Now it is up to this generation with its love of children and church, to nurture and advance a living faith centered in Jesus Christ. This vision calls for education that touches the heart and mind—education for Christian transformation.

Education for Christian transformation results in a lifestyle that is no longer conformed to the world. It is defined in the newly adopted LMS Graduate Profile that describes a lifestyle that we desire for our graduates. It is expected that the LMS graduate:

- practices global awareness, cultural sensitivity and humility, respect, an anti-racist lifestyle, and compassionate living
- practices stewardship of all God has entrusted to him/her, including the natural environment, and is generous in giving of time and money to bless and serve others
- shows commitment to forgiveness, understanding, reconciliation and non-violent resolution of conflict; respects all human life
- participates and is accountable in the life of a church community
- maintains healthy relationships with others in ones family, church, workplace and community
- practices wellness of body, mind and spirit
- practices a balanced ethic of work, service and leisure
- lives with a sense of curiosity, wonder and mystery n



J. Richard Thomas



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