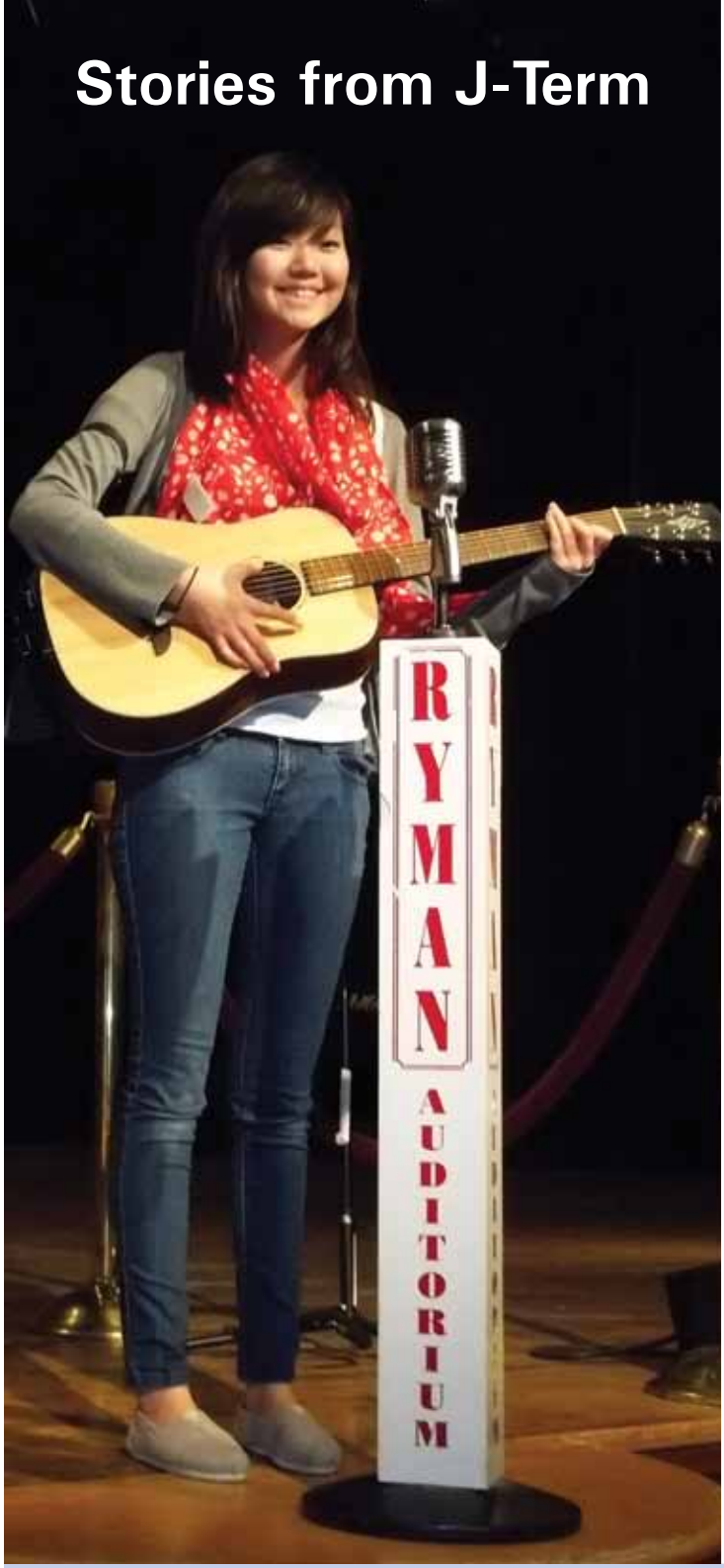
Bethany Christian Schools BULLETIN

Bethany
CHRISTIAN SCHOOLS

Spring 2012
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Stories from J-Term







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J-Term

Cover: Junior Jean Ahn at the Ryman Auditorium in Nashville, Tenn.; fifth graders Grace Rheinheimer and Nick Yoder work on J-Term projects.

Craft of Songwriting

"We've come to Nashville, we brought our dreams along. We've come to Nashville, to learn how to write a song."

Students in the *Craft of Songwriting* J-Term class wrote this chorus—along with two verses—and then recorded their song in a workshop with country musician and songwriter James Dean Hicks at the Country Music Hall of Fame and Museum. In working with the students to write their lyrics, Hicks reinforced much of what they had learned already but also emphasized the importance of writing from your experience and telling the truth—don't make things up.

Students were in Nashville for one week as part of Bethany's J-Term program in which high school students take an experience-based course for credit during the first two weeks of January. Students spent their first week in the classroom (8:00-3:30) learning useful tools for writing a song.

Throughout the course, students created songs using metaphor, rhyme, and productive repetition in their lyrics and sequence, repetition, inversion, and contrast to create tunes. And they practiced putting the two together, sometimes letting lyrics influence the music—such as letting the most important words get longer notes—and sometimes letting the music influence the lyrics.

Stacie Park, a junior from South Korea, has a strong musical background—she has sung in a school musical, plays piano and flute, and is self-taught on the ukelele—but she discovered that lyrics were quite important to her and developed a tune to help express her words. Stacie and three of her classmates—Jean Ahn, Sadie Gustafson-Zook, and Josh Helmuth—performed their songs during an open mic at Nashville's Bluebird Café, recognized worldwide as a preeminent songwriter's venue.

In contrast to Stacie and her classmates, writing songs was not new for Sadie. Last

From the Principal

A good deal of soul-searching is taking place in education as students in the U.S. do not perform as well academically as students in many other countries. This soul-searching finds expression in efforts to define a new vision of education and teaching for the 21st century.

For example, in its initiative for improving teacher effectiveness, North Carolina defines a "new vision for teaching" that urges teachers to "make the content they teach engaging, relevant, and meaningful to students' lives." Further, the new vision emphasizes teaching critical thinking, problem solving, and technology literacy as well as global awareness and civic literacy in the context of building relationships with home and community. Lifelong learning is a fundamental goal.

Real-life applications go a long way to make learning relevant and meaningful, giving students practice in critical thinking and problem solving. Bethany offers students many real-life opportunities for learning—not only during field trips throughout the year but, as this issue of the Bulletin documents, during the extended two-week J-Term.

Whether learning about song writing in Nashville or exploring forensic science, students participate in small classes led by teachers who are knowledgeable and enthusiastic about the content. These classes provide ideal laboratories for the engaging, hands-on learning—complete with rich opportunities to innovate, collaborate, and communicate.

As Bethany seeks to equip students for Christian discipleship in the 21st century, J-Term is an effective vehicle for learning and growth. —Allan Dueck



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J-Term



Craft of Songwriting students with country musician and songwriter James Dean Hicks: Byeong Chan Lim, Josh Helmuth, Joe Kreider, Hicks, Ben Rudy-Froese, Caleb Morris, and Ike Lehman.

year for Bible class, Sadie, who has performed with her parents since a young age and more recently on her own, wrote a song that later won first-place in a national competition! Though her expectations were quite different, nonetheless she found the class beneficial. Now she thinks more about the technique of what she already had been doing and is more aware of how different songwriting tools can help her create better songs.

Through this class, junior Ike Lehman, whose musical background is primarily instrumental (sax, trumpet, and guitar), gained a new appreciation for singing. While he had picked at tunes on his guitar before, this was his first effort to intentionally write a full song with lyrics and tune. As he practiced his song, *To Remember Me,* he realized he isn't such a bad singer after all and grew more comfortable with singing.

Contrary to his expectation that the class would be oriented more towards music, Ike was pleasantly surprised at the mix of music and lyrics, and especially the depth of detail he learned in crafting lyrics. He says, "as subsequent verses in a song provide more detail, the chorus can take on different meanings by the end of the song. Now I hear that in songs on the radio—it has changed the way I listen to and understand music."

You can watch and listen to their songs at bethanycs.net/Jterm/2012_songwriting.

Sports Writing

"Our Father in heaven, do you care about this game? When your kingdom comes, will sport be done in heaven as it is on earth?" These beginning lines to "How Then Shall We Pray?" was one poem that Matt Miller and students in the Sports Writing J-term class published in a book of their sports poetry.

Each student selected two of the five poems they wrote during the course, and worked with another student to improve them for publication. Many poems shared personal experience or reflection.

During the two-week course, students also wrote articles on athletic games they watched (live and on TV) and explored other forms of sports journalism. One project was writing a descriptive essay about a personal athletic experience, focusing on descriptive words to make the reader experience their story as if they were there. Each student also wrote a children's book. Students showed their creativity with stories about zebra seahorse races, a Hail Mary incident, and a pair of lucky socks that kept shrinking.

The poetry book can be purchased online for $9—sample poems can be viewed for free. See bethanycs.net/Jterm/2012_sports_writing.

2012 J-Term Courses

High School

Brazilian Culture
Civil Rights in Miss.
Craft of Songwriting
Forensic Science
Literary Chicago
Glee
New Testament
Technical Theater

Middle School

All the World's a Stage
Avast Ye Matey's
Cooking Fundamentals
Jewelry Making
Para Llevar
South Korean Culture
Sports Writing
Star Wars
Urban Jungle

Grade 4-5

Human Body: What's Inside Me
Peacing It All Together

For photos, stories, and more information on courses, see bethanycs.net/jterm.

Campus News

News at bethanycs.net

Lenten Spiritual Disciplines: Seniors reflect on foregoing some of their riches. See /lent_120309.

Athletic Awards: Recaps of basketball seasons. See /winter_awards_2012.

MCC Essay Contest: Maria Thomas wins grand prize and Peter Schrock honorable mention. Read about their essays on faith and politics at /MCC_Essays_2012.

Chess: Peter Schrock county champ and Adam Krahn second; team ties for third at state. See /chess_tournaments_2012.

Forensics: Speech team ties for fifth in state. See /state_speech_2012.

MS Science Fair: Creative projects include testing goldfish memory, robots, and solar energy. See /MS_Science_Fair_2012.

Science Olympiad: Small team earns medal in every event entered; places fourth. See /science_olympiad_2012.

District Contest: Bethany musicians earn 53 gold medals at district contests. See /district_contests_2012.

International Fair:

As part of their study on immigration, sixth graders each selected a country to learn more about, talked with a person who had been there, and then created a display to share their learnings with other students and teachers at an international fair. Below, Anne Nisley, who learned to know her Palestinian neighbor, shares food with instrumental music teacher Barbara Slagel at her booth on Israel. See /bethanycs.net/international_fair_2012.





Buller ties county win mark: With the Bruins' boys basketball team winning its final regular season game over Fremont (53-44), coach Jim Buller ('71, F'79-) tied John Longfellow for the most career wins in Elkhart County history at 364. Read more, and take a Jim Buller trivia quiz, at bethanycs.net/bbb_buller12.

Calendar

April

13-15 MSC Choir Festival, Kidron, Ohio
20 Fish Fry, 4:30-8:00 p.m.

May

4-5 MS drama, 7 p.m. (see below left)
11 HS spring concerts, 6:30 and 8 p.m.
15 MS spring concert, 7 p.m.
20 *Emmaus* concert, 6 p.m.
24 Grade 8 recognition, 7 p.m.
27 Commencement, 3 p.m.

The Beloved Dearly

(middle school drama)

7 p.m May 4-5, 2012

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Bright Time

Summer Camp Programs 2012

June 11-15, 2012

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Alumni News

Births

Becky (Wenger '91) and Roger **Weaver**, Lititz, Pa., daughter Regan Mikaela and son Colin Michael, March 6, 2012. Grandmother is Esther Bontrager Wenger ('65).

Tim Swartzendruber ('91) and Nicolle Nogueras, Silver Spring, Md., daughter Shane, July 31, 2011.

Amy Kauffman ('92) and Cornelius Dufallo, New York, N.Y., son Ian James, Nov. 10, 2011. Grandmother is Debra (Bontrager '70) Kauffman.

Benjamin Rutt ('93) and Diane Yu, New York, N.Y., son Jason, Aug. 4, 2011.

Philip ('93) and Marie **Swartzendruber**, Seattle, Wash., daughter Sophie Marie, Oct. 17, 2011.

Austin Kaufmann ('94) and Victoria Solomon, East Lansing, Mich., son Finley James, Apr. 24, 2011. Grandmother is Lois (Johns '66) Kaufmann. After three years in Seoul, South Korea, Austin now works for Michigan State University's English Language Center.

Nadia ('94) and Eric **Shank Van Eenige ('94)**, Chicago, Ill., daughter Ella Elizabeth, June 21, 2011. Nadia is a stay-at-home mother; Eric continues as a teacher with Chicago Public Schools.

Anne ('96) and Rod **Horst Hanby**, Goshen, daughter Clara Elizabeth, Sept. 10, 2011.

Eliot ('97) and Carrie **Friesen-Myers**, Chicago, Ill., daughter Greta Catherine, July 18, 2011.

Greg ('99) and Laura **Myers,** Newton, Kan., son Aaron Joseph, March 22, 2011. Grandparents are Dennis ('65) and Anita (Hershberger '65) Myers.

Chris ('99) and Marena **Nachtigall,** Orange City, Iowa, daughter Eden Marena, Jan. 20, 2012. Chris is head softball coach at Northwestern College.

Emma (Loewen '00) and Alex **Dugger**, Goshen, son Elliott Grey, Feb. 13, 2012.

Becca (Selman '02) and George **Zuck,** Sellersville, Pa., daughter Angel Grace, Feb. 15, 2012. Died Feb. 15, 2012.

Joel ('04),and Annerose (Leichty '03) Lederman, Goshen, daughter Tenley Brooke, Dec. 9, 2011. Grandparents are Todd ('79) and Cindy (Troyer '80) Lederman.

Leah (Selman '05) and Gabe **Wilfong**, Lafayette, Ind., daughter Hannah Elizabeth, Jan. 20, 2012.

David ('07) and **Jena (Schwartzentruber '08) Plaster**, Goshen, daughter Rhilynn Jane, Oct. 13, 2011.

Jeremy and Alicia Kemp (S'10-), Goshen, son Kaden Eugene, Dec. 23, 2011. Grandparents include Phil ('75) and Melody (Yoder '75) Slabach. Great-grandmother is Marietta (Hochstetler '55) Slabach.

Marriages

Carey Miller ('82) and Joani Schweitzer, Wellman, Iowa, Oct. 1, 2011.

Tonya Hunsberger Gaby ('92) and Craig Detweiler, Goshen, Apr. 2, 2011.

Jeremy Leinbach ('01) and Sarah Prows, Las Vegas, Nev., Dec. 19, 2010.

Matt Loucks ('03) and Jessi Lantz, Elkhart, Ind., Sept. 3, 2011.

Mary Jo Martin ('03) and Troy Sands, Goshen, Oct. 22, 2011.

Stephanie Martin ('03) and Zachary Bagley, Goshen, Nov. 26, 2011.

Aaron Peters ('05) and Amanda Buchanan, Goshen, Oct. 8, 2011.

Beth Glick ('06) and Jesse Landis-Eigsti, Pittsburgh, Pa., Aug. 7, 2011. Beth is an assistant at Women of the Cloud Forest.

Andy Shenk ('06) and Nikki Reich, Appleton, Wis., Aug. 12, 2011.

Kaila Swartley ('06) and Brian Martin, Elkhart, Ind., Aug. 6, 2011. They reside in Harrisonburg where she works at A Bowl of Good Cafe.

Vianey Gudino ('08) and Senaido Velazquez, Goshen, May 21, 2011.

Lyz Kauffman ('08) and Alan Zimmerman, Goshen, Jan. 14, 2012.

Alumni Weekend

The next alumni weekend will be Sept. 21-22, 2012, with reunions for classes ending in 2 or 7. Information on these class reunions will be posted at bethanycs.net/reunions as it becomes available.

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bethanycs.net

Alumni News

Notes

Inez (Miller '64) Edwards, Roanoke, Ill., is retired from teaching and working part-time as a librarian and gifted art teacher.

Ray Helmuth ('80, F'93-00), Plainfield, Ind., is principal at Van Buren Elementary School.

Deanna Risser ('89) is co-leading a Goshen College summer SST unit in Nicaragua.

Anne Berry ('94) is visiting assistant professor of graphic design at the University of Notre Dame.

Rachel (Yoder '96) Moscript and family recently relocated to Detroit, Mich., for her husband Gary's job. Rachel plans to homeschool their children.

Traci Yoder Stoltzfus ('01) is keeping a blog about her journey following an attack in November 2011: yodfus.blogspot.com.

Heidi (Buller '02) Gunn, Golden, Colo., started her own business (tastefullysimple.com/web/hgunn) and with her husband Kevin helped with a church plant.

Andrea Kraybill ('06), Managua, Nicaragua, teaches English with Voluntary Missionary Movement.

Bethany Auction

The 19th annual Bethany Auction raised nearly $65,000 to support students at Bethany. Thanks to parents, alumni, friends, church groups, and faculty and staff for donating quilts and other items and the many volunteer hours given in planning the event.

This year's auction included a three-week read-a-thon. Students in grades 4-8 and their teachers read 170,209 minutes, raising an additional $6,000!



Fifth-grader Emma Bontrager logged 9,074 minutes read in the Bethany read-a-thon, winning the grand prize: a Kindle or cash prize. Emma poses with an auction purchase: a Bruin stuffed monkey made by Heidi (Birky '98) Goldman.



Teresa Dutchersmith, quilt committee member, instructs a young quilter. More than 30 people helped on this West African Dance lobby quilt, which sold for $1,500.

Deaths

See online obituaries at bethanycs.net/alumni/obits

Lowell Hoover ('55), Goshen, Ind., Dec. 13.

Larry Mann Hesed ('63), Newton, Kan., Nov. 4.

LeAnn (Mishler '76) Felix, Tucson, Ariz., March 22.

Iris Cortes-Rosario ('95), Goshen, Nov. 25.

Marc Braun (ng'97), Cassopolis, Mich., March 9.

Abe Bontreger (ng'99), Goshen, Ind., Feb. 11.

Laura Metzler (S'60-80), North Lima, Ohio, Dec. 8.

Alum Stories at bethanycs.net

Collegiate All-American: Erin Helmuth ('09) placed second in the 3,000 meter race walk at the 2012 NAIA nationals. See /ehelmuth09_12all-american.

Professional Musician: J. Austin Wulliman ('01) has gained a reputation for his dynamic performances in Chicago's new music scene. See /wulliman01_12.

Convention Planning Coordinator: Hannah Heinzekehr ('03), who served on the planning committee for the Atlanta 2003 convention while at Bethany, is the new convention planning coordinator for Mennonite Church USA. She says, "That gave me my first taste of what all goes on behind the scenes with convention planning. From that time on, I thought in the back of my mind that it would be great to work in convention planning." See /HHeinzekehr03_11.

Fundraising as Ministry: Anna Ruth Hershberger ('00), who is studying pastoral ministry at Associated Mennonite Biblical Seminary, connects pastoral ministry with fundraising and helps people find joy in giving. See /arhershberger00_2012.

Widening the Circle: In this book on radical Christian discipleship, edited by Joanna Shenk ('01), Tim Nafziger ('99) writes a chapter on Christian Peacemaker Teams and Sarah Thompson ('02) a chapter on Jubilee House in Elkhart. See /jshenk01_11.

For these and other alumni stories, see bethanycs.net/alumni.

Alumni News

Jeff Bauman ('03) Bequest Benefits Chess Club

In life Jeff Bauman was a faithful and dedicated promoter of chess in Elkhart County, and now in death his love for the game lives on with his generous bequest to Bethany.

Jeff, a former player and coach at Bethany Christian Schools and Goshen Community Schools, died Feb. 26, 2011—two days short of his 26th birthday—from cholangiocarcinoma (cancer of the bile duct). Concerned in particular about the future of the chess club at Bethany, Bauman desired that money from his estate be used for students to benefit from the same opportunity that he had.

Jeff started playing chess competitively as a third-grader, playing in tournaments every year through high school, an unofficial Elkhart County record surpassed only by his brother, Mark ('06), four-time Elkhart County champ. In 2001-03 Jeff played first or second board on Bethany teams that placed third, fifth, and sixth in the state, respectively. When he graduated he had a U.S. Chess Federation rating of 1549, which places him among the top half-dozen scholastic players in Elkhart County in the last decade.

While a student at Goshen College (2003-07), Jeff assisted Dan Shenk in coaching Bethany's chess club, and then, following a year of voluntary service with Mennonite Mission Network in LaJara, Colo., assisted with chess coaching at Bethany, a home-school club, and in several settings for Goshen Community Schools' Chess for Scholastic Success program

Shenk—who co-founded Chess for Scholastic Success in 1993, restarted Bethany's chess club in the late 1990s, and coached Jeff in elementary school through high school—has high regard for Jeff as both a chess player and coach. He recalls buying Jeff—then a middle school student—and a friend a steak dinner after they teamed up to defeat him in a game played during a bus ride. Regarding Jeff's coaching, Shenk says, "Jeff was invariably kind and patient with the students he was teaching and coaching. His passion for the game, along with his compassion for his students, set him apart as a coach and mentor of young people."

Local chess promoter and tournament director Joe Riegsecker agrees. "When I think of Jeff, I don't necessarily think of chess first. I mostly remember what a good kid he was. He worked well with little kids—patient and gentle." Riegsecker describes Jeff as his most faithful tournament assistant and recalls how Jeff, though likely already ill with cancer, virtually ran the 2010 county tournament when Riegsecker and his wife both became ill themselves. Riegsecker continues, "I would love to walk into any club and find a dozen kids with Jeff's attitude and ability. Or, if I were a kid, I'd love to have Jeff walk in as my coach."

As he had hoped, Jeff's memorial gift has helped sustain Bethany's chess club, which has climbed to a record 20 students this year and includes senior Peter Schrock (2012 Elkhart County champ), sophomore Adam Krahn (2011 Elkhart County champ and 2012 runner-up), and sixth-grader Tim Cartmel (first in the sixth-grade regional). More specifically, the club is using this year's memorial gift to defray expenses for the team's new coach, USCF master Dennis Monokroussos, and to help club members attend the 2012 national tournament in Minneapolis, Minn.



Jeff Bauman, above. As Jeff desired, his parents, Connie and Phil Bauman, gave some of his estate funds to the Bethany chess club. Pictured below are (front) chess club members Kassy Miller (grade 5) and Tim Cartmel (grade 6); (back) Adam Krahn (grade 10), Dan Shenk, Dennis Monokroussos, Joe Riegsecker, Connie, Stacy Krahn (club director), and Phil.



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Becoming Peacemakers

"Peace is not just a thought, but an action," says Eliza Stoltzfus, one of Bethany's fourth-fifth grade teachers. Her class is putting peace into action by sharing a program of drama and music on what they learned during a two-week J-Term course, *Peacing It All Together*.

Throughout the two weeks, students thought about questions such as "what, how, where, and when is peace?" as they engaged in stories, activities, and discussions about peace within themselves (inner peace), with God, and with others. Stoltzfus was so impressed with students' questions that she began to think of ways they could share what they were doing with others, and a program of music and drama naturally emerged.

The program begins with a dramatic presentation of *The Peace Book* (by Todd Parr) in which students created freeze frames portraying different ideas of what peace is (making new friends, saying you're sorry, etc.). In their classroom study they created masks that illustrated something about themselves and incorporated these masks into the program with a reading about accepting each other. "Peace is not just tolerating differences, but accepting differences," says Stoltzfus.

The program also includes two songs written by Stoltzfus, "Praise You" and "Sweet Peace." The first was written last fall when several tragic events in the community affected the lives of people the class knew: the murder of Goshen College professor James Miller and the cancer diagnoses of Bethany teacher Renae Yoder and a local pastor. The lyrics proclaim an intent to praise, serve, and love God all day long. "How can we share peace with others if we don't have that inner peace and peace with God?" asks Stoltzfus.

The program ends with Stoltzfus' song "Sweet Peace" and a call to share peace with others—those around us and those far away. Stoltzfus says, "Peace is universal and a teaching of Christ that is meant to cross borders, bridge conflicts, and bring people together everywhere. My hope is that as Christians, and particularly as a community at Bethany, we can see our experiences as opportunities to practice and spread peace."

Students have performed at Greencroft and local congregations. Watch video clips of one of their performances at bethanycs.net/Jterm/2012_peace.



Peace is . . . enough pizza for everyone in the world!