FALL 2018

Alumni, students and teachers making a difference in MUSIC

bridges





This issue of *Bridges* focuses on MUSIC.

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Members of the LMH Jazz Band share the gift of music during this spring's instrumental concert. >>>

from the **SUPERINTENDENT**



Bridges Magazine will be transforming over the next year. Give us your feedback on this publication in an upcoming email survey. If we do not have your email address on file you may request a survey by emailing info@lancastermennonite.org

Introducing Aubrey Kreider and Carrie King '02 as the new marketing team for LM! Learn more in the upcoming revised Bridges.







The Music that Moves Us!

My South Dakota roots include a strong tradition of choral music. Church memories include a full church with hymns sung in four parts accompanied by instruments, piano or organ, and every age level of choir practice on Wednesday nights. Today, that musical experience is rarely repeated except on holidays or at the Mennonite Convention.

I also learned to appreciate music through my son, Aaron. He spent time singing in his car seat, joined church choir, children's choir and participated in every musical theater opportunity possible from elementary through college. Today, he is a middle school vocal, music, and theater teacher.

While I was not gifted with musical talent, the power of music moves me. There is nothing like a four-part hymn or a special song in our favorite genre, because the music has the power to transform us. Music is the bridge that builds relationships between countries and speaks to us in unique individual ways that we can not explain. We are touched by music, more specifically, it activates a different part of our brains. Lancaster Mennonite is blessed by a rich music tradition that transforms students. Gifted alumni and students share the impact music has had on their lives in the following pages. Enjoy!

How Great Thou Art Then sings my soul, my Saviour God, to Thee How great Thou art, how great Thou art ...

fam Viegen

Pam Tieszen, Ed. D LM Superintendent

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

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The last issue of *Bridges* marked the end of a three-year cycle that focused on students, teachers and alumni impacting the world in different disciplines cultivated by the LM school experience. Three years ago, the cycle started with a focus on music, and now *Bridges* re-visits that aspect of school life

Three years later, faculty and students are still engaged in a dynamic music program that helps to change lives and transform our world — and new stories have emerged of alumni making a difference through the medium of music.

This issue of *Bridges* notes that LM has been a perennial hotbed of both formal and informal musical styles as illustrated by contrasting school experiences and careers of **Ron Gardiner'89** and **Donovan Witmer'93** who were briefly mentioned in the 2015 issue.

In a new twist on a previous story, highly-accomplished pianist Jonathan Keener'03 has felt called to reside and teach in China. Bridges has also heard from persons such as Herbert Weaver'48 and Karen Moshier-Shenk'69 for whom music performance is a highly significant part of their lives even though it is not their livelihood.



Kayla Klase Ressler '10 and **Esteban Nieves '14** sing in an Alumni Choir during LM's 75th Anniversary Celebration. Ressler is a professional singer and voice instructor; Nieves is a 2018 graduate of Messiah College with a degree in Music and Worship.

Join current students, alumni and the LM community for our annual **Hymn Sing at HOMECOMING** on Friday, Oct. 5! See page 33 for more details.

FACULTY focus

Recent alumni reflect on LM's vocal music director, Marcella Hostetler:

"Throughout my time at LMH, being in choir has been the highlight of my days...You are a wonderful director who helped me realize just how much I love music."

- Micaela Nieves '18

"Thank you so much for continuously encouraging me to use my voice to spread the word of God! Through the years I've grown, and now I'm leading worship – all because of you!"

— Jazleen Jones '17

"You have shown me the incredible power of music and its ability to transcend cultural barriers. Experiences such as singing *Esto Les Digo* in front of the Christ the Redeemer statue and *Kyrie* in the Cathedral of St. John the Divine have been holy moments for me and ones I hope to remember and draw from forever."

- Adam Peachey'17

"Thank you for opening up a wonderful world of creative and diverse styles of music. Every song we sang was important to me in some way and made me *feel* something."

- Savannah Walter '18

"You have given me a truly awesome high school experience through music, and you have given me a goal for the future – to direct my own choir."

- Connor McCall '17



As reflected in the stories of alumni throughout the years, LM has a history of outstanding vocal directors who inspired and enriched the lives of students. For the past ten years, Marcella Hostetler has been building upon that tradition of excellence.

On the Lancaster Campus (grades 6-12), Hostetler is responsible for Campus Chorale, Concert Choir and the Middle School Choir. She also teaches voice and piano classes.

For Hostetler, musical excellence transcends proper techniques and mechanics of singing. "It is important that students connect with the music," she explained. While making the music highly personal, Hostetler also teaches that good choral music involves being

MARCELLA HOSTETLER

attuned to others and blending with them. "Singers need to hear each other," she said.

International music is of particular note in Hostetler's career and her LM music program. Campus Chorale's international tours have been lifechanging experiences for the choir members as well as enriching the entire school with their shared learning. In 2016, Campus Chorale toured Brazil and Paraguay. In 2013 Campus Chorale traveled to South Africa where the Chorale experienced African music styles and culture. In 2015, she directed a 19-member international ensemble at Mennonite World Conference Assembly.

Hostetler is also very involved in arranging music for the school's daily chapel services. Many alumni musicians and singers have reflected that chapel music opportunities were formative for them.

Hostetler received her undergraduate degree in music education from Goshen College and holds an M.A. in Music Education and Conducting from Westminster Choir College.

JAMES FAIRMAN

Hershey Campus music teacher James Fairman enjoyed music and was a good trumpet player, but he did not expect to be a music teacher when he enrolled as a Sociology major at Houghton College. His first job was teaching history, Bible and physical education in a small Christian school where there was no music program. Fairman saw students with a musical talent and felt led by God to go back to school (Hofstra University) to finish an undergraduate degree and then master's

degree in music so he could teach it. He has been teaching music ever since. Fairman said he enjoys the interaction with students and seeing them develop their God-given talents. A highlight of his career as a musician was representing Houghton College in the Trumpet Trio, which included ten-week tours during summers. Today, he enjoys taking Hershey Campus choir groups on missions trips and tours.



SHAWN LASSITER

Sometimes requiring a child to play an instrument unlocks hidden talent. Forced to choose an instrument at a young age, Shawn Lassiter picked up an alto saxophone and played it all the way through high school and college.

Currently LM's middle school and high school orchestra director, Lassiter still prefers the alto saxophone to all other instruments, with the human voice a close second. "I consider my secondary instrument to be voice," Lassiter said. "It helps a lot when working with my orchestra students because string instruments are the closest in sound to the human voice and being able to sing their parts helps them hear what it should sound like."

While majoring in music education at Lancaster Bible College, Lassiter sang in college choirs for four years where he co-directed the Men's Choir for one semester. He enjoyed playing in both the jazz band and concert bands, with a nod toward music that is more formal and, as an alumnus, he continues to perform with both. He also plays saxophone and sings at Newtown UMC, Columbia, where he is the music director. Before coming to LM, Lassiter was a substitute music teacher and assistant marching band director for Columbia Borough School District.

Why did he become a music teacher?
"My first band director asked me to

give lessons to a student who was struggling with how to play the saxophone," Lassiter related. "As I started helping him to play, I really enjoyed it. Seeing my student's success inspired me to consider music education as a career for myself in the future."

Today, one of his favorite things about being a music teacher is seeing how his students can succeed. "Success can be measured in many different ways," Lassiter explained. "I love helping my students realize they can all push themselves to work toward a bigger goal."

"I think that music is an integral part of any school's curriculum because of the ways in which it pushes students to grow," Lassiter added. "Students learn to become independent learners and thinkers, yet also learn how to be dependent upon each other as a group."

As a musician, one of his biggest highlights was working on the LMH musical this past year. "Being homeschooled, I never had the opportunity to be a part of a pit orchestra," Lassiter said, "so this past year was a wonderful experience and a lot of fun."

"God gave us this beautiful gift of music to be molded, shaped and presented for His glory."



Shawn Lassiter leads the grades 6-12 orchestra and teaches middle school guitar at the Lancaster Campus, along with grades 4-8 strings at Locust Grove.



Sarah Wingard teaches elementary music at the Locust Grove campus.

SARAH WINGARD

Growing up in Virginia, Sarah Wingard gained early musical experience singing with the nationally acclaimed Shenandoah Valley Children's Choir. Today, she directs the concert and carol choirs of the Mennonite Childrens Choir of Lancaster while teaching elementary music in the LM system.

Wingard earned her bachelor's degree in music education from Messiah College with a concentration in voice and extensive study in piano.

Wingard sings and regularly solos with the Susquehanna Chorale. She is an active member of the worship ministry and children's ministry of Crossway Church in Millersville and directs the children's choir there.

FACULTY focus NATHAN SHEFFER



Past-president of the Lancaster-Lebanon Music Educators Association, Nathan Sheffer is LM's director of instrumental music, grades 6-12 band director, Grade 6 music teacher and high school guitar class instructor.

For Nathan Sheffer, music began as soon as he was able to climb onto a piano bench with his mother. Formal lessons began at age five.

By the time he was in high school, he was teaching private saxophone and piano lessons to younger students. "Teaching has always been a passion of mine," Sheffer related. "I enjoy sharing my knowledge and experience with young musicians."

In turn, students have appreciated being mentored by a teacher who is also an active performer outside the classroom. As a professional performer, Sheffer said he can "provide students with direct real world knowledge of what being a working musician is about."

Sheffer has a long list of music credits and awards, but his highlights include playing on an album with Charlie Gracie (an American rock

pioneer, blues singer and quitarist who is in the Rockabilly Hall of Fame) and Kenley Collins, recording with two of Bob Dylan's bass players, opening for Maceo Parker with Liberty Devitto and currently working as saxophonist with Central City Orchestra. As a teacher, one of his highlights was serving as president of the Lancaster-Lebanon Music Educators Association.

His goal as LM's director of instrumental music is simply to build and maintain a high quality instrumental department. "Music engages more of your brain than any other activity," he said. "It helps develop critical thinking skills, problem solving, team building, creativity and much more."

Darlene Hein teaches music at the New Danville Campus.

DARLENE **HEIN**

Darlene Hein's family was a singing family, and there was never any question whether music would be a big part of her life. "As a child, I was often reprimanded for singing or humming throughout the day," Hein said. "Now I get paid to do that!"

Now a veteran of 27 years of teaching, Hein got her start in the School District of Lancaster after receiving a B.S. in Music Education from Lebanon Valley College. Since 2009, Hein has been bringing musical energy to grades PreK-5 at the New Danville Campus.

"There's incredible variety in every one of my days," Hein said. "I love helping children to find, maintain and use their singing voices."

"I think it's incredibly important for every child to find their singing voice, if a student has the ability to talk, the student has the ability to sing," Hein explained. "Although some don't even need to think about it, others need to be guided to match pitches and sing with their head voice, not just their chest voice." The "head voice" allows a singer to sing pitches that are above the normal speaking voice, which is created in the chest.

"I want my students to experience the joy of having their musical gift multiplied by joining their voices or instruments with many others," Hein said. "There's something special about when the entire school is united in song."

Hein thinks music is important in the school's curriculum because strong musicians are adept at problem solving, working in community and listening. She is quick to add that music is fun. "Of course there must be music," she said. "It carries students around the world and across time!"



MENNONITE CHILDREN'S CHOIR

An LM program that serves the community, the Mennonite Children's Choir of Lancaster was founded in 1998 by Patricia Strong Myers to "glorify Jesus Christ through excellent chorale singing." Myers felt a need to provide musically-gifted children with the opportunity to join a rigorous program geared toward choral music. Toward that end, prospective singers had to audition for the performing choirs. Auditions included matching pitch, singing in tune, using head voice and maintaining a melodic line while another line is being sung.

Today, under the leadership of artistic director Rosemary Siegrist **Blessing '97**, MCCL serves about 170 young singers in five programs.

The auditioned performing choir includes Carol Choir (grades 2-5), Concert Choir (grades 6-8) and Chamber Choir (grades 9-12), led by Blessing and director Sarah Wingard (see teacher article on page 4). **Jonathan Shoff '03** (article on page 14) directs the Men's Ensemble. The choirs practice weekly throughout the school year in preparation for a concert series in early December and in the spring.

Two non-auditioned programs develop vocal skills: Prelude Music for children in grades K-1 and Choristers for grades 2-8. Classes are held Tuesday evenings from September through November and again in February through April.

Each spring the choirs participate in a one-day local tour, singing at schools, nursing homes and community centers. The singers serve by sharing music with those who may not otherwise have an opportunity to hear MCCL.

MCCL also participates in Music in the Parks, an annual, day-long festival for choral ensembles held locally at HersheyPark. The choir performs for judges who rate the ensemble in the morning and then the singers spend the rest of the day at the amusement park. The choir has also performed at Clipper Magazine Stadium, the Giant Center with Steven Curtis Chapman and Casting Crowns, Mennonite World Conference, Eastern Mennonite Missions Global Fair, and has sung with Music for Everyone and the Millersville University Choir.

During the summer, the choir has taken a number of national and international tours. This past summer, Chamber Choir traveled to Indonesia in partnership with Eastern Mennonite Missions on a GO! Indonesia 2018 assignment.

Along with Blessing, Shoff and Wingard, several LM alumni and staff have been, or currently are, involved in MCCL leadership. Darlene Hein (facing page) was co-artistic director with Blessing from 2007-2016. Audrey Martin Livengood '98 serves as administrative assistant and Maria Leaman Bowman '94 is the choir manager. Prior to becoming administrative assistant, Livengood served on the MCCL advisory board, of which Jewel Martin Sensenig '89 is currently chair. Sensenig sang with the school's select performing choir, Campus Chorale, and later toured with the Choraleers singing group after high school. She also sang for a year with a family music ministry.

MCCL will sing at LM's Homecoming Hymn Sing on October 5.



ROSEMARY SIEGRIST BLESSING'97

Rosemary Siegrist Blessing '97 Lancaster.

After graduating from LMH, she went on to obtain degrees in pursued graduate study in choral Blessing is also part of a four-Central Committee through a

She and her husband, Josh, are Valley Christian Fellowship where

FALL 2018

STUDENT Spotight | ALARIE HURST '20



As a sophomore. **Alarie Hurst '20** and played violin with the All-state

"As a musician, the highlight of my career would definitely be All-State orchestra," said Alarie Hurst '20. "It was incredible to play in an orchestra with the best high school musicians across the state!"

"Janell Preheim '17 inspired me to try hard to become All-State," Hurst said. "We went to district orchestra together last year and then she advanced to regional orchestra and qualified for All-State orchestra."

"Music is so important in LMH's curriculum because it helps students to express themselves and teaches creativity," Hurst said. "Music also helps students learn to be disciplined and teaches them how to work hard to achieve a goal." Her goal for next year is to qualify for the National Orchestra.

Along with her orchestra highlight, another thrill was accompanying Campus Chorale on the piano and going with them on their trip to New York last year. "I got to play piano with them in Carnegie Hall," Hurst

said. "That was an unforgettable experience!"

Outside of music, Hurst's highlights include her network of friends in the LMH community: "Not only do they encourage me in all my music endeavors, but they help strengthen my faith in Jesus and encourage me to run hard after Him." She also enjoyed pre-calculus with Mr. Boer, Spanish with Mr. Hartzler, and chemistry class with Mr. Evans.

Because she is very interested in science and mathematics, she may not pursue music as a college major, but she wants to continue playing violin in some capacity wherever the future takes her. "After college, I might start a small studio teaching violin lessons," Hurst said. "I already have one student and really enjoy teaching her, so I think I would like to continue teaching violin lessons."



Malise Landes '19 accompanies Campus Chorale and other choirs, is the pit orchestra pianist for musicals

MALISE LANDES '19

Malise Landes '19 plays both the piano and violin, but piano is her forte. One of her highlights is being the accompanist for Campus Chorale. When she attended Campus Chorale concerts as a young student, she found herself wanting to be the girl behind the piano. "I made this jar of dreams when I was in middle school, and whenever I had a goal or dream, I would write it down and then stick it in the jar," Landes related. "One of those dreams was being the accompanist for the high school auditioned choir."

Landes' fondest memories of LMH are serving as the pit orchestra pianist for school musicals. "No matter how tough the music may be, I always enjoy it in the end," she said. "It's just amazing to see everyone come together to make music."

Landes sees music as a way of building relationships with people with whom it might otherwise be difficult to communicate. "I think that music is a universal language and a way to connect with people," she said.

Landes said that her goal as a musician is to bring people closer to Christ. "I want to make people happy with the music I create and play," Landes said. "Often, when I'm sad, I'll play the piano, the music makes me happy, and my hope as a musician is that people can lose themselves in the music and find themselves and God there."

At this point, she is unsure about her future educational goals as a musician. She would like to be a music teacher, but envisions giving private piano lessons rather than classroom instruction.

THE **RADIETTES**

The Radiettes, an indie/folk band composed of Lancaster Mennonite High School alumni Sydney Esch '18, Bethany Bronkema '18, Kate Kindelberger '18 and Micaela Nieves '18, have burst onto the local music scene this year. Their style was decribed as a "fresh, non-traditional approach to creating music" in a large article appearing in Lancaster's daily newspaper, LNP.

The Radiettes perform folk-style music from across the decades in addition to original material. Nieves is the band's primary songwriter. "Every time she sends something, it's just like, wow," Esch says. "I'm working with so much talent."

The Radiettes tend to use traditional acoustic folk instruments to provide minimalistic accompaniment to their vocal harmonies, often trading instruments such as upright bass, quitar, mandolin, banjo and ukulele. Vocals are also mixed and matched in various combinations.

All four Radiettes have been involved in school music programs since middle school, but the group really came together while serving as the band for Lancaster Mennonite High School's production of "Radium Girls" in October. The girls wrote original instrumentals, used percussion as sound effects and played covers during the show. Their nickname, the Radiettes, came from the show

"Radium Girls" exposed the Radiettes to a larger audience, leading to gigs at local coffee shops, churches and music events.

"I think it's a combination of us wanting to really stretch ourselves as musicians in both technical skills and creativity, which is really what drew us to doing "Radium Girls" and is what is drawing us to writing our own music now," Esch said.



LM alumni Sydney Esch '18, Kate Kindelberger '18, Bethany Bronkema '18, and Micaela Nieves '18 compose the Radiettes band. The group released its first CD this spring.

MACKENZIE PAIGE BRUBAKER '17

"Music is so important and should be in the school's curriculum because it helps you express yourself in a way that words can't," said Mackenzie Paige Brubaker'17. "Everyone loves music because it reaches a place in the heart that nothing else can. I believe the Lord blessed us with music because He knew we needed it."

Although Brubaker said that she was definitely nurtured by LM vocal director Marcella Hostetler and enjoyed singing in the school's Campus Chorale and Chamber Choir, her biggest musical influence and inspiration was her mother, Andrea Oberholtzer Brubaker '89, a classically trained singer-songwriter who is employed by Mellinger Mennonite Church as a minister of worship. "My mom was probably my biggest influence when it came to music." Brubaker said.

The mother-daughter alumna team often collaborate on music. "Collaboration with my mom has become fairly easy because we have different gifts," Brubaker explained. "Normally my mom will come up with a chord progression, and I will come up with the melody. Together we normally come up with the words and a theme."

"Sometimes I write something, and then ask for advice or new ideas to make it better," Brubaker went on. "If I like how it helps evoke greater emotion out of the listener, then I am willing to try it; if the change to the song feels right when I sing it, then that's the direction I'll qo."

Brubaker wants to be a worship leader like her mother someday. However, wherever she has the opportunity, she said "I just want my gifts to be used to bless my Father and to bless those around me by pointing them to Him."



On May 19, the Radiettes were joined by fellow LM alumna Mackenzie Paige Brubaker '17, a Lancaster-based folk singer/writer, for a concert to benefit the school's Fine Arts Department.

Featured ALUMNI

ONE SCHOOL, TWO PATHS TO SUCCESS

Ron Gardiner'89 and **Denison Witmer'95** took vastly different paths toward success in music and in life, yet each thrived in his own way at LMH.

RON GARDINER '89

Ron Gardiner '89 took the classic route to an outstanding career as a cellist and music educator.

He began studying the cello at the age of 7, and his musical abilities were recognized and encouraged by LM music teachers John Miller, then at Locust Grove, and Clyde Hollinger at LMH. Gardiner recalled how Hollinger encouraged him to enter Pennsylvania Music Educators Association competitions and to sing with Campus Chorale. "Our choir tour to Sarasota, FL, where we performed in Van Wezel Hall, was one of my most memorable experiences," he recalled.

After graduation, Gardiner competed for admission into the Eastman School of Music, one of America's top-rated conservatories. Gaining acceptance into Eastman was highly competitive; 66 cellists auditioned and only seven cellists were accepted for his freshman class. For his master's degree, he was awarded a departmental teaching assistantship and given adjunct faculty status.

Among the highlights of his post-Eastman music career was playing with the Malaysian Philharmonic Orchestra in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, where he lived for three years and traveled to Singapore, Thailand and Australia.

Gardiner is currently an Associate Professor of Music at Southeastern University where he teaches cello, aural theory, chamber music, and conducts the chamber orchestra.

Along with his many teaching duties at Southeastern, Gardiner is the principal cellist with the Orlando Philharmonic Orchestra, with which he has been performing since 2007. His wife, Annabelle, is violinist and associate concertmaster of the Orlando Philharmonic, and they both record

for Disney productions and teach at the MasterWorks Festival during the summer. MasterWorks Festival is an intensive, four-week festival for advanced and passionate students of the classical performing arts where world-class faculty and gifted students present brilliant performances in an atmosphere of dynamic Christian faith. Gardiner also performs with Opera Tampa, the Bach Festival of Central Florida and Disney World.

As a freelance musician, Gardiner has worked with artists such as Placido Domingo, Carrie Underwood, Rascal Flatts, Kool and the Gang, Mannheim Steamroller, The Gatlin Brothers, Wynonna Judd, Marvin Hamlisch, Joshua Bell and Itzhak Perlman. "When top artists travel to various cities, their management gets in touch with a local musical contractor," Gardiner explained. "The contractor then offers the work to the top players in the area."

In May, Gardiner had the opportunity to play with Yo-Yo Ma (pictured below), who is considered to be the world's best cellist. "It was so inspiring to watch and hear him pull such a spectacular sound from his exquisite Stradivarius cello," Gardiner related. "When the rehearsal break was called, he walked right up to my stand and gave me a big hug, simply because we are kindred cellists."



DENISON WITMER '95

Since 2004, singer-songwriter

Denison Witmer '95 has been touring
the US, Europe and Asia with his
unique brand of neo-folk music that
integrates thoughtful lyrics with
complex guitar fingerpicking. To date,
Witmer has recorded more than 11
albums that have been licensed and
released in Europe, Asia and Australia.

At first, Witmer modestly questioned whether his story would be a credit to his Lancaster Mennonite experience. "I just sort of sat in the corner and played guitar," he said. He related that he felt intimidated by the school's formal music opportunities, such as singing on stage with Campus Chorale or musicals. For him, music was a personal thing, an outlet for his own thoughts and feelings.

As for being inspired or influenced by anything at LMH, Witmer said that it came to him indirectly through his older brother, **Doug Witmer '89**, and that, to the extent LMH shaped his role model, it was passed along to him. It was his brother who suggested that Witmer get a guitar at the age of 16.

A glance through the 1995 yearbook reveals that Witmer did more at LMH than sit in a corner and play guitar. He was active in the school's literary magazine, *Silhouette*, and the yearbook staff quoted his opinion in several articles, noting that he was a "deep thinker." He was also involved in many informal student-led opportunities to share his music, especially at a student-run coffee house venue called Blue Danube.

Although downplaying the school's role in his music career, it may have really started in an LMH Advanced Writing classroom.

Because of the highly poetic nature of his lyrics, teacher Dan Dietzel allowed Witmer to create an album of his music as a project for the course. Witmer then performed his songs at Senior Recital. Performing at Senior Recital led to bookings at local music venues. Playing at local music venues led to recording his first CD of 1,000

copies that he then needed to sell beyond family and friends in order to cover the production cost. To sell the CD's, he booked a tour. Because of the tour, a record label heard his music and liked it, signing him to a contract leading to 11 albums. "Once it started, I tried to make it successful," Witmer related.

Witmer enjoyed traveling overseas where his music has had a warm reception. "Anytime you travel overseas, you have a sense of otherness that attracts people," Witmer said modestly. "European audiences enter the show with a very open mindset. Even if your music is not necessarily their style, they give you a chance to present yourself without judgement. The lack of intimidation allows you to perform more honestly."

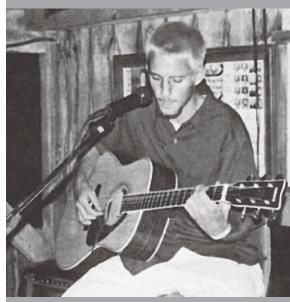
With the advent of young children in his home, Witmer has reduced his travels, but not his creativity. While still working on several music projects, he has settled in Lancaster and has taken up custom woodworking in a workshop shared by fellow alumni Mike Stoner '00 and Jesse Pellman '03 of Longview Structures. "Working with my hands is another way of being creative," Witmer said.

Witmer is currently exploring film and television, writing music for a documentary about Father Rene, a murdered priest who left behind a letter saying that, if anyone killed him, he did not want them to receive the death penalty. The filmmaker originally contacted Witmer to use a song Witmer wrote about St. Francis Assisi, and they built a relationship leading to this latest collaboration.

"I was fortunate to go to LMH where I had the freedom to pursue interests and creativity in a caring environment," Witmer concluded.



Denison Witmer '95 is creative with his guitar, words and wood



Denison Witmer in the 1995 Laurel Wreath yearbook, described as an "excellent guitarist, deep thinker, caring, wholesome."

Laurel Wreath yearbook.
Gardiner is a graduate of the
Eastman School of Music
where he earned B.M. and M.M.
degrees in cello performance
and literature, with additional
study at the Hochschule fur
Musik in Freiburg, Germany,
and the Peabody Conservatory.

Ron Gardiner '89 in the 1988



9

Bridges

Featured ALUMNI ANDREW PAULS-THOMAS '13



Singer-songwriter **Andrew Pauls-Thomas '13** has a lot to say part of the vibrant Lancaster



Tuck Ryan '13, whether playing

Andrew Pauls-Thomas '13 is a Lancaster-based folk musician with a focus on storytelling and songwriting. "Lancaster Mennonite gave me the opportunity to develop as a vocalist through Campus Chorale, and chapels gave me another opportunity to showcase my early songs and develop my solo performance skills," he said.

"Mrs. Hostetler was a huge influence on my development as a musician," Pauls-Thomas recalled. "She was incredibly encouraging in Campus Chorale and helped me and other students to grow in our vocal and sightreading abilities."

Pauls-Thomas also appreciated how Hostetler provided opportunities for a variety of students to perform in chapel. "Chapels gave me the opportunity to prepare music outside of my choir repertoire and to test out songs I wrote in front of an audience," he said. "Without that testing ground, I might not be as comfortable as I am on stage today."

After graduating from LMH, Pauls-Thomas majored in vocal performance at Goshen College. He soon discovered that studying classical voice was not something he wanted to do for four whole years, so he decided to major in Peace, Justice and Conflict Studies with a minor in Bible and Religion and shifted music to a minor.

At Goshen, Pauls-Thomas recorded a full-length album of original music entitled, "Coming, Going, Staying." The

songs focus on themes of leaving and returning home. "That was a large part of my college experience," explained Pauls-Thomas. "These themes were amplified by a long-distance relationship with my now-spouse, Laura Pauls-Thomas '13." (Laura was also in band and Campus Chorale at LMH.)

"My vocal training at Goshen really helped me learn how to better control my voice and how to sing in a way that is healthy for my vocal cords," he reported. "My major in Peace, Justice, and Conflict Studies has also greatly influenced my music, spurring me to write songs about the injustice in the world."

"I am first and foremost a songwriter," he said. "I really enjoy the marriage of words and music to create powerful emotion and communicate a message"

"Music is a vehicle for emotion and a great way to express things that are hard to express through words," he reflected.

Pauls-Thomas has performed mainly in the Midwest and in the Lancaster area. He plays at local cafés, restaurants and private home concerts. One of his regular haunts is The Speckled Hen, a cafe owned by Janae Harnish Dagen '04. This past spring he played in a songwriters' showcase organized by Tuck Ryan '13 at Tellus360.

Pauls-Thomas recently performed with alumnus Matt Hostetter '09 in a cafe show. "Matt is definitely an active member of the Lancaster music scene, performing with **Tuck Ryan '13**," he said.

TUCK RYAN'13

During high school **Tuck Ryan '13** formed Second Hand Suits, a Lancaster-based jazz/rock/blues group that enjoyed regional success, then founded Limbo Jimbo, an Americana blues band, for which he was the primary writer, singer, piano player and rhythm quitarist. More recently he enlisted fellow alumnus Matt Hostetter '09 (vocals and lead quitar), Jabin Baxter and Andy Mowatt to form the Tuck Ryan Band.

Last summer, Ryan released his debut solo album, "Warmest Blue," which he describes as "mountain soul," a composite of his varied musical influences. He is currently promoting his latest release, "Little Things Vol. I," the first in a planned set of five EPs.

Along with fronting his own band, Ryan also plays keyboard in other bands, including the Tellus 360 resident band, the Dabby Paddy All-Stars and Mowatt's Frequency Movement, frequently touring up and down the East Coast.

"You can't put a price on that kind of feeling when you are helping create something that gives people comfort," he told LNP in a news interview about his recent musical accomplishments.

JESSICA **LANDES** '95

Jessica Landes '95 currently owns and operates Landes String Studio, a cooperative violin studio using the Suzuki approach. She is also a member of Stray Local, a trio that she describes as "a folk celebration, an invitation to dance, a reminder of why the South is known for music that makes you feel at home."

As an active performer and collaborator with Stray Local, Landes performs regularly on stages in the coastal Carolina region and has opened for bands such as the Infamous Stringdusters. In June 2017 Stray Local was the only band chosen from the United States to participate in the Festival International de Musique Universitaire in Belfort, France. Stray Local will release its new album, Passenger, in July.

After graduating from LMH, Landes started Goshen College determined to go into a medical field. However, during her first year she kept saying, "I wish I could play more music like I did in high school." It was not long before she became a music major.

"LM teachers like John Miller taught me about myself and gave me confidence to take steps in music that I was initially hesitant to take," Landes related. "In my high school years, the guiding words of teachers had tremendous weight as I formed ideas about what kind of work I wanted to do.

"I really enjoyed opportunities for teamwork outside of the classroom, working on musicals, playing on the girls soccer team, and singing in Campus Chorale," Landes recalled. "I value the friendships I formed at LM that have lasted many years." She has an ongoing collaboration with fellow alumna Laura Kautz Nguyen '00, also a Suzuki teacher.

Landes served as LM's orchestra director from 2000-2002 alongside John Miller and Bill Mitten. "Through the research of Anita Collins and others, I've learned that playing a musical instrument challenges both the left and the right sides of your brain at the same time, which in turn strengthens multiple brain functions," reported Landes. "We can then use this increased brain power in other areas."



Jessica Landes '95 holds a B.S. in Music Education from Goshen College and a Master of Music Degree in Violin Performance from East Carolina University. Landes served as LM's orchestra director from 2000-2002 alongside John Miller and Bill Mitten. She currently lives in Wilmington, North Carolina, with her husband, David Spieser, and daughter, Harmony.

Laura Kautz Nguyen '00 holds a B.A. in Music/Piano Performance from Bethel College.

LAURA KAUTZ **NGUYEN** '00

"Orchestra, band, Campus Chorale, musicals, and other music opportunities gave me an outlet for what I loved and exposure to what was possible to do with other people through music," related Laura Kautz Nguyen '00, who currently operates a Suzuki piano studio in her Lancaster home.

Nguyen says she especially benefited from John Miller's encouragement and challenges. "He raised the bar on my musical training through Campus Chorale and music theory class," she said.

"Mr. Miller pushed me to try new things like composing," she continued. "We even played the string piece I composed in orchestra!"

During Nguyen's senior year, Miller recognized her passion for the piano and had the full orchestra accompany her in a Mozart concerto during one of the school

Along with Jessica Landes '95 who teaches in North Carolina, Nguyen is in regular contact with fellow alumna Audrey Martin Livengood '98, who teaches flute and Suzuki piano in Lancaster. Nguyen teaches Livengood's sons, and they both collaborate on joint recitals. Inspired by Mr. Miller, Nguyen holds a recital to feature original works by all her students.

Why is music important in the school? "For me, it gave education and direction to what became my career," Nguyen responded. "On the spiritual side, music provides a way for everyone to be filled with the Holy Spirit, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs among ourselves and making music to the Lord in our hearts."

Featured ALUMNI HERBERT G. WEAVER '48



Herbert G. Weaver has been a chemist, a health professional, and a pastor, but singing has been a lifelong avocation.

As a chemist, a health professional and a pastor. Herbert G. Weaver could have been featured in the science issue of Bridges, the health issue, and the issue on spiritual life. However, his name was submitted because of his lifelong passion for, and involvement with, music.

"My public singing career began as a freshman," Weaver related, "when I was asked to lead a singing service at Mellinger Mennonite Church." At LMH, he sang in the school chorus as well as a men's quartet.

After graduating from LMH, Weaver obtained a B.S. in chemistry from Eastern Mennonite University. At EMU, Weaver was picked for the Touring Chorus and the Men's Touring Chorus. A highlight was singing The Holy City at Homecoming, which he did for 22 consecutive years.

Weaver went on to earn a master's degree in chemistry from the University of Delaware and returned to EMU as a chemistry professor. After teaching there for two years, he taught chemistry in the medical technology schools of several hospitals

> until founding Valley Medical Laboratory in 1972. In 1975, while taking a blood sample from Dr. Nelson Huffman, a

music professor at nearby Bridgewater College, Dr. Huffman said, "Weaver, I want you to join the Rockingham Male Chorus. Practice is next Tuesday at 7

Touring with the chorus was a highlight of Weaver's life until he moved to Florida in 1984. Even then, he continued to be involved with the choir, planning their Florida appearances for another 20 years.

In Florida, he joined Bayshore Reformed Church, Bradenton, Florida, where he had the opportunity to be a song leader and soloist. He also enjoyed teaching Sunday School and decided to pursue a seminary degree.

In 1998, he received an M.Div. from Andersonville Baptist Seminary, followed by a Doctor of Theology degree in 1999, and was ordained to the ministry at the age of 70. From 1999-2003 he was lead pastor of the Jacksonville Church of the Brethren, where he also organized and directed

Weaver is currently a substitute preacher, Sunday School teacher, and song leader at Cortez Road Baptist Church in Bradenton, Florida.

JOHN BUCHER HERR '53

When operatic soloist **John Bucher Herr '53** was invited to sing at LM's 75th Anniversary celebration, some wondered whether he still possessed the "rich virile tone" the New York Times raved about at his Carnegie Hall debut in 1974. Herr did not disappoint.

The Verdi baritone has been recognized for dedication, excellence and leadership in vocal performance during his four-decade career as a professional singer whose recordings can be heard around the world on the Immortal Sounds recording label.

Herr is recognized as the first Mennonite to sing opera. After graduating from LM, he studied at the renowned Peabody Conservatory of Music.

Madeline Bender '89 is also among the ranks of world-class operatic voices. She frequently appeared in *Bridges* and Eastern Mennonite University publications for both her singing and her charity work. Bender received her masters degree from the Manhattan School of Music. She lives in NYC with her husband, operatic bass Paul Whelan, and their son.

JONATHAN **SHOFF** '03

For the past seven years **Jonathan Shoff '03** has taught elementary music at King Elementary School in the School District of Lancaster. One of the first questions for Bridges was whether he felt called to this location as a form of ministry.

"When I decided to be a music teacher, this was not the place or the level that I originally had in mind," he answered, "however, I would say that a sense of calling has developed."

"At King Elementary I can be more than just the music teacher to these kids," he related. "I have the opportunity to make a difference in their whole lives."

Shoff sees a strong correlation between music and academics. self-esteem and school attendance. Practicing music also builds discipline and self-control, he noted.

While pointing out that teaching each level of student has its joys and challenges, he particularly enjoys young students because he can see day-to-day improvement in their skills. "The increments of improvement are much bigger with beginners," he said.

In addition to a full schedule of general music classes (500 students in class each week), Shoff directs the chorus and orchestra and helps with band while giving string lessons. "I love to see the looks on their faces when the crowd applauds and they know they've done a good job," he said.

Shoff's primary instrument is

the piano, which he has studied since he was eight years old. At LMH, he especially appreciated the opportunities to play piano in chapel. "I think that so many opportunities to play in front of people contributed to my career," he said. Now a music teacher himself, he wants to "trust the students and give them the opportunity to use their gifts."

His voice was one gift that was not developed until high school. "I sang all my life, but I really did not know how to use my voice properly until I was involved with choir at LMH," Shoff related. "I learned a lot from John Miller, the vocal director at the time."

Shoff is currently using his vocal skills in several ways. While he was pianist for the Mennonite Children's Choir of Lancaster, some of the older singers wanted to form a men's ensemble, and Shoff became their director. "I like getting guys singing," Shoff said. He also directs the Music for Everyone Community Chorus.

While music is a significant part of his life, Shoff said that any article about him should include the importance of his wife, Amanda, and their three children, ages seven, six and three. The two older children are MCCL members and Shoff is sure the youngest will eventually be a singer, too.



lonathan Shoff '03 has a B.S.E. in degree from West Chester



Janelle Preheim '17 and Tara Bare Kenkelen '96 played in the

JANELLE **PREHEIM'17** & TARA BARE KENKELEN'96

Janelle Preheim'17 was he 2017's Music Department Award winner who qualified for the All-State Orchestra in violin. She is currently attending Goshen College, majoring in music education. She plays in the college orchestra and sings in the Goshen College's Woman's World Music Choir that sings music from around the world and makes connections with different cultures.

Tara Bare Kenkelen '96 is a local violin instructor who performs with the Allegro Chamber Orchestra. She has a B.A. in Violin Performance from Temple University and has studied under Helen Kwalwasser and David Arben. Her sister Tricia Bare Stoltzfus '94 also provides private instrumental lessons.



International opera singer **John Bucher Herr '53** performing "The Lords Prayer" at LM's 75th Anniversary Celebration.

Featured ALUMNI JONATHAN KEENER '03



Jonathan Keener'03 holds a doctorate in piano performance,

"Music often gets a bad rap because it's not 'practical' or financially lucrative, but it truly gives color to life," said Jonathan Keener '03. "As a musician, I've often had people tell me they were blessed by the music I played, and this really brings meaning to what I do."

Not surprisingly, Keener believes that music is an integral part of a student's well-rounded education, whether or not they end up being professional musicians. Keener also noted that a good quality music program develops the culture of the school and gives the school a higher reputation through musical performances. Keener has many fond memories of singing with the Campus Chorale, then under the direction of the late John Miller. "The camaraderie with other singers and the music we sang at churches throughout Lancaster County left a lasting impression on me," Keener said. "I think Mr. Miller more than anyone else inspired me to become a music teacher."

Keener also related good experiences playing in the jazz band led by Bill Mitten and playing piano for two LMH musicals, Children of Eden and Fiddler on the Roof. "Being a part of the musicals meant long hours at school, but unforgettable experiences," Keener said.

Keener decided to major in piano performance at Eastern Mennonite University, where he often played with **Nathan Bontrager '02**, who was majoring in cello performance. After getting an undergraduate degree at EMU, Keener went on to get a doctorate in piano performance, pedagogy and literature at James Madison University. He was the only student ever admitted to the DMA program without first receiving a master's degree.

Although Keener enjoyed performing and teaching while in college, and teaching as an adjunct professor at several universities in the few years after graduating, he reported that he is currently in his "dream job" of teaching piano lessons to elementary students in China.

In 2006, Keener visited China on a short-term service opportunity with Eastern Mennonite Missions and felt called to serve there long-term. After getting his doctorate, getting married and having a child, the opportunity finally arose to fulfill his calling in January, 2017. "The opportunities to connect with these students have been so meaningful," he related. "My family and I hope to stay here a long time using music teaching and performing to inspire people."

NATHAN BONTRAGER '02

Cellist **Nathan Bontrager '94** is an active performer and teacher throughout Europe and North America. Following years of rigorous classical training in the US and Germany, Bontrager began to focus primarily on improvised music, traditional folk music and Baroque and Renaissance music.

He thinks of himself as a musician rather than as a cellist because he plays so many other instruments, including medieval ones like the viola da gamba. Now based in Germany, he tours the US and Europe with a variety of ensembles playing everything from Bluegrass to Baroque.

RYAN KAUFFMAN '93

What influenced you to become involved in music?

My earliest musical experiences were at church where we sang hymns along with a healthy dose of praise songs. I enjoyed all of it, particularly the communal aspect of this music making, but I also knew that someday I wanted to be "up front", that is, up where the music was coming from. At LMH, I participated in band, jazz band, men's chorus, and Campus Chorale.

What were your fondest moments at LM?

After jazz band rehearsal, we had about 15 minutes before we needed to be in our seats. Four of us got into the routine of jamming together, mostly blues, during this time. This was my first experience of the freedom that comes with small-group improvisation. We were free to try things, make mistakes — I made lots of these! — and figure it out together.

What are some career highlights? Having the privilege of performing

John Coltrane's suite A Love Supreme three times in the past three years . . . Playing at Mennonite World Conference in 2015 and collaborating with musical brothers and sisters from around the globe . . . Giving premier performances of new music . . Teaching at Millersville University.

What are your goals as a musician? Staying in the moment . . . The relentless pursuit of beauty . . . Passing it on to others.

Why do you think music is important in the school's curriculum?

Music is something humans need in order to live well. Once our basic needs are met — food, shelter, and water – we have an additional need to be creative. The arts are the building blocks of culture.

Ryan Kauffman'93 is a professional saxophonist, teacher and adjunct professor of music at Millersville University who performs regularly throughout Central Pennsylvania.

KATE UMBLE SMUCKER '02

Dr. Kate Umble Smucker '02 is a trumpet player and music educator currently based in New York City. She teaches trumpet, theory and brass ensemble at the Music Conservatory of Westchester and plays with Calliope Brass Quintet. Working with Calliope Brass, Umble Smucker assisted in the development of the educational show, "What's Your Story?" The show is a cross-curricular interactive performance, reinforcing K-5 English and Language Arts core content while also teaching students about music and the brass instrument family.

Umble Smucker previously served on the music faculty of Millersville University and maintained an active private teaching studio in Lancaster before recently moving to New York with her husband Hans Smucker '02, who had the opportunity to work as media manager for the renowned

television show Sesame Street. Working with Seseme Street staff. Umble Smucker created a puppet character called Calliope who narrates the "What's Your Story?" shows.

Although based in New York, she still tours nationally with Spark Brass, a brass and percussion ensemble she founded to promote the value of music education, and still leads the 18-piece King Street Big Band. In the past she has also performed with the Allegro Chamber Orchestra, the Lancaster Symphony Orchestra, the Fulton Theater pit orchestra and the Lancaster British Brass Band in Lancaster, PA.

Her brother Eric Umble '09, a professional clarinetist with degrees from the Manhatten School of Music (where he currently teaches), has performed in the world's major music venues with various orchestras and ensembles.



Kate Umble Smucker '02 holds a a Doctorate in Trumpet Performance from the University of Missouri in Kansas City, a Masters of Music from the University of North Texas, and a Bachelor of Music Education (K-12 instrumental) and a Bachelor in Trumpet Performance from the University of Northern Colorado.

Featured ALUMNI KAREN MOSHIER-SHENK '69



Karen Moshier-Shenk'69 carries on her father Arnold's legacy of excellent choral conducting and song leading.

Being the daughter of noted LM choir director Arnold Moshier, one would expect that music would play a major role in the life of Karen Moshier-Shenk '69 - and it did.

"Music was a huge part of my life at LMS," Moshier-Shenk recalled. "We had women's chorus, junior and senior chorus and Campus Chorale, all a cappella at the time." She has great memories of singing major choruses like the Hallelujah Chorus and The Heavens are Telling without accompaniment.

Moshier-Shenk went on to earn a B.A. in Music Teacher Education from Eastern Mennonite University and a Master of Music degree from Duquesne University. She was an elementary school music teacher right out of college, but for most of her working life, music has been in addition to other employment.

She is the former choir director and song leader of Prairie Street Mennonite Church, Elkhart, Indiana, Associated Mennonite Biblical Seminary and Scottdale Mennonite Church, Scottdale, PA. She twice directed combined choirs for the Mennonite Schools Council Choral Music Festival.

At Eastern Mennonite University, she assisted music professor Ken Nafziger in the early years of the worship and music conference held at Laurelville Retreat Center and was involved with music at other Laurelville events. She also co-taught courses in worship and music, but since becoming a full-time development officer in 1996, she has not done any teaching.

One of her great joys is being choir director at Park View Mennonite Church. This past spring, her choir collaborated with the EMU University Choir to sing the first movement of the *Brahms* Requiem and the first movement of the Herbert Howells *Requiem* for double choir.

"In the end, music has always been part of my life," Moshier-Shenk said. "My greatest joy is being a vehicle for the making of music by others in worship through choir directing and worship."

PennSta JIN ZHANG '13

Jin Zhang '13 earned four degrees in four and a half years at Penn State.

A talented cellist who grew up with a dream of being a musician, she attended a conservatory in Beijing, China, where she practiced cello 10 hours a day at the age of 13. When she was 15 years old, Zhang's youth orchestra traveled to Lancaster, Pennsylvania, where a cello instructor saw Zhang's talent and invited her to move to the United States to study in Millersville University's Pre-college Music Division in partnership with Lancaster Mennonite High School.

After she graduated from LMH, her uncle, a computer science professor at Princeton, encouraged her to be a computer science major in addition to music, so she explored Penn State and information services technology (IST). "I was looking for a university where I wouldn't have to abandon cello, but I could do both," she explained.

While it was challenging to earn three undergraduate degrees simultaneously. the international student from Guangdong, China, received a master of science in Information Sciences and Technology (IST). She also earned two bachelor's degrees - one in IST Design/development and one in Security and Risk Analysis. Zhang's fourth degree is a Bachelor of Arts in Music Performance through the Penn State School of Music. "Now there are multiple things I can do in the future," she said.

With her coursework completed, Zhang has traveled back to China to begin her



Judy Keener Bomberger'69 is accustomed to making music with Karen Moshier-Shenk'69. Fifty years ago, they stood side-by-side in Senior Chorus, Campus Chorale, Choraleers and a notable sextet. Today, in Virginia, Bomberger currently serves as director of music and children's choir director at Park View Mennonite Church where Moshier-Shenk leads the adult choir.

Both decided to pursue music education at Eastern Mennonite University. After receiving her B.A, Bomberger taught music in the Rappahannock County High School and Elementary School for 13 years, then taught music for 27 years at the Stuart Hall Lower School in Verona, Virginia. Moshier-Shenk's life path took her to different states and jobs, but eventually led to Harrisonburg, VA, where she is once again ministering in music with her fellow LM alumna.





MINDY **NOLT** '96 & JARED **HANKEE** '98

Mindy Nolt '96 and her husband Jared Hankee '98 continue to perform locally in the folk/Americana acoustic music genre and provided music at last year's Evening of Stories and Songs, the concluding event of LM's 75th Anniversary celebration. To date, Nolt has recorded two albums of original music.

JESSICA **SMUCKER** '94

With four years of religious studies at Goshen College and a B.A. in English and Creative Writing from Western Illinois University, Jessica Smucker'94 (married to **David George '94**) could have been featured in the English or the Spiritual Life issues of *Bridges* magazine. However, the singer-songwriter is perhaps best known for her music. Smucker has the credentials of an award-winning, nationally-touring singer. who has performed with noteable acts such as Bill Staines and The Stray Birds while recording two of her own albums. She continues to perform locally.





FRANCES CROWHILL MILLER '94

Like **Karen Moshier-Shenk'69**, **Frances Crowhill Miller'94** is the daughter of a famous LM music teacher and choral director. Her late father, John Miller, was an inspration to her, but she has found her own musical voice — or voices, because she enjoys playing and singing in many genres. Along with the violin, she plays a unique, newly-invented instrument called a hang. Since 2010 she has been peforming eclectic music in a duo, Sopa Sol, that draws upon her experiences in other cultures and countries. Along with her own recordings, she has collaborated on albums with Mindy Nolt '96 and Nathan Bontrager '02.

China, recently earned three technology degrees in addition to a bachelor's degree in music performance from Penn State.

Jin Zhang '13, an international

student from Guangdong,

PennState

FALL 2018

ALUMNI Notes

Class Reunions

Class of 1958 – 60th

Class of 1968 - 50th

Date: September 22, 2018

Contact: Phoebe Nafziger at pnafziger@gmail.com

Class of 1972 - 46th

Class of 1973 — 45th

Date: October 6, 2018

Place: Keefer's Barn 29 Engle

hess197@gmail.com

Class of 1978 — 40th

Place: Fireside Tavern, Strasburg, PA

Contact: Cynthia (Denlinger) Mast, 610-620-5919 hcmail6@yahoo.com

Class of 1984 – 35th

Send alumni and school news to or call (717) 509-4459.

BIRTHS

Alvssa (Dixon) HC'11 and Sean McNally, a daughter, Piper, July 21, 2018

Devin Goff '15 and Lexus Velasquez, a son, Liam, June 23, 2018

Joshua '04 and Charity Brubaker, a daughter, Olivia, May 18, 2018

Lynnea (Miller) HC'08 and Daniel Krall, a son, Lewis Daniel Wilder. May 16, 2018

Courtney (Augsburger) '06 and Joseph Sharpe, a son, Aaron, April 20, 2018

Cooper '05 and Sarah Linde, a daughter, Cecelia, April 4, 2018

Jeremy '02 and Morgan (Umble) '07 Felpel, a daughter, Evelynn Ann, March 16, 2018

Jon '02 and Megan (Hershey) '05 Brubaker, a daughter, Marcella Ruth, March 13, 2018

Michael '06 and Rachael Harnish, a son, August Michael, March 9, 2018

Tyler '10 and Crystalyn Hawkes, a son, Ayden John, March 6, 2018

Sara (Lefever) '08 and Brad Jackson, Jo Robert Keller '71, Lititz, PA, a daughter, Penny Louise, March 1, 2018

Mitchell '06 and Heather Hershev. a daughter, Peyton Grace, February 20, 2018

Courtney (Buchen) '00 and Ryan Dougherty, a son, Brooks Elvin, February 18, 2018

Tyler '06 and Aubrey Kreider, a son, Colby, February 11, 2018

Kristen (Groff) '05 and Dave Landis, a daughter, Addison Jane, February 4, 2018

Rachel (Mast) '05 and Justin Reesor, a daughter, June, February 2018

Jeremy '99 and Laura (Hershey) '99 Brubaker, a daughter, Audrey Zara, January 2018

Jason '11 and Katelyn Sauder, a son, Eli, January 2018

Tyler '04 and Amanda Yoder, a son, Wyatt, January 2018

Samantha (Beiler) '08 and Jesse Sauder, a daughter, Rylin, November 5, 2017

Elizabeth (Herr) '05 and Brent Siegrist, a son, Andrew, October 5,

Megan (Yoder) '07 and Mark Hines. a son, Micah, October 2017

MARRIAGES

Allie Bernstein HC'14 and Teagan Pfautz, July 21, 2018

Joshua Faiola HC'13 and Lauren Leiberher, June 16, 2018

Tyler Walker HC'11 and Brittany LaVern, June 10, 2018

Daniel Jung HC'14 and Isabel Bergey, June 1, 2018

Shannon (Yaw) HC'11 and Jordan Mann, May 20, 2018

Myron Selby HC'08 and Nicole Martin, April 14, 2018

DEATHS

August 3, 2018

Dorothy (Taggart) Haywood '55, PA, July 18, 2018

Dr. M. Lonnie Wu '59, Santa Barbara, CA, July 13, 2018

Rhoda A. (Herr) Martin '71, Newville, PA, June 29, 2018

Kathleen Marie (Weaver) Burger '71, Lititz, PA, May 7, 2018

Allen R. Beiler '50, New Holland, PA, April 6, 2018

Harold Scott Stoltzfus '80. Lancaster, PA, March 21, 2018

Richard Keith Lantz'60, Harrisonburg, VA, March 2, 2018

Eugene W. Peifer '49, Mountville, PA, February 11, 2018

Sylvan G. Ressler '64, Leola, PA, January 7, 2018

Celebrating our New Partner Church Program

LM celebrates partner churches who are making a significant discount to students possible this school year. The new partnerships invites congregations to choose to contribute \$500, \$1000 or \$2,000 per student, which will be matched by the school to provide \$1000, \$2,000 and \$4,000 scholarships to those students. (Some families may also be eligible for financial aid.)

For the 2018-2019 school year, 191 students are benefiting from the Partner Church Program and LM is matching church contributions with \$191,787.00.

Parents and friends are encouraged to let their churches know about this new program for the 2019-2020 school year. Friends of the school are also invited to contribute to the Church Partner Scholarship Program.

This program makes a quality Christcentered education affordable for more families and strengthens family-churchschool connections.

For more information, contact John Denlinger, director of church relations, at (717) 740-2426 or denlingerjh@ lancastermennonite.org.

191 students supported \$191,787 in matching contributions

PARTNER CHURCH PROGRAM FACTS

Cameron Graybill '14 recently participated on the winning team at Philly Codefest 2018. He is a Computer Science major at Drexel, entering his last year in a five-year program that will earn him a BS/MS in June 2019. His project was one of six selected by the judges as some of the most innovative and promising projects to emerge out of Philly Codefest 2018. His project won the Student Award for the best student team and the Best Hardware Hack prize.

His project, called Can Deux, is a recycling station kiosk that tracks collected aluminum and displays information about its equivalent worth that can be redeemed by returning the collected cans to a local recycling facility. Collected funds are then donated to the causes, charities or organizations as advertised on the kiosk. Each kiosk tracks and displays its own can totals, as well as the cans collected within the entire network.

PARTICIPATING **CONGREGATIONS**

Acts Covenant Church

Blossom Hill Mennonite Church Bossler Mennonite Church Chambers Hill United Methodist Community Mennonite Church Conestoga Mennonite Church East Chestnut St. Mennonite Church Elizabethtown Mennonite Church Forest Hills Mennonite Church Frazer Mennonite Church Groffdale Mennonite Church Habecker Mennonite Church Hernley Mennonite Church Historic St. Mary's Church Hopewell Mennonite James Street Mennonite Church Landis Valley Christian Fellowship Landisville Mennonite Laurel Street Mennonite Church Love and Life Christian Center Mellinger Mennonite Church Millport Mennonite Church Mount Joy Mennonite Church Mountville Mennonite Church Neffsville Mennonite Church New Holland Mennonite Church New Life In Jesus Fellowship Church Ridgeview Mennonite Church Rossmere Mennonite Church Stumptown Mennonite Church Sunnyside Mennonite Church Weaverland Mennonite Church West End Mennonite Church Westminster Presbyterian Church Witmer Heights Mennonite Church

STAFF RETIREMENTS

We are grateful for the teachers and staff who have invested many years in helping LM be centered in Christ,

- Robert Dailey, English teacher, Hershey Campus, 7 years of service

- Tim Weber, maintenance worker, Lancaster Campus, 26 years of service

School News



Jia Li '19 won a Gold Key in the Lancaster Young Artists Awards (LYCA) competition and a Gold Key in the regional National Scholastic Art Awards competition, where her artwork received the American Visions Nominee Award as the best in the show. At the national level, her artwork was awarded a National Scholastic Gold Key. According to LMH art teachers, Jia Li was the only student from Lancaster County to win a National Scholastic Art Gold Key in the 2018 national competition.

Jia Li also received the Landis Homes Art Student Scholarship Award for a drawing executed in Conté, also known as Conté sticks or Conté crayons, a drawing medium composed of compressed powdered graphite or charcoal mixed with a wax or clay base. Each year since 1995, Landis Homes selects a piece of artwork from the LMH Spring Fine Arts Festival to become part of the permanent art collection on the retirement community's Lititz campus and makes contributions to the LM Art Department and to the student.



TOP STUDENTS RECOGNIZED

Lancaster Mennonite High School 2018 seniors receiving awards for outstanding work, ability and leadership within an academic discipline were (l-r):

Anna Reyburn for Agriculture, Brett Diller for Technology, Bethany Bronkema for Science, Joy Rutt for Mathematics, Ethan Sommers for Health & Physical Education, Laura Jones for Family & Consumer Science, Katherine Gish for English, Christian Cook for Social Studies and Rachel Mast for Art. Allison Deibler for Business, Oguilvia Hernandez for World language, and Janya Stewart for Music are not pictured.



LOCUST GROVE STUDENT ESSAYS HONORED

Eight 2018 middle school students at Lancaster Mennonite School's Locust Grove Campus received honorable mentions in the Hershey Story Museum History Essay Contest: (back row, l-r) Davin Esbenshade '23, Caleb Metzler '23 and Madison Wissler '23; (middle row, l-r) Emma Wilson '23, Nardos Amare '24, Tessa Armstrong '24, (front row, l-r) Adam Nolt '24 and Sarah Forry '24. Any student enrolled in public, private or home school, grades 5 through 8, in Adams, Cumberland, Dauphin, Lancaster, Lebanon, Perry or York County is eligible to submit one entry to the contest.

HERSHEY MATH CLUB GETS GOLD

The new Math Club chapter at Hershey Campus received Gold Level status recognition in its inaugural 2018 year.

The club advisor, mathematics teacher Rachael Thomas, had a core group of six sixth-graders who came to all the meetings and competition practices, and from those six, she composed a team of four students for regional competition. Despite being young, the team held its own against teams of older students. "We didn't win anything," Thomas noted, "but we also didn't finish last."

After the competition, that core group continued to work on enrichment projects and practice problems. Thomas submitted their work to MathCounts for Silver Level consideration, which the club received in April.

After receiving Silver Level status, they got started on a project to reach the Gold Level, which was to compose a math game called MathBands. Students draw a numbered card and place the card on their foreheads for other

students to see. Students attempt to discover the numbers on their foreheads by asking questions such as, "Is 4 a factor?" In addition to providing skill practice for multiplication facts, the game encourages critical thinking by forcing students to be efficient in their quesses and to make rapid conclusions based on limited information. When submitting the project for goldlevel status, the students included a written document outlining the game's mathematical underpinnings as well as suggestions for making the game more challenging for older students. To refine their instructions, MathCounts team members presented the game to students in grades four through six. "It was a big hit!" Thomas reported. "The students guessing as well as those providing clues and answers were engaged in the fast-paced game play."

"I couldn't be prouder of my team last year," Thomas said. "I am looking forward to capitalizing on this momentum to make our experience even better this year."



Hershey Campus students Elizabeth Fredrick '24 and Claire Thomas '24

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Middle School & High School

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L-R: Simon Kylloney '24, Muna Mimus '24, Claire Thomas '24, Camryn Long '24, Elizabeth Fredrick '24, Coach Rachel Thomas. Not pictured Brock Beltz '24.

School News



FFA student **Matt Kirk** '19 shows a piglet from his family farm to **Abigeal Jacobs**, a kindergarten to educate the students about livestock animals. Joel Ranck'18, New Danville campuses: Matt Kirk 19, Nicole Newswanger 18, Brett Diller '18, Dominic Mattilio '18 and Daniel Wagner **'18.** FFA advisor Ryan King throughout the year.





(left, Kraybill Campus) and Micah Sauder (Lancaster Campus) both region that includes Berks, Bucks, Lancaster, Lebanon and Lehigh among 79 participating schools.

Project Based Learning at LM Middle School

All Systems "GO!"

The second Expedition of the school year challenged LMMSConnect! students to understand "systems thinking" with the theme, "All Systems GO!" From coral reefs and trebuchets to go-carts, the immune system, Native American reservations, and the inequities in the educational system, students showcased their learning and applied it to real world systems and problems plaquing these systems.

In "All Systems GO!" students learned to identify systems and approach



complex relationships more effectively. Building on themes of community, identity and collaboration, students shifted how they think, communicate, and act by asking deep, probing questions. As they identified problems within a system, students explored possible solutions and developed a project to demonstrate a solution.

Exhibitions are held each quarter to provide students with the opportunity to show an authentic audience what they have learned throughout the guarter.

New Principal at LMMS, Eloy Rodriquez (PICTURED ABOVE), brings experience in Project Based Learning, an interdisciplinary approach that invites students to acquire knowledge and skills through investigation, integration and synthesis of a complex question, problem, or challenge experienced in the "real world".

New Danville Teaching Garden Wins Award

The Teaching Garden at the New Danville Campus won a "Plentiful Harvest" award from Lighten Up-Lancaster.

Lighten Up-Lancaster supports school and community gardens. At the end of the last growing season, all the school and community gardens responded to a survey from Lighten Up-Lancaster, which was used to produce a "garden report card." The New Danville Campus was informed that its teaching garden had the highest grade among participating gardens. One of the items on the report card was whether the school had a composting program, which the New Danville Campus does.

In preparation for Plant Day, horticulture students from Lancaster Mennonite High School helped New



Danville Campus students plant snow peas, leafy greens and herbs in the raised beds of the Teaching Garden. Students also learned about composting lunch food scraps, sang songs about gardening, listened to a gardening story and planted marigolds to take home.

New Principal at New Danville, Lindsay Carson

(PICTURED RIGHT), brings a wealth of experience and passion to her role. As a teacher at New Danville for now 6 years, she brings a knowledge of, and connection to, the New Danville' community's unique ethos, diverse patrons, and transformational practices. She looks forward to supporting the new Maker Space and continuing the garden initiative.



principal of the Locust Grove Campus for the 2018-19 school year. Yoder will also continue in his role as principal of the Hershey Campus where he has served since 2016 while also functioning as assistant superintendent for Lancaster Mennonite School as a whole. "I see a bright future for the Locust Grove Campus," Yoder said. "The campus has a reputation for academic excellence, has

Miles E. Yoder has been appointed

Yoder Becomes Locust Grove Principal

there is a strong sense of community life together." Yoder brings 39 years of experience to the role of campus principal. Starting as a health and physical education

teacher at Lancaster Mennonite High

an innovative curricular approach and

School in 1979, he was appointed assistant principal in 1983. In 2002 Yoder was named principal of the Lancaster Campus, which includes Lancaster Mennonite High School and Lancaster Mennonite Middle School. He filled the newly-created role of assistant superintendent in 2009 to help provide system-wide supervision as the school added campuses and principals.

Yoder graduated from Eastern Mennonite University with a B.S. in Health and Physical Education. He also holds an M.A. in Health and Physical Education from West Chester University and a Principal's Certification from Temple University.



Miles Yoder will provide leadership for Locust Grove as

to become Kraybill Mennonite School once again.

Kraybill Transitioning to an Independent School

On April 12, the LM Executive Board accepted a proposal from Kraybill Campus parent leaders to operate Kraybill under the LM umbrella for a one-year transition period, with the goal of becoming an independent school for the 2019-20 school year.

Representatives from the Kraybill transition board negotiated the details of an affiliation agreement. During the one-year transition, LM will be providing services such as information technology, human resources and academic support.

The Kraybill transition board issued new independent tuition and discount rates for 2018-19. The Kraybill tuition announcement begins the independent management and financial responsibility

education and tuition revenue. MJ Smith, who taught at Kraybill from 1982-2016 and served briefly as assistant principal, will return as the new principal for 2018-19 as Michael Charles becomes assistant

superintendent for the LM system.

the Kraybill group desires. These new

rates reflect a different financial model.

requiring additional Kraybill fundraising

events, donations and volunteer efforts

to close the gap between the full cost of

All parties desire a long-term relationship that will continue to benefit families and serve churches in the Mount Joy, Hershey and Lancaster communities.

Charles Named Assistant Superintendent

Michael Charles '05, former principal of the Kraybill Campus, has been named assistant superintendent of Lancaster Mennonite School for the 2018-19 school year with a focus on curriculum.

For seven years, Charles taught in LMH's history and social studies department before becoming principal of the Kraybill Campus, Mount Joy, in 2017. He holds a B.A. in history and social science education from Eastern Mennonite University and an M.S.Ed.

in educational leadership with a principal's certification from the School Leadership Program at the University of Pennsylvania.

He attended LM from kindergarten through high school and has deep roots in the school community. Michael and his wife, Rachael, and two children, Caleb (age 5) and Meredith (age 2), live in Lancaster City and are actively involved in Rossmere Mennonite Church.



Michael Charles '05 has

School News

UPCOMING EVENTS IN PERFORMING ARTS

Oct. 25-27 LMH Fall Play Seven Keys to Baldplate

LMH Instrumental Concert

Dec. 11

Dec. 10

Middle School Christmas Concert (Locust Grove and Lancaster)

Dec. 15 LMH Christmas Concert and Christmas Tea Feb 28- March 2 LMH Musical

HOMECOMING GAMES Friday, October 5

Varsity Field Hockey

Varsity Boys Soccer

Join Blazer Nation for tailgating after the games!

ALUMNUS EARNS ACADEMIC ALL-AMERICAN STATUS

Cassidy King, (class) was recognized by the National Junior College Athletic Association for the 2017-2018 school year. She was named to the All-American First Team with a GPA of 4.0.

THEATER: SEVEN KEYS TO BALDPLATE **SLATED FOR OCTOBER 25-27**

What happens when William Magee locks himself in a lonely deserted inn (with what he believes is the only key) in the middle of winter with the intention of proving he can write a book in 24 hours?

With a name like "Seven Keys To Baldplate," you can only begin to imagine the sorts of interruptions he encounters. Before the night ends, he finds himself in the middle of a plot involving corruption and theft. Along the way, he encounters a lovely newspaper reporter, the owner of the railway, a charming widow, an eccentric hermit, a blackmailer, the owner of the inn, the mayor and a number of other characters. Does he actually get his book finished?

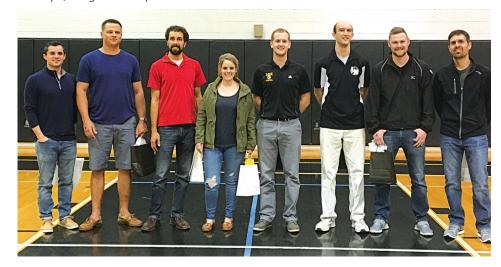
Come join us and find out in this mystery farce on October 25-27 in the Calvin and Janet High Fine Arts Center at 7:00 p.m. each evening.



Students captivated the audience in their spring small production of "This is Our Story," which ran April 26-28, 2018. Photos above and on cover by Paul Jacobs. (PHOTO: BOTTOM RIGHT) Merry Yirga '19 sings an excerpt from Shrek.

BLAZER NATION

The 2006 Boys Volleyball Team joined Blazer Nation for their event on April 12, 2018. Known for having the best finish ever for an LM Volleyball team, they ended up 4th in the State Championships in 2006. They were also Section Champs, League Champs and ranked #1 in the State in the Coaches Poll.



(PICTURED) 2006 LMH BOYS VOLLEYBALL TEAM: Matthew Weaver, Matthew Burkhart, Tyler Kreider, Mgr. Lindsey Grosh, Brent Hurst, Kendall Garber, Zach Kindrew and Coach Kevin Groff.

NEW ATHLETIC DIRECTOR AND TRAINER

Marvin Sanders - Athletic Director

Marvin's passion in life runs deeper than just for athletics. The ability to influence, lead, and motivate others through Christ is the main priority. A graduate of Millersville University and Arkansas State, he's served as a basketball coach at Penn Manor and Millersville and worked closely with their Athletic Directors. We are excited and honored to have his passion, knowledge and positive influence at LMS!

Ann Seaton - Athletic Trainer

Ann is a graduate of Harrisburg Christian School and Messiah College. She loves being able to support athletes at their lowest points and cheer them on at their highest and is thrilled to join the LM community!

BASKETBALL NEWS

Mr. Seth Buckwalter, a science department teacher on the main campus, has been JV assistant coach under Coach Groff's tutelage for over a decade. Seth is ready to take the reins of the varsity team. We welcome Seth to his new role and wish the best to Coach Groff. After over two and a half decades and over 400 wins Coach Groff closes this chapter on the LM boys basketball program.

Mr. Trevor Orr is currently working inside the school district of York and has served as our girls JV head coach this past season. Trevor Orr will be replacing Danielle Zeamer as the varsity coach next season. Before coming to LM, Trevor served as the girls head coach for the New Hope Charter School in York for several seasons. We welcome Trevor to the varsity position and pray for blessings over Danielle as she says goodbye to girls basketball here at LM.



ATHLETIC AWARDS

SPORTS Spotlight

LEAGUE ALL-STARS

- Tennis Joseph Jing '18- Section 2 Honorable Mention
 Volleyball 1st Team Konrad Martin '18, Gabe Willig
- '19, 2nd Team Stephen Baak '18, Ben Lefever '19
 Softball 1st Team Chloe King '19, Maria Stoltzfus '19, Sheyenne King '21, Honorable Mention Anna
- Reyburn "18
 Track and Field David Travis '19, Zach Steffen '18, Logan Horst '19

ALL STATE

• Track and Field – **Logan Horst'19**, finished third in the 3200M at the District 3 Meet and finished 6th at the State Meet.

FACKLER-HOWLER SPORTSMANSHIP AWARD WINNERS

- Ashley A. King '18
- Josiah R. Kanagy '18

E. JERRY BROOKS ACADEMIC

- EXCELLENCE AWARD WINNERS
 Soccer Josiah Kanagy '18, Joseph Lapp '18, Carter R. Hurst '18, Maxwell Brubaker '18, Zachary Steffen '18
 Tennis Hannah Murray '18, Bethany Bronkema
- '18, Maxwell Brubaker '18
- Baseball Josiah Kanagy '18, Shawn Koki Oshikawa '18, Cole D. Forte '18
- Basketball Ashley King '18, Hannah Murray '18, Carter R. Hurst '18, Cole D. Forte '18, Bethany Bronkema '18
- Golf- Shawn Koki Oshikawa '18
- Track Zachary Steffen '18
 Volleyball Ashley King '18, Joseph Lapp '18

A. LANDIS BRACKBILL AWARDS NOMINEES

- Bethany Bronkema '18
- Carter Hurst '18

NEW SCHOOL RECORDS

- David Travis '19- Javelin 141'6.5"
- Zach Steffen '18 400M 50.42 seconds and tied the 100M - 10.9
- Logan Horst '19 3200M 9:37:65

Coach Groff after winning his 400th game as Men's Basketball Coach on March 14th at Altoona High School against Westinghouse High School, the #1 team in Pittsburgh.



Commencement for the 146 members of the Lancaster Mennonite High School class of 2018 was held Saturday, June 2, preceded by a Senior Class Dedication service Friday night, June 1. The keynote speaker for commencement was Nelson Okanya, president of Eastern Mennonite Missions, using the class motto ("Will to Do, Soul to Dare") as a theme and Deuteronomy 4:29 as the Scripture text: "But if from there you seek the Lord your God, you will find Him if you seek Him with all your heart and with all your soul." Three seniors spoke at the Senior Class Dedication service: Katherine Elizabeth Gish, daughter of Dr. Joel and Ellanna Gish, Palmyra; Sang Bin Lee, son of Young Woo Lee and Na Yun Kwag, Busan, Korea; and Eric Matthew Lynch, son of Eric Lynch and Providencia Landor-Lynch, Lancaster. PHOTO BY PAUL JACOBS.

Thank you to our donors!

With deepest appreciation, we acknowledge you, alumni and friends of Lancaster Mennonite School, for your investment in Christian education. You, along with many other individuals, businesses and congregations, gave more than \$2.1 million during 2017-18, making a huge difference in students' lives. Every dollar counts!

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Mary Timm Hinkle

Jordyn Triplett

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Curtis D. & Janet M. Umble

Aleiandro A. Ulloa & Hannah Clemme

contribute themselves to the school, local, and even global community with their hearts." - Anson Lam '13

Tim & Lori Wagner Mark & Cynthia Wakefield Martha L. Walker Jeffrev K. & Karolyn Waller Madalvn R. Waller '14 Clarence J. & Janet M. Walter John D. & Virginia G. Walter Marvin M. Walters Leonard R. Walton & Linda A. Gort lean M Ward Roberta S. Warden-Mille Amos H. & Joanne Warfel Andrew J. & Emily R. Warrer Fulton J. Waterloo Brian A & Gayle F Watson Gordon W. & Jane L. Watts A. Richard '56 & Ruth S. Weaver Alvin M. Weaver David L. Weave Donald E. '73 & Lucy A. Weaver Howard L. & Margaret A. Weave John H. Weaver Kathleen M. Weave Keith R. '97 & Amy Weave Linford A '76 & Barbara Weaver Naomi R. '64 & James W. Weaver Paul M. Weaver '52 Rodella M. '62 & Luke L. Weaver Stephen K.'72 & Cynthia Weave Valerie '90 & David Weaver-Zercher Ronald I & Joan H Webb Howard & Barbara Weber Sandra G. Webster Dr. Stephen J. Weibe Gordon A & Barbara Weinberg Sharon F Weinhold Anita L. Weitzel Jacob P. & Jennifer A. Weitzel Cody & Alisha Wells Benjamin H. '65 & Lorraine M. '66 Wenger Chester & Sara Jane Wenger David A. 65 & Ruth Wenger L. Larry '53 & RaeDella Wenger Mark R.'73 & Kathryn W. Wenge Philip R. 75 & Steven T. Wenge Robert B. '53 & Lena Wenger Sara '71 & N. Gerald Wenger Shenk '71 Sheri L. '81 & Gordon L. Wenger George W. & Terryann W. Wentling Leonard P. & Penelope L. Wert Emily S. & Brian W. West Arthur Westcoat Rebecca S. Weybright Janae K. '06 & Jeffrev Whisle David & Amy Wildasii Christopher B. Wilde

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LMH STUDENT AWARDS

Alumni Association Awards

Sophmores: Leah Bowman, Mesa Dula, Esther Expo, Nathan Longenecker, Rebecca Sauder, Noah Swartzentruber / Juniors: Willa Beidler, Kathleen Calix - Alvarado, Logan Horst, Javon Thomas, Melissa Umble, Nathan Yoder / Seniors: Hannah Adams, Mary Harnish, Mengtao (Joseph) Jing, Sangbin Lee, Konrad Martin, Savannah Walter

Peacemakina & Service Award Ashton Clatterbuck

LMH Ebenezer Award Fekrat Khilo

Achievement Award Tiffany Iraheta

Growth Award Nicholas Sampsell

Global Citizen Award Roman Ali

International Student Leadership Award Naanay Berhanu



The Hershey Campus celebrated commencement at the Evangelical Free Church of Hershey on Thursday, May 31. Student speakers were Morgan Furjanic '18, daughter of Martin & Michele, Harrisburg and Zachary Neu '18 son of Kendall & Katharine, Annville. Thirteen seniors graduated.

Colleen Stauning

Heidi L. & Scott Steffer





Paul & Barbara Mummau

Lorraine Murphy '60

Ruth M. Murphy

Robert Murrell J

Donald A. Musser

Carole Musser

UPCOMING EVENTS



Support students by having your gift matched during The 2018 Extraordinary Give on November 16! Join the LMS community that day by giving online at www.ExtraGive.org

JOIN *THE* major opportunity for LM alumni and friends to "give back" to the school and help current LM students succeed! Stretch your gifts with matching funds from the community.

On November 16, every dollar donated through ExtraGive.org will be stretched with funds from the Lancaster County Community Foundation, Rodgers & Associates and community partners.

Thank you to our Homecoming Sponsors

Dynamic Aviation
Hess's Barbecue Catering, Inc.
Weaver Markets
John D. & Lisa M. Sands
Xpressway Transportation Services
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Garden Spot Communities
Pam Teiszen
CPRS Physical Therapy

To join as a sponsor please contact Heidi at Stoltzfushe@lancastermennonite.org

Bridges

Old Candle Barn Gift Shop

Help support students!

JOIN US OCTOBER 5 - 6

HOMECOMITE HOMEONITE

2 0 1 1 8

AND FALL FESTIVAL

Mark your calendar now for October 5-6, 2018, and get ready for an exciting Homecoming & Fall Festival at Lancaster Mennonite!

Savor Hess's famous pork and chicken barbecue before enjoying children's activities, the Hymn Sing or the exciting varsity games.

Run or walk a three-mile course around the scenic Lancaster Campus and a beautiful wooded crosscountry trail that incorporates the iconic Iron Bridge and Mill Creek. After the run, you can treat yourself to a tasty FFA breakfast. And don't forget the auction of specialty items Saturday evening!

See the full schedule on the next page!

We hope that you will join us for a time of reminiscing, reconnecting with fellow classmates and reinvesting in the LM community.

Register online at: lancastermennonite.org/homecoming2018



Homecoming Hymn Sing Oct. 5

As reflected in this issue of *Bridges* magazine, the LM community likes music and loves to sing! In keeping with the LM spirit of community music-making, LM alumni and friends have the opportunity to participate in a Homecoming Hymn

Sing Friday night, October 5, starting at 7 p.m. The evening of music will feature songs led by the Mennonite Children's Choir of Lancaster and noted directors such as Rosemary Blessing '97, Karen Moshier-Shenk '69 and Jim Baer '76.



HOMECOMING SCHEDULE

Friday, Oct 5

Hess's Famous Pork & Chicken Barbecue

Take-out: 11:30-6pm, Dine-in: 4-7pm

Penny's Ice Cream Truck 4-9pm

Children's Activites 4-9pm

Hymn Sing 7pm

Varsity Field Hockey Game vs. Octorara *5:30pm*

Varsity Boys Soccer vs. Cocalico 7:30pm

Blazer Nation Tailgating after the game

Class of 1958 Reunion

Saturday, Oct 6

FFA Pancake Breakfast 8-10am

Iron Bridge 5K Trail Run/Walk in partnership with THRIVE AND GRIT, Alumnus Sisters fighting Breast Cancer - *Registration: 7:45–8:45am Start: 9am*

Kids Fun Run - free 12 and under

Blazer Nation Gym A Celebration

Annual Benefit Auction

Hors d'oeuvres and Silent Auction 6:30pm

Live Auction and Desserts 7:45pm

Class of '73 Reunion (off-site)



A diverse group of parents, alumni and friends of the school enjoyed the food, fellowship, humor, special presentations and unique merchandise at the 2017 benefit auction.

5K in partnership with Alumnus Sisters fighting breast cancer

LMS is honored to support THRIVE AND GRIT, a non-profit organization run by LM alums Megan (Sauder) Ralston, '05, and Jacquelyn (Sauder) Iannello **'07.** THRIVE AND GRIT supports women under the age of 40 who are battling rare forms of breast cancer. Through helping women under 40 pay for early detection tools not covered by insurance, giving thoughtful wellness boxes to encourage women of all ages during their battle, and helping to fund ongoing research,

no one fights alone! A portion of the proceeds from this year's Iron Bridge Run will go directly to THRIVE AND GRIT so that the LM Community can partner with Jacquelyn and Megan in their work, and encourage them as they seek to change the world!



ALUMNI OF THE YEAR



THRIVE AND GRIT

works to ensure that

SARA WENGER SHENK '71

Sara, the daughter of missionaries in Ethiopia, now serves as president of Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary in Elkhart, Indiana.



DERICK BRUBAKER '91

Derick is a general practitioner at Lancaster General Health after spending six years in Peru where he and his wife were both missionary doctors.



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

Centered in Christ • Transforming Lives • Changing our World

JOIN US OCT 5-6! Page 33 for details



OCTOBER 5 - 6









HAY RIDES PENNY'S ICECREAM HESS'S BBO VARSITY GAMES HYMN SING

IRON BRIDGE 5K AUCTION PANCAKE BREAKFAST

HELP SUPPORT STUDENTS!