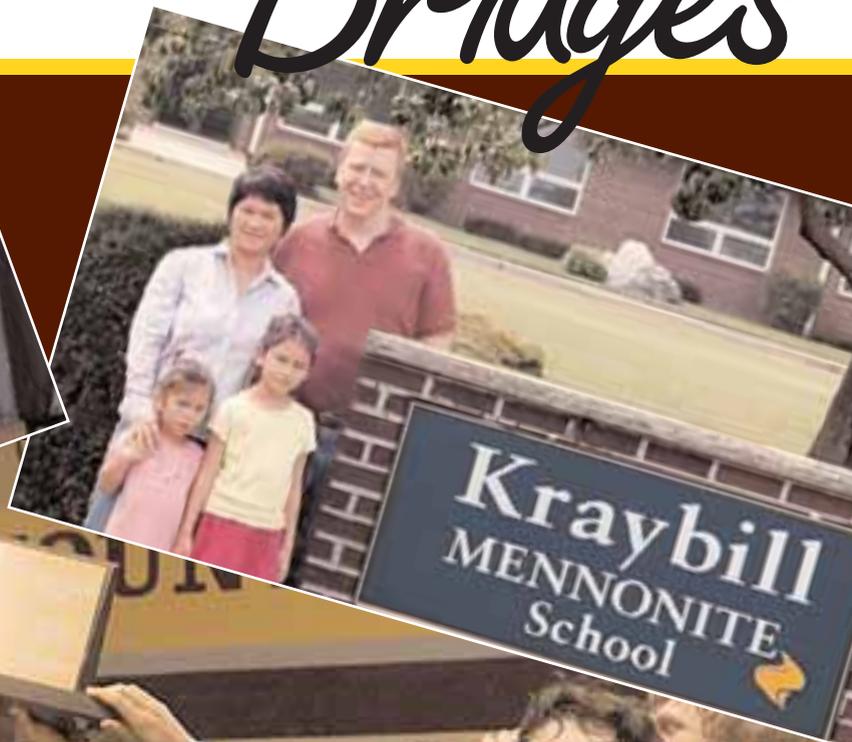


LANCASTER MENNONITE

www.lancastermennonite.org

Bridges



The year in review, page 2 & 3

Commencement 2006, pages 4 & 5

Separate PreK program begins, page 6



*Centered in Christ
Transforming Lives
Changing our World*

- 2 Annual Report
- 4 Commencement 2006
- 6 Separate PreK program
- 7 Rare music opportunity
- 8 School update
- 12 Alumni news
- 14 Phyllis Pellman Good, Alumna of the Year
- 16 Too many choices?



Lancaster Mennonite Bridges is published by Lancaster Mennonite School for alumni, parents and friends. LMS exists to transform students so they can change our world through Christlike love, peacemaking and service. The school welcomes students without regard to sex, race, nationality or ethnic origin.

Lancaster Mennonite School has four campuses:

Kraybill, grades PreK-8
598 Kraybill Church Road
Mount Joy, PA 17552
(717) 653-5236

Lancaster, grades 6-12
2176 Lincoln Highway East
Lancaster, PA 17602
(717) 299-0436

Locust Grove, PreK-8
2257 Old Philadelphia Pike
Lancaster, PA 17602
(717) 394-7107

New Danville, grades PreK-6
393 Long Lane
Lancaster, PA 17603
(717) 872-2506

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Volume 34, No. 1

Cover photos, clockwise, beginning with top left: Graduating seniors pause for a picture during their procession on June 3 (pages 4 and 5); the Dinse family has a child starting in Kraybill's new PreK program this fall (page 6); and the LMH boys volleyball team celebrates their League Championship (page 11). KRAYBILL PHOTO: GARY HILLER

VOLLEYBALL PHOTO: JONATHAN CHARLES

Coming together, keeping together, working together

Coming together is a beginning.
Keeping together is progress.
Working together is success.

When I read those words recently I was struck with how they apply to LMS this past year. The merger of Kraybill Mennonite School and Lancaster Mennonite School,



J. Richard Thomas

which became official on July 1, was the focus of coming together. This merger creates a new Lancaster Mennonite School System.

At the beginning of the year we moved beyond keeping together to working together through Validating the Vision (VTV), a self study for re-accreditation. This process helped us experience new levels of positive synergy in being a multi-campus PreK-12 school. Through it we developed:

- a new mission statement
- a new philosophy of education
- a new set of core values
- a statement of parameters
- a strategic plan for educational growth
- updated and newly written curriculum
- reaffirmation of our distinctives

According to the VTV team, the new LMS foundation documents are “fabulous” and should serve us well as we move into the future. They observed that the school is Centered in Christ and we work hard to transform students to change the world.

The LMS Difference

American teens, in the landmark study by Christian Smith, are described as having a moralistic, therapeutic, deistic, faith that is not closely tied to the biblical understandings of following Christ. This religious environment is impacting local congregations and teens.

It is in this general environment that LMS is strengthening the church as it prepares students to follow Jesus daily

in life. Thus the school becomes a teaching ministry of the church, guided by the words of Jesus in Matthew, chapter 28—“to make disciples ... teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. ...”

More families from a wide variety of denominational backgrounds are attracted to this values-laden environment where Anabaptist values are taught but not “forced” on students, and where restorative discipline transforms students to develop responsible behaviors. The result is a quality academic environment that enables growth in critical thinking, faith formation and respect for others.

LMS integrates faith into the curriculum by helping students develop a coherent faith-filled world view—something that is prohibited in public schools. Providing a faith-infused educational program is the core of our difference.

While the No Child Left Behind program (NCLB) is in some locations decreasing the emphasis on the arts, including music, LMS is committed to a holistic education that includes the arts and, at the elementary level, recess time—so important to child development. The school is also committed to including family and consumer science, technology education, and physical

The year in numbers

Total enrollment	1,310
Total cash giving	\$1.7 million
Annual Fund	\$680,000
Student aid (% of budget)	12.2%
Tuition (% of budget)	77.6%
Cost of education per student	\$6,806
Students of color	18.1%
Anabaptist students	55%

education.

Many high schools never have the entire student body gather for an assembly, but at LMH students meet together four days per week for corporate worship/assembly and on the fifth day divide into care groups. Also included in the educational program are many other events that develop relationships and build community—so important to creating a positive learning environment.

LMS founders had a vision to meet and exceed the quality of education that exists in public schools. It continues to have that vision as evidenced by the 2005 LMH SAT (college entrance exam) scores which were 1149 as compared to the Lancaster County public school average score of 1029. Through the SAT scores and the achievement tests given in elementary and middle school grades, it is clear that LMS students are achieving at a high level.

The diverse LMS student body prepares students for living in our global society. Last year we had students from 12 countries represented in the school. Over 18 percent of the student body were persons of color. This diversity is

important in preparing students for a life of witness and service.

Why LMS?

- Holistic, excellent education centered in Christ
- Faith-infused classroom instruction and co-curricular programs
- A diverse community that prepares graduates to live faithfully in the Kingdom of God
- A warmly ecumenical school rooted in Anabaptist faith
- An environment that protects childhood and nurtures growth appropriate to the child's development
- A caring faculty, called to educate students in the name of Christ
- A supportive campus community that connects home, church and school—building friendships for a lifetime

Our Strategic Plan for Educational Growth will help us articulate the LMS difference as we move into the future.



Worship and prayer, included in the educational program, are important elements of the LMS difference.

PHOTO: JEREMY HESS

This plan for student growth moves beyond academic goals to include growth goals that are both spiritual and communal.

The LMS Difference is reflected in our mission statement: "Lancaster Mennonite School—Centered in Christ, Transforming Lives, Changing Our World." ■

Parent expresses gratitude for LMS

I want to thank you for making it possible for Keilah to attend LMS. I am so grateful for the relationships she has built through the various school activities. I have seen Keilah grow in many areas and pray she will continue to do so, especially in her relationship with the Lord.

Thank you so much, most recently, for the assembly with Pam Stenzel (well-known youth speaker who talks on sexuality and the importance of abstinence). Keilah and I talked at length about God's plan for her life as a young Christian girl and what Pam had shared with the students.

I pray that LMS will continue to help and be a blessing to the many parents in my situation who, as single parents, strive to bring up their children in the ways of the Lord. I see now that, truly, the Lord lead me to LMS when I was looking into Christian schools. I do not hesitate for one second to recommend LMS. Again, thank you so much.

Evelyn Sepulveda Maldonado
Secretary in Patient Support,



Free six-week parenting course

A six-week Active Parenting of Teens course for all parents of middle and high school students (including families from other schools) will be held October 16, 23 and 30, and November 6, 13 and 20 at the Lancaster campus along Lincoln Highway East. It will run from 7–9 p.m. in room 200.

The course will help parents learn how to increase cooperation; communicate effectively; use discipline skills that help teens make positive, healthy choices; build courage and self-esteem in teens; and help teens develop responsibility. It will be taught by a family life educator from COBYS Family Services, an organization affiliated with the Church of the Brethren.

Classes are free, but an optional parent guide is available for \$13.00. Please register by October 6 by contacting Christine Grosh at (717)

Guest speaker calls for “others” focus in an age of individualism

At Lancaster Mennonite High School’s 64th commencement on June 3, Eastern Mennonite University President Loren Swartzendruber invited the 191 graduates to achieve, “not only as individuals, but more importantly as members of the community of faith.”

“Ask not what your church can do for you; ask what you can do for your church,” he said, paraphrasing John F. Kennedy’s famous words.

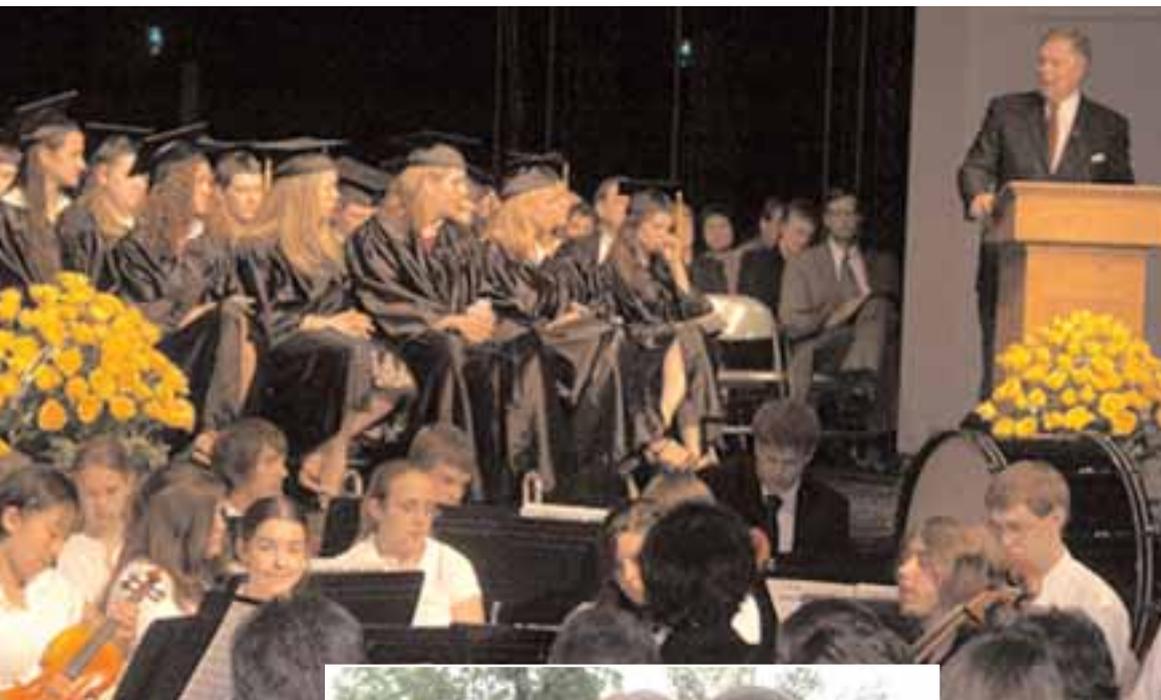
“We have become a society of “one issue” people and we make decisions based on the one issue that most directly impacts us individually. We need more congregational members and citizens to stand up for what is best for the common good.”

He finished his talk by focusing on the gradu-

ates’ class verse, Isaiah 58:11, which promises God’s guidance and says God will satisfy us “in a sun-scorched land.”

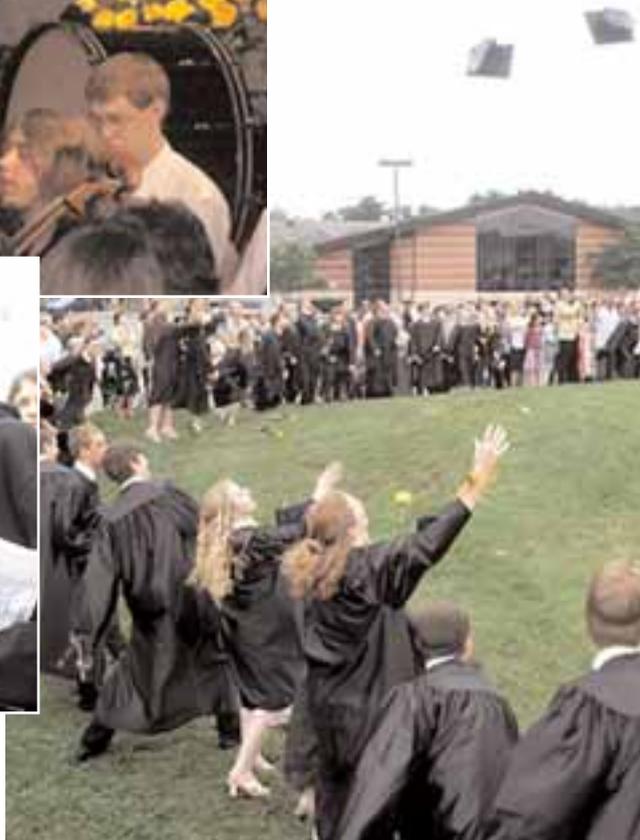
“One version uses the phrase, “Your souls will be satisfied ... ,” he said. “Satisfied souls come from serving others, particularly those less fortunate. Satisfied souls are not the result of achieving everything possible to meet your own needs.

“I invite you to focus not only on your own achievements ... but to make the world a better place for all of God’s children. Then will your souls be satisfied.” ■



At left, guest speaker Loren Swartzendruber addresses the graduates during their June 3 commencement ceremony. Below, students enjoy their traditional cap toss following commencement.

At right, graduates Hye Jin Ham, left, and Eunjee Hong, center, celebrate with junior You Mi Choi.





At left, graduate Naomi Tsegaye poses with family members. Above is Daniel Landis with grand-

Dedication speakers direct classmates to mission statement

The class dedication program, planned by the Senior Class Committee, was held Friday evening, June 2. The three class speakers focused their talks on the shortened version of the school's new mission statement—"Centered in Christ, Transforming Lives, Changing our World."

Stephanie Weaver described being centered in Christ as living in a way that others "can see Jesus within you."

"Easier said than done," she admitted, urging her classmates to be patient with themselves, to encourage and support each other in the journey, and to remember to spend time reading God's Word.

In her talk on "Transforming Lives," Annali Smucker talked about transformation in her own life as well as her classmates—transformation that resulted in "real friendships ... not built on ideological or political beliefs, but on authentic communication and mutual respect."

She told her classmates to expect more change and to lean on past experiences while helping to affect change in others.

"Remembering our past experiences will be vital as we relate to people in the future," she said. "How else can we comfort a friend who is hurting, than by remembering what it was like when we were hurt?"

Jonathan Spicher urged his classmates to learn about the world's problems in order to be part of the solution.

"We have been entrusted with immense resources in order to help with some of the problems of the world," he said, citing the Middle East violence, orphaned children in Uganda, and the HIV/AIDS epidemic.

"Awareness causes compassion and the desire to help others in need," he continued. "If we fulfill that desire, we are living as



Left to right: Stephanie Weaver, Loren Swartzendruber (Saturday's commencement speaker), and Annali Smucker. Jonathan Spicher, at right, and six of his classmates missed their Saturday morning commencement ceremonies because their volleyball team was participating in State play-offs. The team advanced to the semifinals before completing the best season ever for LMH boys volleyball.



Pre-kindergarten program develops separate identity



Two years ago Lancaster Mennonite School's Locust Grove campus began offering pre-kindergarten (PreK) within its kindergarten program. A year later, New Danville followed with its own combined program.

Due to the increased interest of families, Lancaster Mennonite School is offering a separate two-day PreK program for this upcoming school year. Thirty-six students are already enrolled—11 at newly-merged Kraybill, 10 at Locust Grove, and 15 at New Danville.

At New Danville, the timing is perfect. As the campus begins the process of phasing out its middle school to shift to a PreK to grade 6 focus, the space for PreK and kindergarten is doubling in size. At the same time the interest in PreK has increased from five to 15 students in one year.

"We're really excited and encouraged by the interest in early childhood education," New Danville Principal Judi Mollenkof said. "It's coming from both current and new families."

Also fitting in nicely with the new focus is a summer construction project that includes a more welcoming and safer entrance for the New Danville campus.

While few if any local public schools offer PreK, more and more private schools do, but many not within an articulated K-12 system. For LMS Superintendent Richard Thomas, the addition of a PreK program seemed the logical next step in the school's vision to provide educational excellence for area families.

"Everything we know points to the fact that early childhood education does pay later dividends in helping students be successful in school," he said.

"When you build stronger students, you obviously build a stronger school."

According to LMS Board Chair and former teacher Connie Stauffer, today's kindergarten program focuses more on

Pictured at left are Daniel and Sau-Ling Dinse and their children, Elaina, left, who will be part of Kraybill's pre-kindergarten program this year, and Erica, who will be in third grade at Kraybill. PHOTO: GARY HILLER

reading and math comprehension, so the PreK program must pick up the slack and cover social skills and play exploration.

“Society is now demanding an accelerated push for learning,” she said, “and the old-time kindergarten is being pushed to PreK.” Because of her early childhood teaching experience, Stauffer has been helping to establish a PreK philosophy and curriculum for the school.

Daniel and Sau-Ling Dinse, Elizabethtown believe strongly in the value of a PreK program.

“I think they (those attending PreK) do better in school,” said Sau-Ling. “It made it easier for Erica to move from PreK to kindergarten and beyond. Today she’s doing very well academically and is a very good reader.”

While daughter Erica, entering grade 3 this fall, benefited from another local program, the Dinse’s are delighted that

younger daughter Elaina will be able to participate in the new program at Kraybill where they find a friendly, competent environment.

“We really like the way the staff and administrators interact with us,” she said.

“It (PreK) will lay an important foundation for Elaina, both spiritually and academically,” she added, expressing gratitude for the Christian partnership between home and school.

Kraybill Principal John Weber emphasized that the PreK program will supplement and enrich the child’s developmental process, not substitute the parents’ nurturing role.

“Some families in the past were hesitant to consider PreK because they believed it was the parents’ role to nurture small children,” he said. “The PreK program just provides an option for families who prefer to expand the

child’s experience prior to kindergarten.”

Locust Grove Principal Jay Roth agrees with Weber and says he’s excited about offering the separate program.

“I believe the PreK program will help get students off to the best possible start in their school experience,” he said. ■

For more information

Kraybill Campus • Grades PreK–8
Principal John Weber (717) 653-5236

Locust Grove Campus • PreK–8
Principal Jay Roth (717) 394-7107

New Danville Campus • Grades PreK–6
Principal Judi Mollenkof (717) 872-2506

Rare music opportunity coming to Lancaster

The Mennonite Piano Concerto with Mennonite pianist Karin Redekopp Edwards will be performed at Lancaster campus’s Fine Arts Center, Sunday, October 22, at 3 p.m. Edwards, a professor of piano at Wheaton College, performs frequently in Canada and the U.S., appears on television and national public radio, and is a member of the duo piano team, Redekopp and Edwards. She is a member of Lombard Mennonite Church.



Karin Redekopp Edwards

Preceding the concerto will be an audience hymn sing of the 10 hymns found in the concerto. Leading the singing will be the Lancaster Mennonite High School Campus Chorale, directed by music teacher John Miller. The orchestra, consisting of LMH students and friends, will be directed by music teacher Durelle Leaman. Tickets for the event will be on sale at the door—\$8.00 for students and \$10.00 for adults.

The Mennonite Piano Concerto, composed by Victor Davies, uses parts of many different hymns including:

“O How Shall I Receive Thee,” “Shall We Gather at the River,” “Take Thou My Hand, O Father,” “In the Rifted Rock I’m Resting,” “Jesus, Priceless Treasure,” and other familiar tunes.

The concerto consists of three movements. In the first, the melodies portray a crisis of faith where an exuberant beginning gives way to doubt and struggle, later dissolving into joyous celebration. Variations on the melody of “In the Rifted Rock I’m Resting” form the second movement, which increases in complexity and then moves toward beauty and simplicity. The third is a rondo, a series of repeated themes centering around the song, “How Sweetly Chime the Sabbath Bells.”

A 1983 recording of the concerto, with Irmgard Baerg at the piano and Boris Brott conducting the London Symphony Orchestra, has become one of the most requested works on the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation (CBC). The concerto is also heard on the British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC) and on American and National Public Radio. It became the score for the film, “When They Shall Ask,” a 90-minute docu-drama on the history of the Mennonites in Russia.

Edwards, who received her undergraduate music degree from the University of Manitoba and her masters and doctoral degrees from Indiana University, has toured Japan, South Korea, South Africa, Israel, Europe, England, Canada and the U.S. with the prize-winning Winnipeg Mennonite Children’s Choir. ■

Merger is official

On July 1, the merger between Kraybill Mennonite School and Lancaster Mennonite School became official. The decision to merge occurred last fall after four years of careful study and affirmation from both school boards, Kraybill parents, the three pastors on Kraybill's Pastoral Committee, and the Atlantic Coast and Lancaster conferences of the Mennonite Church. Advantages of the merger include increased efficiencies in administration and staffing, stronger church ties, and being part of an articulated pre-K to grade 12 curriculum.

New since the merger was approved:

- John Weber, head administrator at Kraybill, has been named principal of the Kraybill campus.
- The following Kraybill persons



L-R: Dr. Gerald Baer, alumnus of both campuses; Kraybill Board Chair Rose Baer, LMS Superintendent Richard Thomas, Assistant Superintendent Marlin Groff, Kraybill Board Secretary Kevin Milligan, Kraybill Principal John Weber, LMS Board Chair Connie Stauffer, and Gary Hiller, director of development at Kraybill and newly named director of marketing for LMS.

have been named to the LMS school board: Former Kraybill Board chair Rose Baer, Carolyn Grasse-Bachman, Marcia Rittenhouse and John Simkins.

- Baer, Rittenhouse, and Simkins will also serve on the Kraybill's site council along with Peter Dim-

mig, Sharon Hess, Cindy Neisley, and Shari Wolgemuth. The site council will give guidance to the Kraybill campus principal.

- Gary Hiller, director of development at Kraybill, has been appointed as director of marketing of the school

■ All four campuses have capital projects planned. The campus improvement project at New Danville this summer is providing a new and safer entrance, renovated office space, and roof repair. Other upcoming projects include replacement windows for Kraybill, additional landscaping and trees for Locust Grove, and at the Lancaster campus a new roof for the classroom building and a turf field to be used for field hockey, boys soccer, and girls soccer. In addition, the school is seeking gifts and pledges to start the track and field facility at the Lancaster campus. Contact Heidi Stoltzfus at (717) 394-7107 or Richard Thomas at (717) 299-0436, ext. 301.



Above, construction at New Danville is providing a new entranceway for the school. In photo at left, Joe Garber (left), New Danville parent and pastor at Byerland Mennonite Church, and Superintendent Richard Thomas participate in the July 7 groundbreaking ceremony. PHOTOS: EDIE HESS

■ In April, 16 staff members were recognized for their service to the school. Carolyn Metzler retired after teaching at New Danville (ND) for 28 years, including kindergarten through grade 3.

Betty Newswanger retired after 27 years. In her earlier years at Locust Grove she taught grades 2-4, was a therapist in the Discovery Center, and

was the first teacher for the gifted program. Her major focus was supervising the early childhood program and directing the home education program. Most recently she served as assistant principal at both Locust Grove and New Danville. Earlier she also taught kindergarten at Kraybill for nine years. Newswanger attended Locust Grove, grades 1-8, and graduated from LMH in 1960. Barbara Ashley, ND Learning



Carolyn Metzler



Betty

Support teacher for nine years, also retired. Others honored include: Karen

continued on page 9

continued from page 8

Gyger, Lancaster, health/phys.ed., 25 years; Velma Magill, LG/ND art, 25 years; Allan Shirk, Lanc. social studies, 25 years; Edie Hess, ND administrative assistant, 20 years; Gail Lanas, development, 20 years; Sheri Wenger, Lanc. social studies, 20 years; Beth Yoder, ND kindergarten, 20 years; Mark Boll, Lanc. custodial, 15 years; Andrew Hershey, Lanc. science, 15 years; Joyce Thomas, Lanc. administrative assistant, 15 years; Martha High, LG kindergarten, 10 years; Beth Hollenberg, LG music, 10 years; and Dalina Winter, ND grade 5, 10 years.

August 21	LMMS/LMHS New Student Orientation, 6:30 p.m.
August 23	First day of school
September 21–23	Tuesdays with Morrie at Lancaster, 7:30 p.m.
September 23	Lancaster Menno Nite at the Barnstormers, 7:05 p.m.
October 15	Fall Drop-in, 1–3 p.m. at Lancaster
October 22	Mennonite Piano Concerto, 3:00 p.m., Lancaster
October 28	New Danville Chicken Barbecue, 10 a.m.–2:30 p.m.
November 2	Prospective Student Day—All Campuses
November 16–18	Fall Gathering & Auction—Lancaster High school play, <i>Jane Eyre</i> , 7:30 p.m.

Kraybill students excel in sports and art

By Gary Hiller

Kraybill students received multiple awards during spring competitions. The Kraybill girls track team won its ninth consecutive Commonwealth Christian Athletic Conference (CCAC) championship and eighth consecutive championship in the Mid-Atlantic Christian Schools Association (MACSA) while the boys won their fourth consecutive CCAC and MACSA championships.

In the CCAC, gold medalists were Celina Nissley, Kaitlin Brubaker, Erica Engle, Abbi Harder, Kayla Woods, Samantha Ginder, Amanda Hershey and Stephanie Rheinheimer. In broader competition within the Mid-Atlantic States, including Washington, D.C., Nissley, Ginder, Brubaker, Engle, and Rheinheimer took honors.

The boys track team won the CCAC championship behind the gold medal efforts of Nathaniel Shuman, Isaiah Gregory, Brandon Kratz, Adam Rohrer, Alex Geib, Ben Kramer, and the 400 meter relay team of Isaiah Gregory, Brandon Kratz, Zach Meador, and Justin Gorman. In the MACSA event, Gregory, Kramer, and many others helped secure the boys' fourth consecutive championship.

In addition, seven Kraybill students won silver keys in the junior division of the 43rd National Scholastic Art Awards competition at Carnegie Hall in New York, New York. These seven students, plus two from Manheim Township Middle School, were the only junior division medalists among all Lancaster County schools. In order to advance to the national competition, eight Kraybill middle school students were among the top 2 percent of 3000 entries from Lancaster County's 40 schools and districts.

Eighth-grader Joshua King won a Silver Key in Sculpture, and the following six students won silvers for an animation that combined computer and artistic skills to produce a motion picture: Aaron Gish, Colleen Hershey, Nathan Longenecker, Brent Dimmig, Elisha Keener, and Patrick Moran.

Kraybill's track program is under the direction of Athletic Director Ken Schildt, Wendy Weinstein heads the art program, and Valerie Garton directs the computer program. ■



Above are Kraybill hurdlers Bonnie Garber, Kaitlin Brubaker (hurdles champion), and Erica Engle (high jump champion).

PHOTO: DIANE BRUBAKER



National award-winning students hold a clay figurine used to make an animated movie shown on the computer screens. Clockwise from bottom left: Colleen Hershey, Patrick Moran III, Elisha Keener, Nathan Longenecker, Brent Dimmig, Aaron Gish, with Valerie Garton, computer and middle school

■ During the annual FFA Activities Week held June 13–15 at Penn State University, 2006 LMH graduate Scott Umble was named FFA state chaplain for the 2006-2007 year. In the career development events the Agribusiness Management team took first place and three other teams placed second—Dairy Foods, Forestry, and Equine. The first place team will represent Pa. at the National FFA Convention in Indianapolis, Ind., and the second place teams will compete at the Big E at Springfield, Mass. The teams were



Scott Umble



Agribusiness Management team members are Josiah Rohrer, left, and Jenna Hershberger. Missing from the picture is Vince Ferenczy. Danielle Stoltzfus, also a team member, will join the team at nationals. Individually, Rohrer received a gold award, Ferenczy a silver, and Hershberger

coached by teachers Lem Metzler and Ryan King.

■ During the last week of school Lancaster Mennonite High School students left the traditional classroom setting to participate in a variety of four-day minicourses that included service such as preparing Christian camps for summer programs and repairing homes for lower income families.

Other minicourses included backpacking/hiking, rock climbing; biking, exploration of the eastern seashore; and sightseeing in cities such as New York City and Washington, D.C. Held every other year, the minicourse program is a unique educational/service opportunity that complements classroom learning and encourages the development of deeper interpersonal relationships with teachers and other students.



Lancaster Mennonite High School students (left to right) Amber Dennis, Erika Babikow, Kira Wenger and Thea Weaver sort clothing at the Lancaster County Council of Churches Food and Clothing Bank during the school's recent minicourse program. They spent the second half of their course at Still Waters Retreat House near Carlisle, Pa., where activities included quiet times of guided prayer, walking and kayaking. The course was led by Campus Pastor Dorcas Lehman.

Prison becomes classroom

In May, 73 high school sociology students visited Lancaster County Prison as part of their unit on deviance and the criminal justice system. The prison visit gave them a first-hand look at issues such as overcrowding, recidivism (80% for Lancaster County), inequities within the system, and possible reforms. The Lancaster County Prison houses 1,200 inmates with approximately 450 released back into the community each month.

In a class essay, senior Jon Spicher included these reflections: "In viewing this prison and from what I have learned in class ... I cannot help but think there is another method of reversing the deviant actions of criminals. I think a combination of restorative justice, rehabilitation programs and counseling would address many of the deeper problems facing many criminals. ... I think if we help to correct the prisoners' problems rather than just putting them away for 20 years, we would experience a much lower recidivism rate."

The field trip was arranged by LMH alumnus and current County Commissioner Dick Shellenberger. ■



Lancaster Mennonite High School sociology teacher Sheri Wenger, right, prepares her students for their visit to the Lancaster County Prison.

■ The high school enjoyed a successful spring sports season. The boys volleyball team won the Section and Lancaster-Lebanon League championship and advanced to the semifinals where they lost to Hempfield, the eventual state champion (see cover photo). In track and field, Lindsey Shertzer, 2007, broke the Lancaster-Lebanon League



Lindsey Shertzer

records in the 1600 meter (5:03.2) and the 800 meter (2:15.8) at the L-L League Championship Meet this spring, won the 1600 meter at Districts, and took second place at States.

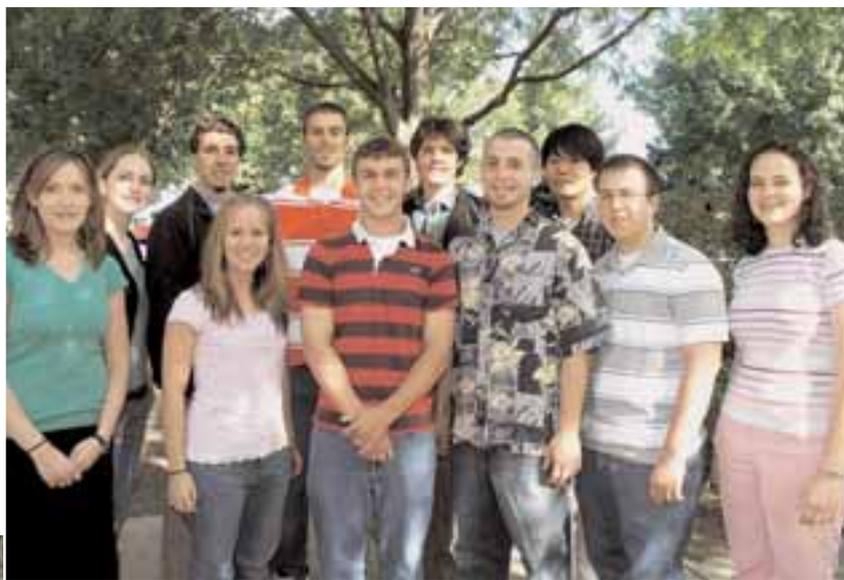
Girls soccer won the District Championship and advanced to State play.

■ Colleges and universities awarded more than \$400,000 in scholarships to LMH seniors this year. With many being awarded annually, the total value is considerably higher. ■

LMH teachers to present *Tuesdays with Morrie*

High School teachers John Miller, Dean Sauder, and Danielle Hofstetter (director) will present Tuesdays with Morrie Thursday–Saturday, September 21–23, at the Fine Arts Center, Lancaster campus, at 7:30 p.m.

Tickets—\$5.00 for students and \$8.00 for adults—will be available at the door, or call (717) 299-0436, ext. 340. Tuesdays with Morrie, taken from the book by the same title, is a play about a dying friend helping another learn how to live life to the fullest. It is a story of hope, wisdom, humor, and friendship. For more information call Dean Sauder at (717) 299-0436, ext. 372.



Twelve seniors received top department awards at the high school awards assembly in May. They are, left to right: Rebecca Lever, family and consumer sciences; Brittany Mellinger, English; Tyler Kreider, technology education; Karissa Sauder, music; Jamie Yoder, physical education; Ross Lehman, art; Jonathan (Jon) Spicher, world language; Jesse Edwards, science; Mose Jung, mathematics; Cody Hoover, business; and Crystal Zook, social studies. Jeremy Nissley, agriculture, is missing from



LMS Superintendent Richard Thomas congratulates the parent committee who planned the Locust Grove Garden Tour held in June. The event, which raised \$6,240 and attracted over 400 visitors, took the Vi Bender Memorial Scholarship Fund to over \$26,200, qualifying it for a named endowment. Plans are for the first scholarships to be given from this endowment during the 2007-08 school year. The parent committee that planned the garden tour consists of, left to right: Marcy Root, Carolyn Kreider, Cindy Burkhart and D.J. Kling, chair. On the far right is Locust Grove Principal Jay Roth.

CLASS NOTES

Jim Smucker, 1979, Bird-in-Hand, and **Daniel Heller, 1995**, Lititz, are serving on the board of the Lancaster Chamber of Commerce and Industry.

Patrick and **Regina ("Jeannie") Hershey, 1985**, Hartsfield, along with their children Hannah, Seth and Luke, began a long term mission assignment in Cambodia under World Team, an interdenominational mission agency. For more information, go to www.worldteam.org.

Douglas Charles, 1993, Philadelphia, was awarded the doctor of osteopathic medicine degree from Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine. He will complete his internship at Williamsport Hospital.

In June, **Tasha Clemmer, 1993**, New York, N.Y., received her masters degree in secondary math education at the City College of New York where she was enrolled in the Fellows Program. She is teaching math at Louis D. Brandeis High School in Manhattan.

In May, **Daniel Shank Cruz, 1998**,

Dekalb, Ill., received his masters degree in English from Northern Illinois University.

John P. Sauder, 2000, Lititz, has joined the sales staff of John N. Sauder Auto Co., New Holland. He holds a degree from Eastern Mennonite University (EMU), Harrisonburg, Va. where he served an internship with Joe Bowman Chevrolet. His older sister, **Candance (Candi) Sauder King, 1992**, Lancaster, also is on the staff at Sauder's. Younger sister **Megan Sauder, 2005**, Lititz, is an elementary education major at Va. Commonwealth University where she is a field hockey starting back for the VCU Rams.

Rebekah Kratz, 2000, Brubaker, Harrisonburg, Va., graduated from Eastern Mennonite University this spring with a masters in counseling. She works for the Harrisonburg-Rockingham Community Service Board as a prevention and early intervention specialist.

Janelle Engle, 2002, Mount Joy, recently received several scholar-athlete awards. The Norfolk Sports Club presented Engle, a First-Team All-American Division I field hockey player at Old Dominion University, with the

Thomas Scott Award for being the top senior student athlete at Old Dominion. Earlier, she was named Female Athlete of the Year by the ODU Alumni Association and the Jack Wilkins/James Howard Female Scholar Athlete of the Year. She is a four-time National Field Hockey Coaches Association (NFHCA) All-Academic Selection. She was also given First Team honors on ESPN, the Magazine's Academic All-District and also All-American women's at-large team. A music education major with a 4.0 GPA, Engle plans to do her student teaching this fall.

Anna Groff, 2002, Goshen, Ind., graduated this spring from Goshen College with a communications degree and has been named assistant editor for The Men-



Anna Groff

nonite. This fall she will relocate to Harrisonburg, Va., where she will report on Mennonite Church USA activities in the East. Her work will include research and development for online journalism products and developing the digital side of the magazine's operations, including the Web

Lancaster Menno Nite at the Barnstormers

On September 23, students, alumni and all other LMS friends are invited to Clipper Magazine Stadium for the school's Lancaster Menno Nite at the Barnstormers, which will end with the last fireworks of the year. This outing is the first joint event for the Kraybill, Locust Grove, New Danville and Lancaster campuses, with a combined

enrollment of over 1,600 students. The game starts at 7:05 p.m. The presence of many LMS supporters will help people see that Lancaster Mennonite School is now a comprehensive PreK-12 school system.

As the largest group in the stadium, Lancaster Mennonite will have the opportunity to throw the first pitch, and

LMS students will be selected for various between-inning contests. LMS students, alumni and families are encouraged to wear school logo items, sports jerseys, or the high school colors of black and gold.

The Saturday night game is expected to be sold out. Send in your order by September 7 for the group discount.

Ticket Order Form

___ LMS STUDENTS @ \$5.00 each = \$ _____
 ___ Children under 5 yrs. @ \$5.00 = \$ _____
 ___ ADULTS @ \$6.50 each = \$ _____
 ___ Guest Students @ \$6.50 each = \$ _____
 (students from other schools)
 ___ After September 7 @ \$7.50 each = \$ _____
 (all ages, pending availability)
 ___ TOTAL AMOUNT \$ _____

MAIL TICKETS TO:

Name _____
 Address _____
 City _____ State _____ Zip _____
 Phone _____

Make checks payable to Lancaster Mennonite School
 MAIL TO: Janet Kreider, Kraybill Campus
 598 Kraybill Church Road
 Mount Joy, PA 17552

After the start of the school year, order forms may be submitted to the office of any LMS campus. For more information contact Janet Kreider at (717) 653-5236 or kreiderjc@lancastermennonite.org.

site.

Jonathan Shoff, 2003, Lititz, a Millersville University junior, recently won the Lois Vyner Performance Award for outstanding performance in the field of music and academic excellence. Shoff was one of four students to perform for pianist Andre Watts during a master class in January. He is a music tutor and assistant conductor for the University Chorale.

Brittany Clemmer, 2005, Strasburg, begins a one-year Serving and Learning Together (SALT) assignment with Mennonite Central Committee this summer. She will work in a girls' orphanage in Cairo, Egypt.

MARRIAGES

Jenelle Robin Hershey, 1995, and Roy Allen Gerlach, November 12, 2005. They live in Strasburg.

Donna Harnish, 1989, and Neil Reinford, June 24, 2006. They live in Lancaster. Neil teaches science at the Locust Grove campus.

BIRTHS

David and **Kay Weaver, 1985, Gibbs**, New Holland, second child, first daughter, Claire Elizabeth, April 25, 2006.

Patrick, 1988, and Kristen Leaman, Reading, Jake Charles, April 12, 2006.

Charles, 1988, and Marlene Fisher, 1987, Haws, Bernville, third child, first son, Clint Baker, April 17, 2006.

Michael, 1991, and Diane Peifer, Christiana, first child, Alexandra Marie, August 15, 2005.

Carl, 1992, and Naomi Heisey, 1994, Meyer, Quarryville, second daughter, Olivia Mae, January 31, 2006.

Keith and **Carol Brubacher, 1992, Hershey**, Narvon, third child, second son, Andrew Bachman, May 28, 2006.

Doug and **Valerie Todd, 1993, Ehst**, Akron, second daughter, Lydia Nicole, April 27, 2006. Doug teaches middle school at the Lancaster campus.

Andy and **Deanna Hess, 1995, Martin**, State College, first son, Trevor James, January 17, 2006.

Toby and **Joy Cann, 1995, Delevieleuse**, Lancaster, third child, second daughter, Zoe Adeline, October 31, 2005.

Bill, 1995, and Doretta Hess, 1995, Giersch, Holtwood, first child, William Luke, January 13, 2006.

Joe, 1997, and Kristen Kauffman, 1999, Lusby, Atglen, third son, Chase Joseph, June 16, 2006.

Joel, 2000, and Jessica Adam **Buckwalter**, Ephrata, first child, Emily Joy, December 15, 2005.

Nathan and **Jena Moyer, 2002, Umbrell**, Elizabethtown, first child, Lindsy Rochelle, November 14, 2005. ■

Remaining 2006 reunions

1946	September 16, 2006
1951	September 7-8, 2006
1956	August 18-19, 2006
1971	October 28, 2006
1996	September 16, 2006
2001	September 23, 2006

For more information, go to www.lancastermennonite.org

Register early for new event

Business Networking Breakfast

The LMH Alumni Association will present its first ever Business Networking Breakfast, Friday, September 15, with Daryl Heller speaking on "Company Values: The Business Tenets of Success."

The event will run from 7:30 to 9:00 a.m. at the offices of Premier Companies, LLC. Heller, a 1988 LMS graduate, is founder and CEO of Premier.

The breakfast promises to be an excellent opportunity to connect with LMH friends and alumni who are endeavoring to practice personal faith, Christlike witness, peacemaking and service within the business community.

Heller, a 2002 Ernst and Young "Entrepreneur of the Year" finalist, received the 2004 Central Penn "40 under 40" Award and was named the 2005 Lancaster Chamber of Commerce

"Small Business Person of the Year."

There is no cost to attend the breakfast. Major sponsors are Premier Companies, LLC; E.G. Stoltzfus, Jr., Inc.; Haller Enterprises, Inc.; and Benjamin Roberts, Ltd.



Daryl Heller, 1988

Directions to Premier Companies,

Alumni briefs

- **Thank you!** The 2006 Alumni Phonathon raised a record \$175,700 for the Annual Fund! About \$50,000 of that consisted of Challenge Fund matching dollars from the alumni board and other friends.
- **B-Ball Tournament:** Mark your calendars now for the 2006 3 v 3 Basketball Tournament which will be held Saturday, November 18, at the Lancaster campus in conjunction with the Fall Gathering & Auction. Brochures will be available in early September. The event is open to alumni and other friends. Contact Jeff Shank at (717) 394-7107 or shankja@lancastermennonite.org.
- **Getting two Bridges?** With the Kraybill merger, some alumni may temporarily receive two issues of Bridges. This problem should be corrected soon.
- **Addresses are needed** of alumni who left home and did not notify us of their new address. If your children are in this group, please help us out so we can

Phyllis Pellman Good recognized

Honoring Phyllis Pellman Good as the 2006 Alumna of the Year this spring became even more celebrative when the event coincided with some pretty special national publicity for the 1966 graduate.

Just the day before Pellman Good was honored at the school's April 29 dinner theatre, she had been in Philadelphia for the recording of two segments of NPR's program, "A Chef's Table," which were aired by Philadelphia's WHYY-FM 91 and picked up by public radio stations across the country.

About a week later, the New York Times ran a front page story about her new cookbook, *Fix it and Enjoy It*, and Good Books, the publishing company she and husband Merle Good own with other shareholders. On June 1, she appeared on 18 television stations around the country with cooking demonstrations related to her new book.

Two of Phyllis' books have been on The New York Times bestseller list: *Fix-It and Forget-It Cookbook* (for 22 weeks), and *Fix-It and Forget-It*

Lightly. She also has written many articles and books about Mennonite and Amish life, placing her among the best-selling authors in the U.S. with more than 9.2 million books sold. Her four cookbooks alone have sold more than 6.8 million copies.

Other books include *Perils of Professionalism*; *A Mennonite Woman's Life*; *Amish Children*; *The Best of Mennonite Fellowship Meals*; *Quilts from Two Valleys: Amish Quilts from the Big Valley, Mennonite Quilts from the Shenandoah Val-*

ley; and a children's book, *Plain Pig's ABC's*:

A Day on Plain Pig's Amish Farm.

Pellman Good received her masters in English from New York University. She and Merle, also a graduate of LMS, have teamed together on numerous projects through the years. They served as executive directors of The People's Place for 28 years, and Phyllis served

During the school's April 29 dinner theatre, Director of Alumni Relations Jeff Shank, left, and Superintendent Richard Thomas, right, presented Alumna of the Year Phyllis Pellman Good with a framed fraktur.



Plaque preserves alumni story for students

This spring a plaque was hung in the G. Parke Book Building that tells the story behind Signature Custom Cabinetry, Inc., a business started by LMH alumni.

Present at the installation, along with numerous LMS staff members, were the three Martin brothers who started the business: Kent Martin, 1985, and president/CEO of the firm; Devon Martin, 1988, vice president of sales and dealer support; and Delayne Martin, 1991, vice president of operations. The business began in a two-car garage after the brothers learned woodworking skills from grandfather Elmer Beiler and then as students at Lancaster Mennonite High School.

The firm has been recognized as one of the Top 50 Fastest Growing Businesses in Central Pa. According to



Left to right: Delayne Martin, 1991; Devon Martin, 1988; Kent Martin, 1985; and Superintendent Richard Thomas.

Director of Advancement Heidi Stoltzfus, the plaque serves as an example to students of how the skills they learn can

be used in the work place and also how a business can be successful while integrating faith into its everyday operation. ■

as editor of Festival Quarterly magazine for 22 years. They continue to serve as directors of The Old Country Store and The People's Place Quilt Museum, both in the village of Intercourse, Pa. Merle is publisher and Phyllis is senior book editor for Good Books. They have published nearly 500 books by more than 125 different authors. Among the books they have co-authored are 303 Great Ideas for Families and 20 Most Asked Questions About the Amish and Mennonites. They also co-edited the series

of yearly books, *What Mennonites Are Thinking*.

For many years Phyllis has been a volunteer writer and editor for Mennonite World Conference. She has also served on the Executive Committee of Mennonite World Conference and the General Board of the Mennonite Church. In addition, she has chaired the Council of Faith, Life, and Strategy for the denomination. Phyllis also taught in the LMS English Department for two years in the early 1970s.

The Goods live in Lancaster and are the parents of Kate and Rebecca, also LMS graduates. They are members of East Chestnut Street Mennonite Church, Lancaster.

The annual award goes to alumni who have made a significant contribution through service in their community, profession, family or church and whose lifestyles reflect the mission of the school—"Offering an excellent, Christ-centered PreK-12 education that transforms students so they can change

Where faith and learning mesh

By Phyllis Pellman Good



Phyllis Pellman Good, 1966

Editor's note: Included here is part of Phyllis Pellman Good's response to receiving the 2006 Alum of the Year Award.

Two images come to mind when I think of LMS when I was a student here. LMS as a basket—woven protectively around us, cocoon-like, holding us close, holding us tight. We felt those strands, and yet, I realize now, all that structure, that basket, still let the light in! Yes, strenuous efforts were made to mold us, to enclose us. But now, with a wider lens than I had 40 years ago, I see

how big the spaces were between the reeds and the bands that tried to hold us firmly in place, that shaped our life here.

Who let the light in?

Grace and Edna Wenger did it for me. They both lived within the visible boundaries that the school worked hard to maintain, but they also lived well beyond those borders. Almost scarily observant, Grace and Edna knew us one by one. Not only that, they brought us ideas and the imponderable mysteries of life through the stories and poems they had us read. I sensed the light and felt the breezes when I was in their classrooms. Yet they never cut us adrift.

Another image of LMS. Ted Koontz, a Mennonite thinker, says that Mennonites have two languages. We use our first language inside our faith family. We use it to talk about belonging, about our people, about our community of faith. It is the language of our most primary identity. It is how we express our deepest beliefs and hopes and disappointments and fears. It is the way we talk about how our faith is reflected in the way we live. We use words like "discipleship," and "forgiveness," and "sister" and "brother." This is our mother tongue.

Our second language is what we speak when we're doing business, when we're talking about the newspaper editorial, about gas prices, about our work and its particular specialties.

We knew some of both of these two languages when we came to LMS as students. But at LMS, we learned to speak those two languages more fluently. We extended them. We explored them. We learned to use them side-by-side.

We were learning chemistry and civics and music and world history, but always within a framework that began and ended with God and God's people. We were taught to think and talk in a way that reflected two languages. The one language did not exclude the other, if we were careful. I got a good start here on how to be at home in two languages without compromising either, because, again, I had good examples.

There was Noah Good, German scholar and Mennonite pastor. There was Charlie Longenecker, biology expert and Mennonite ethicist.

This big language lesson was lived more than it was talked about by LMS faculty. And kids may not look like they're paying attention, but they've already spotted the phonies. There were a majority of real people living our ideals at LMS then, and when Merle and I both taught here.

God bless you, LMS, for being a steady presence. For doing the long, slow work of shaping lives, ever so gently but persistently. For not neglecting our mother tongue while studiously teaching us other languages. For allowing the light to come in and the fresh air to blow. For me. For our two daughters.

Too many choices?

With a smorgasbord of good choices available, how do we determine God's best for ourselves and our children?

Several years ago I heard some parents reflect on the money they invested in sending their children to Mennonite schools. They wondered what they otherwise might have done with all that money. But they didn't have regrets for investing in the Christian nurture and faith development of their children. Their investment paid huge dividends.

Recently I heard about parents struggling to decide if they can afford to keep their children in Mennonite schools. Living in God's kingdom and guided by Christian core values helps them want to say "yes" to Christian Anabaptist Mennonite education for their children. But how do they prioritize family activities, living costs and finances in order to pay for tuition?

William Mattox, USA Today essayist, says good parenting today seems to mean chauffeuring kids to an abundance of activities. He reports that his family is going on an "activities diet" to reduce their overbooked schedule.

MMA Stewardship Education Manager Steve Ganger takes on this issue from a Christian perspective in his new book, *Priority Parenting*. The book

challenges over-committed families to refocus their energy from being kid-centered to being God-centered, freeing parents to be parents and kids to be kids (MMA Toolkit, Volume 33 Number 4: July-August 2006).

Consumerism encourages us to buy anything and everything. Recently I heard a parent say, "There isn't anything we don't buy if we want it." Jesus said, "Watch out! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; a person's life does not consist in the abundance of his or her possessions" (Luke 12:15).

Moses of old seems to understand quickly persons with good intentions and a strong commitment to follow God can be seduced by the gods of pleasure, consumerism, entertainment, self interest and greed. So quickly, good choices and right priorities fall away.

The biblical text of Deuteronomy presents Moses, standing on the Plains of Moab with the people of Israel, ready to preach his last and longest sermon. He calls them to REMEMBER—remember God's provisions, God's salvation, God's commandments for it is in remembering that they can remain faithful to God and pass along the faith to their children.

The Plains of Moab are the last stop on their 40-year journey from Egyptian



Connie F. Stauffer

slavery to the Promised Land. They have experienced a lot as a community of faith—deliverance, wanderings, rebellion, worship and guidance. They are standing at the Jordan River, ready to cross over into the promised land and Moses says, "Only be careful, and watch yourselves closely so that you do not forget the things your eyes have seen or let them slip from your heart as long as you live. Teach them to your children and to their children after them" (Deut. 4: 9).

Remembering God's providence, salvation and commandments does not happen in a vacuum. It happens by intentional teaching—in the family, in our Mennonite schools and in our congregations. Remembering God's faithfulness helps us make correct choices and set right priorities for ourselves and our children.—cfs



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