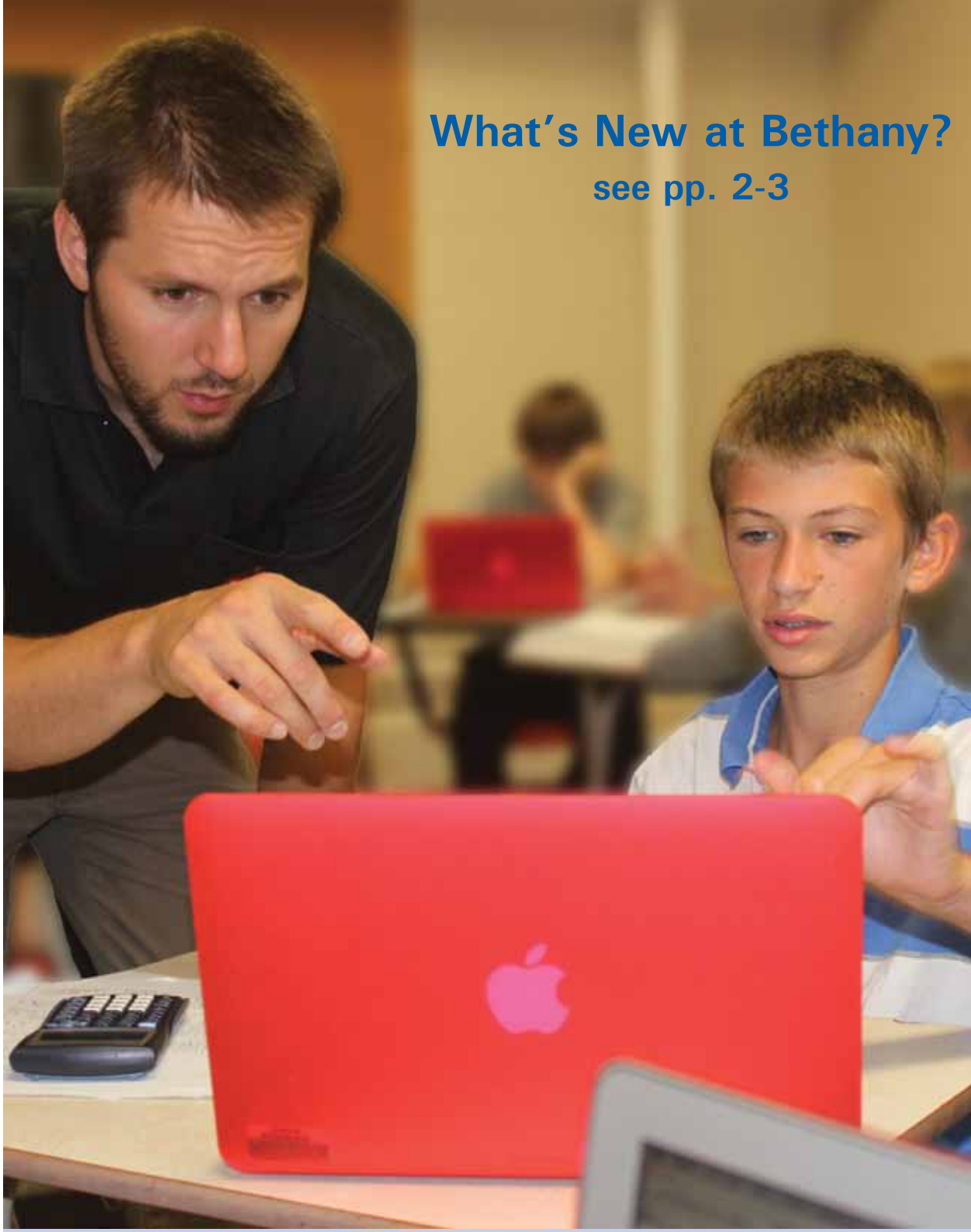
Bethany Christian Schools BULLETIN



What's New at Bethany?

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Bethany
CHRISTIAN SCHOOLS

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Campus News

Cover: *Algebra 8* teacher Josh Weaver assists Kory Kern ('18) with an assignment. The new one-to-one computer program allows Weaver to use a flipped classroom: he records lectures that students view as homework so that class time can be used to assist students with their questions and understanding.

New in 2013

Bethany is a small school, with big opportunities—and exciting things are happening!

Enrollment Increase

This school year 56 students are new to Bethany, giving Bethany its third successive enrollment increase—7% from last year—and highest enrollment (281) in seven years.

This increase in enrollment coincides with the expansion of Bethany's grade 4 and 5 classes and with Indiana's Choice Scholarship program, commonly referred to as vouchers. Vouchers have made Bethany more affordable for many families and increased accessibility as a broader range of families in Elkhart County now view Bethany as a realistic opportunity for educating their children. This year 110 Bethany students are receiving nearly $475,000 in Choice Scholarships—and these and other students receive additional need-based assistance thanks to Bethany's generous donors.

Busing Expands

Another program that has allowed some families, especially those with younger children, to consider Bethany is the before and after-school transportation service. After two years of daily service to Elkhart, this year Bethany has added a route to Middlebury.

International Students

While most of Bethany's more than 25% non-Caucasian students come from Elkhart County, 17 students come from abroad. Three of these students attend Bethany as the result of a new relationship with the Cambridge Institute, which recruits students from China, arranges boarding, and provides English as a Second Language instruction.

Diversity across racial-ethnic, religious, and economic lines enriches the Bethany community.

From the Principal

As this issue celebrates, Bethany offers students many opportunities to test and develop leadership skills. Jeremy Kauffman's article highlights what he learned about leadership from Coach Buller. The two articles by current students, Katie Hurst and Katie Shank, illustrate another aspect of leadership cultivation at Bethany—opportunities for developing journalistic skills for real-life applications.

Bethany provides formal instruction in leadership. Assistant principal Tim Lehman guides and supports student government leaders as they seek to make meaningful decisions to strengthen the school community. Faculty sponsors help fish heads learn to motivate students to serve guests well and succeed in raising needed funds.

Krysten Parson teaches several courses on leadership, including *Leading the Next Generation* during J-Term 2014. Its focus will be on building relationships, planning fun events, and learning how to lead a group of fourth-and-fifth grade students during trips to Chicago and Camp Friedenswald.

Some leadership training is less formal. In theater, *Emmaus*, and speech and debate, students develop skills in public speaking; gauging audience response; and impacting people through words, vocal nuance, and nonverbal cues. *Concert Choir* singers plan and lead congregational worship, honing skills that equip them for active participation as adults in worship. In Bible classes, Dale Shenk provides instruction on various aspects of worship and then students practice these skills before peers in chapel.

As with all Bethany activities, the value added is that students grow in understanding what it means to lead from a faith-based perspective.

—Allan Dueck



Bethany Christian Schools
BULLETIN

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One-to-one Technology

An exciting classroom development has been the implemention of the new digital literacy initiative, in which all students have received a personal digital device—iPads for students in grades 4 and 5 and MacBook Airs for students in grades 6 through 12. In addition to providing students with essential skills for college and life, this initiative allows teachers to use new instructional approaches that strengthen engagement with students. For example, in a flipped classroom model, traditional lecture content becomes homework and students use class time to practice learning, collaborate with peers, ask questions, and demonstrate understanding.

Grades 4-8 Music Program Reshaped

A reshaped music program for lower school students includes hiring two half-time instrumental teachers, one with expertise in band, and the other in strings. The new music model provides a significant margin of difference from other local schools by having all fourth-grade students learn a string instrument and all fifth-grade students learn either a string or band instrument. Students in grades 6-8 may choose to play in band or orchestra. Additionally, all middle school students take choir, while grade 4 and 5 students participate in singing as part of their Bible curriculum.

Overnight Retreat for 9th Graders

To help integrate new and returning ninth-grade students, teachers developed a two-day, overnight retreat at Camp Friedenswald. In addition to classroom learning activities, such as a lively New Testament geography game, students swam, camped, cooked food over a fire, and listened to devotionals as they learned to know each other better.

These and the many other academic, faith, and extracurricular opportunities continue to make Bethany a good place to grow as students acquire learning that lasts and faith that lives.

Campus News



Michael Yeakey (F'09-), left, was inducted into the Indiana High School Forensics Association's Hall of Fame on Sept. 6. He began Bethany's speech and debate program five years ago and has had amazing success. Read more at bethanycs.net/IHSFA_HOF13_Yeakey.

Visit Days

Feb. 17 and March 24, 2014

bethanycs.net/admissions/visit

New Admissions Director



Sarah Kraybill Lind, a graduate of Lancaster Mennonite School and Goshen College, holds a masters in education from Antioch University. Previously, she served as enrollment and marketing director at a Waldorf school in New Hampshire. She and her husband Matt Lind ('95) have two young children.



Hannah Yeakey ('17) became Bethany's third girls cross country runner to advance to semi-state. Other fall sports highlights include boys tennis (15-5) and volleyball (15-14)—both winning invitationals. Middle school teams also played well, headed by boys soccer (9-4-1) and volleyball (9-3). Increased interest in middle school girls soccer (17 players) allowed Bethany to field a girls-only team again.



New faculty: Stacey Farran (F'96-97), strings; Sherry Good, band; Gary Chupp ('87), athletic director. See bethanycs.net/faculty_new_2013

Alumni News

Serving and Learning in Phoenix 2013

by Katie Hurst ('14), editor of *Sightline,* Bethany's online student news publication

For many youth, the biennial Mennonite Convention is a way to connect with over 3,000 other Mennonite youth. Congregations have different ways of getting their youth involved, which in turn plays a role in many staying involved into their young adult years. For Emily Grimes ('10) and Hannah Heinzekehr ('03) this was the case.


photo Ken Krehbiel

Emily Grimes ('10) leads worship at the 2013 Mennonite youth convention in Phoenix.

Hannah Heinzekehr ('03) with fellow convention team planner Glen Guyton, and Stella (the peace dove).



Emily has attended Berkey Avenue Mennonite Fellowship for 19 years. Phoenix was her fourth convention, and as a musician she appreciated convention worship. During a conversation with a mentor following high school, "a seed was planted" about being involved in worship at convention. Three years later Emily was offered a position on the 2013 youth worship team.

Though the week of convention itself was exhausting, Emily says, "It was spiritually nurturing and refreshing. I felt blessed to work with such talented musicians who also were a strong spiritual support. Who knew I'd be able to have so much fun worshiping God in front of thousands of people with cameras in my face?!"

Hannah served as a main planner for the 2013 Phoenix Convention. She worked with communications and public promotion on Facebook and Twitter and helped organize "public witness" events such as prayer walks, day trips to the U.S.-Mexican border, and a traveling choir.


photo Ev Thomas/*The Mennonite*

Alicia Thomas ('16), left, and members of her youth group address the Mennonite Church convention at Phoenix.

Growing up Hannah also attended Berkey Avenue, where she served on the worship commission and often played special music. She says, "Berkey did a good job of integrating youth and children into the life of the congregation, and not just developing separate programming for us."

While a student at Bethany, Hannah was invited to serve on the planning committee for the 2003 Atlanta Convention. This experience piqued her interest, so when a convention job became available, she applied. Convention is a place where diverse people from across the country can build relationships, and this appeals to Hannah, "Building relationships face-to-face is key. It's a powerful experience to get a bigger picture of who Mennonites are, what they believe, and where they come from, and I'm really excited that I get to be a part of bringing people together at these gatherings."

The theme of the 2013 convention was finding your citizenship in the Kingdom of God. With issues of immigration and border control towards the forefront of minds, some congregations planned their own trips.

Bethany sophomore Alicia Thomas and her youth group from Walnut Hill Mennonite Church took a day trip to Tucson to meet with people who work with immigration issues. The most striking moment was observing a court hearing in which they witnessed the underside of immigration operations. Thomas described it as "watching seventy men [with] hands and feet chained together, a translator in their ears, walking out of the hearing not knowing what they had agreed to."

The border experience affected their convention experience, as well as their lives when they returned home. Thomas says, "I never expected to feel changed so much from that one week. It sounds cheesy to say that our generation is next to try and change these things, but it is true."

Thomas' perspective is exactly right, and Mennonite conventions truly are a way to get involved as youth and later in life. The experiences are striking and can provide outlets for many talented young adults to share their gifts with Mennonite youth from across the country, perhaps developing more young leaders for future conventions.

Alumni News

Youth Leadership Project

"Leadership is a lifelong journey, but we must provide youth with opportunities to begin this journey in a more intentional way," says Jeremy Kauffman ('92), who co-planned and facilitated the first-ever Youth Leadership Project, a values-based leadership retreat for youth in partnership with Ohio Mennonite Conference, Camp Luz, and Central Christian School.

Kauffman, who is the executive director for Walnut Hills Retirement Community (an affiliate of Goshen's Greencroft Communities in Walnut Creek, Ohio), cites his own experience as an example of primarily learning to lead by trial and error. After graduating from Goshen College, Kauffman understood technical aspects of business, but as he entered into leadership positions at Greencroft he soon realized that how he related with people would define his success.

Fortunately, Kauffman had good mentors who helped him grow as a leader, but he also learned by reading books and attending seminars. Attending Laurelville Mennonite Church Center's Values-based Leadership Program (VLP), first the pilot program in the late 90s and then again in 2008-09, was instrumental in his understanding how his personality and behavior traits affected his leadership and interaction with others, and the importance of self-care—that effective leaders need to be emotionally, spiritually, and physically healthy.

A key learning for Kauffman, and a major distinctive of the Anabaptist approach to leadership that is part of VLP, is the tension between faith values and the business world. For example, business measures success by financial results but is less concerned with ethics and how people are treated. Kauffman says, "Leading with values is key. Giving up short-term gain for long-term success is the mark of a good leader."

Though Kauffman, who graduated in August with a master's in organizational development from Bowling Green University, laments having no formal leadership training as a youth, looking back he recognizes people who helped nurture his leadership abilities and wrote a paper about four people whose traits and abilities he would like to emulate. One of these was his high school basketball coach, Jim Buller.

Kauffman views Buller as a great motivator, which is rooted in Buller's taking time to understand each player on the team, knowing that each player is different and cannot be treated the same. Kauffman recalls one instance when Buller—for whom he would have run through a brick wall—kicked him out of practice for not performing. "I was angry because there were others who weren't performing either," says Kauffman. "Later he explained to me that he knew I could handle it and would become more focused—and that others would become more focused too. He was right."

Kauffman often tells this story to illustrate that a "one size fits all" approach does not work in leadership. He says, "Each person needs to focus on their gifts and talents—there is no singular profile that guarantees a perfect leader. I know a sign of a good leader, like Jim, is to look for and nurture those who have certain abilities, and I believe he intentionally worked at helping me to get to where I am today."

A major component of Kauffman's graduate school project to develop his ideal job was working with youth on leadership development. When the opportunity arose six months later to work with the Youth Leadership Program, Kauffman says, "I felt like a door had just been opened by God." Following the success of the first retreat, he and colleague Bethany Shue Nussbaum, advancement director at Central Christian School, hope to find ways to offer leadership training to youth in other places—perhaps even Goshen. He says, "We need to develop youth who can go out in the world and be kingdom makers."



Jeremy Kauffman ('92) and his wife Christy have three school-age children. They attend Berlin Mennonite Church where he has served on many committees. He has also served in the local community as a board member for a local hospital and chamber of commerce.

Alumni News

Alumni Weekend

The fifth annual alumni weekend was held Sept. 28, 2013 with 290 alumni, former faculty, and families attending.

Photos of the class reunions are available to view/download at bethanycs.net/alumni/reunions/2013.

The next alumni weekend will be Sept. 27-28, 2013, with reunions for classes ending in 4 or 9. Information and registration for these class reunions will be posted at bethanycs.net/reunions.

Births

Malinda Berry ('92) and John Stoltzfus, Richmond, Ind., son Jeremiah Lee, Aug. 19, 2013.

Eliot ('97) and Carrie **Friesen-Meyers**, Chicago, Ill., daughter Alexandra Claire, Aug. 27, 2013.

Sam ('96, Staff '97, '11-) and Leah **Richardson**, Goshen, son Maxwell Mark, June 8, 2013.

Bess (Steury '99) and Joel **Daly**, Goshen, daughter Emmeline Barbara, Aug. 29, 2012. Grandfather: Bob Steury ('73).

Tonya Swartzendruber ('98) and Bradley Bergey, Philadelphia, Pa., daughter Sadelle Simone, Aug. 3, 2013. Grandfather: Larion Swartzendruber (F'70-75).

Katrina (Gingerich '02) and Joe **Williams**, Avon, Ind., daughters Adonyah Faith and Blakley Grace, Aug. 20, 2013. Grandfather is Mark Gingerich ('74).

Jesse ('03) and Kristel **Butler**, Goshen, son Aden Dee, Nov. 1, 2013.

Sae Chan Lee ('05) and Sun Ha Youn, Los Angeles, Calif., son Abraham Han Lee, Feb. 26, 2013.

Katie (Yoder) and Dean **Grass**, Goshen, son Steven Dean and daughter Julianna Renee, July 31, 2013. Grandmother: Robin Yoder (B'06-07; S'07-).

Deaths

See online obituaries at bethanycs.net/alumni/obits

Elinor (Hallman '57) Good Shriner, Fort Worth, Texas, March 27, 2013.

Melba (Weaver '57) Martin, Goshen, Aug. 5, 2013.

David Ray Miller ('58, B'70-73), Sarasota, Fla., June 6, 2013.

Tony Armando Avila ('82), Logansport, Ind., Apr. 15, 2010.

Marriages

Brandon Hartzler ('05) and Sarah Stahley, Goshen, Aug. 3, 2013.

Kelly Frey ('08) and Eric Martin, Goshen, June 15, 2013.

Sarah Lederman ('09) and Alex Roth, Middlebury, Ind., June 22, 2013.

Notes

Austin Scharf ('02) completed his doctoral degree in inorganic chemistry from Harvard University in June 2013. He is now a member of the science faculty at Harvard, where he teaches laboratory courses in organic and inorganic chemistry to undergraduates, as well as scientific pedagogy to graduate students.

Jenna Liechty Martin ('03), Elkhart, Ind., is a development associate at Mennonite Mission Network. She and her husband Peter completed a three-year assignment in Northern Ireland in June 2013. See bethanycs.net/liechty-martin03_13.

Jessica (Fridley '04) Huber, Elkhart, graduated with a master's in social work from Newman University.

Alum Stories at bethanycs.net

County Sports Hall of Fame: Gretchen Nyce ('89) inducted. See /countyhall_2013.

Same, Same ... But Different: Sara Klassen ('10) sees Goshen differently following time abroad. See /sklassen10_13.

Mennonite Mission Network: Sara Alvarez ('08) new editor. See /salvarez08_13.



50-Year Reunion, class of '63: *front* Sally (Troyer) Miller, Leona (Troyer) Overholt, Janice (Troyer) Hostetler, Joyce (Byler) Slaubaugh, Karen (Esch) Patrick, Fran (Slabach) Bingaman, Judith (Graber) Eash, Sherrill (Martin) Vardaman; *row 2* Sharon (Delagrange) Mullett Eash, Lynette (Grieser) Slaubaugh, Rachel (Cross) Brenneman, Ardis (Summer) King, Sharon (Stutzman) Chupp, Thelma (Hershberger) Ramer, Joyce (Cross) Miller, Arleta (Schlabach) Kilmer, Bonnie (Weldy) Miesel Violet (Hartman) Weldy, Karen (Garber) Troyer; *row 3* Dwight Landis, Dan Miller, Ola (Bontrager) Cosby, Wealtha (Yoder) Helland, Barb (Anderson) Graber, Dennis Yoder, Delores (Hughes) Powers, Sharon (Miller) Pettifor, Verlin Troyer; *row 4* Clare Eby, Wayne Hochstedler, Jim Chupp, Jerry Richards, Jerry Carpenter, Ruth A. Miller

Alumni News

A Journey with Wings

by Cindy (Bontrager '82) Hawkins

In April 1985 my father, Lloyd Bontrager, and my youngest brother, Wendall—a junior at Bethany—died in a small plane accident. I have not been in a small plane since.

Nine years later, my son Kevin ('13) was born with a giant genetic tendency to flight—quite the sense of humor my God has. Three years ago Kevin began flying lessons, and I began my begging, pleading, and arguing with God. After all, couldn't someone else's son love flying and mine could just love cars, video games, and girls? I asked God to give me peace, but peace did not come easily. I had many sleepless nights of tossing and turning, crying, and praying.

One stormy night in November 2011, before Kevin's first solo cross-country flight, I pleaded with God once more, "God, if only I knew that someone would always be in the cockpit with my son, I could be at peace." In the quiet of my room, and in an audible voice strong and sure, God replied "I will always be in the cockpit with him; he will never be alone." Duh, I knew that God is always there, but I couldn't see past my human selfishness. But at that moment I felt a peace that I had never before experienced. I still worry—I'm a mom—when Kevin drives his car and when he flies, but my peace lies fully in God.

Now I wanted to overcome my fear of flying in small planes so that I could fly with



Cindy (Bontrager '82) Hawkins with her son Kevin ('13) (photo courtesy *in Middlebury*).

Kevin to share in his joy. In March 2013 I signed up for ground school and in eight weeks had accomplished that brain-draining class. Now for the tough part: flying!

Five times my first flight was cancelled due to weather—or perhaps my fervent prayers of "God, please don't make me do this." Finally on Friday, July 12, I flew an airplane. I was not alone. My trusty co-pilot instructor, Roger Yoder, was by my side, and of course, the Great Pilot in the Sky. Kevin was in a plane in front of me ready for takeoff. Then it was my turn. I took off, turned towards Middlebury, flew over our house, circled Jayco, and flew by Hawkins Water Tech. When we landed on terra firma, my legs were wobbly, my arms and hands shaking, and my stomach nauseous.

So, will I fly again? Yes. In the pilot's seat? Probably not. With Kevin? Absolutely! That flight was only the beginning.



25-Year Reunion, class of '88: *front* Shane Mullett. Carl Friesen, Tammy Beck, Carla (Miller) Thompson, John Troyer; *middle* Denise Diener, Amy (Birky) Mounsithiraj, Brett Sherman, Lyly (Beane) Rose, Sharon (Brugger) Norton, Ken Cross; *back* Lisa (Helmuth) Liras, Devon Miller, Mark Claassen, Steve Longenecker, Rick Yoder, Jay Guengerich, Anthony Norris

Alumni Begin Service

Alex Caskey ('06), Malawi, and **Luke Hostetter ('09)**, Ghana, with Project Peanut Butter.

Hans ('07) and Melina **Hess** teach at the International School of Tegucigalpa, Honduras.

Jordan Shetler ('08), Lezhe, Albania, teaches with Virginia Mennonite Missions.

Matthew Amstutz ('09), Zigong, Sichuan, China, teaches with Mennonite Partners in China.

Nick Handrich ('09), St. Louis, Mo., Mennonite Voluntary Service.

Ashley Brugh ('13), Albany, Ore., and **Leah Swartley ('13)**, Anchorage Alaska, Service Adventure.

Denise Reesor (S'11-12) and Tony Janzen, Phnom Penh, Cambodia, Mennonite Central Committee.

Summer 2013

Camping Inquiry: Anna Nafziger ('12) at Rocky Mountain Mennonite Camp.

Service Inquiry: Emily Grimes ('12) at Oxford Circle Christian Community Development Association; **Danae Miller ('10)** at DOOR Denver.

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!exploring Ministry

by Katie Shank ('14)

In summer 2013 I participated in *!explore*, a ministry inquiry program for high school juniors and seniors at Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary. The program consisted of a group experience with 11 other youth and a 100-hour internship in my home congregation.

During the July 9-24 group experience, we created a tight-knit community that ate, prayed, studied, questioned, served, struggled, discussed, played, and learned together. All of us came with many questions, which we explored together. Though we didn't answer all of our questions, in the process we acquired lifelong skills for community building and studying the way of Jesus.

Every morning and night, we gathered for prayer using *Take Our Moments and Our Days*, an Anabaptist prayer book. I expected this to be boring, dull, and unsatisfying. However, one evening I realized that I was enjoying the silence during a prayer of intercession. Usually I find silence awkward or too long, but in this moment silence became satisfying; my being became enough. I didn't have to do anything—I could connect to God by just sitting. Eventually the silence did end as we moved into reading a prayer aloud. Soon I began to value not just the silence, but all parts of our prayer time. Now yoga, prayer walks, liturgies, and times of silence are all meaningful to me.

Our days were filled with studies and activities. After morning prayers, we gathered in small groups to discuss theological questions that each participant brought to AMBS. In the evening we researched these questions and attended ministry skills seminars. My favorite part of the day was in the afternoon, when we did service in various locations in Elkhart. In the midst of a lot of abstract thought, doing something tangible and getting dirt under my fingernails was a great reminder of what I am sure of: we should serve as Jesus served.



Current Bethany seniors who participated in the 2013 summer *!explore* program: Lynea Brubacher Kaethler (Belmont), Katie Shank (East Goshen), and Ryan Miller (Waterford); 2013 Bethany grads Maddie Gerig (Assembly) and Josh Leatherman (Holdeman) also participated.

!explore helped me learn about ministry, theology, and myself, but the greatest lesson I learned was how to live in community. Together, we learned to hold each other accountable, but still give each other grace. We discovered how to challenge beliefs but accept disagreements, to be vulnerable, yet not nosy, and to live in a way that was enjoyable and beneficial for all.