

LANCASTER MENNONITE SCHOOL

www.lancastermennonite.org

SPRING 2009

Bridges

Centered in Christ • Transforming Lives • Changing our World

LANCASTER MENNONITE SCHOOL

"Dynamic & diverse"
— ParentSource

www.lancastermennonite.org

FRIDAY 8:30P

Ford Drive one.

LAMAR

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NEW FLOOR SUPPLY

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Bridges is the quarterly 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. The school welcomes students without regard to sex, race, nationality or ethnic origin.

Lancaster Mennonite School has four campuses:

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–8

2257 Old Philadelphia Pike
Lancaster, PA 17602
(717) 394-7107

New Danville, grades PreK–6

393 Long Lane
Lancaster, PA 17603
(717) 872-2506

Address alumni and school news to
sprungerdl@lancastermennonite.org.

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clemmerfe@lancastermennonite.org

Volume 36, No. 4

cover photo: Five LMS billboards will soon invite Lancaster County drivers to consider the LMS Difference. Reduced advertising rates and diminishing readership of print media have prompted LMS to consider new advertising options. The billboard on the cover is located along Route 272 near Brownstown.

PHOTO: GARY HILLER

Let the children play

In the good old days, recess was a highlight of the day for school children. Today, however, some schools are reducing or even eliminating recess time in order to prepare their children for the increased testing required by the federal “No Child Left Behind” Act.

At Lancaster Mennonite School, recess is still viewed as being an important part of the day for elementary children. Parents like New Danville parent Deb McCoy say they are glad.

“I am encountering more and more schools in my work that are eliminating recess, and I find it appalling,” said McCoy, who formerly worked at the Pennsylvania Department of Education and is now an education consultant.

“This is indeed an extremely short-sighted approach to learning and educating the whole child. No wonder our kids are so tied to the electronic world and many don’t want to go outdoors any more.”

According to research, providing free play and exercise can actually help increase academic performance. *ScienceDaily*, published at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign (2009, April 1), says: “Physical activity may increase students’ cognitive control—or ability to pay attention—and also result in better performance on academic achievement tests.” The essay describes testing that shows “the increase in reading comprehension following exercise equated to approximately a full grade level.”

Research from the National Association for Sport and Physical Education (May 2006) also discusses the tie between inactivity/poor nutritional habits and the 16 percent of children who are overweight.

Elementary children at the Kraybill, Locust Grove and New Danville campuses enjoy at least two times out of the class-

room each day—either two recesses, or one recess and one physical education class. Kraybill Principal John Weber says his faculty believe “free play time is essential” in the holistic growth of children.

“Free play enhances physical growth, provides opportunity for children to develop social skills through negotiating their play activity and rules,” he said, “and it also enhances creativity and imagination.”

Weber, who sometimes joins the children at recess, said he is “always impressed to see students negotiate the rules and referee their own play.”

“The cultivation of interpersonal skills and group cooperation has no better setting for growth than during recess,” he said.

For New Danville teacher Sarah Fichter, recess is a great time to observe students and how they interact with each other.

“How a student plays at recess is a good indicator of whether or not a student might have insecurities with others or if it’s more of an insecurity with (academic) material,” she said. “If I notice a student is withdrawn in class but is quick to join in with classmates at recess, I am not as concerned as if I see a student withdrawn during academics and recess.”

“Recess can be a time of conflict for students, and I have often used time after recess to talk through situations



with my class to help teach them positive conflict resolution strategies.”

Judi Mollenkof, principal of New Danville and Locust Grove, told the story of another teacher whose very shy student had set a goal to include others in her play. One day the teacher observed the shy student making a deliberate effort to reach out, so the teacher affirmed the student afterward. Later, the parent thanked the teacher for her caring observation and follow through.

“Recess does give (teachers) an opportunity to interact and observe students in a different setting than the classroom,” Mollenkof said. “It can be very helpful in giving insight about the students and also in building relationships with them.” ■

Free play is an important part of the growth process for students at Lancaster Mennonite's three elementary campuses: Kraybill, shown on page 2 photo, Locust Grove, at right; and New Danville, below. All three campuses enjoy state-of-the-art playground equipment. KRAYBILL PHOTO: JONATHAN CHARLES. NEW DANVILLE PHOTO: EDIE HESS

Register by June 5 for fall season!

MENNONITE SPORTS ORGANIZATION

Schedule

Fall: Boys soccer, PreK-6

Girls field hockey, grades 1-6

Winter: Boys and girls basketball, grades 2-6

Spring: Girls soccer, PreK-6



Providing Christ-centered sports opportunities for elementary-age children

For more information and to register, please go to www.mennonitesports.org or call Susan Burkholder at (717) 394-7107.



A walk of prayer

By Rebecca Kraybill, LMS senior

Who would think that God would use a group of high school students to bless Lancaster County?

- LMS Bible teacher
J. W. Sprunger

This past fall, LMS Bible teacher J. W. Sprunger watched an idea come to life right before his eyes.

Also serving as director of church relations at Lancaster Mennonite, Sprunger had the opportunity to attend five regional “plunges” or prayer walks. Introduced by Lancaster Mennonite Conference, each plunge was a day where church leaders went into local communities and prayed, talked, and visited with the people. The hope was that testimonies from the experience could be shared with congregations, to show how God has been working in people’s lives.

Each plunge Sprunger attended produced interesting stories and moving testimonies which he then began to share with his Kingdom Living classes.

After hearing multiple stories, several students expressed interest in joining the prayer walks. Realizing it would be a great way to involve Lancaster County youth in the ministry, Sprunger decided to pursue the idea.

“The pastors were very excited, also,” Sprunger said. “They said, ‘Just call me up if

you plan to go!’”

Getting approval from Principal Miles Yoder and a school council, Sprunger took the idea to his students. After 57 students showed interest and 28 gave firm commitments, walks were scheduled for December 12 and January 8.

Both prayer walks started at 8:00 in the morning with an orientation by Clair Good, a bishop and representative of Eastern Mennonite Missions. Students were then split into groups of two, with each pair assigned to a pastor. The groups traveled to Lancaster City, officially starting the plunge around 9:00.

In general, both prayer walks followed a very relaxed, go-with-the-flow system. The groups were encouraged to find a business or building that they thought would benefit from the prayer—anything from a bakery to a sporting goods store to a bank. Then the group said a prayer for the business, whether going into the building or just staying outside. In other cases, the group encountered a person on the street and asked if they wanted to be prayed for.

Of course, when interacting with a large variety of people, different reactions resulted. Sometimes people simply didn’t want to be prayed for. Instead there was conversation or dialogue in which the students were able to get a glimpse into the person’s life—what their family is like, what their job is, maybe a hardship they’ve faced.

“Above all, it’s blessing the people,” Sprunger said about the walks.

The combination of prayer, blessing, and dialogue provided the participants with a moving experience. More than anything, the walk was a hands-on experience of meeting new people and grasping a sense of the humanity within them.

Senior Solomon Rudy attended the December prayer walk. He ended up in Lancaster’s Central Market, talking to a man about his views on religion.

“It was a great experience,” Rudy said. “It was just good to get out and talk to people. It was an effective way to share faith through dialogue.”

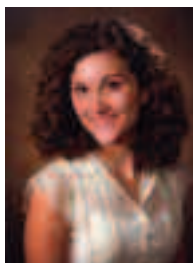
After the hour and a half walk, the groups returned to Lancaster Mennonite where they processed what they had experienced.



LMS Senior Devin Troy (left, in group of three), senior Kori Wenger, and LMS Bible Teacher J. W. Sprunger connect with an employee at La Dolce Vita Courthouse Bakery on Duke Street in downtown Lancaster during the school’s December prayer walk.

Since this new program has been such a success, there is a real possibility it will continue. With over 30 students involved in these first walks and many more expressing interest, the program certainly has caught the attention of students and faculty. ■

This story was adapted from an article that first appeared in the January 2009 issue of the Millstream, the school's student newspaper. Rebecca Kraybill is feature editor for the Millstream.



Rebecca Kraybill

Prayer walks change lives

At Lancaster Mennonite School the two “plunges” or prayer walks held this past year helped students view the people around them through new lenses and gave them a new zest for service. For example:

- **This spring two students attended an orientation at the Water Street Rescue Mission to learn how they could reach out to the homeless in Lancaster City. In May a third hopes to attend the orientation.**
- **Another student excitedly told Sprunger: “I can do this anytime; I don’t need special training!” His pastor asked him to share his prayer walk experience during a Sunday morning church service.**

According to Sprunger, students are learning that they can bless the people they meet in their everyday experience by simply listening and caring.

“I’ve seen changed lives,” Sprunger said about his students. “This (way of doing evangelism and prayer) can feel so natural to them. Who would think that God would use a group of high school students to bless Lancaster County?”

Reaching out, spreading the word

Due to the recession, the cost of television and billboard advertising is greatly reduced as businesses cut back. This provides LMS with the opportunity to advertise in these media while staying within budget. It also helps get the word out during a time when readership of print materials such as newspapers is diminishing.

Taking advantage of good rates and the availability of good locations, the school has purchased a package of five billboards that will first appear in mid-May. Watch for LMS billboards on Route 230 near Mount Joy, Route 30 and Dillersville Road near Lancaster, Route 272 near Brownstown, and Route 23 in Leola.

In addition, the school has been running ads on FOX 43 News at 10 (the most-watched news in our area) with 60 additional daytime spots thrown in for free. The ads began in April and will run until the May 17 open house.

Although media advertising is highly visible, the school recognizes that word-of-mouth and personal contacts are the most effective way to tell others about the benefits of our school.

Thank you, our readers, for sharing the LMS difference with prospective students and families as you have the opportunity. ■



Five LMS billboards—designed after feedback from students, parents and staff—will soon invite Lancaster County drivers to consider the LMS Difference. Reduced advertising rates and diminishing readership of print media have prompted LMS to consider new advertising options. PHOTO: GARY HILLER

**OPEN HOUSE
MAY 17**

**ALUMNI DINING HALL
LANCASTER CAMPUS
1-3 P.M.**

- Information about all four campuses
- Program and scholarship information
- High school spring concert follows at 3 p.m.
- Campus tours
- Refreshments

Heinly calls Kraybill students to radical love

We are blessed by God and we should share our blessings with people in need.

- Kraybill eighth grader

Although spiritual nurture occurs daily at the Kraybill Campus, middle school students look forward to a special treat each winter when a guest speaker joins them for five consecutive chapel services. Called Spiritual Growth Week, the event focuses on a theme that invites biblical study and discussion.

This year Jon Heinly, who serves as youth minister for middle and high school grades in the LMS system, invited the Kraybill middle school students to look at what the Bible says about abundant living in Jesus Christ. Based on John 10:10, Heinly's theme was titled, "Get a Life: The Good News of Jesus." Heinly incorporated skits, Bible stories, and small group discussions into his daily visits.

On Monday, Heinly explained the value of God's commands providing order in the world. Even sports require rules if they're going to be enjoyable, he said. Tuesday brought a discussion of sin and God's unconditional love and grace. On Wednesday, Heinly used John 15's story of the Vine and the Branches to discuss the importance of staying connected to God through the Holy Spirit. And he used Galatians 5 to teach them about the fruits of the Spirit.

On Thursday, Heinly used the parable of The Good Samaritan and the story of 16th century martyr Dirk Willems to illustrate what happens when one lives out the fruits of the Spirit. In the early days of Anabaptist persecution, Willems died when the persecutor he rescued from drowning had Willems executed.

"That is a really radical love," Heinly said, "but that's what it means to love our neighbor."

In brainstorming on how they might love their neighbor, the students came up with responses

such as "Don't talk about others behind their backs," "Be respectful," "Invite someone to sit with you at lunch," and "Don't laugh when someone gives the wrong answer."

On Friday the discussions turned more global. Outside the school building, the students formed a human graph that illustrated poverty in the world. Middle School Principal Daniel Martin said that "Twelve, 13 and 14-year-olds became somber" when they realized that one percent of the world's population controls 40 percent of the earth's resources and that we in North America are that one percent.

Heinly finished that final day with stories from Genesis, Micah, James and Matthew that describe the kind of action that comes from loving Jesus. "We will want to turn around and share with others the blessing we've received," Heinly said, encouraging students to "listen to the call for service" and look for opportunities to alleviate suffering in the world, even if it doesn't involve lifetime mission work.

Chapels and homeroom devotions are just a small part of the spiritual nurture that happens at the school's four campuses. Throughout the PreK to grade 12 system, Christlike values are taught by Christian teachers in all classes and extracurricular activities.

All campuses also have a strong Bible curriculum, parents and teachers who meet regularly to pray for their students, and service projects that encourage students to express Christlike love to others. At the high school and middle school levels, peer leadership programs allow older students to serve as spiritual mentors to younger students. At the high school and Kraybill campuses, there also are student-led Bible studies. ■



LMS Youth Minister Jon Heinly enjoys connecting with Kraybill students during Kraybill's Spiritual Growth Week. Heinly graduated from Lancaster Mennonite in 2003.

PHOTO: J. DANIEL MARTIN



Students respond to Spiritual Growth Week

During Kraybill's Spiritual Growth Week, speaker Jon Heinly encouraged the students to express their feelings in writing. The following is a sampling of their responses.

An important idea I will remember:

- When we hate someone, we have already murdered them in our heart.
- God's love is unconditional and never-ending.
- I can't obey God on my own, but the Holy Spirit will give me power and strength to follow God's plan for my life.
- We are blessed by God, and we should share our blessings with people in need.

Questions I wrestle with:

- Why do I get so many blessings when others get so little?
- Is this choice going to pull me away from God or is it going to pull me near to God?
- What am I on this earth to do?
- What does it feel like to have no money, food, or fresh water? How can I help the homeless who I can't physically or financially reach?
- How can God forgive us so easily when it is so hard for us to forgive others?

To be more connected to God, I may need to:

- Read scripture more.
- Pray more.
- Be more compassionate to people who are going through tough times.
- Spend less time on the computer so that I spend more time with God.
- Change how I talk to and treat my family, especially my parents.
- I want to be baptized.
- Give more of what I have to those who are not as fortunate.
- Love my neighbors as myself, no matter what they look like, how they act, or what they say.



Top photo: Kraybill students form a human graph to show how unfairly the world's resources are distributed. Middle photo: Jon Heinly uses a skit about the Good Samaritan parable to illustrate how one can live out the fruits of the Spirit. Bottom photo: Kraybill students meet in small groups to discuss how Heinly's presentation applies to them. PHOTOS: J. DANIEL MARTIN

Celebrating achievements

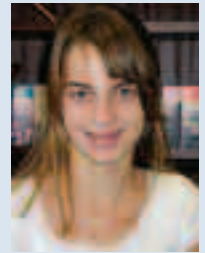
- Lauren Stoltzfus has been selected as a finalist in the 2009 National Merit Scholarship Program.
- Senior Abigail Hertzler was awarded a Silver Medal and an American Voices Medal in the National Level Scholastic competition for her dramatic script, "Hoofprints on the Heart." She was the only one from our region to win an award at this level. Earlier the piece received a Gold Key award during the 2009 Scholastic Writing Contest; Kraybill eighth grader Olivia Esbenschade received a Gold Key for her personal essay.
- Five LMS students received Gold Awards in the Lancaster County Young Artists Program this winter. They are senior Molly Kraybill, junior Emma Lindsey, senior Nicole Simpson, Locust Grove eighth grader Sarah Schlosser, Kraybill eighth grader Gordon Dimmig, and Kraybill seventh grader Lauren Sweigart. In addition, 24 Silver Awards, 46 Exhibition Awards, and one Merit Award were presented to LMS students.
- Girls soccer coach Dale Stoltzfus has been named the National Soccer Coaches Association of America and Adidas State Girls Coach of the Year for Private/Parochial Schools for 2008.
- LMMS eighth grader Chloe Mattilio took first prize (\$500) in a Holocaust essay contest. Chloe studied about the Holocaust in her language arts class with teacher Alice Lauver.
- Senior Eric Umble was recently accepted to represent the United States in the International Youth Wind Orchestra. This is a group of musicians ages 18–25 from all over the world. The group will perform July 5-11 at the World Association for Symphonic Bands and Ensembles (WASBE) Conference in Cincinnati, Ohio.
- In February the LMS chess team won their 10th Lancaster Scholastic Chess League Championship. The team was led by Peter Weida, grade 10, who went undefeated for the season and for the fourth consecutive year has been the top player in the league. In state play, Jung Kwan Kim finished as the second place unrated player in his category with four wins and one loss, Kyle Siegfried finished in fourth place in his category with four wins and a draw, and Tommy Wanner won



Lauren Stoltzfus



Abigail Hertzler



Olivia Esbenschade

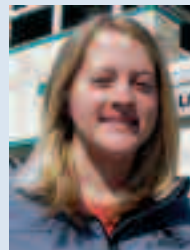


L-R: Nicole Simpson, Molly Kraybill and Emma Lindsey.

PHOTO PAUL BRUBAKER



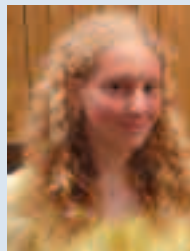
Dale Stoltzfus



Sara Schlosser



L-R: Lauren Sweigart and Gordon Dimmig



Chloe Mattilio



Eric Umble



Above, left to right: Adviser Merle Reinford, Jung Kwan Kim, Tommy Wanner, and Kyle Siegfried. At right: Peter Weida.



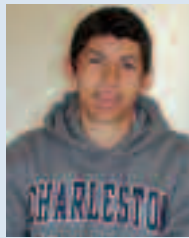
the trophy for the second highest unrated player in the K-8 State Chess tournament.



The girls basketball team celebrates a win over Manheim Township to take the L-L League title.



Jaclyn Gyger



David Denlinger

- The high school girls basketball team won their section title, league championship, and were runners-up in districts before advancing to the state quarter finals. Senior basketball player Katelyn Vanderhoff was recently chosen to the Associated Press Pennsylvania girls all-state high school basketball team (Class AA Second Team). In late-March she was named the Lancaster Newspapers L-L League Player of the Year.
- Field Hockey player Jaclyn Gyger and golfer David Denlinger were awarded athletic scholarships to attend Division I schools—Gyger for University of Richmond and Denlinger for Charleston Southern University.



FFA winners, left to right: Bryan Miller, Alexandra Hauck, Josiah Rohrer, Krista Breneman, Katelyn Leaman and Jay Hernley. Brandon Dimmig is missing from the photo.

- The high school yearbook, *Laurel Wreath*, received a Gold Medalist rating from Columbia Scholastic Press Association for the 15th consecutive year. The book also received All-Columbian recognition for photography and design.
- The following students received recognition at the annual FFA banquet in early April: Krista Breneman, Star Keystone for On Farm Placement; Alexandra Hauck, Star Keystone for Off Farm Placement; Brandon Dimmig, Outstanding Keystone Male Leader; Katelyn Leaman, Outstanding Keystone Female Leader; Bryan Miller, American Welding Society; Josiah Rohrer, Dekalb Agricultural Accomplishment Award; and Jay Hernley, Star Keystone of Off Farm Entrepreneurship. Red Rose Speaking Awards went to Josiah Rohrer, first in Extemporaneous Speaking; Megan Lehman, first in Creed Speaking; and Allen Stoltzfus, third in Creed Speaking.

Alumni talk about careers and faith

This winter Lancaster Mennonite High School students had a chance to consider how their faith can affect career choices and workplace behavior as they heard from LMS alumni during four chapel presentations.

Guest speakers included Duane Lapp, 2002 LMS graduate, a computer support specialist for Landis Homes Retirement Community; Andrew Hershey, 1972, a high school science teacher at Lancaster Mennonite; Lisa King, 2004, a registered nurse at Lancaster General Hospital; and Jim Smucker, 1979, president of Bird-in-Hand Corporation. All shared during the January Career and Faith Week except for Smucker who spoke in March.

Career and Faith Week grew out of the school's educational strategic action plan that includes helping students identify gifts and abilities and learning about various career options. ■



Lancaster Mennonite School graduate Lisa King, second from right, connects with students after her chapel talk during Career and Faith Week, held in late January.

■ Dr. Kim Phipps, president of Messiah College, will give the commencement address at the high school on Saturday, May 30, at 10 a.m. The dedication service on Friday, planned by the Senior Class Committee, will begin at 7 p.m. Tickets are required for Fine Arts Center seating Saturday morning, (limited to the graduates and their guests), but Friday evening's event is open to the public.



Kim Phipps

■ Jeffrey Shank, LMS executive director of development and alumni relations, has been appointed superintendent at sister school Sarasota Christian School (SCS), Sarasota, Florida. He begins his new position on July 1. ■



Jeffrey Shank

Students and staff grieve loss of LMS senior



This spring LMS classmates and staff grieved the loss of senior Micah Berthold who died April 8 from injuries sustained in a vehicle accident the day before. About 1,300 attended a memorial service at the school on April 13. Friends and family members—including brothers Dominik, an LMS sophomore, and Jeremy, an LMS sixth-grader—remembered Micah as one who had a great sense of humor, connected easily with others, and cared about the injustices in the world.

At LMS, Micah played varsity soccer and was a drummer for the jazz band, concert band and the worship band that played for student-led Bible studies and morning chapels.

“He was the kind of spiritual leader on campus we’re going to miss,” said Miles Yoder, principal at the Lancaster Campus.

Micah attended West End Mennonite Church where his father, Josef Berthold, is pastor. Micah had interest in becoming a physical therapist and was planning to attend Eastern Mennonite University this fall.

LMS wishes to thank all those who reached out to the school during this difficult time. Please continue to pray for the Berthold family, the West End Mennonite Church, and the Lancaster Campus. ■

Students plan chapels, learn leadership skills

Spiritual nurture is important at a school whose mission is to transform students so they can change our world through Christlike love, peacemaking and service. At Lancaster Mennonite School’s four campuses, chapel services are part of that nurture. Since November nine students have become intimately involved in helping faculty plan chapels at the high school. The students also are encouraged to take part in the chapels.

Planning and participating in chapel services are excellent opportunities for students to learn leadership skills. Senior Hans Weaver says his involvement has allowed him to work on his public speaking skills, learn how to delegate assignments, work efficiently with other committee members, and prepare to choose a college major.

Committee member Brooke Phipps, a junior, is pretty sure she wants to someday be in a leadership position and believes, like Weaver, that the committee and chapel involvements will help prepare her for that.

“I think I am developing very good leadership skills,” she said. “I also think it’s very beneficial to work with a team. That will further prepare me for group work later on in life.”

Youth Minister Jon Heinly, who heads up chapel planning, says having more students on the committee has also “given us the chance to hear about gifts and abilities within the student body that we may have overlooked in the past.” ■



The chapel planning committee at Lancaster Mennonite High School is comprised of, beginning at top of photo and moving clockwise: Youth Minister Jon Heinly, Dana Hiestand, Hans Weaver, Campus Pastor Dorcas Lehman, Sam Stoner, music teacher Marcy Hostetler, Brooke Phipps, Lisa Weaver, Lancaster Campus Principal Miles Yoder, Solomon Rudy, Ye Jin Kwon, Sharon Sheppard, and Ethel-Ruth Tawe.

PreK scholarships available!

There are a significant number of scholarships available for pre-kindergarten.

Call for details:

Kraybill Campus (717) 653-5236
 Locust Grove Campus (717) 394-7107
 New Danville Campus (717) 872-2506

May 12	Kraybill Middle School Choral Program, 7 p.m.
May 17	Spring Open House, Lancaster Campus, 1-3 p.m.
May 17	High School Spring Concert, 3 p.m.
May 29	High School Dedication Service, 6:30 p.m.
May 30	High School Commencement, 10 a.m.
August 21	Lancaster Campus New Student Orientation, 6:30 p.m.
August 25	First day of school



Child development students at the high school are participating in a Story Time program which involves working with about 20 preschoolers once a week February through May. During Story Time the students use a curriculum they planned to help the preschoolers learn about numbers, colors, letters, seasons, weather and the calendar. The time also includes crafts, snacks, large and small motor activities, theme stories, Bible stories and songs. The program helps LMS students learn about the developmental stages of young children and also gives them a realistic view of parenting. In photo: sophomore Ji Eun (Ashley) Shin, left, and Alex Mylin.

Position open for advancement associate

Lancaster Mennonite School is seeking candidates for the full-time position of associate in advancement. Candidates should be committed to the mission/vision of Lancaster Mennonite School, have strong relational/listening and organizational skills, be a self starter, and be able to communicate effectively orally and in writing. Being familiar with Internet social networking is a plus. The position will focus on alumni and donor relations, and also relate to several advancement events committees. Persons from under-represented racial/ethnic groups are encouraged to apply. For more information contact Heidi Stoltzfus at (717) 299-0436, ext. 308, and stoltzfushe@lancastermennonite.org, or Richard Thomas at (717) 299-0436, ext. 301, and thomasjr@lancastermennonite.org. ■

LMS summer day camps & enrichment

Apply by May 30 for special reduced price!

For more information, go to www.lancastermennonite.org, or call Rachel Denlinger at (717) 299-0436, ext. 310.

Basketball

Girls basketball, grades 5-10.....July 6-10
 Boys basketball, grades 5-10.....July 20-24

Field hockey

Jr. high field hockey, grades 6-8June 22-26
 Sr. high field hockey, grades 9-12August 10-14

Lacrosse

Elem. boys "Learn to Play" lacrosse, grades 3-6 ..June 22-26
 Boys "Learn to Play" lacrosse, grades 7-9June 22-26
 Boys Begin./Intermediate lacrosse, grades 10-12.....June 22-26

Phila. Eagles Football, ages 6-14July 13-17

Soccer

Elem. coed soccer, grades 1-5.....June 15-19
 Jr. high boys soccer, grades 6-8July 6-10
 Girls soccer, grades 6-12July 27-31
 Sr. high boys soccer, grades 9-12.....August 10-14

Tennis

Intermediate/Advanced tennis, grades 9-12 ...August 10-14
 Beginners/Intermediate tennis, grades 5-8August 3-7

Volleyball

Jr. high girls volleyball, grades 6-9June 15-18
 Jr. high boys volleyball, grades 6-9June 15-19

Other camp opportunities

Spiritual Fitness, grades 10-12.....June 12-14
 Intro. to Digital Photography, grades 6-10.....June 15 & 16
 Digital Video Editing, grades 6-12June 17-19
 Coed Culinary Arts, grades 4-9July 20-24
 Sewing/Crafts, grades 4-9July 20-24
 Youth Choir, grades 4-8July 20-24
 Middle School Drama, grades 6-8July 27-31

CLASS NOTES

David Siegrist, 1964, Lancaster, has published a book titled *Under the Northern Lights*. The book is a collection of inspiring stories of faith and adventure told by mission persons who served with Northern Light Gospel Missions/Impact North. For more information, contact Siegrist at ddsiegrist@verizon.net or (717) 872-4085. He is currently teaching middle school social studies at Lititz Area Mennonite School.

John D. Stahl, 1969, Blacksburg, Va., received the 2008 William E. Wine for Excellence in Teaching award at Virginia Tech University. Stahl is a professor of English in the College of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences, teaching there since 1982.

Kay Moshier McDivitt, 1971, Lancaster, has been named Lancaster County's first community homeless adviser for the United Way of Lancaster. McDivitt spent the last 12 years with Tabor Community Services, most recently as vice president of housing counseling programs.

Fred L. Kniss, 1974,

Chicago, Ill., has been appointed provost at Eastern Mennonite University (EMU), beginning July 1. Kniss goes to EMU from Loyola University, Chicago, where he served since 1991 as faculty member, interim dean of the graduate school, and chair of the sociology department. He graduated from EMU and completed his master's and doctorate at the University of Chicago following five years of service in Kenya.



Fred Kniss, 1974
PHOTO: JIM BISHOP

Tim Martin, 1986, Browns Summit, N.C., an earth science teacher at Greensboro Day School, lived a life-long dream during March and April when he joined an international team of scientists in El'Gygytgyn, Russia. He participated in a drilling and research expedition to a polar lake in northeast Siberia. El'Gygytgyn, translated "the lake that never thaws," was formed by an asteroid impact 3.6 million years ago. The team extracted sediment cores from the lake, which yielded data that will provide the longest and

most detailed record of arctic climate change to date. Martin's role in the expedition was to share the science with students, teachers and the general public through the Polar TREC virtual base-camp web site. You can visit the site: <http://www.polartrec.com/geologic-climate-research-in-siberia>.

Nathan Charles, 1998, graduated from Messiah College in 2002 with an engineering degree. He has spent the last five years living in Durham, N.C., working as a software engineer for IBM. Last November, he began a three-year term serving with Mennonite Central Committee in Bogra, Bangladesh, as appropriate technology director.

Mbongeni Bhembe (Bo), 2008, and **Fikeveni Diamiini (Fika), 2008**, Kenya, will remain in Africa to continue their studies after a summer of ministry in Swaziland. They both attend a university in South Africa, pursuing medical degrees. You can read about their journey at www.ProjectEarthInternational.org.

MARRIAGES

Wendell Zeiset, 1991, and Mary King, June 15, 2008. They live in Lancaster.

Adrian Groff, 2003, and Emily Parmer, January 17, 2009. They are living in Lancaster where Adrian is working in a general management position for Groff's HVAC, Plumbing and Electrical, Inc., in Willow Street. Emily is planning to enter medical school in the fall.

Matthew Brubaker, 2004, and **Ashley Burkhardt, 2004**, June 15, 2008. They live in Lancaster where Ashley is employed at Lancaster Orthopedic Group as a physical therapy assistant. Matt is a freelance graphic designer.

Jewel B. Huber, 1995, and Greg Ruhland, March 16, 2007. They live in Madison, Wis., where they are both working with Youth With A Mission.

BIRTHS

Linford Stoltzfus, 1984, and **Yvonne Beiler, 1990**, **Stoltzfus**, New Providence, fifth child, first son, Bennett Cole, October 24, 2008.

Theresa and **Christopher Martin, 1988**, Lititz, a son Brigham Joel, January 23, 2009. He joins brother Sawyer and sister Kayleigh.

Jennifer and **Scott Gochenaur, 1992**, Elizabethtown, second child, Aubrey Irene, September 9, 2008, joining Brennan Scott, 3.

Linford Fisher, 1993, and **Jo Wenger, 1992**, **Fisher**, South Bend, Ind., a son, Harrison Samuel, January 15, 2009. He joins siblings Eden, 6; Elliot, 4; and Helena, 2. Lin is assistant professor of Colonial American History at Indiana University, South Bend.

Philip, 1993, and Deborah Stoltzfus **Siegrist**, Lancaster, first child, a daughter, Munira Joy, February 16, 2009.

Mark, 1994, and **Andrea Stoner, 1994**, **Leaman**, Bainbridge, a daughter, Margaret Stoner, October 12, 2008. She joins brother Henry Stoner, age 2.

Kenneth and **Carla Denlinger, 1997**, **Shirk**, Alton, Va., a daughter, Alyssa Jane, May 12, 2008.

Benjamin and **Tiffany Hershey, 1997**, **Bentz**, Lititz, first child, a son, Ethan Xavier, January 14, 2009.

Shawn and **Abbey Rohrer, 1997**, **High**, Lancaster, first child, a son, Ramey Jameson, August 18, 2008.

Andy, 1998, and Diane **Weaver**, Lititz, Ethan Shawn, June 27, 2007, and Cody Shawn, January 29, 2009.

Peter and **Sue Hoffer, 1989**, **Ringer**, Bethlehem, first child, Darin Peter, November 16, 2008.

Shawn, 2000, and Jennifer **Ramsey**, Lancaster, a daughter, Sophia Anne, August 24, 2008.

Douglas, 2003, and **Shannon Griffith, 2004**, **Herr**, Ephrata, a daughter, Emerson Shirel, February 27, 2009.

DEATHS

Anna Martha Groff Denlinger, 1943, East Petersburg, January 18, 2009. She was a member of the first graduating class of Lancaster Mennonite High School.

Sara Jane Hayworth Stubbs, 1951, Glassboro, N.J., January 29, 2009.

Ernest W. Martin, 1966, Pottsville, February 14, 2009.

David J. Nieczyporuk, 1988, Lancaster, March 27, 2009. ■

Class Reunions

1954	November 21, 2009
1959	June 27, 2009
1964	October 10, 2009
1974	July 18, 2009
1984	August 1, 2009
1989	July 25, 2009
1999	July 18, 2009

Please consider planning your reunion around the Homecoming set for November 20 and 21.

For more information, go to www.lancastermennonite.org or call (717) 299-0436, ext. 701.

CORRECTION

It was incorrectly reported in the winter issue of Bridges that **Wendell Zeiset, 1991**, Lancaster, was involved with the Bald Eagle Boys Camp in Clinton County.

Please send alumni news to sprungerdl@lancastermennonite.org or mail to Lancaster Mennonite School, 2176 Lincoln Highway East, Lancaster, PA 17602.

To keep you in the know

- There were 26 more phonathon volunteers this year! Thank you for your support in this important fundraiser for the school. Watch for the results this summer.
- Mark your calendar for the November 20 and 21 Homecoming event that will include an alumni art exhibit, alumni reception, barbecue, specialty auction, basketball tournament, and the Iron Bridge Run/Walk.
- Alumni who lived in the residence hall in 1984, 1985, and 1986 (and their families) are invited to a reunion/picnic June 28 at Dwight Landis' home in Annville, Lebanon County. For details write to barrettfreed@gmail.com or go to www.lancastermennonite.org and click on alumni and class reunions.



Classmates, friends for life: These 12 1952 alumni get together whenever they have the opportunity. Here they are in 2008 at the home of Paul and Carolyn Weaver Zeiset where they met for a chicken barbecue and corn roast. Left to right, they are Betty Book Kreider, Mable Jean Minnich Weaver (graduate of Eastern Mennonite High School), Ann Wenger Miller, Dorothy Jean Hooper Frey, Georgie Lefever Martin, Eunice Hurst Lehman, Evelyn Lehman Sweigart, Carolyn Weaver Zeiset, Irene Peifer Miller, Rhoda Zimmerman Landis, Martha Bair Hershey and Marjorie Ernst.

Match of \$100,000 to boost fund for athletic trainer

Nauman Endowment, a fund established so LMS could one day have its own athletic trainer.

This year a generous LMS friend posted a \$100,000 match to the Brent Nauman fund with the hope that it will challenge and encourage others to contribute to the fund and make it possible to hire a three-fourth time trainer by the 2009-10 school year.

Brent Nauman, a 1991 LMS graduate, enjoyed participating in high school athletic events. After he died in 1993, his classmates and friends helped to establish this fund to honor the life Brent led and to support something he was passionate about.

The Brent Nauman Endowment fund balance is approximately \$360,000. Events like our 3 v 3 basketball tournament have helped to raise over \$78,000 toward the fund, and many friends have

contributed at other times to see a trainer provided. Supporting the athletic program in this way helps tuition to remain at a reasonable rate. Thank you for your generosity!

Please consider what you can do to provide this much-needed service for LMS athletes and the school community. **Your commitment now is an investment in the school's future!** Please consider sending a gift in the envelope provided with this issue of *Bridges*. Or, call Director of Advancement Heidi Stoltzfus at (717) 299-0436, ext. 308.

The LMS spring sports season is well underway. Please come out and show your support, and keep the health and well-being of LMS athletes in your prayers. For the spring sports schedule, go to our website at www.lancastermennonite.org. ■



Brent Nauman played varsity soccer for Lancaster Mennonite High School.

Lancaster Mennonite School is fortunate that its athletic program has seen few injuries over the years. Knowing of the potential for injury, LMS staff, board and friends have made it a clear priority to support the Brent

A passion for learning

Karl Stoltzfus claims there are few gifts in life more beneficial than intellectual curiosity.

That, explained the 1958 LMS graduate, is what transformed him from an unmotivated high school student into the owner of a worldwide aviation business whose clients include federal, state and local governments; private corporations; and non-profit research organizations that bring him in contact with some of the leading scientists in the world. Stoltzfus described that journey recently.

After high school, Stoltzfus became involved in his father's Coatesville aviation business that involved aerial spraying, aircraft parts, etc. But by age 25 he was desperate to learn more about the world, not just aviation. Two years later found Stoltzfus and his twin brother, Ken, enrolled at Eastern Mennonite University (EMU) where Stoltzfus completed a degree in business administration. It took him five years, however, since he also packed in as many psychology courses as he could.

"It was kind of a maturation process," he said. "College was a wonderful experience for me."

To make money during college he and Ken set up a company called K & K Aircraft in which they bought and sold airplane parts. After college, when Ken went into church ministry, Stoltzfus bought his brother's part of the business and created Dynamic Aviation, an international company that operates over 70 multi-engine turbine aircraft in nine countries and provides the following services:

- aerial spraying
- sterile insect technique (releasing sterilized medicated fruit flies to save the citrus industry in the Los Angeles basin)
- fire management
- Airborne Data Acquisition (ADA) - photography services
- Intelligence Surveillance and Reconnaissance for the U.S. Department of Defense

Being the owner of an international business has allowed Stoltzfus to travel

the world and meet a wide variety of business persons, feeding right into what he describes as his "incredible passion for learning."

"I'm still learning," said Stoltzfus, an avid reader of history. "Right now I'm studying German history and just loving it."

With such an appreciation for intellectual stimulus, it is not surprising that a recent visit with LMS Superintendent Richard Thomas left him feeling pretty pumped up. During the visit, Thomas talked about how the school encourages students to think critically and globally so they can learn to think for themselves and respect the differences of others.

"Based on my personal world view

I could not imagine a K thru 12th grade program that would better equip a person to be prepared to face the realities of the world we live in than the LMS program," Karl said. "I had no idea. It really got me excited about LMS."

Karl and his wife, Barbara, who graduated from LMS in 1959, live in Mt. Crawford, Virginia, and attend First Presbyterian Church where Karl is a trustee. They have three children—Karl, Jr., who operates an aviation parts company in Weyers Cave, Virginia; Michelle, a full-time mother in Nairobi, Kenya; and Michael, who is president and CEO of his dad's family-owned aviation company. All three children graduated from Eastern Mennonite High School.

How LMS has impacted who I am today

The values of honesty and integrity learned at LMS have been a tremendous benefit to me in both my personal and business experience. Our company does business all over the world and those values are one of the major reasons for our success.

In addition, being taught a lot about the Bible and God's plan for our lives gave me a great spiritual foundation. Most important was the encouragement to continually grow in my walk with



Karl Stoltzfus, 1958. PHOTO: DENISE SAUDER

Christ. LMS kept me on the straight and narrow at a time in life when it would have been easy for me to head in an unhealthy direction.

My favorite LMS teacher

I don't recall having a favorite, but I am very thankful for English teacher Sadie Yost who was a stickler for accuracy. Today everything is about accuracy. That is huge in the business world.

Words of wisdom to current students

There are things more important than getting straight A's. There is absolutely no substitute for intellectual curiosity and emotional intelligence. Ask questions! Learn how to be intuitive. And learn how to be empathetic with others.

Also, learn the value of integrity and honesty. Do what you say you will do, and treat others with respect. These values probably bring as much business to our company as anything.

Third, if you don't know what you'll do after high school, don't worry about it. Take some time out before college if you need to. Be patient with yourself. ■

Brubacher talks about building character during Business Networking Breakfast

Seventy friends, alumni, students and staff attended Lancaster Mennonite School's fifth Business Networking Breakfast on March 27 at the school's new Rutt Academic Center.

Guest speaker Keith Brubacher, president of Brubacher Excavating, Inc., talked on the theme, "Building Character in a Construction Company." He said five core values are critical in helping his employees develop character: safety, integrity, honesty, initiative and respectfulness.

Brubacher, a 1990 graduate of Lancaster Mennonite, said his company encourages these values in their employees by affirming good behavior. Called "Getting Caught in the Act," the activity, he said, is "a powerful way to hold up standards."

Brubacher told the story of his company making a costly building mistake once that, because of the positive way it

was resolved, not only garnered the respect of the client but led to that client spreading the good news and helping Brubacher Excavating enjoy greater respect in the larger community.

"It was a reminder that when God is at work, more can happen than what seems possible at the time," he said, admitting that initially all he could think about was the failure and the financial loss. "We can't always see what the fruit will be (when something difficult happens)."

The networking event, planned by the LMS Alumni Association, also included



Lancaster Mennonite School's Business Networking Breakfast, held March 27 in the school's Rutt Academic Center, was an opportunity for making connections. Pictured here are, left to right: J. Myron Stoltzfus of Stoltzfus Meats, Dale Yoder of Cornerstone Design-Architects, John Yoder, also from Cornerstone, and Doug Denlinger of HomeTowne Heritage Bank. At right: Keith Brubacher.



an update on the Educational Improvement Tax Credit (EITC) by State Representative Scott Boyd and tours of the Rutt Academic Center.

Thirteen LMS students, all members of Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA), also attended the breakfast. For them, the event was a chance to see how business networking can benefit them after graduation. ■



Every day at Lancaster Mennonite's four campuses there are signs of why a PreK to grade 12 Mennonite education is worth the investment. The following quotes by Kraybill students when they were eighth graders are just one example. The quotes are part of the students' spiritual autobiographies and were read to their family and friends at their Eighth Grade Recognition a year ago.

Meghan Hershey

The speakers that come to our school have changed my life spiritually. They have shared their stories and have given me different perspectives to consider on many different subjects. Together, they have strengthened my faith in amazing ways.

Mennonite education a good investment

Jessica Rheinheimer

By showing good sportsmanship out on the basketball court or athletic field, I can share what I know about Jesus through my actions.

Mark Engle

I really started to think about God's love for us this year during Spiritual Growth Week when Randall Shull spoke to us about how God will not abandon us. God doesn't love us less than our pastors or any more than a homeless man in the streets of New York City.

Please join us today in transforming lives for Christ and growing our next generation of witnesses. In this issue of *Bridges* you will find an envelope to assist you in financially supporting this mission. Your help is needed to ensure that Mennonite education remains strong. Give now and help us close the school year with a positive balance. Gifts of all sizes impact lives! ■



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Centered in Christ • Transforming Lives • Changing our World

from the superintendent

It takes a village

Our regional Mennonite Schools Council High School Choral Festival was hosted by Shalom Christian Academy on April 19. It was a wonderful time of worship and celebration of music in our schools.

The mass choir ended with an upbeat song, "It Takes a Village," which states: "Everyone shares the burden, everyone shares the joy (of raising a child)." This issue of *Bridges* provides a few snapshots of the LMS village.

You will find LMS parent and school consultant Deb McCoy (who also provides significant volunteer time as a consultant for LMS) talking about the importance of recess in the elementary grades, pastors volunteering time on a prayer walk with high school students, State Representative Scott Boyd encouraging businesses to provide scholarships for students through the Pennsylvania Education Improvement

Tax Credit program, and students working together to plan chapels. Also included is a note on the death of senior Micah Berthold and the way the village rallied around the school during this difficult time. We are grateful!

As our culture becomes more secular, I believe an education that provides educational excellence in a way that puts faith into the future becomes an even more important investment for persons of faith. This can only happen as many in our community work together for the common vision of Christian education.

I am inspired by the commitment of the village that surrounds LMS and invests in our children in many different ways. This is an investment that will pay dividends in both good and bad times. As part of the LMS Village we can all celebrate the opportunity and joy of being involved in this sacred



J. Richard Thomas

trust. Together we are educating to call forth and nurture the gifts of our children, empowering them to share God's love, healing and hope with all of creation.—jrt