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# BRIDGES MAGAZINE

LANCASTER MENNONITE / SPRING 2021



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## SPECIAL THANKS TO ALL OF OUR CONTRIBUTING WRITERS!

Kirk Benner, Rachael Thomas, Candacia Greeman, Jon Heinly, Jake King, Aubrey Kreider, Michael Charles, Angela Dietzel

Bridges Editor, Photographer and Designer: Carrie King, LM Creative Director

*The next edition of Bridges, in Fall 2021, will focus on the exciting future of Lancaster Mennonite's campus unification, while the Spring 2022 edition will celebrate the unique histories of our New Danville and Locust Grove campuses.*

# TOGETHER WE WILL

SEEK JESUS  
*Wholeheartedly*

LIVE  
*Compassionately*

BUILD  
*Bridges of Peace*

CULTIVATE  
*Global Citizens*

NURTURE  
*Curiosity & Creativity*

EMPOWER  
*Lifelong Learning*

# CHANGE THE WORLD



LANCASTER  
MENNONITE  
FAITH + EDUCATION + COMMUNITY



# PREPARING FOR THE FUTURE

## FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT

Greetings LM Community,

This issue of *Bridges* is filled with stories of what makes me most proud of Lancaster Mennonite School, shaping our students with Anabaptist values and faith development. This permeates strong academic programming and transforms our students today, and when they launch into the world beyond LM to reimagine how to make it a better place, bringing the kingdom here on earth, even through business.

Student transformation happens at any time and age level, PreK, 5th grade, high school or beyond. The more years a student spends at LM, the more care, instruction and opportunity for transformational seeds to be planted. **KIRK BENNER '00**, Director of Counseling & Assistant Principal, describes senior presentations in the article *Preparing a Generation for a Bright Future*, a time when students reflect, acknowledge and articulate deep learnings. Growth and development comes in many forms and it doesn't happen solely in senior presentations, but in many classrooms and age levels, and continues after leaving LM as our students rethink and reimagine how to support their communities and live out Christ's call in action to serve others.

The beauty of transformation is how uniquely each student is created and uses their passions to make the world a better place. LM staff models Christ-like behavior and meets students where they are, and then mentors and encourages them to the next level in the classroom, but also, holistically.

We are proud of our alumni that we feature in this edition of *Bridges* that work to transform business as usual. I think of **TRISH HAVERSTICK '94** who founded Lemon Street Market as a social entrepreneur. She is aware of the capacity of each individual to change the world through their actions, and she believes that "if LM can instill a sense of working for the greater good in all of their students, the world would be a better place."



It is our prayer that each student experiences renewal and growth at LM so that they may share their talents with the world and continue the pattern of transformation.

Grace and Peace,

Dr. Pam Tieszen  
LM Superintendent



### BIG NEWS!

**We are uniting our three campuses: Locust Grove and New Danville on the 90+ acre Lancaster Campus on Lincoln Highway in the Fall of 2022!**

Renovations are already underway for the new elementary and middle school, new playgrounds, outdoor learning, makerspaces and more!

Our 2021 Fall *Bridges* will feature the transformation into one campus, while the Spring 2022 edition will celebrate the history of our Locust Grove and New Danville campuses.

**SEE PAGES 16-17 FOR ALL THE EXCITING DETAILS!**

**OUR FUTURE IS TOGETHER**

**COMING FALL 2022:  
PREK-12TH GRADE ON ONE BEAUTIFUL CAMPUS**



# LEADING WITH HEART

BY JAKE KING, CONTRIBUTING WRITER & LM PARENT

HOW A '99 LM ALUM BUILT A COFFEE COMPANY TO BENEFIT EVERYONE



Above: Team members from COOPAFSI Peru, COMSA Co-op in Honduras, and One Village Coffee. The coffees from Las Damas de San Ignacio (COOPAFSI) and Manos de Mujer (COMSA) are women-producer lots that are key components to One Village's most popular coffee blend, Artist (pictured on the next page). All photos in this article provided by One Village Coffee.

One Village Coffee has a few unique claims to fame. Not just that they're a farmer-owned, ethically-sourced specialty coffee roaster with global distribution, or that they were the first coffee company in the U.S. to implement a compostable, zippered coffee bag; they were also a founding B-Corp and the first coffee company to achieve the certification, in 2007.

The family-run roastery and distributor started in the Hackman family farmhouse over 15 years ago after travels abroad catalyzed a deeper discussion about what a business might look like. "Our family wanted

to create a business that had the ability to connect people and make an impact," says President, co-founder, and LM alumna **ANDREA (NOLT) HACKMAN '99**. "Whether it be larger decisions like the type of roasting machine we utilize, to a purchasing policy that encourages employees to buy local or from minority owned businesses, social and environmental sustainability is in our ethos as a company."

In 2018, One Village Coffee took that commitment a meaningful step further by merging with Shared-X, an impact farming company based in Peru. Shared-X works with small farmers to increase crop yields and crop



Above: Andrea and her father-in-law, Steve Hackman, and Demilson Batista Jr. from Legender Coffees (Brazilian exporter).



quality, resulting in higher incomes for farmers and their communities – and better products for the end-user. "We see ourselves as One Village where we can do more together than we can on our own," says Hackman. **"Part of being a village is connecting with others and breaking down barriers of 'us' versus 'them.'"** One Village's coffee bags, for example, each include a QR code that, when scanned, provides more information about that particular coffee farm's story.

That collaborative mindset is clearly a central tenet of this growing Souderton, PA-based company, which Hackman attributes in-part to her time at LM: "LM helped provide perspective that there is more to the world than Lancaster County and birthed curiosity in me about other cultures," she says. "I look back at LM and remember it being a safe place. It was non-judgmental. I always felt I could be myself and appreciate that about those formative years in my life. 'Kindness' is a word that sticks out to me when I think about the people at LM. Kindness goes a long way."



Steve Hoffman, Director of Coffee at One Village, overseeing the roasting process.



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BE TRUE TO YOURSELF.  
AS A LEADER, WHEN LOOKING AT  
INDIVIDUALS AND ROLES WITHIN  
THE COMPANY, I CONTINUALLY  
LOOK AT PASSION AND SKILL.

- ANDREA HACKMAN '99  
CO-FOUNDER AND PRESIDENT OF ONE VILLAGE COFFEE



# PREPARING A GENERATION FOR A

# BRIGHT FUTURE

BY:

KIRK BENNER '00

Assistant Principal, Director of Counseling



While listening to a senior presentation last year, a senior reflected on how they became convinced that God has a plan for their future. They came to this realization in the midst of struggle and difficulty while also experiencing the care and concern of people who surrounded them. One of LM's faith practice statements says that LM builds a strong faith and learning community in which students and staff support each other. As this particular senior shared their reflections, it was striking to me that they experienced the care and support that was built around them by faculty, church and friends as they discovered God's plan for their life and their passions within our academic environment.

Senior presentations provide time and space for students to actively reflect on their past, present and future while allowing time for expressive appreciation to those who have impacted their journey. I delight in seeing the transformation that so many students experience from the time they enter our doors until the time they walk across the stage at commencement. School counselors, advisory group leaders, administration and the overall faculty and staff witness transformation in a variety of forms. Holistic transformation of a student's academic understanding, their faith development, how they encounter community and their grasp of the broader world all play a part in students experiencing the growth we value seeing in the lives of young people during their school years.

As a 2000 LM grad, I vividly remember the impact that Mr. Verlen Rufenacht and Mrs. Heidi Stoltzfus had on the direction of my life. They were able to spark a business, computer, and finance interest and passion in me that shaped the direction of my life. I believe that God used them, along with several other teachers and high school experiences, to form me and to reveal the plan that God had for my life. Had senior presentations been a requirement for me in 2000, I would have reflected on how these teachers inspired me to be a world changer and equipped me with the tools I needed to begin the journey of following God's leading after high school.

LM continues with their legacy of being a tool of transformation. With the uniqueness of the 2020-

"We are confident that our transforming God sees each one of us, knows us and has gifted us with the abilities and desires to pursue the bright future God has in store for each of us."  
- Kirk Benner

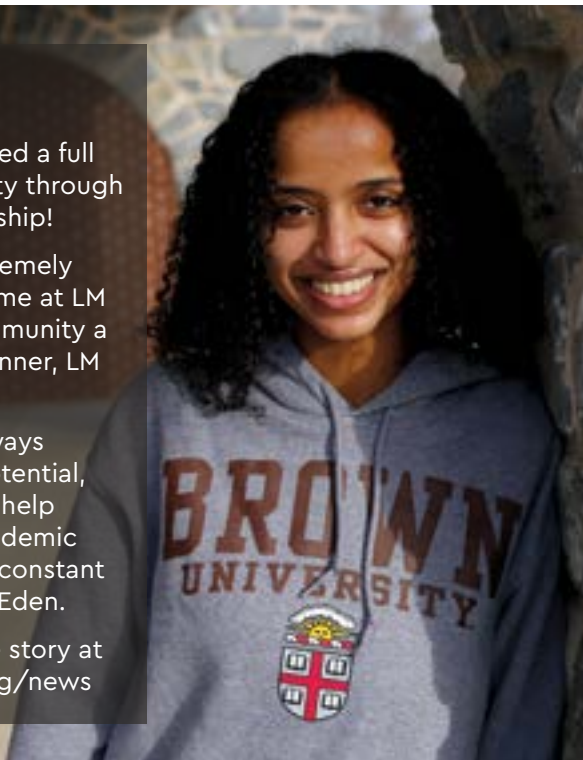
## BRIGHT FUTURE STUDENT FEATURE:

Eden Addisu '21 received a full ride to Brown University through a QuestBridge Scholarship!

"Eden has worked extremely hard throughout her time at LM and has made our community a better place." - Kirk Benner, LM Assistant Principal

"Teachers and staff always reminded me of my potential, were always willing to help me throughout my academic journey, and provided constant encouragement," said Eden.

Read Eden's incredible story at [lancastermennonite.org/news](http://lancastermennonite.org/news)





21 school year, we have seen students at every grade level adapt to new daily routines, exercise flexibility, grieve some losses together and take care of each other in this unexpectedly transformed year.

It's exciting to see what students learn at LM and take with them into their lives, such as alumni that have decided to use the transforming power of business to use it as a force for good. We see their passion for people or the environment be used to create a business or non-profit that creates thriving wage jobs, utilizes farming practices that benefit the environment, or provides job opportunities for all abilities or those who experience obstacles to employment.

We often hear students share what they are passionate about. Throughout their education, students discover a variety of passions to pursue after graduation. Successful students develop a passion and often their school experience helps them discover what they are passionate about. Even in the younger years, successful students are the ones with positive attitudes, who love school and want to try new things, according to Mrs. Melinda Stevens who is an elementary teacher at Locust Grove.

Whether students are preparing to begin PreK, involved in Family Groups at New Danville, engaged in Spanish Immersion at Locust Grove, problem solving at LMMS or sharing their Senior Presentation in grade 12, we value the shaping of students and are delighted when they share and pursue their passions. Successful students seek and follow Jesus while taking a step of faith towards the passions that God has placed within them. School, home and church all have the opportunity to walk alongside students as they test, discern and evaluate what their passion is and how best to pursue it. While there are often bumps in the journey, and we need to support each other along the way, we are confident that our transforming God sees each one of us, knows us and has gifted us with the abilities and desires to pursue the bright future God has in store for each of us.

# IN THE CLASSROOM

By Rachael Thomas, LM Math Teacher



The business program at LM includes a number of electives for students in grades 9-12, beginning with Intro to Business and culminating in Entrepreneurship. In both of these classes, students engage in projects in which they develop mock businesses. It is an enlightening experience as students discover the delicate balances involved in maintaining integrity while remaining competitive. They discern that the health of their business, both financially and in other ways, is vital to the consumers and employees who count on them.

In each step of the process, they are additionally challenged to consider the impact of their business on more than just the bottom line: How can this business have a positive impact on the local community? Are there negative consequences of pursuing this strategy? In what ways does my business demonstrate the love of Christ?

It is amazing to see what young people come up with. I've seen business plans for a flooring company that would provide training and employment for disadvantaged people, a hair salon that would endeavor to improve self-confidence as well as supply job and training opportunities for young women in Ethiopia, and a tech initiative that would help people stay connected in this age of isolation, just to name a few.

The students in our classrooms today will be the business leaders of tomorrow. As the small acts of business on the local level have profound effects on the world at large, I am blessed to be a part of their development and confident that the hands and feet of Jesus will be well-represented in the future.

## CONFIDENT IN THE GREATER GOOD

BY CANDACIA GREEMAN, LM ADVANCEMENT ASSOCIATE



Engaging in business for the greater good involves focusing not just on "what you do" but on "what kind of person you aspire to be in the workplace and community." For **YOHANNES WORKU '03**, it is important to "strive to live out, imperfectly but consciously, the 'greater good' values instilled or reinforced at LM."

As a Regional Vice President for Transamerica, Yohannes leads agencies in his region that develop and finance insurance business owners. With his deep commitment to living compassionately, a core value of LM, he recognizes that "critical and chronic illness force people to go without basic needs and are the leading cause of personal and business bankruptcy." As such, he actively supports local and federal programs and policies that promote wider access to quality

education and stronger safety nets that would make his business less necessary.

Yohannes' path to his current career was not straightforward; his work in insurance began as a detour into financial services as he pursued actuarial studies. To his surprise, he found that working in this field fit him well, and he credits his LM education with preparing him to take risks in his career. He explains, "Mr. Myron Dietz brought these Anabaptist actors to life that unmistakably and confidently worked for the greater good, Church History still comes to mind often when facing risky choices!"

For Yohannes, "discomfort" has been a common theme in his career - he would take on new responsibilities just as he was getting comfortable in a role. Through these experiences, he found that "growth and comfort cannot coexist." He advises future world changers to "consider how your role fits into society as well as to examine skeptically if you really are working with integrity or 'for the greater good' in your own daily decisions."

Yohannes lives in Charlottesville, VA with his wife **ESTHER GOOD '04**, who works as an emergency medicine physician.

PHOTO PROVIDED BY YOHANNES WORKU '03

## MAKING CHANGE THROUGH REGENERATIVE AGRICULTURE

BY JAKE KING, CONTRIBUTING WRITER & LM PARENT

It's a subtle thing, but it's a daily highlight for **JOELLA (GARBER) NEFF '04**: when she and husband Tyler Neff move their livestock – cattle, chickens, pigs – into a new pasture each day, they watch the animals lower their heads into the fresh, new grass and begin munching away contentedly.

Joella and Tyler Neff own and operate Mirror Image Farms, a direct-to-market pasture-raised and grass-fed meat and egg provider. Their regenerative approach to farming is an extension of their holistic understanding of how food, environment, nature, and even economics and community are interconnected, says Joella.

"So much of our work as pasture-based livestock farmers is planning and designing for this moment," she says. "Designing for animal rotation, laying waterline, building and moving fences, developing the right herd genetics that thrive on grass – it all comes down to this simple moment when the herd moves to a new pasture, spreading their manure to fertilize the land behind them."



PHOTO BY MELISSA ENGLE PHOTOGRAPHY

As they work to farm in harmony with the environment, "the greater good" is inherently top of mind. "We find greater purpose, fulfillment, and the Holy Spirit breathes into the collaboration and motivation when working for the greater good," says Neff. "It's so rewarding to play a part in improving people's quality of life."





# CREATING SUSTAINABLE SPACES

BY CANDACIA GREEMAN, LM ADVANCEMENT ASSOCIATE

**ELIZABETH BYLER '13** has a passion for human flourishing! This is evident in her work at Eden Environments, a B2B (business-to-business) green interior design and consulting service where they work to create sustainable spaces for people to thrive. Elizabeth is especially proud of a renovation project where they started with a \$0 budget, and "through negotiation, donations, re-using items, and selling some items, by the end of the project, the company had a new space and about \$500 - people who walked in expressed amazement at the new space."

At LM, Elizabeth was able to nurture her curiosity and creativity - one of our core values - leading her to a career that involves designing spaces that are accessible and life-giving to all. She notes, "Some of my fondest memories of Lancaster Mennonite were being involved in the drama department and Chapel Planning Committee. Danielle Hofstetter allowed me to fly as her Stage Manager, working with lighting, sets, and actors to produce a whole different world, showed me the power of environments."

Elizabeth believes there is a "need for people to keep cheering you on" as a small business owner, and she values being able to do that for others. She also promotes collaboration over competition, and has worked with **ISAIAH (RIVERA) SANABRIA '11** and **JOSEPH BYLER '10** to develop Eden Environments' marketing strategy and materials. For Elizabeth, this focus on community and helping others is at the heart of what it means to work for the greater good.



PHOTO BY CHARLOTTE MARTIN

## ZOETROPOLIS & BEYOND

BY JON HEINLY '03, LM DIRECTOR OF ADVANCEMENT

Nurture creativity and curiosity is an LM value that is embodied in the professional journey of **MATT HOSTETTER '09**. While working in finance, Matt engaged with entrepreneurs and business owners with curiosity and openness, which eventually led to him becoming a business owner, which he hadn't imagined while at LM. Now a co-owner of Zoetropolis Cinema Stillhouse and The Sugartank Recording Studio, he seeks to "cultivate a space in the community that is inclusive, collaborative, and culturally enriching" where clients are able to "express themselves freely, while remaining open to different perspectives."

It is this same sense of curiosity that makes Matt thankful for his opportunity to build relationships with so many international students at LM, and he encourages current students to "Keep an open mind!"—because the "ability to relate to a diverse group of people is one of the most valuable traits to have as a professional."

As he did during his time at LM, Matt continues to express his creativity through music as a working musician and Music for Everyone board member. Musically he collaborates with LM alumni **TUCK RYAN '13**, **JACKSON TROUT '19**, and **JOSH MORALES '12**. Matt finds fulfillment in entertaining people, and along with his Zoetropolis partners, including LM alumnus, **TAYLOR KINNEY '00**, he is committed to

bringing the community together for entertainment, curiosity, and creativity.

Overall, Matt seeks to "connect with people from all walks of life" and put them in the position to succeed in their areas of strength.



PHOTO PROVIDED BY MATT HOSTETTER



## A COMPASSIONATE CHIEF OF STAFF

BY CANDACIA GREEMAN, LM ADVANCEMENT ASSOCIATE



A Lancaster Mennonite education instills students with a strong desire to live compassionately. For **JESS KING '92**, this core value is reflected in her work as Lancaster City's Chief of Staff, where she is currently using data and technology to make local government more effective and efficient. She has spent over 20 years working on economic development initiatives in Lancaster, such as ASSETS (see article below), and was a recent candidate for congress in Pennsylvania's 11th District. Jess notes that she became involved in public policy and governance

**"Be clear on your purpose and what drives you."**

- Jess King '92, Lancaster City Chief of Staff

when it became clear to her that the economic policies in the U.S. favored the consolidation of wealth and power, instead of equity and opportunity.

In all of her endeavours, Jess has been driven by the desire to live out a tenet central to the Christian faith - to love our neighbors as ourselves. She believes that "human nature can be pretty self-centered if we don't have communities, values and faith traditions that push us to consider and take action toward a greater good." Jess

explains, "I'm grateful that I had those teachings early on and at LM. I saw these values reflected in and reinforced by teachers like Sheri Wenger, Myron Dietz, Mary Lou Houser, Janet Banks, Dan Wenger and others."

For the next generation of world changers seeking to live compassionately and to do good in the world, Jess advises, "Be clear on your purpose and what drives you - especially if you're seeking to work in some kind of 'systems change' work."

PHOTO BY SAM INTERRANTE

## BUILDING THRIVING AND SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES IN LANCASTER

Founded in 1993 as part of a microenterprise development initiative through Mennonite Economic Development Associates (MEDA), ASSETS works to transform Lancaster County communities through business. At ASSETS, employees like CEO, Tina Campbell (former LM staff), and Chief Strategy Officer, Craig Dalen (current LM parent), are working to build thriving and sustainable communities. They are committed to supporting business for the greater good by creating and cultivating economic opportunities and entrepreneurship. ASSETS strives to build a local business environment that addresses communities' needs - and they achieve this by supporting entrepreneurs and businesses that value the social bottom line.



PHOTOS: L - CRAIG DALEN, R- TINA CAMPBELL (PHOTOS BY ASSETS)



# THE CRACKED POT COFFEE SHOP CHANGES LIVES ONE CUP OF COFFEE AT A TIME

BY AUBREY KREIDER, LM DIRECTOR OF MARKETING

**ROSALIE HESS ROLAND '64** and her husband, Lee, had always dreamed of opening a coffee shop, but with running their own business, Roland Builder, they hadn't had time to pursue it. Then, on Mother's Day 2016, Emily Schmidt called Rosalie asking to lease a building on Rosalie's childhood farm in Mechanicsburg, PA. Emily said, "God told me to put a coffee shop here; would you be interested?" Rosalie heard her vision, said yes, and things took off from there!

Emily's dream was to create a coffee shop to employ and develop youth that are approaching or have already aged out of foster care. By working in a coffee shop, their staff have the opportunity to learn diverse skills. These skills include great communication, customer service, learning how to care for a shop, and how to prepare delicious food and coffee.

Giving back to the church and community was ingrained in Rosalie since she was a child. Since she had retired in 2016, being an active part in forming this new endeavor, The Cracked Pot Coffee Shop, allowed her the opportunity to use her business skills to serve as the Board Chair and give seed money to get the organization started.

The name, "The Cracked Pot" came from the verses 2 Corinthians 4:7-10. We are just clay pots, but we are designed to hold something valuable inside. God delights in using us, imperfect vessels, Cracked Pots.

Rosalie's excitement about the coffee shop is contagious. While there are many challenges, including the pandemic, she knows the work they are doing is very important, "As we follow Jesus we will be people for the greater good." She hopes people will come visit the shop not only for the bigger mission they are serving but also for a cozy, welcoming place to connect with others over excellent drinks, food and service.

She reflects fondly on her time at LM with Brother Clyde Stoner as her bookkeeping teacher, "I remember that he allowed me to help teach when he was out of the classroom. I think that started my love for accounting!"

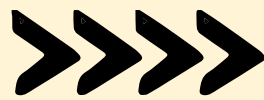
**"As we follow Jesus we will be people for the greater good."**

- Rosalie Roland '64, Chair of the Board of The Cracked Pot Coffee Shop



PHOTOS: Rosalie Hess Roland '64 (L) with Emily Schmidt (R). The Cracked Pot Coffee Shop in Mechanicsburg, PA (bottom photo).

Thecrackedpotcoffeeshop.com  
130 Gettysburg Pike, Mechanicsburg, PA 17055



# BUILDING THE FUTURE

## LEMON STREET MARKET

BY CANDACIA GREEMAN, LM ADVANCEMENT ASSOCIATE

A deep concern for the earth and our well being is at the heart of Lemon Street Market, a Lancaster grocery store owned by **TRISH HAVERSTICK '94**. The store's commitment to sustainable practices and fair trade reflects one of the core values of LM - to cultivate global citizens, and is very important to Trish. As a result, she developed a business model that works to address environmental and social challenges.



Trish attributes her commitment to social and environmental justice to her upbringing on a family farm, sharing, "We preserved a lot of our own food, ate animals that we raised,

and we farmed the bulk of our land conventionally." She also credits her LM education, "Kingdom Living and Environment Science are two classes at LM that focused on the social justice teachings of the Anabaptist faith, and definitely contributed to my commitment to social justice."

Overseeing the daily operations of Lemon Street Market brings Trish a lot of joy. It allows her to partner with farmers and vendors to give her customers access to local sustainable goods. It also enables her to work with other LM graduates like **LOLITA HAVERSTICK '69, DAVE DIETZ '89, and MARIA KANAGY '02**.

Trish is aware of the capacity of each individual to change the world through their actions, and believes that "if LM can instill a sense of working for the greater good in all of their students, the world would be a better place."

## LEADING IN RETIREMENT LIVING

BY JON HEINLY '03, LM DIRECTOR OF ADVANCEMENT

**LARRY ZOOK '80** and **JOHN D. SAUDER '79** are guided by their desire to seek Jesus wholeheartedly as they live out their vocational calling of servant leadership – Zook as President/CEO of Landis Communities/Landis Homes and Sauder as President of Mennonite Home Communities.

Zook cites the influence of numerous LM teachers who "played a significant role in both shaping a focus on serving others and instilling a love of learning" and specifically mentions the importance of John Weber in shaping his "interest in connecting faith and business leadership". He still enjoys opportunities to relate with his former LM teachers, including those who have connections to Landis Communities or live at Landis Homes. Like Zook, Sauder highlights his gratitude for the friendships that he formed while at LM.

Along with the education and formation that they received at LM, both Zook and Sauder recall experiences serving with Eastern Mennonite Missions as significant in their growth. For Sauder, this experience also helped him discover his administrative gifting that came together with his clinical training to shape his career path.

Their vocational journeys also emphasize lifelong learning, another LM value. Zook notes the importance of finding "a career or work that you love and find meaningful" that "makes a difference for the better in the lives of people served". Sauder speaks of developing self-awareness of vocational giftings and knowing that "being" is more important than "doing". He says, "The best leaders and people are those who keep intentionally working at becoming a better person."

As organizational leaders, Sauder and Zook seek this same growth for those they serve and lead. For example, Sauder intentionally takes time to get to know staff and works to strengthen their leadership culture and sense of community, and Zook seeks to "support others in their service and growth as leaders".



(L PHOTO) LARRY ZOOK (PROVIDED BY LANDIS COMMUNITIES), (R PHOTO) JOHN D. SAUDER



## THINKING LONG-TERM AT LONGVIEW STRUCTURES BY JAKE KING, CONTRIBUTING WRITER, LM PARENT

By **JESSE PELLMAN'S '03** telling, he and Longview Structures co-founder **MIKE STONER'S '00** early success was perhaps as much youthful naivety and happenstance as hard work. But that's a modest explanation considering the builders' reputation for quality and unique, ambitious projects in Lancaster County.

**"We started out saying that 'we'll hold ourselves to a higher level of accountability for sustainability, and then maybe we can get clients to buy in as we normalize it.'"**

- Jesse Pellman '03, co-founder

LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) Gold-Certified house shortly after launching the construction business; they became a Certified B Corp in 2017; and their 2021 projects include restoring a home built in 1748 and converting a

dilapidated hogbarn into a full-time residence. Today, they employ 10 craftspeople out of their Prince Street, Lancaster architectural millwork shop.

"Working for the greater good gives purpose to your work and benefits future generations... [that's] important to me as an employer and a parent," says Stoner.

"[The greater good] is deeply important to Longview," adds Pellman. "Working as a crew of carpenters and building space is only one aspect of the job – building relationships with all of our surroundings is equally as important."

As a construction company, Longview's guiding principle is just that: the "long view" and a focus on efficient, sustainable, and environmentally-friendly design and build elements. "We started out saying 'we'll hold ourselves to a higher level of accountability for sustainability, and then maybe we can get clients to buy in as we normalize it,'" says Pellman of Longview's beginnings. "We'll talk about this way of doing things and hope people care."

That approach caught on quickly. Longview's first full home-build was a passively-heated



Mike Stoner '00 talking to crew member, Dan Pyfer.

PHOTO BY JENNY FOSTER / ASSETS.

## PELLMAN '03 ENGAGING WITH OUR ELEMENTARY STUDENTS BY ANGELA DIETZEL, LM 3RD GRADE TEACHER



Jesse Pellman '03 of Longview Structures shares in chapel with a replication he made of Lancaster Central Market.

Jesse Pellman, alum ('03), New Danville father, and co-founder of Longview Structures, shared with ND students in chapel this fall, kicking off a series exploring Jeremiah 29's instructions for seeking wellbeing. As a carpenter, he shared his passion for "building the kingdom". He creates spaces out of many different parts with the help of many people working together. These become spaces for eating, learning, loving, and living into the Kingdom of God. He left each class with a structure to remind us how we can create new spaces and new relationships that will grow beyond us.

### Other chapels in this series:

Planting gardens - Habecker Mennonite Church  
Nurturing families - COBYS Family Services



Longview Structures designed and built LM's natural pre-school playground as well as the Makerspace at our New Danville campus.

# FINANCIAL REPORT

## TRANSFORMATIONS! *By Dr. Pam Tieszen, LM Superintendent*

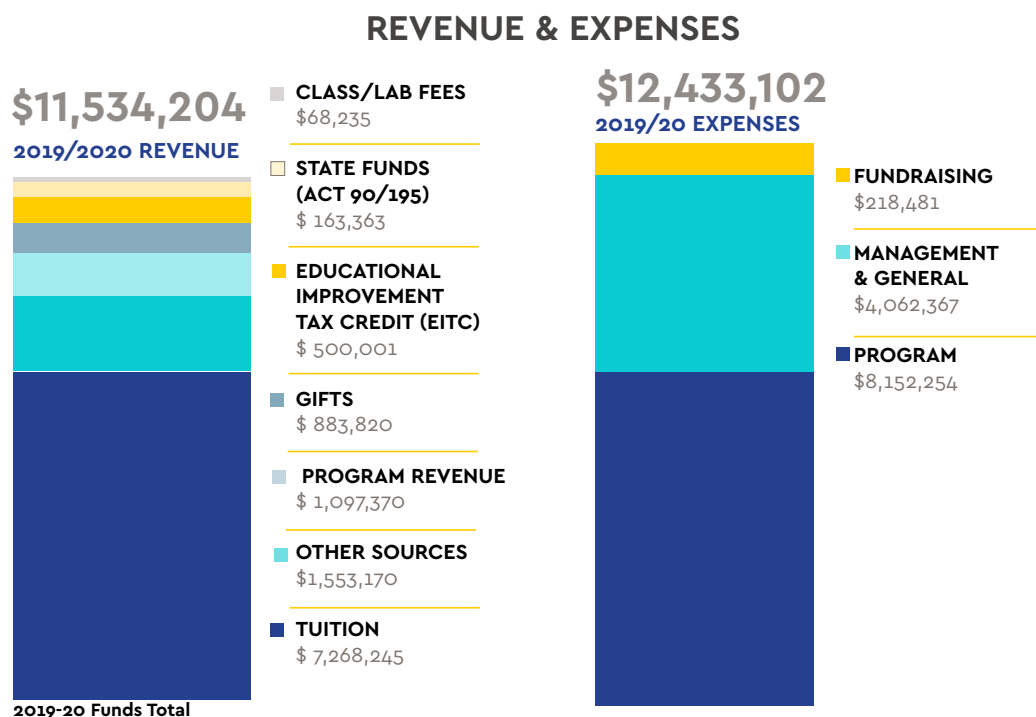
I am excited to share LM's financial data with you for the fiscal year ending on June 30, 2020. LM strives for transparency and accuracy so that the Finance Committee and Board of Directors are able to make the best financial decisions based on data.

The Business and Advancement Departments underwent dramatic transformations in the past year, and all personnel in both departments are in new positions, but not all are new to LM. We implemented new software for the Business Office that is more user-friendly for our staff and for our families paying tuition. Our accounting processes underwent a transformation with a new chart of accounts and fund shifts.

We are grateful for your generous support of students and staff because LM values transforming students into World Changers, and there could not be more valuable work at this time. Join LM in transforming student work in our world!

We welcome dialogue and questions about the financial report and the steps LM has been taking. Please reach out to me for more information: [tieszenpk@lancastermennonite.org](mailto:tieszenpk@lancastermennonite.org) or (717) 740-2422.

*This is a high-level view of our financials. If you are interested in more detail, please contact us for the full report.*

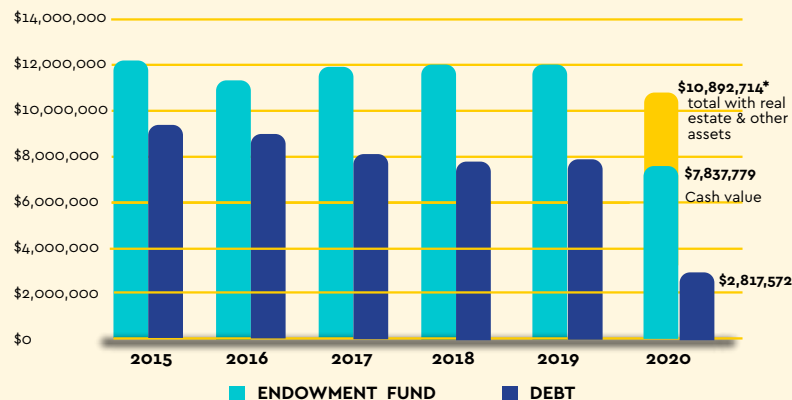


## BOARD GOALS

1. Strategic Financial Planning to strengthen LM's position and vision into the future.
2. Clearly identify LM's target market and growth opportunities.
3. Revise curriculum to include more STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Math) and Faith development opportunities.
4. Diversity Goals (NEW this year)
  - Each Board member to take the Harvard Implicit Bias test on Race.
  - New processes to increase hiring diversity.
  - Seek to add or maintain diversity for the LM Board - that is racial/ethnic, gender, age and reflective of a variety of gifts and expertise. It is the goal of the board to have at least 40% of its members from each gender, and at least 20% ethnic/racial diversity.

## ENDOWMENT AND DEBT

An additional LM board goal focuses on eliminating debt and growing the endowment.



\* The endowment value is reported differently for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2020 due to recommended changes by our accountants after working through our financial review process.

### Notes:

- Real estate portion of endowment reduced due to the sale of the Hershey campus and the Millstream home.
- Cash value portion increased due to positive investment gains.
- Overall debt was reduced by:
  - Selling real estate
  - Reduced FTE at all campuses including the system office
  - Intentional reduction of expenses

Payroll Protection Program (PPP) loan was acquired in April 2020 to enable LM to avoid having to furlough employees at the end of the 2019-2020 school year. The PPP loan also helped to cover some of our most significant losses from tuition, rental income and the residence hall.





## FINANCIAL AID

35% of our students were awarded need-based financial aid in the '19-'20 school year.

### AVERAGE COST OF TUITION TO EDUCATE A STUDENT LOCALLY

#### PUBLIC SCHOOL COSTS

Based on data from 10 local public school districts - Conestoga Valley, Ephrata, Hempfield, Lampeter-Strasburg, School District of Lancaster, Manheim Township, Penn Manor, Pequea Valley, Solanco, and Warwick School Districts.

AVERAGE TOTAL EXPENDITURES	AVERAGE # OF STUDENTS	AVERAGE COST PER STUDENT
\$80,834,800	4,955	<b>\$16,369</b>

*\*Data from National Center for Education Statistics; Common Core of Data - 2018-19 school year; fiscal data from 2016-17.*

#### LANCASTER MENNONITE SCHOOL COSTS

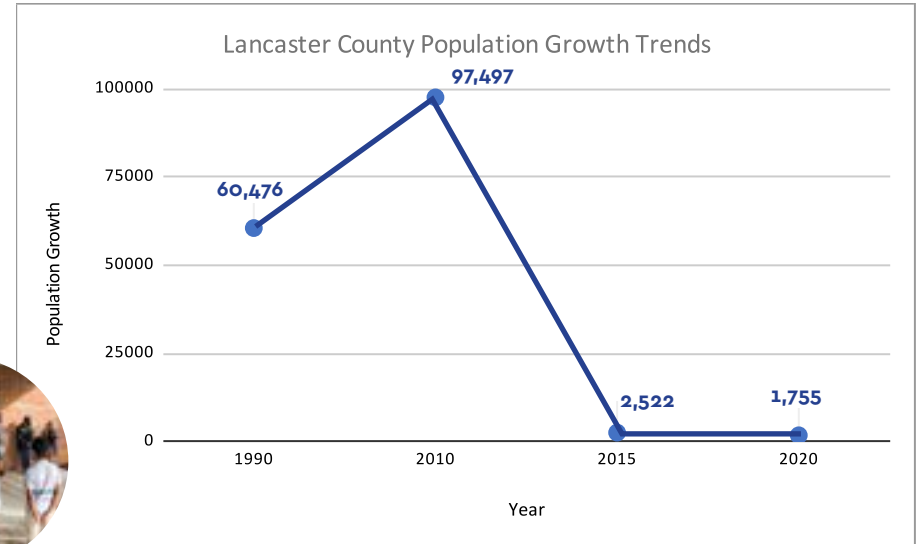
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	# OF TOTAL STUDENTS	COST PER STUDENT
\$12,433,102	850	<b>\$14,627</b> <i>(actual high school tuition charged \$10,164)</i>

*\*Data from 2019-20 school year and fiscal year*

**Lancaster Mennonite School is providing education at a much lower cost per student than public schools.**

## COUNTY AND STATE POPULATION DEMOGRAPHICS

Lancaster County population growth rates are declining. The average family size is now 3.13.



*\*Data from World Population Review website*

Over the past 20 years LM has fluctuated in how much square footage we've maintained based on the properties we have owned. Currently LM maintains 358,915 square feet at \$12.4M in expenses to operate.

**With declining population trends and enrollment numbers, the LM Board has chosen to streamline expenses and unify campuses.**

### LM ENROLLMENT, SQUARE FOOTAGE AND EXPENSES

YEAR	ENROLLMENT (SYSTEM WIDE)	BUILDINGS SQU. FOOTAGE	TOTAL EXPENSES	NOTES
2000	858	244,661	\$4,420,897	Lancaster Campus - no Rutt Academic Center or Fieldhouse
2005	1,311	319,474	\$9,292,673	Lancaster, New Danville & Locust Grove Campuses
2010	1,481	420,833	\$13,190,822	Lancaster, New Danville, Locust Grove & Kraybill Campuses
2015	1,597	529,833	\$15,622,092	Lancaster, New Danville, Locust Grove, Kraybill & Hershey Campuses
2020	850	358,915	\$12,433,102	Lancaster, New Danville & Locust Grove Campuses

# OUR FUTURE IS TOGETHER



A COMMUNITY UNITED,  
EMPOWERED, INSPIRED,  
TOGETHER.



FINE ARTS CENTER  
TWO GYMS  
90-ACRES OF WOODS,  
TRAILS AND STREAM

MIDDLE AND HIGH SCHOOL  
NEW SCIENCE LABS, MEDIA  
CENTER & SCHOOL OFFICES

NEW PLAYGROUNDS  
FOR ELEMENTARY

RUTT BUILDING  
(NEW ELEMENTARY LOCATION)  
ENGLISH & SPANISH IMMERSION  
ELEMENTARY TRACKS +  
NEW MAKERSPACE & LIBRARY



## PLANS TO UNIFY GRADES PREK-12TH IN ONE LOCATION AT THE 90+ ACRE LANCASTER CAMPUS ON LINCOLN HIGHWAY

We want to share some exciting news with you! On February 12, 2021, the LM School Board and Administration announced in Town Hall meetings to faculty, staff, and families that we will be uniting our three campuses: Locust Grove and New Danville on the Lancaster Campus (Lincoln Highway) beginning in the 2022-23 school year.

The impact of changing demographics, combined with aging school facilities, increased school choice, historical debt, changes in churches and conferences, and declining international attendance caused the Board to wrestle with the question of the best future for LM for the past several years.

Board Chair, Kathy Beiler, said, ***"We are excited to announce that we have envisioned a campus where we can bring the best of our school together for every student. It will make the most effective use of our space with expanded programming, outdoor education, and a shared curriculum. Uniting teachers and programs will allow us to collaborate and educate our students together."***

### Facility Plans & Renovations

The finer details have not yet been determined, but here are the plans

that we can share with you now:

**Grades PreK-5th:** Elementary students will be located in the Rutt Building with two elementary streams - one English track and one Spanish Immersion track. Rutt is the newest building on campus (2008) and is filled with natural light, tall ceilings, beautiful common areas and will include a new makerspace, library and playgrounds.

**Grades 6-8th:** Middle school students will be located in the newly renovated lower level of the '64 education building.

**Grades 9-12th:** High school students will move to a newly renovated 2nd floor of the '64 education building and the south end of the lower level with larger classrooms. New science labs will be built in the current media center space, and there will be a new space for the media center, yet to be determined. The Family and Consumer Science department will move to newly renovated classrooms on the second floor of the Book Building.

A beautiful new playground space will also be built off the west side of the Rutt Building. There will be a new pick-up and drop-off lane created off of Greenland Drive at the west side of the Rutt Building for the elementary students.





There is plenty of room to accommodate all grades at the 90+ acre Lancaster campus, along with room for expansion, and it will provide the opportunity to reimagine and remodel existing buildings to accommodate the unique needs of each grade level.

More information: [lancastermennonite.org/future-together](http://lancastermennonite.org/future-together)

***"Lancaster Mennonite is fiscally healthy and strong, and we are putting this plan in place to remain healthy. Allocating our resources in a united and updated campus will benefit our entire student body and staff," said Beiler.***

#### **What are the Next Steps?**

The sale of the two campuses will provide for a stronger and more sustainable future by paying down debt and building the endowment. Some of the proceeds will also go toward renovations and development of the Lancaster Campus so that we can serve all students more effectively. We also anticipate launching a

capital campaign to help fund exciting program expansions and facility upgrades. Your support of this campaign will provide all LM students with high quality Christ-centered education in enhanced facilities for many years into the future. We look forward to sharing more about this with you soon!

#### **Questions**

This is an exciting transition for Lancaster Mennonite! If you have questions or concerns, you can direct them to the following individuals:

- *Dr. Pam Tieszen, Superintendent:*  
[tieszenpk@lancastermennonite.org](mailto:tieszenpk@lancastermennonite.org); 717-740-2422
- *Jon Heinly, Director of Advancement:*  
[heinlyjd@lancastermennonite.org](mailto:heinlyjd@lancastermennonite.org); 717-740-2425
- *Kathy Beiler, LM Board Chair:* [beilerkr@lancastermennonite.org](mailto:beilerkr@lancastermennonite.org)

#### **Invitation to Prayer**

There is a year before this transition takes place, and there are still many details to be figured out. In the meantime we ask that you join us in prayer together over the next year for LM faculty and staff and families during the planning and transition phase.

**RENOVATIONS: IN PROGRESS AND TO COME**

## '64 Wing Updates

Updates completed during Phase 1:

- Air conditioning, new ceilings, lighting, and updated technology
- New smart projectors (2nd floor)
- Created two new large classrooms
- New blinds...and more!

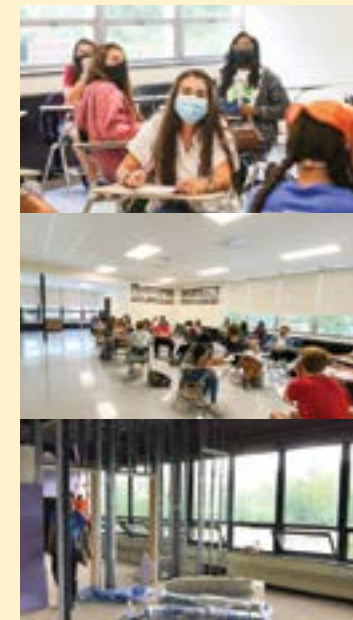
Planned Phase 2 updates include:

- Renovated bathrooms (including additional ADA compliant stalls)
- Updated classroom furniture
- New smart projectors (1st floor)
- New flooring...and more!

These renovations will transform the '64 Wing into an enhanced facility that is healthy and productive for student learning, cost effective, and versatile.

Total gifts and pledges towards project: \$1,528,658

An anonymous donor has generously provided a Match Challenge Fund of \$950,000 towards this project. We still have \$419,177 remaining to meet this match challenge - can we count on you to close the gap?



## Campus Unification NEW Features by Fall 2022

### **Elementary Classroom Building (Rutt Building)**

- Classroom upgrades to make spaces appropriate for PreK-5th
- Add bathrooms between classrooms for PreK & Kindergarten
- New MakerSpace
- New Playgrounds
- New Elementary Offices for Principal and Admin Assistant
- New driveway and gates to improve security and traffic flow



*(Above image) Example idea for new elementary classrooms in the Rutt Building.*

### **Middle School and High School ('64 Education Classroom Building)**

See above '64 wing updates, plus:

- New Offices at the front of campus
- New Science Labs in the former Media Center
- New Family & Consumer Science rooms in the G. Parke Book Building
- New Media Center

**Want all the updates as we go?** Email Jon Heinly to be added to the update list: [heinlyjd@lancastermennonite.org](mailto:heinlyjd@lancastermennonite.org)

For more details visit our site or scan this code!  
[lancastermennonite.org/future-together](http://lancastermennonite.org/future-together)

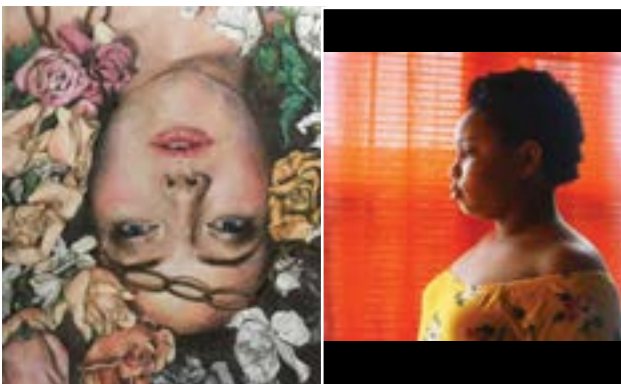


# STUDENT AWARDS

## ART

### Regional Scholastic Awards

**GOLD KEY:** Noelle Stringer '21 - Drawing (photo below, left) Bella Watson '24 - Photography (photo below, right)



**SILVER KEY:** Seunga Park '22- Drawing Noelle Stringer '21 - Painting

**HONORABLE MENTION:** Janessa Alverado '22 - Photography (two images/awards)

Caleb Bowman '26 - Wire Sculpture

### AMERICAN VISIONS NOMINEE:

Bella Watson '24 - Photography

## WRITING

### Regional Scholastic Awards

**SILVER KEY:** Ava Glick '24 - short story (photo right with LM English teacher Alice Lauver)

**HONORABLE MENTION:** Lily Good '24 - short story, Gilany Marrero '24 - short story



## MUSIC

### 2021 PMEA District 7 Band Festival

Owen Horvath '23 (Bass clarinet), Rebecca Stoltzfus '21 (Flute), Claire Thomas '24 (French horn), Emma Wilson '23 (French horn) placed 2nd overall.



### 2021 PMEA District 7 Orchestra Festival

Emma Wilson '23 (French horn)  
For the past two years, LM has had record involvement in PMEA instrumental festivals.

### LM Students Excel in Tell School of Music International Keyboard Division Piano Competition



LM Advanced Music Program students Nanga Lin '21, Jialin Song '22, and QianXiang Ma '23 received Honorable Mention in the senior group at the 1st Tell School of Music International Keyboard Division Piano Competition in February.

## ATHLETICS (Fall Sports)

Winter sports that are still in play, will be covered in the next edition, Fall Bridges 2021.

"Through prayer and faith, our teams were able to safely and successfully thrive. I am proud of our coaches and student-athletes for competing in a safe manner." - Marvin Sanders, LM Athletic Director

### FIELD HOCKEY

Undefeated in the section to win the Section IV Title for the first time since 2012 and qualified for the LL League & District III Tournament.

### Team All-Academic Award (team GPA of 3.74)

**LL League All-Stars - 1st Team:** Ellie Lefever '23 and Rebecca Lane '22 **2nd Team:** Lily Lehman '24, Rachel Lane '23, and Maya Habacivch '22

**Honorable Mention:** Lily Good '24, Charlize Ganse '23 **Academic Senior All Star:** Marissa High '21

### BOYS SOCCER

Congrats to Coach Fred Winey with 251 career wins! The team advanced to District III playoffs.

### LL League Section 3 All-Stars:

**1st Team:** Cameron Hooper '21, Ethan Groff '22, Benjamin Nolt '22, **2nd Team:** Victor Mattilio '22, Zachary Nell '22, Matthew Sampsell '22  
**Academic All-Star:** Cameron Hooper '21

### GIRLS SOCCER

**LL League Section 3 All-Stars - 2nd team:** Ava Brubaker '23, Ava Buckwalter '23 **All-Academic Team:** Kaeleigh King '21

### GIRLS TENNIS

Maddie Gertz '22 and Sarah Steckbeck '22 qualified for the Girl's LL League Tennis Doubles Tournament. Maddie Gertz advanced to the semifinals of the for the Girl's LL League Tennis Singles Tournament.

### GOLF

Jonathan Glick '21 placed 3rd in the PIAA State Championship.

**All-Star:** Jonathan Glick (LL Co-Golfer of the year, 2nd leagues, 3rd in Districts, 3rd in states).

### CROSS-COUNTRY

Jillian Hargraves '21 - 3rd individual qualifier for AA girls into Districts, Academic All-Star

### CHESS - 2021 Lancaster-Lebanon League Chess Champions! Districts, States cancelled due to Covid.



### FFA

#### Keystone Degree recipients

Sheyenne King '21

(Left photo)

Hannah Kirk '21 (Right photo)



**SPANISH IMMERSION** LM joined the Sociedad Honoraria Hispánica, an honor society for high achieving students in both Spanish and the rest of their studies. Find all honor rolls in our news section at lancastermennonite.org.



## FALL PLAY // Pandemic style



LM High School performed their fall play outdoors, as they adapted to COVID constraints to be able to still put on a fall drama production. Attendees were able to bring their own picnic to enjoy on the lawn during the performance. Social distancing and mask wearing were required throughout the event.

The play "All I Really Need to Know I Learned In Kindergarten" is based on some of Robert Fulghum's best selling books.

*The cast: Isabella Astuto, Sarah Baak, Miranda Beidler, Josiah Esch, Megan Esch, Cece Heininger, Ryan Kimbark, Carter Palmer, Kayla Risser, Laura Rosario, Rebecca Stoltzfus, and Noelle Stringer.*

**2021 SPRING DRAMA:** This spring, April 22-25, the drama department is producing "All The World's a Stage," a series of 6 folk tales from Italy, India, Spain, West Africa, Ireland and Arabia.

## ATHLETIC CAREER MILESTONES



**ALL-TIME MOST CAREER POINTS IN LM BASKETBALL HISTORY, SENIOR MARIAH WILSON** (left photo) - In LM's 50th year of interscholastic basketball we have a new record setter for most career points, currently at 1,830! Wilson broke the 30 year standing record (from 1991 by Missy High) when she surpassed the 1,652 career point mark. She then went on to officially join the Lancaster Lebanon League's 1,700-point club, making her No.11 on the L-L League's all-time chart (according to Lancaster Newspapers). She was also the only player in Lancaster, PA this year to be nominated for the McDonald's All-American List!

**OVER 250 CAREER WINS FOR LM SOCCER, COACH FRED WINEY '90** (center photo) - Boys Head Varsity Soccer Coach, Fred Winey, surpassed 250 career wins (current record: 257-62-10) during his 14 years coaching Boys Soccer at Lancaster Mennonite!

**1,000 CAREER POINTS** (right photo) - On February 20th, LM Senior Cole Fisher surpassed 1,000 career basketball points!

## PARADISE ROTARY CLUB STUDENTS OF THE MONTH



RYAN KIMBARK '22  
DECEMBER

GIFTII AGA '22  
JANUARY

ETHAN GROFF '22  
FEBRUARY

Students were recommended by the school's guidance department, principal or faculty on the basis of significant achievement, as well as good character and citizenship.

## LANCASTER INTERNATIONAL PIANO FESTIVAL WINNER



Qianxiang Ma '23, won 1st prize in the Junior group in the Lancaster International Piano Festival! Qianxiang is a part of our Advanced Music Program at LM which partners with Millersville University Music Professors!

## AWARD-WINNING STUDENT MAGAZINE, SILHOUETTE

Lancaster Mennonite's *Silhouette Magazine* has taken one of the Second Place awards in the 2020 American Scholastic Press Association contest for high school magazine publications.



In the Spring of 2020, when the state went into lockdown, the staff of *Silhouette*, LM's literary and arts magazine decided to publish the magazine anyway. Without face-to-face club meeting times, or sufficient funds to publish, the staff designed the magazine on a shared Google Slideshow, and published the PDF online. In the fall, when school re-opened, they printed a paper copy and sent it to the American Scholastic Press Association Magazine and Yearbook Contest, which awarded them one of their second prizes for the magazine.

PHOTO left to right: Miranda Beidler '22 (20-21 Assistant Editor), Isabella Astuto '21 (20-21 Editor in Chief), Ann Fink '21 (Staff)



## LM SENIORS CAPSTONE PROJECTS BY JIM AMSTUTZ, LM BIBLE TEACHER

LM Seniors enrolled in Kingdom Living engage in a 20-hour internship/volunteer experience for their Capstone Project. The first step involves a series of self-discovery and discernment tools to identify not only what they are good at but also what they would like to explore. They do asset mapping and write an essay on their view of life and work. Placements vary (see list below) and can range from working with a business, nonprofit, church or school, to a more self-directed experience. Students come away with an inside glimpse of the world around them and a new appreciation for service, experiential learning, self-awareness and faith.

Robsan Dinka assisted LM Athletic Trainer, Ann Seaton, during the fall sports season (*photo left*). He worked behind the scenes in all the prep work in the training room as well as on the field events during the fall season. He writes: "This experience taught me that helping others is an important way to get closer to God as well as making a positive difference in your community. Although I have played a small role in helping student athletes recover from their injuries, I like to think that helping Ms. Ann made her job a little bit easier so that she was able to direct more attention to the athletes. Even the small roles we play can be important."

### CAPSTONE PROJECTS FALL 20-21

Mennonite Sports Organization, House Church in China, Youth Ministry retreat (St. John's Episcopal Church), Church outreach ministries (St. Mark's Church), The Bridge Food Pantry and Clothing Closet (Avon Grove Church of the Nazarene), Teaching Chinese (remotely) at Calvary Church,

Spooky Nook Farm/Alpacas and Llamas, Triangle Therapeutic Riding, Humane League of Lancaster, Whistling Glen Farms, park and trail clean-up at Lancaster County Central Park, Water Street Ministries food service, Milanof-Shock Library, Fasting from social media and cross-cultural experience in the D.R., Art with Ms. Keeney



## LM STUDENT RELIEF DRIVES FOR WATER STREET MISSION

Students at our Locust Grove campus (*top left photo*) collected 1,805 lbs of food for Water Street Mission this year! We are proud of all our students for their dedication to service, compassion and action!

Guidance Counselor and Chapel Coordinator, **JEREMIAH DENLINGER '99**, and LM Student Council (*bottom left photo*) organized a drive to collect relief kits for Mennonite Central Committee in this difficult time of pandemic and lots of material needs. Items were collected for Hygiene, Infant Care, Relief and School Kits and will be sent to regions of need throughout the world.



## YOUNG LEADERS

In grades PreK through 12th we encourage students to step into leadership roles, both in their own classes and grades and also, in the older grades, through mentorship and class assistance to younger students. From Family Groups at the elementary level to Advisory Groups at the high school level we value community, peer advisory and peer support for our students to step into their gifts and talents!

(*Photo above of Blazer Buddy student leaders at our New Danville campus*).



# 2020-2021 STEAM (SCIENCE, TECH, ENGINEERING, ART, MATH) PROJECTS:

A sneak peak at some of the projects our students have been working on this year!

## Elementary classes:

- Engineering challenges, such as: apple rafts, tin foil boats, popsicle stick catapults.
- Created paper circuits, using copper tape and small LEDs.
- Built simple electrical circuits that powered lights, fans, and buzzers, using LittleBits.
- Learned the building blocks of coding, including concepts such as algorithm, loop, and conditional, using code.org.
- Programmed small Edison robots to complete simple tasks, like navigating mazes.

## Middle School (PBL): *photos bottom right*

- Digital 3D models of salt molecules, planetary distances and sizes, and Martian habitats.
- One sheet paper bridges to hold the maximum amount of pennies (around 200!)
- One sheet paper towers to hold books (19 dictionaries!)
- Painted representation of Jesus' "You have heard...but I tell you" from Matthew 5.
- *Upcoming:* Design the new media center space for LM using digital 3D design.

## High school classes:

- Robotics: Students used C++ to write programs for robots.
- Horticulture students are growing vegetables, herbs and flowers in the greenhouse for their class as well as for Family and Consumer Science and elementary students.
- Environmental Science: Design, build and test windmill blades, work with the Lancaster Water Conservancy monitoring the Mill Stream's health with new tech.

- AP chemistry is collecting data on reaction rates to determine order, kinetics, and activation energy of certain reactions. Honors Chemistry is developing lab procedures which will correctly enable them to react and measure the amount of materials involved in chemical reactions as they react and collect products.
- Tech and Design - Forging iron hooks in the metal forge, air powered cars.
- Construction - home electrical circuits, plumbing square, storage shed build.
- Power Tech - Rebuilt engines and our Farmall C tractor.
- International Cuisine: Learning the culture, history & the food from around the world.
- Foods II: mentoring LM Middle School students on food and cooking safety and sanitation while they work on their Food Truck Expedition.
- Housing & Interior Design: creating their own floor plan while solving the design challenges for the new Family and Consumer Sciences location.
- Computer Science: Creating pictures using graphics in JavaScript.



# LANCASTER MENNONITE MINI COURSES - STUDENT GROWTH THROUGH EXPERIENCE



Lancaster Mennonite has long offered faculty-led mini-courses, a variety of co-curricular experiences during the last week of the academic year. Mini-courses are offered on a biennial basis and have become a distinctive feature of the LM experience. Courses vary significantly by location and theme. Most occur off-campus, including both day and overnight trips, and provide a blend of service, learning, outdoor adventure, and cultural events. Mini-courses are frequently cited by students and alumni as a formative part of their high school experience due to both the close social connections developed with peers and teachers and the new perspectives formed while journeying outside of their known world.

Mini-courses support LM's holistic approach to student development, which seeks to foster social, emotional, and spiritual growth both within the classroom and beyond. Students are provided a wide range of opportunities that promote collaboration and social exchange, expand cultural awareness, and deepen relationships and personal reflection. The next mini-courses will be held in Spring 2022. Unfortunately the Spring 2020 mini-courses were cancelled due to Covid-19.

## Small sampling of the many different mini-courses offered in recent years:

- Civil Rights Movement learning tour
- Live theater tours
- Grand Canyon Backpacking (photo above by Lee Thurber)
- Jewelry Design
- Camping and fishing at nearby state parks
- Exchange trips to Germany, France (photo right by 2018 group), Peru and Argentina
- Relief work with Mennonite Disaster Service

- Local frisbee golf tour
- Lancaster County Culinary experience
- Susquehanna/Chesapeake Adventure
- Shenandoah Art
- Service with Mennonite Central Committee
- Sports Adventures and Spiritual Training

and more!



# UPCOMING EVENTS

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

- NEW EVENT** World Changer Day - March 19, 2021
- Drive-thru Chicken BBQ @ New Danville - April 9, 2021
- ND/LG Combined Virtual Benefit Auction - April 26 - 30, 2021
- Drive-thru Chicken BBQ @ Locust Grove - April 30, 2021
- Spring Open House - April 18, 2021
- Spring Musical "All the World's A Stage" - April 22-25, 2021
- Benefit Golf Tournament - May 12, 2021
- Mennonite Children's Choir Spring Concerts - May 15-16, June 6
- Visit [mennonitechildrenschoir.org/performances/](http://mennonitechildrenschoir.org/performances/) for details!
- Glen Lapp Memorial Volleyball Tournament - June 12-13, 2021
- Fall Festival and Homecoming - October 1-2, 2021

## NEW EVENT!



We are so excited to share with you about our NEW World Changer Day fundraising event which happened on Friday, March 19. Students engaged in acts of service in their classrooms throughout our school day.

Our campuses partnered with organizations like Mennonite Central Committee (MCC) and Fairmount Homes to do COVID-safe service projects like making relief kits, cards, and much more.

## GOLF WITH US!

REGISTER ONLINE WITH OUR QR CODE OR LINK BELOW!



[lancastermennonite.org/events/golf-tournament-2021/](http://lancastermennonite.org/events/golf-tournament-2021/)

# EVENT GALLERY: FALL 2020



Our hybrid **FALL FESTIVAL AND HOMECOMING** this year was a great success, with bbq take-out, outdoor music performances, virtual Iron Bridge 5k, virtual benefit auction, our first Gala-in-a-Box and recognizing our 2020 Alumni of the Year, **KAREN SENSENIG '72**. More photos on our website and social media. Thank you for adjusting with us and giving generously during the pandemic!



**THE EXTRAORDINARY GIVE 2020** was another creative, hybrid event. From drive-thru coffee and donation stations to live-streaming celebrations (like all three of our principals getting pied in the face) you adjusted with us and gave generously! Together we were able to raise \$81,303 to support and sustain the future of LM!





# ALUMNI NEWS

## REUNIONS

**CLASS OF 2001** - August 22, 2021 from 3pm to dusk at the Bortz Pavilion at the Lititz Springs Park. Visit [LancasterMennonite.org](http://LancasterMennonite.org) for more info!

**Contact:** Janae Yoder - [Janae.yoder@gmail.com](mailto:Janae.yoder@gmail.com), 717-799-4790

**CLASS OF 1971** - September 18, 2021 at Keefer's Barn, Marietta  
Facebook: Lancaster Mennonite High School Class of '71

**Contact:** Marian Gingrich - [mrosegingrich@yahoo.com](mailto:mrosegingrich@yahoo.com), 717-989-1657

## 70TH REUNION ON ZOOM!

LM Class of 1950 held a reunion zoom on October 3, 2020 hosted by Jon Heinly. 22 classmates and three spouses of deceased classmates attended the reunion, which included a slideshow of past reunion photos, singing of the class song and a hymn led by Lois Ruth Kennel, updates from each attendee, and remembrance of the 15 classmates who had passed away since the 60th class reunion.



## A UNIQUE AND MEANINGFUL DONATION

We are grateful for a unique donation that was made this year to our school from a former LM parent in honor of his son. A cosmetic and mechanical recommissioning was begun by former LM student,

Thaddeus (Tad) Leigh Eshleman and some of his friends on the 1970's era Sand Rail Buggy, and the project was taken over by his father and friends following Tad's passing in 2019. The Buggy was auctioned off and raised close to \$3,000 for Lancaster Mennonite.



Send your LM news, alumni updates and questions to Katelyn Workman at [workmankn@lancastermennonite.org](mailto:workmankn@lancastermennonite.org)

## BIRTHS

Douglas '03 & Laura Kauffman - Elizabeth, January 24, 2021  
Eric '98 & Regina (Landis) '98 Martin - Ava, January 22, 2021  
Kristen (Garber) '11 & Eric Funk - Silas, January 14, 2021  
Daniel '11 & Kristen Baker - Caleb James, January 5, 2021  
Anny (Smucker) '04 & Buddy Rill - Adelyn, November 16, 2020  
Ryan '97 & Brittany Siegrist - Olivia, October 8, 2020  
Seth '08 & Amanda Charles - Jasper Ruiz, September 8, 2020  
Ryan '93 & Brittany Shen-Hoover - Lowen Ridge, August 20, 2020  
Tyler '06 & Aubrey Kreider - Wade David, August 14, 2020  
Valerie (Heisey) '11 & Brad Steinweg - Landon James, August 10, 2020  
Brandon '04 & Kelly Leaman - Autumn Everleigh, July 28, 2020  
Jonathan '02 & Shawna Steffy - Juliette Rose, July 31, 2020  
Kristen (Groff) '05 & Alex Martin - Eleanore Scout, June 18, 2020  
Abigail (Rineer) '13 & Justin Welk - Jedidiah Roy, April 29, 2020

## MARRIAGES

Kenneth '97 & Elisabeth (Penner) '95 Noll, July 3, 2020

## DEATHS

Beryl Forrester '58, Nzérékoré, Guinea, March 2, 2021  
Pearl (Stoltzfus) Lapp '50, Lititz, Pa, February 22, 2021  
Orpha (Graybill) Harnish '47, Anchorage, Ak, February 7, 2021  
Marie (Kenner) Riehl '52, Lititz, Pa, February 3, 2021  
Dr. John E. Reed '57, Harrisonburg, Va, January 25, 2021  
Eldon R. Stoltzfus '66, Goshen, In, January 24, 2021  
Harvey W. Horning '59, Denver, Pa, January 14, 2021  
Abram M. Hostetter '47, Charlottesville, Va, January 10, 2021  
Omar Elias Eby '53, Harrisonburg, Va, January 4, 2021  
Irene S. Weber '49, Ephrata, Pa, December 24, 2020  
Leavitt M. Keener '59, Lancaster, Pa, December 14, 2020  
Raymond J. Fisher '80, Brooklyn, Ny, December 12, 2020  
Timothy L. Weaver '89, Reinholds, Pa, December 3, 2020  
Karl D. Stoltzfus '58, Mt. Crawford, Va, November 27, 2020  
Naaman E. King '47, Atglen, Pa, November 21, 2020  
Arthur D. Wenger '46, Lititz, Pa, October 27, 2020  
June (Denlinger) Leaman '50, Lancaster, Pa, October 26, 2020  
Eunice K. Keller '49, Manheim, Pa, October 9, 2020  
Sonja D. Martin '90, Elizabethtown, Pa, September 18, 2020  
Andrew Stoltzfus '59, Morgantown, Pa, September 13, 2020  
Emma E. Graybill '65, Evendale, Pa, September 10, 2020  
Melvin R. Weaver '50, Lititz, Pa, August 24, 2020  
Benjamin L. Martin '59, Mercersburg, Pa, August 2, 2020  
David E. Miller '66, Penn Laird, Va, June 7, 2020  
Melvin J. Wert '59, Leigh Acres, Fl, May 3, 2020  
David L. Kniss '53, Sarasota, Fl, April 12, 2020



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**COMING FALL 2022!  
PLANS TO UNIFY GRADES  
PREK-12TH AT ONE CAMPUS**

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**FINANCIAL UPDATE  
ON PAGES 14-15**



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New Danville (PreK-5th) & Locust Grove (PreK-8th + Spanish Immersion option)  
MIDDLE SCHOOL (TWO CAMPUS OPTIONS UNTIL FALL 2022 TRANSITION TO LANCASTER CAMPUS)  
Locust Grove (6th-8th Grade) & Lancaster (6th-8th) Project-Based Learning  
HIGH SCHOOL (9th-12th Grade at Lancaster Campus)

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