

FALL 2015



chimes

WESTMINSTER CHRISTIAN ACADEMY



Flourishing the City

While destined for another home, students are challenged to engage the culture in which they live.

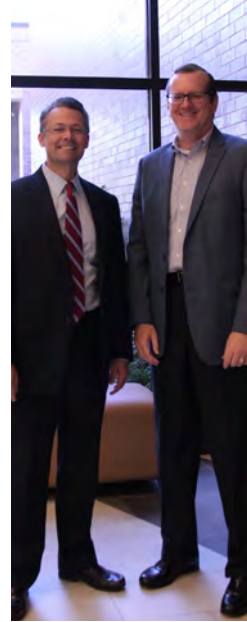


On the Cover In his Chapel message, Director of the Integration of Faith and Learning Chris Knerr challenged students not to separate themselves from culture as Christians but rather to engage it. St. Louis is our temporary home where we have been called to live lives that point to Christ until we are forever at home with Him.

20



34



12



4

29



36



56



11



27

chimes

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Chimes is published by Westminster Christian Academy and mailed to alumni, families of current students, and friends of the school. Westminster honors Jesus Christ by providing an excellent education, rooted in biblical truth as interpreted by the Westminster Confession of Faith, for the children of Christian parents. Faculty and staff enable students to discover and embrace a biblical view of the world and integrate that view into every area of life. To request a free subscription, email info@wcastl.org.

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FROM THE HEAD OF SCHOOL

- 2** To Engage the World

NEWS

- 3** Academics
12 Arts
15 Athletics
23 Faculty
27 Advancement

EVENTS

- 34** Wheaton College President
Dr. Philip Ryken at Westminster
36 Wildcat Weekend &
Alumni Homecoming

ALUMNI NEWS

- 39** Mary Catherine Drexler Schimpf '01
42 Brad Tubbesing '99 and
Caroline Taylor Tubbesing '00
45 Greg Schoenberg '08
47 Class Notes

FEATURE

30 Engaging Babylon

Director of the Integration of Faith and Learning and upper school history teacher Chris Knerr reflects on his Chapel message exploring how we are to engage a modern-day Babylon.

Learn how the game of football led Cory Snyder, head coach of the Westminster varsity football team, to where he is today.



24

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To Engage the World



“At Westminster, we also hold securely to our unchanging identity, our mission, and our vision to prepare students to engage the world and change it for Jesus Christ.”

It has been a beautiful fall in St. Louis, and the change of seasons has brought many good things, including playoff baseball! While cheering on the Cardinals in the playoffs (at least for a little while) is something we have come to expect each fall, much of life isn't as predictable.

We all marvel at the pace of change in our culture right now and are working hard to navigate the challenging effects of this change together. Please join us in asking God to give us wisdom and guidance for the days ahead.

As we stand on the rapidly shifting sands of culture, we grab hold of life's constants. Our most secure anchor is the truth of Jesus Christ revealed in both the world He created and in His living Word. At Westminster, we also hold securely to our unchanging identity, our mission, and our vision to prepare students to engage the world and change it for Jesus Christ.

But what exactly does it mean to prepare students to engage the world? What does it look like, and how do we best prepare them to do it?

Our most valuable resources for answering this question are our teachers, coaches, and directors who are engaged in the work of preparing students day in and day out. In this issue of *Chimes*, we learn their answers. Director of the Integration of Faith and Learning and upper school history teacher **Chris Knerr** reflects on his Chapel message about what it looks like for students to engage a modern-day Babylon (p. 30); Assistant Head of School-Academics **Noah Brink** discusses the true purpose of a rigorous curriculum at a Christian school (p. 6); and we learn how Coach **Cory Snyder** uses the game of football to develop men of character who will make it their mission to be lights for Christ following graduation (p. 24). We also learn of alumni who are living out Westminster's vision each day, around the globe (p. 39).

We also invite other voices to weigh in on this question. In September, Westminster welcomed Wheaton College President Dr. Phil Ryken to give an evening lecture on *Christians engaging culture* and to speak to our students in Chapel (p. 34). He framed his remarks with a quote from an early church father, St. Ambrose: *We do not seek to impose anything on the world, but we seek to propose a better way.*

As you enjoy this issue of *Chimes*, I invite you to be a part of this discussion and to share your own thoughts on what it looks like to prepare young people to engage the world and change it for Jesus Christ. ☩

Love to you all in Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Tom Stoner".

Tom Stoner, EdD
Head of School

*If you have a story of Westminster's impact in your life or the life of a student or graduate, I'd love to hear from you!
Please contact me at tstoner@wcastl.org or 314.997.2900.*



Spanish exchange students enjoy a Cardinals game with host families and friends during their visit to St. Louis this fall.

Partnerships Abroad

Over the summer, 36 Westminster students spent a little more than a week immersed in the academic and cultural worlds of Salon de Provence, France, and Denia, Spain. “Our first study abroad experience for our students was a great success!” says Dr. **Dani Butler**, director of global partnerships at Westminster. Westminster partners with Alfa and Omega Evangelical School in Spain, where 22 students and two Westminster teachers had the chance to sightsee and experience local culture. During the same time, 14 French language students and two teachers attended College Joseph d’Arbaud in France and participated in a host family program attending school for a week while staying with local host families. The new study abroad program is one development in a larger, expanding mission to partner with and equip Christian schools around the world to educate students and train teachers on the basis of a Christian worldview. While students were



busy studying and sightseeing, Dr. Butler traveled to Lycee Prive Daniel in Guebwiller, France, and Freie Evangelische Schule in Lorrach, Germany, to meet with school administrators. Both schools invited Dr. Butler to discuss the possibility of future student exchanges, faculty exchanges, and official partnerships with Westminster. “Both schools expressed interest in modeling their teacher training programs after Westminster’s own Center for Teaching and Learning,” says Dr. Butler. “There is a huge demand for Christian teacher training in the global academic world, and these schools are eager to connect with Westminster and implement something similar.”

Exchange Students at Westminster

This fall, 11 students from Alfa and Omega Evangelical School in Denia, Spain, spent two weeks at Westminster. The Spanish students were paired with Westminster students whose families hosted them during their first-ever visit to the United States.

“It’s like they are pioneers,” said Alfa and Omega Principal Eunice Pastor. “Our goal [at Alfa and Omega] is to give our students the opportunity to have new experiences. We want to provide them with open doors and encourage them to expand their thinking.”

Westminster’s partner school relationship with Alfa and Omega began last year. Twenty-two Westminster students and three faculty visited in May, initiating the first study abroad experience with the school. The exchange came full circle with this visit.

“They wanted to talk about and explain every-

thing they'd seen," says Mrs. Pastor. "They went to Starbucks, saw fireworks, and watched the Forest Park Balloon Race. They loved shopping (especially at Target), and they loved the sweet foods in America! They were so grateful and happy and had a wonderful time with their host families."

During their stay, the exchange students audited classes, attended club meetings, supported Westminster sports teams, and experienced God's love and grace as they interacted with Westminster students and teachers. Assistant Head of School-Administration **Deana Vandegriff** says, "Exchange programs such as this are at the heart of our mission to engage the world. It was a blessing to see how students used this opportunity to care for and learn from those who are different from them."

Summer Seminar: Seoul

Eight students and three faculty traveled to Seoul, South Korea, in July to visit Westminster's sister school Saemmul Christian Academy. During their trip, Westminster teachers were part of a faculty



Senior Haley Weinberg and her peers explore the city of Seoul, South Korea, during their Summer Seminar trip to Saemmul Christian Academy in July.

training while students helped run a camp for middle school students at Saemmul to improve the campers' English speaking skills in subjects including science and movie-making.

Welcome to America

By senior **Sarah Ragsdale**, Features Editor, *The Wildcat Roar*

Schule auf Deutschland is a familiar concept for junior **Andrea LaCassie**, who recently transferred from Frankfurt International School in Germany. But while most new students come from other public or private schools and some from home-school education, Andrea arrived from across the sea to start a new school year at Westminster. Until August, she had been living in Germany for four years. Because Andrea has experienced both countries, she has been able to compare and contrast what life is like for kids in Germany versus the United States.

"In Germany, kids are raised with much more independence," says Andrea. "Because it is very safe there, they start taking the U-bahn, which is a train/subway, when they are five years old." When it comes to school, Andrea says that breaks in the two countries are different. "In Germany, we had vacations throughout the school year instead of having a long summer." She notes, however, that her former school and Westminster are alike in their academic rigor.

Going back and forth between the U.S. and Germany has given Andrea the opportunity to visit more than 11 countries. "My family was able to explore many different places and see many different countries including France, Italy, Spain, Dubai, Croatia, Borneo, Austria, Switzerland, Russia, Greece, and England.

In addition to moving to the U.S. after such a lengthy time in Germany, Andrea has had to adjust to switching schools junior year. "I had so many friends and many amazing experiences there, and here I'm



Freshman Maggie Hackman and sophomores Amie Lee and Kelly Kwak attend the International Picnic with host families and more than 100 members of the Westminster community.

starting over again. It's not easy to be able to build relationships, though I have to say people here are very friendly!"

Celebrating Our International Students

This year, Westminster families welcomed 28 students from other countries including South Korea, China, Mexico, and Ukraine for the 2015-16 academic year. Host families and students gathered for a celebratory picnic where students, their families, and teachers enjoyed a potluck dinner, yard games, football, and soccer on a sunny afternoon at Creve Coeur Lake. More than 100 members of the Westminster community attended the special event.



Above: Senior Morgan Henry and junior Caitlin Mundorf enjoy a beautiful ocean view on their study abroad trip to Denia, Spain.

Below: Westminster French language students smile for group pictures with students from College Joseph d'Arbaud in Salon de Provence, France..



Learning to Know Him

By Noah Brink, Assistant Head of School-Academics

In the late 90s, I sat in my dorm room while reading Mark Noll's *The Scandal of the Evangelical Mind* for class and was struck by his opening statement that there was, in fact, "no evangelical mind." Thinking that I had sufficiently pushed myself intellectually, I took offense but was soon convicted that I had not met the task required of me. Like the rest of the evangelical Church, I had failed to hold the discipline of the mind highly enough.

Twenty years later, I rejoice to be at a school that has been shaped by the call of men like Noll who remind us that the historical Church always held the mind highly and did so because Scripture does so. Therefore, when Westminster's mission promotes an excellent education that is rooted in biblical truth, we honor Jesus Christ by loving God with our minds, because that is what He calls us to do.

Loving God with our minds is no easy task. It takes work, but it is life-giving work, as it brings about renewal and conformity unto the image of Jesus. That's the task of Christian education, because true education begins to "repair the ruins" of the Fall, as John Milton says.

Viewed this way, a Westminster education is far more than a secular structure and curriculum with "Jesus dust" sprinkled on it. Nor is it a moralistic code. What makes our program "Christian" is the recognition of our need. We need God, and we must understand ourselves in light of that need. Toward this end, we hold to two scriptural themes to govern our academic pursuits:

We have a high view of God and see education's ultimate purpose as knowing Him more fully. As a result, our curriculum enables students to rightly order their affection to God. We want students to explore and wonder, because God is wonderful. Our courses promote rigor and nurture excellence because God is the standard for goodness, and we are excited that nearly two thirds of the student body is enrolled in one of our 16 AP courses, 14 honors courses, or three



dual enrollment courses. This should be the culture of a school that seeks to honor God as we ought.

We also have a high view of students because they are created in the image of the infinite, personal God. They are more than mere complex organisms who parrot back information; they are relational, creative, spiritual, and profoundly rational because God is. For this reason, we can't not stretch them - double negative intended. Our curricular program challenges students to make connections, enhances their ability to understand and know deeply, and enlivens their creativity and imagination. Similarly, our high view of the teacher as an image bearer means that we never undervalue the necessity of a rich relationship between teacher and student.

As a result, we define success in these areas differently: we want our students to fulfill their God-given potential and calling as His image bearers. And, when we hold this long-term, whole-person view, we should not be surprised or apologetic to see students achieve high recognition in their academic pursuits. We see high achievement in our top quartile's amazingly high ACT average (32.4), in two students with perfect scores on the test and this year's eight National Merit Semifinalists, and in the wonderful college acceptances and scholarships that our students earn every year. Of course, these kinds of facts grab our attention, and they should, because these students have done great things, by God's grace.

We have many reasons to celebrate student achievement extending far beyond test scores. Yet we want our students to be armed for the world in

Noah Brink joined the Westminster community as Assistant Head of School-Academics at the start of the 2015-16 school year.

The Gifted Program

Under the umbrella of Special Services, the Westminster Christian Academy Gifted Program was introduced this fall. The program was established to help meet social and academic needs of those students who demonstrate outstanding levels of aptitude or competence in the areas of mathematics, science, and/or humanities. In the program, students and families are supported in the course sequence process to ensure that they select the appropriate accelerated courses. It also ensures curriculum is compacted and accelerated and provides interdisciplinary enrichment in order to challenge gifted students, who are encouraged to explore areas that align with their academic needs and interests. Beginning in 2016-17, services for students identified as gifted will begin in the 7th grade and continue through graduation.

Perfect Score

Seniors **Rebecca Liu** and **Joey Albertson** earned perfect scores on the ACT test this fall. Each year,

which they are exiles, and the intellectual arena is not off limits for the Christian. If we are going to prepare our students to engage the world and change it for Jesus Christ, then some of our students need to be venturing to the highest academic venues. Ivy League universities need to be engaged and changed for Christ just as much as our future cities and neighborhoods do.

We prepare them for this when we hold God highly and when we hold the students highly by challenging and pushing them as though we really believe it. Using the image that the psalmist paints in Psalm 127, God has given us these arrows not so that we only protect and restrain them, but that we sharpen them and make them ready for the day that they are sent out. May we trust Him toward that end!



Seniors *Joey Albertson* and *Rebecca Liu* were recognized this fall for achieving perfect scores on the ACT.

less than one percent of students who take the ACT in the U.S. earn a perfect score. “Rebecca and Joey are both outstanding students with unlimited potential, and these scores are just another benchmark reflecting their amazing aptitude and abilities,” says **Kate Kindbom**, college and career counselor. “I am so excited for the colleges that are able to count each of them as one of their students next year and know that they will go forward and change the world for Jesus Christ in incredible ways.” In the most recent ACT report, only 46 Class of 2014 students in Missouri achieved a 36 composite score.

National Merit Semifinalists

Eight Westminster seniors were honored as National Merit Semifinalists in the 61st annual National Merit Scholarship Program this fall. It is the highest number of student semifinalists in Westminster’s history! These students were among 1.5 million juniors nationwide to enter the 2016 scholarship program by taking the 2014 Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT/NMSQT). The nationwide pool of semifinalists, representing less than one percent of U.S. high school seniors, includes the highest-scoring entrants in each state. These Westminster students are now eligible to advance to Finalist standing in the competition. Students are evaluated based on their academic record, school curricula and grading system, two sets of test scores, activities and leadership, and a written essay. Meeting these high academic standards may also qualify them for a Merit Scholarship award to be applied toward college.



From left: *Noah Brink*, *Timothy Sell*, *Joey Albertson*, *Sarah Ragsdale*, *Zach Hughes*, *Sydney Thomas*, *Matthew Rush*, *Haley Weinberg*, *Alexander Hopkins*, and *Tom Stoner*.

Student Authors

Eighth grade students **Lauren Bohlmann** and **Katherine Gaitan** were among the 35 young authors nationwide honored by The Grannie Annie Family Story Celebration with publication of their historical family stories, *Finally Home* (by Lauren) and *The Not-So-Lucky Shot* (by Katherine). Stories are based on an event in their family history and written from information gathered by interviewing an older relative. Lauren and Katherine were invited to read and sign their stories at The Grannie Annie Book Signing Celebration in June at the Missouri History Museum.

Yearbook Marks

Last spring, the Westminster yearbook staff was awarded a Golden Dozen trophy by the Southern Illinois Scholastic Press Association (SISPA). Of the 12 schools recognized, Westminster scored third highest overall. In addition, the yearbook staff placed in the top three in several categories. Westminster achieved first place in dividers, layouts, theme, and photography and placed second in end sheets and copy.



Senior Audrey O'Neill is recognized at the University of Missouri-St. Louis for her outstanding work and knowledge of the French language..

IN THE CLASSROOM The Outsiders

Members of **Kristin Janssen's** 8th grade English class raced against one another in a fun relay to illustrate concepts from the book *The Outsiders* by S.E. Hinton. The class was divided into two teams - the Greasers and the Socs. Both teams were given the same tasks to accomplish, but the Greasers team was required to follow additional rules (such as wearing mittens while trying to unbutton a shirt). The game demonstrated the difference in the socioeconomic status of the two groups in the novel.



Eighth grader Jelani Christmas, a student in Kristin Janssen's English class, hurries to complete her task for an interactive game based on S.E. Hinton's *The Outsiders*.

Language Lauds

Senior **Audrey O'Neill** was awarded the Distinguished Achievement Award for Excellence in Languages from the University of Missouri-St. Louis in the spring. Audrey was one of 19 juniors in the St. Louis region to receive this prestigious award last year. Her participation in language-related research and extracurricular activities, in addition to completion of the National French Contest and an outstanding overall academic grade point of 4.0, qualified her for this award.

Ninth grader **Amanda Berry** won the Foreign Language Association of Missouri Middle School Essay Contest for her submission last spring, which explored the theme of global growth and focused on celebrating diverse cultures and communities. Her essay was chosen by the FLAM board for its excellent style and representation of this year's theme.

We the People Places at Nationals

Westminster's *We the People* team represented Missouri at the national competition in April in Washington, D.C. The team of 21 students was among the top 10 teams the first day of the competition and won the national Unit 2 award. *We the People* is a program Westminster has offered to students for

19 years under the leadership of **Ken Boesch**, head coach of the team. The program allows students to study and debate aspects of American government and the U.S. Constitution. Student teams from Westminster have competed at state and national levels, winning state awards and participating in the national competition, for 15 years.

IN THE CLASSROOM Going to Market

Last spring, 8th grade Spanish students created their very own "tenderetes," or market stalls, in class. Each student brought in items such as baked treats, old toys from home, origami, and handmade friendship bracelets to sell. They were joined by upper school Spanish students, world language teachers, various Westminster faculty who wanted to brush up on their Spanish skills, and even an alumna! Students went to the "banco" and received pretend Colombian pesos to use at the market. They also learned to haggle and use new vocabulary.

Shining STARS

Four Westminster seniors participated in the 2015 Students and Teachers as Research Scientists (STARS) program at the University of Missouri-St.

Louis over the summer. **Sabrina Bingham, Rebecca Liu, Sydney Thomas, and Megan Wibbenmeyer** were among a large group of junior- and senior-level students from the St. Louis area to complete the program. Each year, the STARS program pairs high-achieving high school students with top research scientists and mentors from a host of leading institutions including the Donald Danforth Planet Science Center, Saint Louis University, Washington University in St. Louis, and UMSL. This year, Sabrina was named a winner of the LMI Aerospace Inc. Award for Excellence in Research. Her award-winning paper, *Heating contaminated Scottish bonnet peppers to kill Salmonella*, was completed under the supervision of SLU's Dr. Blythe Janowiak.

IN THE CLASSROOM Don't Lose Your Marbles!

A group of students in **Maggie Moore's** Principles of Engineering class completed a project during the spring semester in which they built a fully automated machine that sorted marbles by size and color. The students programmed the machine themselves and then designed and printed the 3D parts required to make it work. ▶

Smart Science

Senior **Rebecca Liu** was named the 2015 recipient of the Distinguished Achievement Award for Excellence in Science. The annual award is presented by the University of Missouri-St. Louis to outstanding junior-level science students from area schools. Her selection was based on her distinguished academic record, outstanding capabilities in science, her participation in UMSL's STARS program for the past two summers, and her work with Westminster's FIRST Robotics team. Rebecca was recognized at an honorary banquet presented by the College of Arts and Sciences at the UMSL campus.

Senior **Joey Albertson** and junior **Ethan Davitt** received outstanding placement on a regional chemis-

try exam administered by the American Chemical Society at UMSL last spring. Joey placed fourth out of 99 of the top advanced chemistry students in the St. Louis region. He and four other top qualifiers were honored at an ACS awards banquet held in April. Ethan was also recognized as the top scorer on the ACS exam for first-year chemistry students.



Above: Last spring, yearbook students received a Golden Dozen Trophy from the Southern Illinois Scholastic Press Association for an excellent publication.

Right: We the People team members visited with Congresswoman Ann Wagner while in Washington, D.C., for the national competition.

The Cyborg Cats on the Prowl

Roaring at Regionals

Westminster's FIRST Robotics team, The Cyborg Cats, ranked third out of 43 teams at the end of qualification matches at the St. Louis Regional FIRST Competition held in March. The team scored the highest single match score for the regional competition and was also awarded the Entrepreneurship Award for the best display of entrepreneurial enthusiasm and demonstration of the vital business skills necessary to ensure a self-sustaining program. Individual team recognitions went to senior **Brennan Murphy**, the team's chief engineer, for his selection as the FIRST Dean's List Finalist for the region. **Ciarra Peters '15**, junior **Michelle Morley**, and the Cyborg Cats' facilities team also received a first-place award for safety.

Cyborg Cats Engage Culture

Ferguson Strength and Honor Summer Camp

The Robotics team recently visited Boeing's headquarters in St. Louis to speak about their competition experiences and demonstrate their team robots for a group of campers from Ferguson's Strength and Honor Summer Camp. The camp is a key component of the Strength and Honor Mentoring and Tutoring program, a non-profit organization that aims to equip underprivileged youth for a successful life through mentoring and tutoring services. Thirty boys who participated in this summer's camp attended the robotics demo and had the opportunity to ask questions, see the Cyborg Cats' robots up close, handle parts, and catch exercise balls that the team's 2014 robot launched at them.

"We are proud to engage in experiences like this event," says Carol Nelson, director of education relations at Boeing. "Boeing is committed to helping students develop the skills needed to succeed in learning and in life and to achieve real-world skills. We know these students represent our future, and we want to complement their learning experience

with some real-life mentoring engagements." The members from Westminster's team took turns demonstrating different capabilities of the robot, operating and maneuvering the bot to showcase its speed and agility, and narrating videos from past competitions that allowed the campers to see it in action.

Each Cyborg Cat explained his or her role on the team and shared his or her reason for being a part of the program. Senior **Sydney Thomas** said the outreach aspect of Westminster's robotics program is one of the main reasons she loves being a part of the group. "I had a great time at Boeing with the campers," says Sydney. "I think it's incredible that the Cyborg Cats have the chance to reach out to the community. Sharing something that I love as much as engineering is always an amazing experience! The campers were all so excited about what we were doing, and being able to see that kind of passion and curiosity was so rewarding."



Robots are a family affair! Junior Matthew Hoekzema and sister Bethany Hoekzema '08 help lead a summer robotics camp at Miriam School and Learning Center for children with learning disabilities.

Invention and Beyond

Over the summer, members of Westminster's robotics team visited Miriam School and Learning Center to lead an interactive camp session about robots for children with learning disabilities. The camp, Invention and Beyond, teaches kids about the history of robots and explains their present and future value. Using LEGO products, K'Nex, recycled materials, and other building media, campers used imagination, collaboration, and critical thinking skills to bring a robot to life. Camp instructor and Westminster alumna **Bethany Hoekzema '08** invited members of Westminster's robotics team to lead an afternoon session. The Cyborg Cats showed campers videos of past FIRST competitions and explained the process of selecting a game strategy and designing a robot with the functions needed to play the game successfully. "It was a fun experience for the team to share its passion and give the students a glimpse of the kinds of robotics activities they may want to pursue in the future," says **Lisa Harding**, director of Westminster's robotics program. Campers had the opportunity to see the team's robot up close and ask questions about the competitions. Team members also drove the robot around the classroom and used the catapult to launch game balls for the campers to catch.

A Helping Hand

Carsyn Beachy, 8th grader, is a unique 13-year-old with a unique heart. While many of her peers simply hope for a decent grade, Carsyn hopes for much more. In her STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) class this past spring, students were assigned a project based upon an area of personal interest. Having just studied skeletal and muscular systems in her science class, Carsyn discovered her love of anatomy - and the topic for her then-upcoming STEM project.

"This is a girl who loves learning for the sake of learning, not for the grade" says 7th grade science teacher **Anne DeRousse**. "To look at her face as we study, to see the wonder in her eyes - there's nothing



For a STEM class project, 8th grader Carsyn Beachy researched and created a 3D prosthetic hand to help children in need.

like it for a teacher!" So on the heels of a science assignment in which students were to read and annotate an article of their choice, for which Carsyn chose an article on prosthetics, her STEM project topic was a no-brainer.

After researching "e-NABLE," a community of volunteers that specializes in creating free 3D printed prosthetics for individuals without fingers or hands, Carsyn downloaded a free design for a prosthetic hand and used Westminster's 3D printer to create it – a project that took about 20 hours. But she didn't stop there. After seeing the difference it can make in the lives of kids and their families, Carsyn has solicited donations from family members and used some of her own savings to order a 3D printer. Once it arrives, she will begin making prosthetic hands; in the interim, she is trying to find additional contacts outside of e-NABLE who can help connect her with families of children who could use a prosthetic hand.

"I want to use my skills in this way – to help kids who don't have hands or fingers and just want to be able to do some of the normal things other kids their age can do," says Carsyn, whose devices provide a basic functional grasping motion. Cost is an inhibiting factor



Upper School physics teacher Lisa Harding and 7th grade science teacher Anne DeRousse were both awarded the Arlen R. Dykstra Teaching Prize at Westminster's 2015 commencement ceremony. The award recognizes the recipient's outstanding expression of the Christian worldview in his or her teaching and lifestyle.

for many families in need of a prosthetic. State-of-the-art prosthetic replacements that are powered by batteries and motors can cost thousands of dollars and are thus an impractical investment for a growing child, but the materials for a 3D-printed prosthetic itself cost as little as \$20 to \$50.

Dale Beachy, Carsyn's father and Westminster middle school math teacher, has been Carsyn's primary encouragement. "It's one thing to do your best on a project," says Mr. Beachy. "But for her, it was much more than that. She wanted to apply what she learned in STEM to help others. I'm very proud of her."

Carsyn's STEM teacher Katie Long was impressed by Carsyn's persistence and continued research. "Carsyn is always excited to apply what she's learned in such a selfless way," says Mrs. Long. "I'm so impressed that she's able to use her gifts in STEM at such a young age, and that she came up with this idea all on her own."

Mrs. DeRousse says the work that Carsyn is doing is something you might expect of a junior or senior but not many 7th graders. "Carsyn perfectly embodies Westminster's vision to prepare more young people to change the world for Jesus Christ," says Mrs. DeRousse. "She didn't stop at the grade or the praise from other kids about her 'cool' project. She kept going; she took it where we want all of the kids to take it. She is 100% focused not on herself but on the world around her, intent on helping as many as she can."

A+ Teaching

Science teachers Anne DeRousse and Lisa Harding were awarded the Arlen R. Dykstra Teaching Prize at Westminster's 2015 commencement ceremony. Mrs. DeRousse is in her 10th year teaching middle school science at Westminster, and Mrs. Harding is in her eighth year teaching upper school physics and her fourth year leading the school's FIRST Robotics program. The award, named in honor of former Westminster headmaster Arlen R. Dykstra, is a \$1,000 prize, which is presented annually by the current head of school at the graduation ceremony. The recipient is determined by a selection committee including members of executive leadership and administration. The award recognizes the recipient's outstanding expression of the Christian worldview and life view in his or her teaching and lifestyle. It demonstrates mastery of teaching matter, involvement with the life of the school through extracurricular activities, and creative and innovative presentation of curricula. In addition to the public recognition and stipend, Mrs. DeRousse's and Mrs. Harding's names will be added to a plaque with the previous award winners in the Academic Hub.



THEATRE ARTS

AT WESTMINSTER CHRISTIAN ACADEMY

2015-16 SEASON ⊕



INTO THE WOODS

NOVEMBER 19-21, 7 P.M.
THEATRE

THE DINING ROOM

JANUARY 14-16, 7 P.M.
BLACK BOX THEATRE



OUR TOWN

APRIL 21-23, 7 P.M.
THEATRE

FAMILY REUNION

FEBRUARY 19 & 20, 7 P.M.
BLACK BOX THEATRE



ALICE IN WONDERLAND

MAY 13 & 14, 7 P.M.
THEATRE

FOR MORE INFO AND TO PURCHASE TICKETS, VISIT WCASTL.ORG/ARTS.

We met them at the Munny!

There's no business like show business for seven fine arts students who performed in The Munny's Teen Chorus this past summer. It was the largest number of Westminster students – current students and recent graduates – to audition and be cast in a single season. “Westminster couldn't be more proud of these students,” says Westminster Fine Arts Director **Kathy Eichelberger**. “They have worked hard in the classroom, in our productions, and in private lessons to hone their craft, and we're so excited that they were able to share their gifts with the greater St. Louis community!” Freshman **Allison Broadhurst**, freshman **Mark Geisz**, junior **Chris Lee**, senior **Klarissa Sheffield**, **Hannah Geisz '15**, **Drew Straub '15**, and **Harrison Farmer '15** performed in a number of productions, including *My Fair Lady*, *Hairspray*, *Buddy: The Buddy Holly Story*, *Into the Woods*, and *Beauty and the Beast*.



Westminster students appeared on The Munny stage for the 2015 season! Clockwise from left: Drew Straub '15, Klarissa Sheffield, Harrison Farmer '15, Chris Lee, Mark Geisz, Hannah Geisz '15, and Allison Broadhurst.

Performing arts teacher Jim Butz explains storytelling principles to his students in drama class.



Theatre Arts Boot Camp

Our theatre team - Jim Butz, Kathy Eichelberger, Allen Schwamb, and Helen Scott - led five workshops for middle school and upper school students at the beginning of the school year. This first-ever “boot camp” was designed to strengthen and enhance the community and commitment of the theatre arts students and introduce them to the theatrical season with a special focus on the fall semester shows *Into the Woods* and *The Dining Room*. More than 60 students attended the workshops.

A Christmas Carol

Biblical ethics teacher Rev. Luke Davis has written and copyrighted a new Christmas carol entitled *The Christ Child Has Come*, a four-verse hymn set to the tune *The Ash Grove*, which is a traditional Welsh melody.

Rev. Davis also recently celebrated the release of his second crime fiction novel, *The Broken Cross*. Ciarra Peters '15 created the book's cover art.

The Christ Child Has Come

The Christ Child has come, the Lord dwelling among us,
The Savior descending from Heaven's bright throne.
From ages long promised, now here in time's fullness,
Our King born to claim us redeemed as His own!
The Christ Child has come! The babe born of a virgin,
He reigns and ordains since the ages began.
The manger ensconces this grand Incarnation,
Jesus, Friend of Sinners, the true Son of Man.

The Christ Child has come and, obediently living,
He teaches and heals and to sinners draws nigh.
In willingness pure and our judgment embracing,
The Lamb to the slaughter; he goes forth to die.
The Christ Child has come, the one slain for rebellion,
The fair Rose of Sharon now crushed to the stem.
The manger commences our wond'rous redemption:
The Servant of Suff'ring born in Bethlehem.

The Christ Child has come! The Great Debt has been canceled,
The satisfied Father thus shatters the grave—
Now raised from the death throes unable to hold him,
The Lion, triumphant and mighty to save.
The Christ Child has come—Glorious hope he has given,
And we by His blood shall stand, never condemned!
The manger leads on toward his great resurrection:
The Lord's conqu'ring vict'ry dawns in Bethlehem.

The Christ Child has come, His shalom never ceasing,
His children the servants renewing God's world—
Though kingdoms oppose Him—His peace still increasing,
His cov'nant of grace through the ages unfurled.
The Christ Child has come, all things new He shall fashion;
All honor and blessing forever to Him!
The manger, the beacon to all restoration:
Our journey to glory forged in Bethlehem.

Words:
Luke H. Davis (2015)

Music: Ash Grove
Traditional Welsh melody



Senior Alysse Tarantino, Kathryn Hinrichs '15, Hannah Geisz '15, and sophomore Emily Zell made high marks at the District Solo and Ensemble Festival.

High Notes

Sophomore Emily Zell, senior Alysse Tarantino, Hannah Geisz '15, and Kathryn Hinrichs '15 received exemplary ratings – the highest marks attainable – for their vocal solo performances at the District Solo and Ensemble Festival in spring 2015.

Junior Hailey Rupprecht, sophomore Emily Zell, senior Alysse Tarantino, and Hannah Geisz '15 all earned #1 ratings for their outstanding vocal or instrumental performances at the spring state Solo and Ensemble Festival.

Teen Talent

Juniors Christian McGhee and Emma Hackman advanced to the spring finals of the 5th Annual St. Louis Teen Talent Competition, sponsored by The Fox Performing Arts Charitable Foundation. The competition showcases St. Louis' most talented teens in performing arts. Christian competed on the drums as part of a jazz trio, and Emma performed a ballet dance.

Congressional Art Competition

International student senior Daisy Luo was recognized for her outstanding artistic ability during the spring semester when she received an honorable mention for her submission to the 2015 Congressional Art Competition. She impressed the judges with her unique style and perspective in her print, "The Hall."

Silent Success

Several Westminster students entered a three-minute film entitled *The Swap* in the Midwest Regionals section of the 6th annual International Youth Silent Film Festival last spring. A/V Director Han Kim oversaw the production and submission of the project. In April, the film was selected as a Midwest finalist and screened at Lincoln Theatre in Belleville, Ill. ▶

[▶ Learn more at wcastl.org/ChimesFall2015](http://wcastl.org/ChimesFall2015)



@WCAVDT: Don't be discouraged @wcasports @wcastl!! We'll get those Friday night lights someday! Keep trying! Good things come to those who wait!



Track and Field

The Wildcats finished strong at the 2015 spring state track meet in May. Senior **Emily Adkisson**, junior **Alivia Johnston**, senior **Makaylah Meredith**, and **Saenea Williams '15** finished fourth in state for the 400m, setting a school record. Additional records were set when Emily finished eighth in the 800m; Saenea finished fourth in the 200m; and senior **Zach Hughes**, **Josh Sumner '15**, **Brendan Yeager '15**, and senior **Connor Hafenrichter** broke eight minutes and finished fourth in the 800m, marking the sixth best time in the state.

Dance Team

In July, the dance team had one of its most successful camp experiences ever. The team attended the Universal Dance Association Camp at the University of Central Missouri and secured every award offered: Superior Trophy, Drill Down Team Winner, Super Spirit Sticks, Full Out Award for team routine, and

the Leadership Award. The seniors were named All-Americans, and the team was also first runner up for Drill Down Queen. "I watched the girls help others who were struggling at camp and watched the team flourish in their relationships with one another," says **Brittany Wesley Hartloge '05**, head coach. "Our motto, *Audience of One*, was so evident at camp. The girls chose to shine the light of Jesus, and it radiated! The other teams saw a difference in our girls, and I could not have been more proud." The team is now preparing four dance routines for their competition season this winter.

Baseball

Finishing their season 26-6, the team won the Metro League title by two games. During the season, senior **Logan McCall** pitched a no-hitter game against Parkway Central, throwing only 55 pitches. The team also had two players make headlines; **Michael Failoni '15** made the *St. Louis Post-Dispatch* All-Metro 2nd



Above left: Junior DJ Stewart winds up for a pitch at a spring baseball game.

Above right: The dance team practices an award-winning routine under the direction of alumna Brittany Wesley Hartloge '05.

Above: Saenea Williams '15, junior Alivia Johnston, and senior Makaylah Meredith set a new school record with a fourth-place finish for the 400m at the spring 2015 state track meet.



@WCAFootball: Thanks to @WCABlueCrew for putting on the tailgate and creating a fun environment for high school football. Keep up the good work!

Senior Missy Grasse moves the ball upfield to her Wildcat teammates.



During this first week of football playoffs, the Wildcats are undefeated and ranked second in Class 4. Watch this inspiring story of one of our own players, Andrew Eichelberger, in KSDK's Frank Cusumano's story. ▶

team as a pitcher, and senior **Jake Matheny** made the *St. Louis Post-Dispatch* All-Metro 3rd team as a catcher.

Girls Soccer

In the spring, the Lady Wildcats made Westminster history with the highest number of wins - 17 - in a season. The girls were ranked in the top 10 St. Louis high school teams by the *St. Louis Post-Dispatch* and seventh in state by the Missouri High School Soccer Association. Junior forward **Kirsten Davis** led the state of Missouri in scoring with 47 goals during the season, breaking a school record for most goals scored in a season (as well as a career). Head Coach **Warren Smith** says, "If Kirsten keeps scoring at this pace, she could become the highest female goal scorer in St. Louis soccer history." Kirsten recently trained with the US U-20 Women's National Team with hopes of qualifying to represent the U.S. in the U-20 Women's World Cup in Papua New Guinea. Both Kirsten and **Charisse Williams '15** were selected First Team All State. Kirsten and Charisse, as well as juniors **Natalie Buntun** and **Taylor French**, were all named First Team All-Metro League Conference.

Boys Tennis

The varsity boys tennis team proudly finished second at the district tournament. Junior **Eddie Griesedieck** and senior **Andrew Montgomery** advanced to the Missouri state doubles tournament and placed second overall.

Boys Golf

The team placed 11 out of 20 of the area's top teams at the SLUH Invitational held at the challenging Missouri Bluffs Golf Club. Drew Port '15 shot a 77 to place 17 out of more than 100 golfers. The team also qualified Drew, junior **Jordan Merkel**, sophomores **Chad Briden**, and **Logan Montgomery** to play in the sectional tournament. Jordan shot a 79 and placed 12 out of 60 golfers at the district tournament.

Boys Volleyball

Winning the Class 3 championship for the first time in school history, the team felt great about its season. "I'm thrilled to win a state title, especially for my kids who have worked so very hard," says Head Coach **Jean Evans** '83. "We have had a lot of great kids come through our program, and many of our alumni come out to practices and help out. This title belongs to all of them." The Wildcats defeated Cape Notre Dame 25-22, 25-19 in the championship game and finished

the season with a 26-11-1 record. **Cameron Hibbler** '15 signed to play at Missouri Baptist University.

Football

During their 2015 season, the varsity football team won the program's first outright Metro League championship against John Burroughs. At the time of publication, the team was 10-0 for the first time in school history. Head Coach **Cory Snyder** was also named the St. Louis Rams High School Coach of the Week for the second time. The Metro League victory was also a St. Louis' Rams High School Game of the Week, and the Wildcats' win resulted in a \$1,000 grant for the football program and the gift of a Shadowman Sports Pro Tackle Dummy System.

Sophomore **Chad Briden** won a nationwide quarterback competition in his age's division held in Massillon, Ohio. To qualify for the competition, Chad attended a regional camp in Indianapolis, where athletes were instructed on biomechanics of the quarterback position and reading defenses. During the second day of camp, the quarterbacks competed to qualify for a position in The Duel competition. Chad's performance secured a place for him at the competition, where he won the 10th-grade division and surpassed 24 other quarterbacks in events that tested arm strength and accuracy, footwork and agility, and the ability to read defensive coverages.



Top: Senior **Andrew Montgomery** has his eyes on the ball during a competitive match.

Above: **Drew Port '15** and sophomore **Chad Briden** qualified to play in the sectional tournament during the varsity boys golf season in the spring.

Left: The varsity boys volleyball team claimed the Class 3 championship title for the first time in school history at the close of the team's season.



Lacrosse

Finishing their season with the most wins in the program's history (17), the varsity team was awarded the Spirit of the Game award for the third consecutive year. This distinction is voted on by all lacrosse officials and awarded to the team that demonstrates sportsmanship to officials and opponents, gives 100% effort in every game, and strives to continually improve while respecting opponents and showing a love for the game. **Olivia Coomes '15**, **Harper Larson '15**, and senior **Brittney Tucker** were all selected to the All-State team and also earned First Team All-Conference honors. The team had four girls named U.S. Lacrosse Academic All-Americans: Olivia, Brittney, **Kaitlin Kittelson '15**, and **Sarah Betz '15**. To date, the lacrosse program has the largest number of players participating, with more than 130 girls on the middle school and upper school teams.



Top: Junior **MaryKate Kopsy** aims for a hole in one on the green. The varsity girls golf team won the district championship with the second-best team score (323) in school history.

Above: **Whitney Radloff** catches a pass during lacrosse practice after school. The varsity team finished their spring season with the most wins in the program's history. The girls were also honored with the Spirit of the Game award for the third year in a row.

Right: The boys cross country team, including sophomore **Evan Parres**, placed first in the Orchard Farm Invitational after more than 20 years of running in the competition.



Cheer

Westminster's cheer program added a third squad to its growing team. The program now includes varsity, JV, and Blue and White squads, all of which attended the National Cheerleaders Association Camp in

July and were awarded a number of superior trophies. **Emily Broyles '15** was the first Westminster cheerleader to be selected to work on staff at the camp this past summer. Senior **Elaine Clifton**, juniors **Sarah Broyles** and **Bethany Stone**, and freshman **Lexie Kratky** were named All-Americans. "Coach Kalie, Coach Carrie, Coach Ali, and I are so proud of how hard these teams have worked to push through personal differences, absences, and injury this year," says **Jen Marsh '08**, head coach of the team. "We are excited to showcase the girls' God-given talents throughout the year and are looking forward to growing even closer as a program."

Girls Golf

Over the course of their regular season, the team set a record of 11 wins and two losses. "This year's team has turned out to be one of our top teams in recent years," says Head Coach **Steve Bradley**. Senior **McKenna Montgomery** won the Angel Classic Tournament with a round of 74, and junior **Taylor French**, who qualified for state last year, finished sixth overall. The girls won the district championship with the second-best team score of 323 in Westminster history. McKenna made district tournament champion, and Taylor tied for second place with an overall round of 76. The Lady Wildcats also competed in the Class 2, Section 1 golf tournament in early October, where they shot a 366 for a third-place overall finish. McKenna won an individual title with a 3-over-par 75 at the sectional tournament and finished her four-year career with a third-place finish at the state tournament.

Field Hockey

"The fall season was one for the record books!" says Head Coach **Nancy Schmer**. The year 2015 marked the first season with a varsity team in the field hockey program, as well as the first varsity team victory, the first varsity shut-out by senior **Maggi Eachus**, and the first goal and hat-trick by senior **Lucy Kehr**. Maggi, who plays as goalkeeper for the team, has recorded more than 100 saves. One of the team's favorite memories from the season was a team-led Zumba session at an end-of-season practice. "I promised them they could Zumba if they won a game," says Coach Schmer.



@Pam_Stevens: @wcastl @WCAcheer - Middle School cheerleaders did us all proud yest w/ 2 full games. Even closed on a Spirited note!



Cross Country

After more than 20 years competing in the Orchard Farm Invitational, the boys team made Westminster history and placed first. Currently, the team is ranked in the top five in Class 3. The boys also secured a third-place finish out of 25 teams at the Frank Horton Invitational in Memphis as well as a second-place finish at the Capitol City Challenge in Jefferson City. Senior **Andrew Murray** won third place with an individual finish. The girls team also competed well; seniors **Makaylah Meredith** and **Alysse Tarantino** and sophomore **Kathryn Kramer** helped lead the team when they came in fourth place at the Orchard Farm Invitational. Furthermore, Head Coach **Jennifer Meyer** won gold for her age division at the World Aquathlon Championship held earlier this summer.



Above: The varsity cheer team brings the energy during halftime at the Wildcat Weekend varsity football game.

Left: Sophomore Rebekah Warren smiles for a quick picture mid-game. This season marked the inaugural year for the varsity field hockey team.

Boys Swimming

The team was excited to gain seven new freshman swimmers this season. “These swimmers have had a great impact on our program and should be a solid core moving forward,” says Head Coach **Kent Kehr** ’78. Sophomore **Chris Kirby** and junior **JT Fuller**, both divers, assisted the team in a meet against De Smet earlier in the season, capturing 10 points to push Westminster ahead. “God has certainly blessed us with a great team, which is more like a family now,” says Coach Kehr. “We look forward to a wonderful finish to the season, particularly at the Lion Relays and the conference meet.”

Boys Soccer

Keeping fans on the edge of their seats this season, the team’s overall record was 4-7 with seven of the team’s

10 games decided with one goal. At the time of publication, the Wildcats were 2-2 in the Metro League Conference. In September, the team spent a Saturday morning volunteering at SPENSA (Special Needs Soccer Association) – the third year the team has worked with the organization. Westminster athletes each partnered with a player to help with stretching, warm-up exercises, and skill training; afterward, they cheered on their players during a short soccer match. “It’s a great opportunity to not only serve others but to see joy in kids’ faces through soccer,” says Head Coach **Dan Legters**. “We are reminded of what truly matters – to celebrate the game and enjoy building relationships with one another as Christ’s ambassadors. It’s a great way to spend Saturday morning.”

Girls Tennis

The Lady Cats finished second in districts this season. Senior **Emily Stevenson** beat last year’s state singles finalist at the individual district competition and finished fourth overall in singles. Sophomore **Caroline Hinrichs** and freshman **Hattie Means** won their quarterfinal doubles match in districts and finished third overall. Additionally, the team volunteered its time after school this fall to make fleece tie blankets for donation to Project Linus. “The Project Linus service project was more successful than we could have ever hoped, dreamed, or prayed for,” says JV Head Coach **Elizabeth Barker**. “There were girls and blankets all over the place, music playing, girls laughing, and everyone helping one another during this amazing service project. We made a total of 38 blankets in just two short hours.” Project Linus





is a local non-profit organization that collects and distributes blankets to children who are seriously ill, traumatized, or otherwise in need. The blankets that the girls made were distributed to children at St. Louis Children's Hospital, Mercy Hospital, Cardinal Glennon Hospital, and Ronald McDonald House, among other organizations.

Girls Volleyball

At the time of publication, the varsity team was 8-7 and gearing up for districts. This year, the team will graduate three seniors: **Macy Catlett**, **Lane Penberthy**, and **Meegan Williams**, but a relatively young team this year will ensure a strong group of girls returning next season.



Opposite: *Sophomores Chris Kirby and JD Wiese prepare to make the plunge during swim practice.*

Above left: *Junior Alex Kempen moves to stop the ball during an intense soccer game.*

Above right: *Senior Emily Stevenson stands ready on the court to make her move.*

Left: *Sophomore Avery Engelmeyer aims high and sets the ball for her teammate during a close game. At the time of publication, the varsity girls volleyball team was 8-7 and preparing for district play.*

Softball

The varsity girls softball team ended their entire season 11-7. Highlights from the team's season include an exciting comeback win against Parkway Central, which lasted nine innings. Senior **Taylor Dorsey** tied the game in the 8th inning with a home run, followed by a line drive to win the game in the bottom of the ninth inning. Senior **Keely Sweet** has signed to play at the University of Chicago.

Strength and Conditioning

Senior **Avery Drury** was awarded the 2014-15 Lifter of the Year Award last May – an honor initiated in 2007 by **Dave Schall**, who served as director of the Strength and Conditioning Program before assuming his role as co-director of student life in 2015. The year 2006 marked Mr. Schall's first year at Westminster and the first year of the Strength and Conditioning Program. In an effort to generate excitement and increase student participation, Mr. Schall created a weightlifting club that recognized students at various levels of

strength. Each year since then, one student – regardless of age, grade, athleticism, or strength level – has been recognized for outstanding character qualities, work ethic, attendance, leadership, and performance in the weight room.

10 Pillar Award

In the spring, a group of sophomores received the 10 Pillars Award. Coaches nominate students who they feel excel in a particular area in order to encourage the sophomores – who they see as potential captains and team leaders – to continue in leadership and character development on and off the field. The 2015 winners were **Patrick Agan, Sarah Broyles, Natalie Bunton, Abby Charles, Dyllan Conway, Kirsten Davis, Ethan Davitt, Connor Dolan, Alivia Johnston, MaryKate Kopsky, Brooke Lemp, Cooper Moore, Matt Ottsen, Josh Pottebaum, Hailey Rupperecht, Elisabeth Sems, DJ Stewart, Bethany Stone, Jimmy Thomas, Madelyn Trost, and Moira Wright.**



@WCAPower: Control what you can control. Attitude and effort! That is what you can control! Put in the work in the weight room!



Above: Senior **Avery Drury** is recognized for her hard work and dedication to the Strength and Conditioning Program with a Lifter of the Year Award.

Left: Sophomore **Deanne Pfyl**, junior **Madelyn Trost**, freshman **Dani Mabry**, and senior **Taylor Dorsey** cheer on their teammate from the dugout. The varsity girls softball team finished their season this fall 11-7.



Teachers gather outside of upper school history teacher Howard Warren's classroom for an impromptu tea party.

Jim Sefrit Honored by MIAAA

In the spring, Westminster's own Dr. **Jim Sefrit**, who retired in June, was honored by the Missouri Interscholastic Athletic Administrators Association (MIAAA) and awarded the Jack Johnson Distinguished Service Award for his service and leadership in promoting high school athletics. He was recommended for this prestigious award by several athletic directors from surrounding area schools. This award is presented each year to an individual outside the field of interscholastic athletic administration who has demonstrated outstanding support of high school athletes.

You're Late for Tea!

By senior **Maggi Eachus**, Editor-in-Chief,
The Wildcat Roar


In September, during sixth hour, several teachers gathered in the junior hallway, just outside colleague **Howard Warren's** classroom, for an impromptu tea

party. For this prank on Mr. Warren, they pulled a table out of upper school Spanish teacher **Kelly Gilbert's** room and covered it with a Mexican blanket and British flag. Next, **Peter Barrs**, upper school Spanish and French teacher, brought the essential tea to the party.

The group of teachers, compiled of Peter Barrs, Kelly Gilbert, **Joan Dudley**, **Matt DeJong**, and **Erica Osborne**, set up the table in front of upper school history teacher Howard Warren's room and held a full fledged tea party complete with classical music. Students roaming the hallways were invited to sit and partake in the event. Junior **Molly Cook** was headed back to Mr. Warren's class when she sat down and joined the party.

Conversations ventured from school policies to stories about favorite teachers, and there was always a spark of laughter. At one point, the whole shenanigan was almost stopped when **Susie Brown**, co-director of student life, stumbled upon the get together. Ultimately, the event was allowed to go on, and they hinted at plans for another "party."



Look out for what these sixth hour teachers are going to do next! 



⊕ faculty spotlight

Cory Snyder: Christ, Character, and Commitment

For the Westminster varsity football team, this season is one for the history books. A 27-14 win over John Burroughs on October 3 catapulted the team to their first-ever 7-0 start and handed them Westminster's first outright Metro League championship – cause for huge celebration. For Head Coach **Cory Snyder**, however, three things remain most important when it comes to football, no matter the outcome on the field: Christ, character, and commitment to excellence.

“We talk a lot with the guys at weekly chapel and before games about character development,” says Coach Snyder. “We try to start with who the guys are as individuals and how the roles you fill after high school – employee, employer, husband, father – always begin with character.”

This three-pronged approach, as Coach Snyder describes it, is an intentional and pervasive philosophy for the Westminster football program. “We hope that when guys walk out of the program they have grown in their relationship with Christ (or come closer to knowing Him), grown in their character, and competed at the highest level they can,” says Coach Snyder. It’s a philosophy he hopes the players will carry with them all their lives.

Football played a significant part in Coach Snyder’s own life. “I played in high school in the small town of New Carlisle, Ohio, where I grew up,” says Coach Snyder. “The coaches I had and the experience of being on the team was life-changing for me. They had a huge impact on me in terms of teaching me discipline, responsibility, and toughness.”

In fact, it was thanks to the guidance and encouragement of his football coaches that led Coach Snyder to apply to Washington University in St. Louis after being recruited to play college football for the university. Once at Wash U, he joined the team as a wide receiver. The team’s

coach, Larry Kindbom, husband of Westminster College and Career Counselor **Kate Kindbom**, would eventually be the one to connect Coach Snyder to Westminster and land him his first job out of college.

At Wash U, Coach Snyder began his degree with aspirations of becoming a doctor, but God had other plans. “Looking back, I wasn’t really prepared to handle the academic challenges [at Wash U],” he says. “High school had been pretty easy, and when I got to college, it took me a year and a half to figure it all out. I didn’t really know what it would take in terms of study habits to be successful in the pre-med track.”

Eventually, he changed his major to physics and secondary education. Deciding to become a teacher seemed like a natural alternative. “I was already pretty good at helping friends in high school with homework – explaining concepts and how things work,” he says. “I was also invested in my physics degree at Wash U. I wasn’t interested in business, and it made sense to me to go the education route.” His change in course, and ultimately career, was a decision he felt was in line with God’s plan for his life. “You don’t go to Wash U to be a teacher, but I know that it was definitely the hand of God that led me there and to St. Louis,” he says. “I was actually looking at a few other colleges my senior year of high school, but ultimately Wash U was where God directed me.”

After his senior year of college, Coach Snyder met his wife Nicole while attending a singles Bible study. The two were married in March 2003.

They now have two children, AJ (9) and Elise (7). Following graduation, Kindbom encouraged Coach Snyder to apply for a teaching position at Westminster. “I was hesitant at first,” says Coach. “There weren’t many private schools where I grew up – only small ones. But eventually, I applied. [Head of School Emeritus] **Jim Marsh** called me,



Visit our website to view a video highlighting senior players Nick Ebel, Zach Hughes, and Myles Bakewell reflecting on their Westminster football experience. This video was voluntarily produced and shot by Landon Burke '12, former offensive lineman. ▶



@CaptainKrumch: A huge congrats to @wcastl for getting the W against Burroughs and winning the Metro League! The program's come a long way @WCAFootball

and I scheduled a time to visit the campus. I met him there, and he showed me around.” **The rest was history.**

Currently in his 15th year at Westminster, Coach Snyder fills multiple roles and juggles a range of different responsibilities as a physics teacher, registrar, and head coach of the varsity football team. His first year at Westminster, he taught math; his second year, he began teaching physics, a position he says was better suited for him. In 2007, he assumed the registrar position while working as an assistant football coach and defensive coordinator.

While his roles and responsibilities at Westminster have fluctuated, teaching has remained a constant. Coach Snyder says it’s something he wants to hold on to. “If all I was doing was an office job, I would lose connection with the kids. Teaching gives me that connection with them outside of the football program. I also do lunchroom duty to be around students and touch base with them.” At the end of the day, it’s ultimately the way students grow through the learning process that matters most, he says. “For me, it’s about the growth of students much more than the subject matter. I know that the amount of physics they’ll remember 10-15 years from now won’t be astounding, but the growth they experience in learning physics will help them the rest of their lives.”

He feels the same way about his position as head football coach, a role he assumed in 2011. He says football is as much about the personal and spiritual growth of the players as it is about winning the game. “The honest truth is that for me, there are two parts to coaching,” he says. “One part is that I love the game. I love competing and strategizing – that’s the personal side. The second and bigger part is that God used the game of football in my life to direct my path and lead me. He uses a lot of different things in people’s lives, and that’s what he used in my life to lead me to Wash U and bring me to Westminster.”

In the same way that God used football to work in his life, Coach Snyder sees football as an opportunity to grow his student athletes. “It’s a



The Wildcats line up for another victory against the Borgia Knights.

chance to teach them character during a prime time for growth and spiritual development in their lives,” says Coach Snyder, reflecting on his own high school experience. “God changes you. I’m not the same person I was then. Remembering God’s work in my life during that time helps me understand and engage with my athletes today.”

Change has been a key element in the development of the football program the past several years. The guys and the program have come a long way, Coach Snyder says. “Traditionally, season win-loss records have been like mountains and valleys. We’re definitely in an upcycle right now. When we return back to a ‘norm,’ I don’t want that norm to be a valley like it was in the past,” he says. “I hope that we can continue to develop a program that’s more consistent with on-field success.”

Still through all the highs and lows, the students in the football program have demonstrated incredible effort, resilience, and perseverance.

They have clearly represented the program’s three core values: Christ, character, and commitment to excellence. It’s the legacy Coach Snyder hopes the football program will leave. It’s also the legacy the team has visually represented on the locker room wall through a large graphic featuring players throughout the program’s history.

“When our players see those photos, we hope the pictures will say to them, ‘You are a part of something bigger here,’” says Coach Snyder. “We routinely talk to the guys about how the program isn’t just about when they’re in it. It’s about the legacy they’re leaving for the guys who follow them. It’s about who they’re going to be and how they’re going to play. That’s what stays for years to come.” ⊕

Stirring Up

By Shelley Milligan

Assistant Head of School - Advancement

When I started working at Westminster in August 2014, one of my first observations about the school related to community. During that time, I told many people that I was *starting a new job* but quickly saw the hollowness of that phrase. I soon amended my thinking to a more accurate description of my transition: I was *joining a new community*.

Westminster embodies the best of community: people drawn together for a common purpose – preparing students to engage the world and change it for Jesus Christ. It takes a little time for each of us to understand the culture of the community and how exactly the Lord wants to use us within it, which is why I'm so excited about the school's theme verse for the 2015-16 school year: "And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works" (Hebrews 10:24).

The book of Hebrews makes me think of running races, great clouds of witnesses, great high



The student artwork for this year's school verse, Hebrews 10:24, is displayed in the Grand Entry for students, staff, parents, and visitors to admire.



Above: Members of Concert Choir circle the Grand Entry and fill the space with beautiful sounds at the end of a school day. ▶

Left: Senior John Yin works with Visual Arts Department Chair John Sarra to put the finishing touches on the school verse artwork, which was designed by Yin.

priests, and long lineages of Biblical heroes. But Hebrews 10:24 has quickly become a favorite verse, especially as I think of the many ways in which the Westminster community has stirred me to love and good works.

Last week, I left the upper school office doors and began walking down the Grand Entry staircase with a group of 20-25 students toting black folders. I glanced at my phone to check the time, all of a sudden understanding why I felt so tired: mid-afternoon marks the time when I most want to nap! I shuffled down the stairs, walking toward the Business Office.

The students walked with me, laughing and talking amongst themselves as I asked myself what they were doing. They then formed a circle in the Grand Entry and opened their folders. **Allen Schwamb** stood in the center of their circle and began moving his arms. “They can’t be about to sing,” I told myself, looking around for their audience. The Grand Entry’s occupants at that time consisted of front desk folks, a few wanderers passing through, and me.

The 20 students opened their mouths, but the sound was one single rich tone. They sang acapella in a language I don’t understand, but the music immediately reached over and grabbed my heart, pointing me to Jesus, whose love transcends words. They were stirring up a sleepy soul in need of encouragement.

My day was instantly transformed. Isn’t it just like the Holy Spirit to interrupt an ordinary work day with a performance of such spontaneous glory that we can’t help but be pointed to Jesus? During their song, I kept thinking to myself, “No one is here to hear them!” and “I should go tell my colleagues to come out here!” Instead I surrendered and simply listened, and now, looking back, I wonder if that performance was only for me. Isn’t that just like the Lord? To arrange a private concert to stir me toward love and good works?

Not all of us are part of a choir that can sing someone’s soul to the Lord, but we have all been blessed to be a blessing. Westminster will spend this year looking for ways to stir one another to love and good works. Will you join us? ⊕

The Investors Circle: Celebrating Our Inaugural Year!



Each year, since the founding of Westminster Christian Academy in 1976, generous families committed to Christian schooling have invested in our school. Building on that powerful tradition, this past year, Westminster launched The Investors Circle. Members of this leadership giving society generously give \$1,000 or more to The Westminster Annual Fund.

In our first year, so many responded to the invitation by joining together as a giving community to strengthen Westminster and to help advance our beloved school. We are grateful to the 169 charter members representing Westminster parents, grandparents, alumni parents, alumni, and friends. Many of our members have given sacrificially at all levels, from a \$1,000 gift to those of \$2,500, \$5,000, \$10,000, and beyond.


This year, charter members enjoyed exclusive events while connecting with one another and with Westminster leadership at socials and strategic vision casting meetings. In March, our first annual vision breakfast with Tom Stoner was a tremendous success! In September, charter members gathered to celebrate the inaugural year, enjoy Italian cuisine at Acero in Maplewood, and hear an insider's update on the school.

We were especially excited to welcome Westminster's first graduate **Clark Neuhoff '77**

and his wife **Cindy Robards** Neuhoff '78 as proud charter members of this giving society. Clark and Cindy led the charge in the alumni giving campaign through sharing their heart for Westminster with fellow alumni:

When asked to give, I thought back to how Westminster impacted me back in high school and how it still does today. I spoke to Carolyn Holt and asked if I could share this giving opportunity with fellow alumni. The message is simple: We all know that our Westminster experience changed us for the better. If we share a little of what God has blessed us with, then more students can have what we had. Westminster meant so much to my wife and me, and I know it is important to you as well. Today, Westminster has more than 1,000 students, but its vision and mission remain the same as in the early days – to prepare and equip more young men and women to engage the world and change it for Jesus Christ. Our giving helps enable Westminster to fulfill this high calling. Would you join Cindy and me?

Will you join the Neuhoffs as members of The Investors Circle this year? We encourage each Westminster family to consider how God might enable you to make a gift that is meaningful for your family. This leadership giving society is growing daily. Help us exceed 200 members in 2015-16!

When you join, watch for special members-only communications and exclusive event invitations! Contact **Carolyn Holt** at cholt@wcastl.org or 314.997.2900 to join today. You may also simply give online at wcastl.org/give. 

At The Investors Circle Inaugural Year Celebration, charter members and Westminster grandparents Jerry and Bonnie Alpert and their daughter-in-law Karin Alpert enjoy visiting over fine Italian cuisine at Acero in Maplewood.





Engaging Babylon: Life as An Exile

Students are challenged not to separate themselves from culture but to engage it.

By Chris Knerr, Director of the Integration of Faith and Learning and upper school history teacher



I was recently given the opportunity to speak on our theme of the year, *Living In Exile*, in Chapel. The prophet Jeremiah, speaking to the Israelites who found themselves in captivity in Babylon, gave what must have been a somewhat disheartening message:

Chris Knerr teaches Western Civilization and is currently in his 13th year of teaching at Westminster. Be sure to check out Mr. Knerr's entire Chapel message online. ▶

Thus says the Lord of hosts, the God of Israel, to all the exiles whom I have sent into exile from Jerusalem to Babylon: Build houses and live in them; plant gardens and eat their produce. Take wives and have sons and daughters; take wives for your sons, and give your daughters in marriage, that they may bear sons and daughters; multiply there, and do not decrease. But seek the welfare of the city where I have sent you into exile, and pray to the Lord on its behalf, for in its welfare, you will find your welfare. (Jeremiah 29:4-7)

In other words, God tells his people: You're going to be here for a while. Put down roots. Have families. Get a job. Oh, and by the way, work to flourish this completely foreign, pagan culture.

But what does this have to do with students at Westminster Christian Academy in Town & Country, Missouri? Are our students certainly not in exile in America? I asked the students to consider Augustine's words in *City of God* and to reflect



Each Wednesday in Chapel, different speakers explore what it means for students and staff to seek the welfare of their current environment – Westminster, St. Louis, and beyond – in their daily lives.

on which of these descriptions sounded more like our culture in modern America:

Accordingly, two cities have been formed by two loves: the earthly by the love of self, even to the hatred of God; and the heavenly by the love of God even to the contempt of self...For one seeks the glory from men; but the greatest glory of the other is God, the witness of conscience.

I certainly do not minimize the place of faith and biblical values that have had such an important influence on our history. But our students are not immune to the fact that more and more, our culture is looking far more like Babylon than the City of God, or even the America of 20 years ago. As Christians in an increasingly secular culture, we will feel more like exiles than citizens, more like captives than contributors. And Westminster students will feel the tension of life in Babylon.

In trying to help our students understand what it means to be an exile, I posed these questions: “Should we be surprised when Babylonians act like Babylonians? Should we expect Babylonians to act like Christians? Does sensuality and materialism come as a surprise to us? Are we shocked by the outlandish morality of cultural icons?”

If we answer “no” to these questions, what should be our response? Do we adopt a bunker mentality and completely disengage

from our surroundings? Do we redouble our efforts to win the “culture wars”? Or, might it be best to embrace our status as exiles destined for another home, and while we are here work to flourish this increasingly foreign and pagan culture? If so, our teachers and students need to begin to see their context in a new light and prepare to engage Babylon.

At this point in my Chapel message, I directed our students’ attention to the life of the prophet Daniel, who was an exile in Babylon. I don’t know if they wanted to hear this after a week of tests, papers, and quizzes, but I told them that engagement with Babylon will require a great deal of preparation and hard work:

Then the king commanded Ashpenaz, his chief eunuch, to bring some of the people of Israel, both the royal family and of the nobility, youths without blemish, of good appearance and skillful in all wisdom, endowed with knowledge, understanding and learning, and competent to stand in the king’s palace, and to teach them the literature and language of the Chaldeans... They were to be educated for three years, and at the end of that time, they were to stand before the king. (Daniel 1:3-5)

Like Daniel, our students will have to study! They will watch Babylonian films, they will read Babylonian literature, and they will engage the arts – not just for the sake of being “culturally relevant” but to understand



@connor_haf: So thankful for chapel and our awesome leader #blessed



@_zacharyhughes: @WCAchapel seems more honest & open to ideas than before, less afraid to be imperfect. I like that. If you have truth, don't fear questions.

“How do we handle the tension between engaging the city and our call to a life of holiness while avoiding being ‘holier than thou?’”

– Chris Knerr

Babylonian culture, just as Daniel did. Our students will leave our halls competent and prepared to flourish the city by being faithful to their calling, whether it be teaching, commerce, ministry, or medicine. Someday, some of our graduates may “stand before kings” and will serve those with great power and authority. My colleagues and I relish our role in preparing them well for such a task.

I was hopeful that our students would be encouraged by the fact that they would use their talents and skills to work for the good of the city, but I also wanted them to know that life in Babylon will not be comfortable and easy. Daniel understood that while he was to serve the city, he was also commanded to remain distinct from it. He “resolved himself that he would not defile himself with the king’s food” (Daniel 1:8). His fellow exiles, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, respectfully refused to bow to idols under threat for their lives saying, “...be it known to you, O King, that we will not serve your gods or worship the golden image that you have set up.”

Our students must leave Westminster with a firm understanding that they, too, are set apart as God’s people who, though working to flourish the city, will also be required to stand apart and resist its rebellion when called upon to do so. I asked the students, “What things could defile you in this Babylon?” and “How do we handle the tension between engaging the city and our

call to a life of holiness while avoiding being ‘holier than thou?’”

As a middle and upper school student years or months away from graduation, life in exile must seem abstract at best. “How do I engage the city I’m in now? I’m at Westminster. I have friends. I have schoolwork. Oh, and by the way, I’m not leaving any time soon.” I told them that we, in community, are to live the life of Daniel even within the walls of a Christian school. I challenged them to engage. How? By developing a sense of intellectual wonder by acting in plays, when writing poems and performing experiments, by playing instruments, and over time, by coming to the understanding that in using their talents and gifts they are contributing to this city. And we do all these things motivated by love for one another.

Our students live in a culture whose customs and practices are increasingly foreign and in many cases offensive. Yet in this land of exile, there will be numerous opportunities for them to be faithful to Christ by engaging the culture and working for its welfare. As a Christian educator, I pray with my colleagues that we will help to form young men and young women who will do just that.

I’m indebted to Denis Haack of Ransom Fellowship for the ideas that were the basis for this article. Read Denis’ 11-part series on life in Babylon at ransomfellowship.org. ⊕



Students answer questions about the medieval feudal system in Mr. Knerr’s Honors Western Civilization class.



PROPOSING A BETTER WAY

*Christian Engagement of Culture
with President of Wheaton College
Dr. Philip Ryken*

Guests from the St. Louis community and affiliates of Wheaton College gathered on a Monday evening in September to hear author and President of Wheaton College Dr. Philip Ryken speak on Christian engagement of culture. Pastors from 211 area churches were invited to join Head of School Dr. **Tom Stoner** for dinner and fellowship before Dr. Ryken's discussion. Dr. Ryken opened his remarks that evening with words from fourth-century Christian figure St. Ambrose of Milan: "We do not seek to impose anything on the world, but we seek to propose a better way."

Imposition, Dr. Ryken says, is not the answer to the vast number of issues Christians face in today's culture. Issues involving racism, political leadership, religious freedom, sexual identity, and radical Islam often invoke a number of predictable responses – anger, negativity, frustration, withdrawal, or the attempt to gain political power. The Christian response to culture,

“THE CHRISTIAN RESPONSE
TO CULTURE SHOULD BE
THOUGHTFUL ENGAGEMENT
ROOTED IN THE PRINCIPLES OF
A CHRISTIAN WORLDVIEW.”

– Dr. Philip Ryken

Dr. Ryken says, should be thoughtful engagement rooted in the principles of a Christian worldview. The doctrines of creation, human depravity, grace, and glory should help direct a Christian’s response to a fallen world with the right amount of sympathy, humility, courage, and perspective.

The following morning, students heard from Dr. Ryken at a special Chapel. His message to them as young believers challenged them not to lose their taste for the wonder and truth of the gospel or to forget the value of God’s blessings in their lives. Without these things, Dr. Ryken says, believers run the risk of wasting their lives instead of giving their lives away. His two-day visit to Westminster concluded with a coffee reception with current and former board members. ⊕



Wheaton College President Dr. Philip Ryken spoke to Westminster students in Chapel about what it looks like to value God’s blessings in their lives.

WILDCAT WEEKEND & ALUMNI HOMECOMING 2015

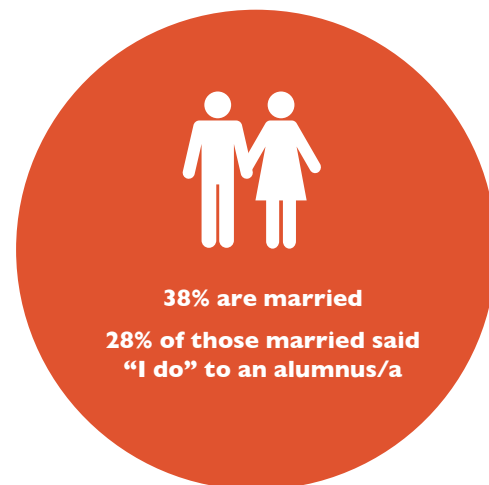
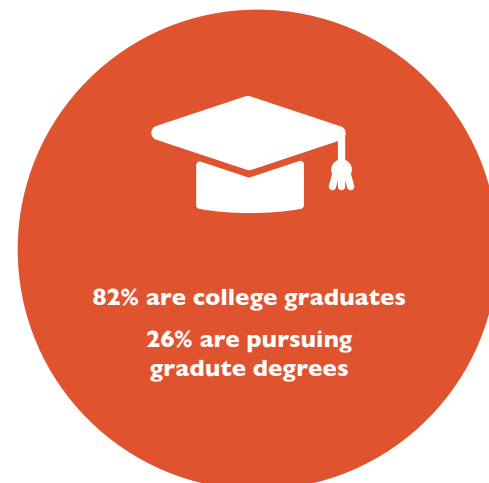
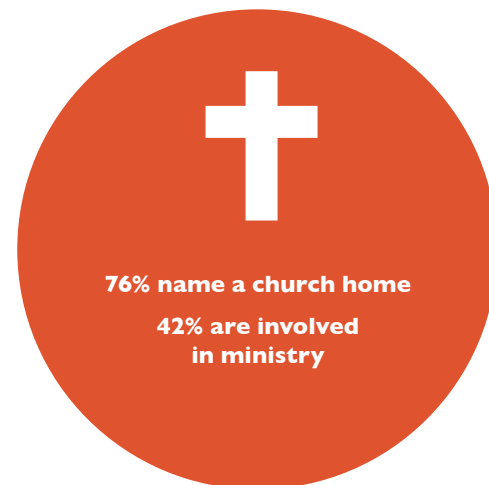
Good friends, delicious food, Wildcat victories, and fall fun with the entire school community: Wildcat Weekend & Alumni Homecoming 2015 was one to remember! In addition to the community-wide dinner hosted by Parents Advancing Westminster (PAW), the weekend included an all-school spirit rally, varsity football game, alumni soccer game, alumni reunions, student-led Carnival, and variety show. Thank you to everyone who came and made it an outstanding weekend!



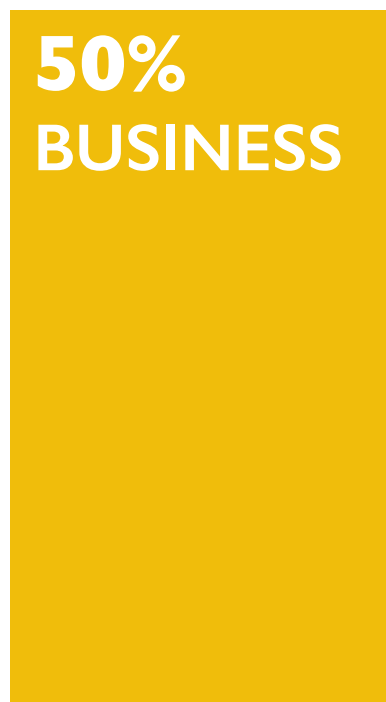


Where are they now?

Each year since 2000, Westminster has surveyed alumni to gain a snapshot of how their lives have taken shape in the six years since graduation from Westminster. The percentages represented in this graphic are the averages of all classes from 2000 to 2009. We continue to pray for our graduates as we rejoice in learning how God leads and cares for them as they live out Westminster's vision.



IN THE FIELD...




alumni spotlight

 [Read more Alumni Spotlights at wcastl.org/alumni.](https://wcastl.org/alumni)



*Mary Catherine
Drexler Schimpf with
husband Jon and sons
Max and Luke.*

Mary Catherine Drexler Schimpf '01

As director of the theatre program at Chattanooga Christian School (CCS) in Chattanooga, Tenn., **Mary Catherine Drexler Schimpf** has been directing musicals and plays, teaching acting classes, and running a full-time musical theatre camp for children in the summer for a decade. She teaches all ages (kindergarten through 12th grade) but primarily focuses on high school students.

After graduating from Westminster in 2001, Mary Catherine moved to the Chattanooga area to attend Covenant College, where she received a B.A. in music in 2005.

Her passion for theatre began and grew at Westminster and blossomed during her time at Covenant – not because she had a wealth of theatre opportunities in college but rather because of the lack of opportunity. “The music and theatre I had been immersed in at Westminster suddenly dropped out of my life, and I missed it deeply,” she says. “It wasn’t because of the performances; I missed the beautiful process of collaborating, problem-solving, and working together on a giant project bigger than any of us! I quickly came to realize that theatre was my life’s passion. So I went off in search of it.”



Mary Catherine stars as Sally in Westminster's production of *You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown*.

Mary Catherine says former Westminster theatre director **Susan Hauser** Maynor '86 originally gave her the idea for a musical theatre camp for children, which she has been running since 2002, first in St. Louis and now in Chattanooga, in an effort to build performance technique and inspire interest in the arts.

For her senior project at Covenant, she directed the school's first musical, *You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown*, having played Sally in the same show at Westminster in 2001 under the direction of Mrs. Maynor. "Westminster equipped me with experience and a set of tools I could suddenly pull out and use!" she says.

Since moving to Chattanooga for college, the city has been home. After graduation, she was hired to choreograph the musical at CCS and has worked there ever since. While at Covenant, Mary Catherine met her husband Jon. "He helped paint sets for my very first musical and has helped

me get through non-stop directing from that point on," she says. The two have been married nearly nine years and have two sons, Max (6) and Luke (4).

Mary Catherine's parents – **Jim Drexler** (former Westminster head of upper school) and **Sara Drexler** (former Westminster leadership coordinator) live nearby but have spent the past two years in Indonesia working to start a Christian teachers' college there.

"I credit Westminster and my parents with every bit of inspiration and preparation for the job and life I lead now," says Mary Catherine, who, at age 5, acted in Westminster's production of *The King and I* under the direction of **Betsy Tyvoll**. "It was a formative experience for me, and I was looking for theatrical opportunities from then on," she says. "Growing up around Westminster meant that I was very familiar with high school life; those big kids might as well have been celebrities to me! I used to sneak into musical rehearsal in the 'old gym' and watch **Kathy Eichelberger** or Betsy Tyvoll direct the students. My mom would help with productions, and I would tag along every chance I got. So even before I was a Westminster student, I had found my niche – the arts."

Mary Catherine says she learned about music and theatre as well as how an art form can be used to build one another up from a few special teachers. "Kathy Eichelberger, **Tim Wilds** and

Susan Maynor are my heroes," she says. "They taught me about collaboration, excellence and devotion to your craft. They inspired me beyond what I could explain in words because I draw on what they taught me every day. They changed me," she says, also expressing gratitude toward her parents, who enabled her to have these experiences and continually pushed her toward excellence. "The reason for all of this rigor was perpetually clear to me: we are created in the image of God; we enjoy creating things because we are like Him in that way; and the arts provide an excellent platform for beautiful creation, which we can give back to Him as an offering of praise."

On a sweet note, Sara, Mary Catherine's mom, taught and mentored Susan when she was a student at Westminster. "Mrs. Drexler was a huge part of my story growing up," says Susan.

Reflecting on her teachers at Westminster, Mary Catherine says she hopes she can have a fraction of their impact on her own students. "It's about relationship – finding potential in kids and building it up in them," she says. "Nothing brings me greater joy than seeing a show thrive because students are placed in their perfect roles. Watching students excel in theatre at Westminster gave me great confidence in taking the bold steps I have taken at CCS."

Which Westminster teacher(s) impacted you significantly?



From left: Jim Drexler, Sara Drexler, Julie Drexler Johnson '07 and husband Michael, Nate Drexler '03 and wife Caroline, John Drexler (member of the Class of 2008), Mary Catherine, Luke, Max, and Jon.

"**Kathy Eichelberger** saw my enthusiasm for musical theatre at a young age and took me under her wing. She inspired me and gave me something to aspire to and work for. I credit her with opening this world up to me, giving me opportunity to learn, and most importantly giving me a place to belong. She gave me the best gift because she set my sights on something to strive hard for at a young age. This relationship echoes in my mind when I work with younger students, and it gives me

joy to look for ways to build them up and help each one of them reach their God-given potential.

Susan Maynor inspired my love for acting and choreography, exposed me to new things, and taught me how to make a business out of this field. She created a musical theatre camp and basically passed it off to me to grow and expand however I chose. It was the most empowering thing for an 18-year-old to experience, and it created a way to practice directing, organizing, designing shows on a small scale before launching into a career.

Is it fair to talk about my parents? My dad [**Jim Drexler**] is a steady and caring administrator. He does not focus on what a student should or shouldn't do but rather on gently guiding students toward their potential as God's image bearers and in light of what Christ has done for us. My mom [**Sara Drexler**] has spoken so much logical wisdom into my life and has always pressed me on to big things because of the safety and privilege of being a child of God."

– Mary Catherine Drexler Schimpf '01

 alumni spotlight

Brad Tubbesing '99 and Caroline Taylor Tubbesing '00

Brad Tubbesing '99 first noticed Caroline Taylor Tubbesing '00 his 8th grade year at Westminster. Little did he know then that a couple decades later, she would be his wife and working alongside him with Reformed University Fellowship (RUF), a ministry that seeks to help college students be transformed by the gospel of grace. Having first served in the campus ministry at the University of Alabama in Huntsville (UAH) and now at Indiana University (IU) in Bloomington, much of their desire to work with college students stemmed from their own college experiences.

“In our fraternity and sorority houses, we saw how many students fill their lives with other things,” says Brad. “It was a timely opportunity to help them see that Jesus is what they truly long for and encourage them to begin a life of dependence on Him,” says Brad, who leads RUF at IU. His responsibilities include preaching at the ministry’s weekly on-campus large group gathering, leading some small group Bible studies, and overseeing the student leadership team.



Brad received a political science degree from Miami University in Ohio in 2002 and a Master of Divinity from Covenant Theological Seminary in 2006. During seminary, he worked in several church- and ministry-related internships. Following graduation, Brad accepted a call to begin a new RUF ministry at UAH, where he served as the campus minister for five years. He and Caroline then moved to Bloomington in 2012 to begin a new RUF ministry at IU and help start

“[The] foundation given to me at Westminster made me think about and make sense of the broken world around me – especially as I went off to college – and undoubtedly affects my ministry today.”
– Brad Tubbesing

Hope Presbyterian Church.

Caroline graduated from the University of Missouri in 2003 with a communication degree and began work as a wedding planner at St. Louis Wedding Design, where she stayed until 2005 before assuming a role as admissions administrator at Covenant Theological Seminary. Today, Caroline spends much of her time caring for their four children – Eliza (9), Adie (6), Jane (4), and JR (2) – but still devotes time to the ministry through hosting small groups of students in their home, leading Bible studies, and meeting with girls in the ministry one on one, in addition to working with their church.

At Westminster, despite knowing each other since middle school, the two didn't start dating until Brad's senior year at Westminster. They were married right after Caroline graduated from college, in June 2003. They say

Westminster played a major part in preparing them well for the work they are doing with college students. "Westminster's Bible courses had a very positive effect on me," says Brad, naming Old Testament, Biblical Ethics, and Worldviews. "At a very important age, the teachers helped me form and solidify important truths about myself and the world around me. I learned that because of sin, the world is not the way it is supposed to be, but Jesus is bringing redemption. This foundation given to me at Westminster made me think about and make sense of the broken world around me – especially as I went off to college – and undoubtedly affects my ministry today."

Both Brad and Caroline credit their Westminster teachers, coaches, and mentors who led by example and showed them the characteristics of godly leaders. Caroline appreciated how leadership was valued and encouraged at Westminster and as a result assumed several leadership positions as a student. "From leadership retreats to one-on-one talks with Mrs. [Sara] Drexler, I received much training on how to lead and care for others," she says. "If I have any compassion for others and desire to help students see the beauty of the gospel, I attribute that to the compassion – and integrity and grace – to the example I saw in my teachers at Westminster."

Brad adds, "I remember how Mr. [Mark] Hearne and Mr. [Ken] Boesch gave me opportunities to excel in areas they know I was strong in academically, and how my soccer coaches showed me grace when I let our team down but also pushed me to play to my greatest potential," he says. "The way they empowered me to take risks, challenge myself, and lead is something I reflect on often, as much of my job is empowering students to do the same – to lead and boldly follow Jesus where He has called them."

Brad says they hope and pray that through RUF, many of the non-Christian students they interact with will see their need for God's grace and come to a saving relationship with Him. For the Christian students, he says they pray that they would gain a fuller grasp of the beauty of the gospel. "Caroline and I hope that all their earthly desires – for friendships, a family, successful finances, or a certain vocation – would be lived out as a means to praise God for his goodness and grace," he says, noting that they also pray that students would see the need to be involved in the local church throughout college and their lives. "We're grateful that Westminster taught us many of these truths, which we now have the opportunity to teach to students today."



Caroline and Brad Tubbesing celebrate Christmas with their four children.



Brad and Caroline pose at the 1999 Junior-Senior Banquet.

A Match Made in Algebra

My senior year (Caroline's junior year), we were a pretty new couple. During a morning class, Mr. [Rich] VanGilst told me to come to his classroom for lunch, as I would be serving a detention for talking too much in class. Little did Mr. VanGilst know that Caroline – my new crush – would be in his classroom at that same time (she was in VG's college algebra class that took place during my lunch period).

Naturally, before the class started, I made sure I was in a seat within earshot of Caroline. The guy who just got into trouble for talking too much had no problem with whispering to Caroline throughout the class. Finally, though, VG had had enough. "Mr. Tubbesing, do you care to share with the rest of us what you keep whispering to this young lady?" Without a moment's hesitation, I responded, "Mr. VanGilst. I'd rather not share. But let's be honest. Can you blame me for talking to this girl? I mean, look at her!" And with that, Caroline got up from her desk and bolted out of the classroom.

Which Westminster teacher(s) impacted you significantly?

"Mr. [Tim] Baldwin taught me how to think critically. He taught me these skills during my Western Civilization class sophomore year and a small problem-based learning class my junior year. In addition to learning to be thoughtful academically, we also learned from him how we are to care for one another. There was never a lesson on this, but I watched him speak kindly to all students and care for those who 'weren't like the others. This made an astounding impact on me: a highly regarded man had time for and cared for even the lowliest of students. I have tried to apply his example in my personal life but also in my work with our college students – reminding myself to not only care for those who are easy to care for; but also for those on the fringe. Sometimes the marginalized student is one who is depressed and removed, but sometimes this student is the girl in the best sorority on campus who is actually extremely lonely. God has cared for me when I deserved nothing from Him. That is something my parents and Westminster teachers continually reminded me of, so it is

ingrained in my mind and heart. For that, I am forever indebted."

– Caroline Taylor Tubbesing '00

"Tim Hall '80 made a lasting impression on me. Not just as a teacher but as a person. He had a caring, compassionate, and pastoral way with students, yet he was also strong and firm in his convictions and demeanor. I always felt like he genuinely cared about me as a person. Even though I was horrible in his classes (physics and chemistry), I somehow loved him as a teacher. I think it was largely his ability to illustrate how the disciplines he taught us (and all disciplines for that matter) show us so much about God and His Creation. Mr. Hall really helped me connect the dots and see that all of Creation is under God's sovereignty, and therefore any study or endeavor we pursue can be conducted in a way that brings Him glory – from academics to athletics, entertainment, or one's profession."

– Brad Tubbesing '99

⊕ alumni spotlight

Greg Schoenberg '08

Greg Schoenberg '08, who served as assistant football and strength and conditioning (S&C) coach for three years, recently assumed leadership of the S&C program for the 2015-16 school year. One of former S&C Coach **Dave Schall's** first students, Greg was quick to grasp his vision for the program, as his background in S&C spans most of his life. From a young age, Greg watched his older brother compete in and win bodybuilding competitions and eventually own his own gym.

"All my life, and particularly throughout my journey at Westminster, I was always in and around a weight room, and I spent a lot of days before or after school training," says Greg, who had played linebacker, fullback, and kicker on Westminster's football team. Greg even held the single season field goal record until senior **David Williams** broke it in 2014. "It was fun coaching David and seeing him break my record!" says Greg. "Kicking is a tough position because as coaches, we expect every kick to be good. That leads to a lot of pressure. David and I tried to focus on one kick at a time; he did a



Greg talks strategy with a varsity football player before sending him back onto the field.

great job and has certainly left some big shoes to fill."

After graduation, Greg went onto play on a full scholarship at Washburn University – a Division 2 school in the MIAA Conference – in Topeka, Kansas. As a fullback on Washburn's team, Greg says, he felt blessed to be coached by a strong Christian man. "Coach's actions always pointed to Christ," says Greg. "He always drove home his motto, 'FAITH, FAMILY,

FOOTBALL.'" Greg's senior year, the team made it to the second round of the playoffs and lost to the eventual national champions but ended the season as one of the top 20 schools in the country. Greg was named first team All-Region and received All-American honors while studying to become a physical education teacher, a role he began in 2015-16 along with leadership of the S&C program.

Before approaching Coach Schall

about returning to Westminster to help coach, Greg worked at a granite company where he was able to apply his gifts. “I enjoy working with my hands and doing physical labor jobs,” says Greg. “I see it as a ministry. God has blessed me with the ability to do some jobs that require hard physical work, and it’s an act of worship when I’m able to use the abilities He has given me.”

Greg also served as physical education teacher at Covenant Christian School for one year. “It was a great opportunity because I had a chance to teach many kids who will likely attend Westminster, so I’m excited to get to see and coach them again one day.”

When working with athletes, Greg says one of his goals is to create a fun and welcoming environment. He wants all students to feel comfortable signing up for S&C or coming into the weight room to work out after school. “I want kids to know more about S&C and nutrition; I want them to take hold of the truth that our bodies are the temples of the Holy Spirit, and we are responsible to take care of them to the best of our ability.”

Greg says Westminster students have a greater chance to thrive in S&C now than they ever have before. “When I was a student here, there was almost no S&C culture,” he says. “Yes, we had sports, but the athletic program was nothing like it is now.”



Greg and his wife Rebekah proudly support Westminster football!

Westminster athletics have been growing and improving rapidly because many coaches like Dave Schall have poured themselves into the program and into athletes. I’m very excited for the opportunity to do the same.”



Guide Caleb Gilkerson, Chris, and Greg stop for a photo on a hike through the Badlands on a South Dakota Summer Seminar trip.

Which Westminster teacher(s) impacted you significantly?

“I had such great relationships with all of my teachers, but **Chris Knerr** in particular became much more than a teacher to me. My senior year, he moved into my parents’ neighborhood, and we became friends. He would drive to Washburn with his family to

watch me play football, and we’ve road-tripped together as well. It’s who Chris was to me not only in the classroom but outside of it that made him so impactful in my life.”

– Greg Schoenberg '08

⊕ class notes

▶ [Learn more at wcastl.org/ChimesFall2015.](http://wcastl.org/ChimesFall2015)



'82

Members of the Class of 1982 recently gathered in Linda Trost's home for a reunion and laughs. Pictured left to right: **Todd Johnson**, **Julie Phillips Belue**, **Karen Lindemann Davault**, **Nancy O'Neal Miller**, **Linda Smith Trost**, **Brookie Kramer Moore**, and **Patrick Dare**.

'83

Coach **Jean Daehn Evans** led the boys varsity volleyball team to a state title this year. "I'm thrilled to win a state title, especially for my kids who have worked so hard," says Jean. "We have had a lot of great kids come through our program, and many of our alumni come out to practices and help out. This title belongs to all of them." ▶

'84

John Beadles has several ceramic pieces on display at the Hartsfield Jackson Atlanta Airport near the international terminal. The exhibit will be on display until spring 2016. ▶

'87

Steve Johnson and his team at KFOR-TV in Oklahoma City, Okla., recently won a national Emmy Award for Outstanding Regional Spot News Story for their coverage of the May 2013 tornadoes that hit Moore, Okla. The News and Documentary Emmy Awards are given by the National Academy of Television Arts & Sciences (NATAS). Steve, who was the acting news director at the time of the storms, gave the acceptance speech on the stage at the Lincoln Center in New York in front of an audience of more than a thousand news media industry executives, news and documentary producers and journalists including ABC's David Muir, CBS' Scott Pelley, NBC's Chuck Todd, and CNN's Larry King and Ted Turner.

'88

David Workman recently began his M.A. in Management & Leadership at Webster University while continuing to work as a content specialist in the ecommerce department of New Balance and working on a sequel to his debut novel *Absolute Authority*. He and his wife Stephanie have three children.

'89

Meredith Wiggers Heintz and **Brittany Wesley** Hartloge '05, along



with a class from Promise Christian Academy, joined us for Chapel one Wednesday this fall. Read Meredith's story at wcastl.org/alumni. ▶

'90



Nicole Hendricks Duckworth works as the accountant for Accutrain Corporation in Virginia Beach, Va. She is also a member of the Board of Directors for the Hampton Roads chapter of the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation (JDRF) and has served as the treasurer of the Board for the past three years. This year, her family participated in their sixth Walk for JDRF since their daughter Natalie was diagnosed with Type 1 diabetes more than five years ago. Her family has raised more than \$24,000 to date for JDRF. She and her husband live in Virginia Beach, Va., with their two children Jacob (14) and Natalie (9).

'93

Rich Baumann has been married to his wife Alyssa for nine years. Their daughter Lucy was born on St Patrick's Day in 2012, and son Garrett was born on March 4, 2014. Last April, Rich was elected as an alderman for the city of Manchester, Ill.



'97

Matt Drissell is an art professor at Dordt College where he teaches a variety of classes from art history to painting and drawing. As a student, Matt illustrated the "Wildcat Man" series in *The Wildcat Roar*. View his current work at mattdrissell.com/shelf-life.html. Matt, his wife Becky, and their three children live in northwest Iowa.

Westminster is thankful for **Charlie Hinderliter** and how he continues to

help equip our *We the People* team each year. He was also a judge for this year's national competition!



'99

Matt Petry lives in Springfield, Mo., with his wife Katie and kids Eli (4) and Evie (1). He works at Evangel University in Adult & Graduate Studies Admissions and is pursuing his Master of Organizational Leadership there as well. Katie is an intervention specialist for Springfield Public Schools.



'00

Rebekah Baxter Weinrich lives in Columbia, S.C., where her husband Chris is a chaplain with the Army. Since getting married in 2010, they have lived in Killeen, Tex. (Ft. Hood) and Grovetown, Ga. (Ft. Gordon). They are moving again in December 2015 for another two- to three-year assignment at Ft. Riley, Kans. Their daughter Emily turned two in June 2015. Emily's uncle **David Baxter** '02 and his wife Ashley welcomed son Hudson on July 7, 2015. Rebekah received a master's in counseling from Covenant Theological Seminary in 2009 and her counseling license in Georgia in 2014.

'02

Drew Winship recently gave a TEDx talk on the science of legal bias. Drew is founder/ CEO of Juristat and founder/ director of GlobalHack. ▶



'03

Tiffany Hough Anderson, her husband Brad, and their son James (4) welcomed Catherine Elizabeth on July 13, 2015. Along with owning her own small business consulting firm, Tiffany and her father co-founded a St. Louis-based foundation called Changing Lives Foundation in 2013. The Hough family, including **Brittney Hough** Madden '09, now runs the foundation, targeting gaps in funding that directly affect children in the St. Louis area.

'04



Katie MacKoul Hillgren and husband Eric recently joined the Peace Corps and now live in Fiji where they are training as youth development volunteers. The Hillgrens will live and

work at the community level to promote and develop healthy lifestyles and environmental awareness in conjunction with the Ministry of Education and Ministry of Youth and Sport.

Abby Schnitzler Evrard and husband Jimmy welcomed twin boys to their



family on May 24, 2015. James Wyatt and Jackson Carter were born premature with no complications and are thriving at almost five months old. They feel blessed by God's goodness and provision.

Heather Schaper Bateman and husband **Andrew Bateman** moved from Colorado to St. Louis in January with their two daughters Riley (6) and Hadley (1). Heather is working as a marketing assistant at Parc Provence



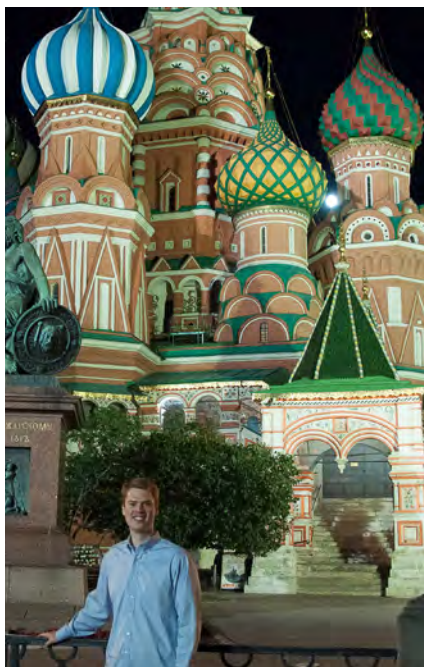
Assisted Living, and Andrew is working as a senior coach at St. Peter's Crossfit. They recently celebrated their eight-year wedding anniversary.

'05

Emily Ottsen Weber and Jerry Weber were married on May 30, 2015. The couple lives in St. Louis. The bridal party included **Maddie Ottsen** '14, junior **Matt Ottsen**, sophomore **Mollie Ottsen**, and 8th grader **Hanna Ottsen**.



In August 2015, **Daniel Hoover** became lead video editor for the nationally syndicated TV show *In Depth with Graham Bensinger*. Now in its sixth season, *In Depth* is an Emmy Award-winning sports interview series airing each week across the U.S. to 90 million households. Guests featured on the show have included Shaquille O'Neal, Arnold Palmer, Brett Favre,



Clayton Kershaw, Kobe Bryant, and Tony Hawk. *In Depth* recently sent Daniel to Moscow, Russia, as part of a film crew to interview NHL star Alex Ovechkin for an episode airing in October. Daniel lives in Webster Groves, Mo.

'08

Lisa Hoover Grove and husband Matt welcomed their first child Jaden Cole Grove on March 3, 2015. In addition to caring for Jaden, Lisa has a private music and theatre business and has enjoyed choreographing the last five Westminster musicals. Matt works at Great Southern Bank. The Groves live in University City, Mo.



Robotics is a family affair for **Bethany Hoekzema**. Read about her collaboration with the Team4256 - Cyborg Cats at a summer camp for children. ▶



Greg Schoenberg married Rebekah Sander on July 18, 2015 in Chesterfield, Mo. Greg works as a physical education teacher and strength and conditioning coach at Westminster, and Rebekah has her master's in occupational therapy from Maryville University.

See *Greg's Alumni Spotlight* on page 45.

'10

After graduating from Westminster, **Thomas Porter** continued his education at The University of Tulsa, where he graduated cum laude with a double major in energy management and finance. He was president of the university's Association of International Petroleum Negotiators Student Club, mentor chair

for Tulsa's Energy Management Student Association, university ambassador, and an orientation leader. Thomas also minored in



theatre and performed in four university productions. He was the recipient of the Energy Management Academic Achievement Award, given to the senior with the highest GPA; a Top Ten Freshman; and member of Beta Gamma Sigma Honors Fraternity. Thomas was one of five graduating seniors to receive the David R. Lawson Outstanding Senior Award from the Collins College of Business and one of 10 seniors to receive the Jess Chouteau Outstanding Senior Award in recognition of his leadership and service to the University while at TU.

In the spring of 2013 Thomas participated in an exchange program at Robert Gordon University in Aberdeen Scotland where he took classes in energy law and marketing and interned with Decom North Sea, an international offshore decommissioning trade association.

After completing two summer internships with ConocoPhillips, Thomas joined the company full time in June 2014

as an associate landman in Houston, Tex. He attends Grace Bible Church, continues his civic and professional service as a volunteer for Junior Achievement in the Houston public school system, and serves as a member of the American Association of Blacks in Energy (AABE) and president of the Houston Alumni chapter for The University of Tulsa.

While at Westminster, Thomas served as a class officer, peer counselor, and captain of the swim team. He was also involved in the performing arts and was photo editor for the yearbook. His senior year, he received the Obadiah Award as recognition for his servant leadership. Teacher Scott VonderBruegge worked with Thomas for three years on the yearbook staff. He says, "By the time Thomas was a senior, I realized he'd outclassed me, and I could tell he'd be someone people would be lucky to call their boss."

Zack Dorton graduated from the Police Academy and now works for the Ellisville, Missouri police force. A few of his classmates, **Micah Mills**, **Michael Koebbe**, and **Richard Copeland**, were there to help him celebrate at graduation.



Kate Krause Schuman married Matt Schuman on June 6, 2015 in St. Louis. The wedding party included **Rebecca Krause '12**, **Christina Dohr '10**, and **Sarah Hughes '10**. Kate and Matt live in Wheaton, Ill., where Kate works at First Trust Portfolios and Matt works at RR Donnelley.

'11



Emily Mitchell married **Alec Mitchell** on July 25, 2015 at Chandler Hill Vineyards.

Hannah Mitchell '13 was the maid of honor; and **Brooke Siebenman '11** was a bridesmaid. **Ben Mitchell '13** served at the best man, and junior **Jake Mitchell**, **Bennett Bell '11**, **Ryan Allee '11**, **Peter Sippel '11**, and **Steven Fitzgerald '11** were groomsmen. Rev. Dr. Tim Gibson officiated. Emily and Alec live in Lookout Mountain, Ga.

Spencer Seabaugh graduated from the University of Missouri in May 2015 and is attending Whittier Law School in Orange County, Calif.

'12



This summer, five Westminster alumni at The University of Tulsa – **Noah Roberts**, **Max Lindstrom**, **Evan James**, **Kaylie Duke '13**, and **Drake Norman '13** – traveled to Scotland with the campus group Presbyterian Leaders and Scholars. They spent two weeks learning about the Reformation.

Rebecca Waller won two awards during the Honors Convocation at Lindenwood University. The Robert and Gwendolyn Feuerbacher Greek Character and Service Award is given to fraternal men and women who

have shown exemplary dedication to their brothers and sisters and embody loyalty, honor, leadership, and service to the university and community; Rebecca was the only 2015 inductee. She also received the LindenLeader Award for the second time; this award is given in recognition of outstanding achievements in the Work and Learn program at Lindenwood. The award is based on the quality of the student's on-campus work, academic performance, and leadership on campus.

Greenville College softball player **Bryn McKie** was recently selected 1st team All-Conference for the St. Louis Intercollegiate Athletic Conference, NCAA Div III 1st team All-Region, and NCCAA 1st Team All-America.



Matt Brugner and Luke Turner played at the NCCGA Spring 2015 National Championship in North Carolina.

In May, **Ryan Haxel** was featured in the *St. Louis Post-Dispatch* when he scored a 65 in the Publinx Open – topping the amateur field at the spring 2015 tournament. ▶

'13



Emily Bick Hamby married husband Kyle on August 1, 2015.

Meg Smith recently gave a TEDx talk, "Revelation & Elegy." ▶

James Hoekzema and his team participated in GlobalHack IV, an annual hackathon that brings developers,



designers, and entrepreneurs together to solve real-world, civic-minded problems. James and his teammates comprised one of four winning teams at the event held this summer!



Brooke Cusumano recently placed second in the Missouri Valley Conference Tournament and won the Missouri Valley Elite 18 Award, the top scholar-athlete award in conference. She was also the WCGA All American Scholar for the second year in a row; a Murray State Invitational medalist in the fall, Missouri Valley Scholar Athlete of the Week in spring and fall 2015, and Missouri Valley Athlete of the Week in fall 2015. Furthermore, she placed second in the University of Illinois Chicago shootout this fall. ▶



During his first-year season at Washington and Lee University, **Bennett Lewis** became a Centennial Conference Runner-up and was a NCAA East Regional placer. This past season, Bennett notched a 15-6 record while winning the Washington and Lee Invitational and earning his second straight NWCA Scholar All-American certificate. In the summer, he traveled to the U.K to study history and English at St. Anne's College of Oxford University and became the third W&L wrestler to head abroad for his studies this year. ▶

Parker Briden shared his opinion of this fall's first GOP debate in CQ Roll Call. ▶

'14

Sydney Seabaugh received a 4.0 at Lindenwood University and was made co-captain of the Lady Lions softball team for the 2015-16 season.

'15

The **Class of 2015** received \$16,171,484 in scholarships – the highest amount in school history. More than 70% of the class' graduates were awarded scholarships.

In the spring, **Emily Broyles** was selected to be a National Cheerleaders Association (NCA) staff member. NCA is the original cheerleading company, founded in 1948, which runs the most well rounded camps in the nation. They select the most professional staff based on advanced jumps, tumbling, stunting, cheering, and communication skills. Emily instructed high school cheer camps throughout the Midwest this past summer. She is the first Westminster cheerleader to ever be chosen for this role.



Jazlyn Green was third runner up for the Fashionetta Scholarship, a program that supports young women in their future academic endeavors in post secondary education. She attends the University of Missouri.



Mike Rohlving '05 and team, including alumni **Harrison Farmer '15**, **Alex Docekal '07**, **Daniel Hoover '05**, **Luke McGowan '06**, **Justen Beasley '07**, **Bill Bubenik '07**, **Maggie Massot Bubenik '07**, **Dustin Reppell '00**, **Drew Port '15**, and **Sarah Haas '04**, were behind the successful short film "EVT," which was selected from a pool of thousands to be screened at the prestigious Cannes Film Festival this past May. Visit EVTMovie.com to check out the short and a special behind-the-scenes documentary to see how they created the entire film in just two days!



Juhyung Kim '09 and **Michael Talent '09** both stopped by the *We the People* banquet to celebrate the team's success!



Ever Martinez (member of the Class of 2007) and **Daniel Minnella '06** visited campus this fall. Ever came to know Christ at Westminster after being warmly embraced by the community – particularly by Daniel who mentored him through Spanish Club. Daniel is currently sharing the gospel, providing medical care, and building relationships with people in the Philippines.



Class of 1990 Reunion

From left: **Julianna Higgins** Mohn, **Jennifer Fiala** Campbell, **Lizzie Lewis** Vogel, **Angie Wall** Kimmel, **Tim Helmick**, **Stacie Fisher** Walker, **Brent Walker**, and **Alan Dalman**.



Class of 1995 Reunion

Left: Alumni gathered at Juniper { A Southern Table & Bar }, owned by **John Perkins** '95. Back row: **Jason Wescoat**, **John Moss**, **Mike Erkmann**, **Jake Bye**, **Jim Beckemeier**, **John Perkins**. Middle row: **Josh Hager**, **Sebastian Schnellbacher**, **Walker White** Herbold, **Katie Meyer** Yeadon, **Megan Koenig** Mueller. Front row: **Sarah Baker** Hager, **Erin Harris** Wood, **Amy Moniz** Svolopoulos, **Julie Biebel** Moss, **Mindy Kerckhoff** Sims, **Leisa Bononi** Covelli, **Abby Boeddeker** Bendick, **Sandra McCracken** Webb, **Krissy Kinney** Jennings, and **Traci Washington** Borrgeo.





Class of 2005 Reunion

Alumni and friends reunited on the rooftop of Maryland Walk in Clayton. Those in attendance included **Ashley Allen Aucker**; **Nate Aucker**; **Rachel Tarter Brown**; **Spencer Bubenik**; **Laura Mark Bush**; **John Carrington**; **Jeff Christianson**; **Megan Schmidt Christianson**; **Ruth Miller Donohue**; **Sarah Edmondson**; **Kate Pepper Forrester**; **Carter Garrett**; **Emily Isbell Graf**; **Jessie Fisher Gray**; **Beth Heyse Heflin**; **Dan Hoover**; **Lauren Hunt Jarrell**; **Ben Krumsieg**; **Derrick Langeneckert**; **Colin McCall**; **Megan Munson**; **Joe Nelson**; **Amy Gilbertson Pochapsky**; **Megan Petry Raby**; **Allison Reed**; **Lauren Stanford Rhyneer**; **Mike Rohlfig**; **Ashlynn Savage**; **Kelsey Schuessler**; **Lauryn Beasley Souder**; **Andrew Spalding**; **Stephanie South Stair**; **George Thampy**; **Tyler Watson**; **Lisa Weber**; **Emily Ottsen Weber**; **David Whitwell**, and **Kristy Shelberg Whitwell**.



Alumni Soccer Game

Back row: José Holliday, Tyler Watson '05, Nate Aucker '05, Josh Tischler '04, Michael Dudley '13, Tim Miller '11, Brian Stair '07, Coach Dan Legters, Alex Cusumano '10, Jonathan Hake '01, Kyle Ingram '01. Front row: David Stair '04, Stephen Kruse '04, Josh Ortiz '13, Nathan Cherian '13, Jake Grimes '10, Jack Dohr '13, Ryan Blackwell '07, Micah Mills '10, Andy Spalding '05.



Alumni Faculty and Staff

Alumni faculty and staff enjoy a beautiful morning on the Plaza! From left: Kelly Klemm Gilbert '96, Nick Gray '98, Doug Coleman '99, Tim Hall '80, Jason Wilkins '99, Greg Schoenberg '08, Carla Meyer Powell '99, and Kable Cunningham '02. Some staff are not pictured.

REPRESENT

THIS WINTER

#WCAalumni

Alumni, we want to see you this winter!

Alumni Football Game

Wednesday, November 25 at 1 p.m.
Email: Greg Schoenberg '08 at
gschoenberg@wcastl.org

Alumni Sports Night: Basketball and Volleyball

December 21, 6:30 p.m.

Alumni Hockey Night

December, TBA

Alumni Improv

January 8, 2016, 7 p.m.
February 5, 7 p.m.

Get involved!

To learn about community events or to update your info, visit

- wcastl.org/alumni
- wcastl.org/calendar
- facebook.com/wcastlAlumni
- facebook.com/westminsterchristianacademy
- twitter.com/wcastl
- instagram.com/wcastl
- email Hannah Wallace Murray '93 at hmurray@wcastl.org

We can't wait to see you again!

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Students experiment with solvents in Laura Berry's honors chemistry class.

ACADEMIC REPORT

At Westminster, high-caliber academics go hand in hand with the cultivation of Christian faith and character. Our mission to prepare students to engage the world and change it for Jesus Christ requires excellence in both of these areas. Visit our website to read our **Academic Report**. [▶](#)