

Summer 2016

# Lamp<sup>lighter</sup>

## The **upside down kingdom life**

Commencement speaker  
Mary Benner encourages  
graduates to live into  
"the great paradox  
of the gospel."

Emily Rittenhouse celebrates with the Class of 2016



**DOCK**  
MENNONITE ACADEMY

- ◆ Dock's new identity
- ◆ Senior Presentations
- ◆ Celebrating the gift of music

# Lamplighter

A publication of Dock Mennonite Academy

## 3 The Gift of Music

Homecoming 2016 will be an epic celebration of the gift of music, and you will not want to miss the centerpiece—a Touring Choir Reunion Concert featuring singers from seven decades.

## 4 A new identity for Dock and Penn View

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## 6 Commencement 2016

Commencement speaker Mary Benner encourages graduates to live into “the great paradox of the gospel.”

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Learning for Lives of Purpose

**On the cover:** Emily Rittenhouse and her peers in the Class of 2016 were encouraged to live the “upside down kingdom life” during Dock’s 61st Annual Commencement on June 11. Read more starting on page 6.

**Right:** Rod Derstine pronounces the “amen” to 30 years of musical leadership at Christopher Dock.



**DOCK**

MENNONITE ACADEMY

*Learning for Lives of Purpose*

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Superintendent

**Dr. Sharon Fransen**  
Assistant Superintendent  
Curriculum & Instruction

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**Jay Gordon**, Editor  
**Steve Leinbach**, Layout & Design



# Instrumental Serenade

An afternoon of classical music

Homecoming 2016 – Clemens Theater  
Saturday, October 8, 2016 • 1:00 – 2:45 p.m.

## Featured Musicians

### Dock String Quartet –

Sydney Cardy, Mikayla Frederick, La'akea Fujita, Sam Gingerich

**Emily Derstine** Class of 2015, violin with piano accompaniment  
Emily is a music education major at Elizabethtown College

### Beverly Lapp

Class of 1987, piano  
Beverly lives in Goshen, IN, and serves as Professor of Music and Music Department chair at Goshen College. She earned a B.A. in Music at Goshen, a M.M. in piano performance from Westminster Choir College and a Doctor of Education in Music from Columbia University Teacher's College.

### Angela Leidig

Class of 1992, violin with piano accompaniment  
Angela lives in Somerville, MA and teaches violin and Alexander Technique in her own studio. She earned her B.A. in Music from Roanoke College and M.M. from Boston University.

### Jason Lovelace

Class of 1998, piano  
Jason recently contributed to a new album of contemporary works for chamber ensemble. He has a doctorate in composition from The Catholic University of America, a M.M. in composition and a M.M. in computer music from the Peabody Conservatory, and a Bachelor of Musical Arts from the University of Oklahoma.

### Devin (Hamm) Schuessler

Class of 2001, violin with piano accompaniment  
Devin lives in Camillus, NY, and teaches private violin, viola, and piano lessons. She earned her Bachelor of Music degree in violin performance at Houghton College.

### Arlene (Hinckle) Steffen

Class of 1981, piano  
Arlene received a B.A. in piano, piano pedagogy and music education from Goshen College and a M.M. in piano from Wichita State University. She currently teaches privately and is the primary piano instructor at Fresno Pacific University in Fresno, CA.

### Chelsea Wimmer

Class of 2009, viola  
Chelsea lives in Centereach, NY, where she is pursuing her Doctor of Musical Arts degree in Viola Performance at Stony Brook University. She earned her B.A. in Music at Goshen College and M.M. in Viola Performance from Stony Brook.

### Dixie Yoder

Class of 1999. Dixie will play with Jonas Yoder, class of 1997, and Stan Yoder, former Dock strings instructor)  
Dixie lives in Austin, TX and teaches music at Pleasant Hill Elementary School. She earned a B.A. degree in Music and Social Work at Goshen College and a M.Ed. in Educational Administration from Concordia University.

*L to R: Emily Derstine, Dr. Beverly Lapp (photo by Lauren Pupillo), Chelsea Wimmer (photo by Cynée Godshall), Arlene Steffen, Angela Leidig*

# Celebrating the Gift of Music

## HOMECOMING

and Family Weekend

October 7-8, 2016

Touring Choir Alumni  
are invited to sing in our  
reunion mass choir on  
Saturday, October 8 at 7 pm  
Details at dockhs.org





## WHO WAS CHRISTOPHER DOCK? THE PRAYING SCHOOLMASTER OF SKIPPACK

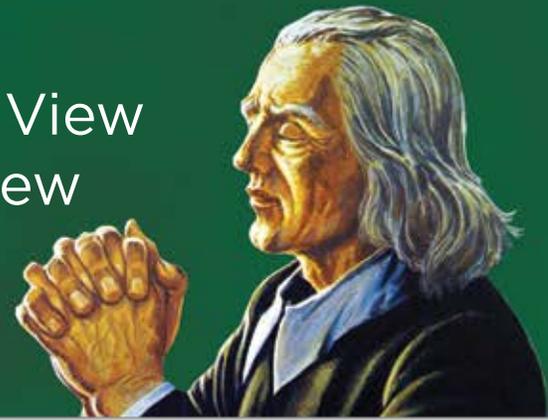
- Born in Germany in 1698, Christopher Dock came to America around 1714.
- In 1718, Dock began teaching at an elementary school for Mennonites in Skippack, and later in Germantown and Salford, PA.
- On the walls of Dock's classrooms were beautifully illustrated manuscripts, which served as models for penmanship. Small examples of the decorated "Fraktur" writing were given as rewards to good students.
- In 1750, Dock wrote *Schul Ordnung (School Management)*, one of the earliest essays on education in America.
- Dock wrote at least seven hymns, five of which are in the earliest American Mennonite hymnal.
- In 1771, Dock died on his knees in prayer, some say praying for his students. His grave marker is a simple stone located in the Lower Skippack Mennonite Church cemetery.





**DOCK**  
MENNONITE ACADEMY

## Dock and Penn View announce a new identity



After a comprehensive five-month process conducted by an external marketing firm, the Board of Trustees has approved a new identity for the school system created by the merger of Christopher Dock Mennonite High School and Penn View Christian School: **Dock Mennonite Academy**.

These three words are deeply rooted in the schools' core values and educational philosophy.

- Our schools teach in the tradition of **Christopher Dock**, the 18<sup>th</sup> century Mennonite educator who pioneered a shift in teaching philosophy to focus on the *whole* student, integrating academics and faith. Dock emphasized character-building and class discussion to encourage a higher standard of behavior and learning.
- The word **Mennonite** was included because it accurately reflects our identity and the lens through which we teach. It also speaks of a supportive, caring community where students can thrive and develop their unique talents.
- The word **Academy** was chosen because when it is paired with Mennonite, it drives home a message of quality education. The new logo (above) is a visual representation of the intertwining of academics and faith, incorporating symbols that are important to both schools.

The goal throughout the branding process was to uncover and articulate the essence of our two schools by gathering thoughts and ideas from our most valued constituent groups, including students, alumni, parents, faculty, and staff. There will always be sensitivities associated with a new identity, as our names carry historical significance for both schools.

The board and administration believes wholeheartedly that

this newly articulated brand reflects and elevates the collective strengths of both schools.

The new identity was announced to faculty, staff, and students at the end of the school year; alumni, parents, and donors subsequently received emails announcing the change. The new identity will be rolled out gradually over the course of the 2016-17 school year, and you will begin seeing the new name and logo in our communications.

We are excited to thrive together as one entity moving forward!

### *Learning for Lives of Purpose*

Dock Mennonite Academy strives to carry out Christopher Dock's legacy in the following ways:

- **Integration of Academics and Faith**  
We practice a balanced integration of learning, faith, and service from early childhood through high school graduation.
- **Community of Learners**  
Our students learn and grow in a Christ-centered community comprised of faculty, staff, family and church.
- **Participation**  
From athletics to arts and music, our students are encouraged to get involved. Given the size of the school, each student can take an active and engaged role.
- **Collaboration**  
Among students and faculty, there is a strong emphasis on collaboration and learning to work through challenges as a team.



Mike Landis



Mike Landis



Mike Landis



Mike Landis



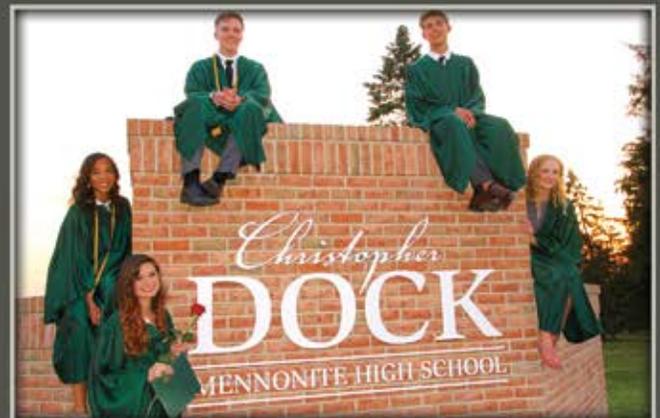
Mike Landis



Mike Landis



Mike Landis



# The upside down kingdom life



Commencement speaker Mary Benner with her son and Dock teacher Caleb Benner

## Commencement speaker Mary Benner encourages graduates to live into “the great paradox of the gospel.”

Senior Presentations were not yet a requirement when Mary Benner graduated from Christopher Dock in 1976—so she decided to prepare one and deliver it as a commencement address for the class of 2016. And it began with the word, “therefore.”

“This is a word we often skim over when we read the Bible, but it is an important word,” she said. “Whenever you see it you should stop to figure out, what is the ‘therefore’ there for?”

In 1 Corinthians 15:58, the apostle Paul is sending his readers in the struggling Corinthian church back to what he had written to them in the previous verses of the chapter. He reminds them what they had decided to live by; what they knew to be true. He reviewed for them the story of the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, and the true freedom we have as a result. Paul reminded them that when they trust in Jesus, they are made fully alive, and Jesus’ resurrection power is at their disposal. “That is what the ‘therefore’ is there

for,” Benner said. “Paul is saying, because of what Jesus did, this is what you have the power to do in your life!”

The Christian walk is a life-long journey, and sometimes we try to make living for Christ an option with low challenge and low commitment, she added. *Accept Jesus as your savior and everything will fall into place. You’re done, you’re saved; it really won’t affect your life that much. Check that off the list.*

If we were marketing life in Christ as a product, the ad campaign would be a complete failure, Benner said. *Step right up and totally surrender your whole life. Deny yourself, take up your cross and follow me. Put others first, keep no record of wrongs and love your enemies. You will feel the hurt and pain of the world and be compelled to respond; it will call you*

*to love those who hurt you and forgive when wronged. You may be rejected, made fun of, or even be in danger.*

“But here is the great paradox of the

gospel of Jesus!” Benner said. “This is an upside down kingdom life that makes no sense to those who don’t know Christ, but for those who do, it changes everything and brings freedom, peace, joy and contentment in all circumstances. It gives us the power of Christ in us to stand firm in our faith and be unmoved by all the challenges of life. It gives us the strength to pour out our lives as an offering to God knowing that because of the ‘therefore,’ we will do more than we could ever have imagined or thought possible, and that God will use everything in our lives for good according to His purposes.”

Mary Benner is a 1976 graduate of Christopher Dock and former youth pastor at Souderton Mennonite Church. Currently she is the director of Hope for Health and Tree of Life International, whose goal is to eradicate malnutrition through the implementation of a comprehensive and sustainable community health care system. To date Hope for Health has served over 22,000 people, operating 73 nutritional clinics in 21 villages in Haiti and the Dominican Republic.

Read the complete text of Mary Benner’s address online at [dockhs.org](http://dockhs.org), or visit Dock’s YouTube channel to watch her address and other videos from Dock’s 61st Annual Commencement. 

*“Therefore, my dear brothers and sisters, stand firm. Let nothing move you. Always give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord, because you know that your labor in the Lord is not in vain.”*  
~ 1 Corinthians 15:58

# The Class of 2016



Mike Landis



Mike Landis



Mike Landis



Mike Landis



**Jordan Addley** Liberty University  
*Psychology*

**Tyler Alderfer** Belmont University  
*Business*

**Haley Anderson** University of Delaware  
*Animal Science/Pre-Veterinary*

**Kathrine Anderson** Kutztown University  
*Applied Digital Art*

**Andrew Baldwin** York College of PA  
*Undecided*

**Ali Balmer** Eastern University  
*Nursing*

**Ella Barlick** Elon University  
*Biology/Pre-Med*

**Eric Barth** Penn State University  
*Engineering*

**Nicole Bartle** High Point University  
*Elementary Education*

**Chandler Bergey** Arizona State University  
*Business Entrepreneurship*

**Colin Bernd** Messiah College  
*Business*

**Chuanxi (Colt) Boyi** Penn State-Lehigh Valley  
*Aerospace*

**Isaac Brunk** Messiah College  
*Undecided*

**Emma Chimera** University of South Carolina  
*Nursing*

**Heejin (Jessica) Chung** Temple University  
*Neuroscience*

**Deanna Clemens** Messiah College  
*Business Administration*

**Nicole Clements** Belmont University  
*Music Business*

**Andrew Curtis** Employment: Luciani Builders  
*Carpentry*

**Sharon Curtis** Gordon College  
*Biology*

**Jacob Detweiler** Penn State University-Abington  
*Mechanical Engineering*

**Timothy DiLoreto** Lehigh University  
*Mechanical Engineering*

**Taylor Downes** Belmont University  
*Songwriting*

**Jared Exler** Kents Hill School  
*Undecided*

**Lindsay Fisher** Elizabethtown College  
*English Education*

**Marquise Foster** Employment

**Abigail Frey** Eastern University  
*Business / Marketing*

**Seth Garcia (Kolb)** American Academy of  
*Dramatic Arts*

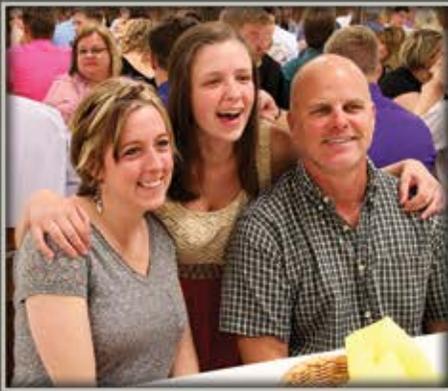
## Baccalaureate Sharing the love

Christopher Dock's Senior-Parent Dinner and Baccalaureate service featured reflections by students, teachers and parents, and ended in the traditional candle-lighting ceremony around Groff Pond.

In her remarks on behalf of the faculty, Mrs. Gretchen McTavish recalled the spirit of the teacher the school is named for. "The man, Christopher Dock, was characterized by a deep love for his students, and I hope you have experienced love during your years here at Dock," she said. "Christopher Dock believed that teaching is a high calling, a spiritual endeavor, and that above all else, students should be loved. Your teachers here believe that the source of that love is Jesus Christ, and that the greatest commandments are to love the Lord with all our hearts, and to love our neighbors as ourselves. May you take this love you've experienced, this love that passes all understanding, out into the world and share it with others."



Mike Landis



**Elias Gehman** Employment: Halteman Landscaping

**Avery Geistdorfer** Olivet Nazarene University  
*Family & Consumer Science Education*

**Kathryn Gingerich** University of Pittsburgh  
*Political Science*

**Stephen Godshall** Liberty University  
*Commercial/Corporate Aviation*

**Alexander Groce** Chestnut Hill College  
*International Relations*

**Michael Gunden** The Catholic University of America  
*American Government and Politics*

**Daniel Hackman** Eastern Mennonite University  
*Undecided*

**Alison Haines** BCCC  
*Science*

**Xirui (Cici) He** University of California-San Diego  
*Social Science*

**Maxwell Howald** Loyola University  
*Biology*

**Lanae Hunsberger** Messiah College  
*Undecided*

**Yijia (Nikki) Jin** New York University  
*Photography*

**Julianna Kabakjian** Messiah College  
*Elementary Education*

**Chandler Kilson** Employment

**Daehee (David) Kim** Moody Bible Institute  
*Theology / Biblical Study*



## Subject Area Award Winners

(l to r) Emily Rittenhouse, Isaac Zehr, Katie Gingerich, Jesse Kolb, Avery Geistdorfer, Isaac Brunk, Jessica Chung, Olyvia Longacre, Caroline Wu, Sarah Kratz, Madison Scialanca, and Maddison Landis. Not pictured: Jacob Detweiler

### Jacob Detweiler

Charles Clemmer Art  
sponsor: Class of 1961

### Isaac Brunk

Paul R. Clemens Bible  
sponsor: Moyer's Chicks/Moyer Realty

### Madison Scialanca

Paul R. Clemens Bible  
sponsor: Moyer's Chicks/Moyer Realty

### Isaac Zehr

Technology  
sponsor: Jen-Tech Systems

### Sarah Kratz

Drama  
sponsor: Univest Corporation

### Caroline Wu

Mathematics  
sponsor: Univest Corporation

### Madison Scialanca

Spanish  
sponsor: Living Branches

### Katie Gingerich

Social Studies  
sponsor: S. Duane Kauffman

### Jessica Chung

English  
sponsor: Gerald and Rhoda Benner

### Science

sponsor: Libra Systems

### Maddison Landis

Writers  
sponsor: Gerald & Rhoda Benner

### Avery Geistdorfer

Family & Consumer Sciences  
sponsor: Rockford Realty

### Olyvia Longacre

Physical Education  
sponsor: Rockford Realty

### Jesse Kolb

Physical Education  
sponsor: Rockford Realty

### Emily Rittenhouse

Music  
sponsor: Harold & Ferne Alderfer

**Minhyuk (Peter) Kim** Manhattan School of Music  
*Piano Performance*

**Jesse Kolb** Grove City College  
*Business / Finance*

**Sarah Kratz** Employment

**Madeline Landes** Liberty University  
*Social Work*

**Devon Landis** MCCC  
*Elementary Education*

**Maddison Landis** Messiah College  
*Undecided*

**Brooke Leaman** Eastern Mennonite Missions

**Jiacheng (Leo) Li** Academy of Arts University  
*Jewelry Design / Metal Design*

**Jing (Ivy) Li** Arizona State University  
*Undecided*

**Zhiheng (Kevin) Li** University of Oregon  
*Communications*

**Olyvia Longacre** Eastern Mennonite University  
*Health & Physical Education*

**Shaohua (Tom) Lu** Drexel University  
*Business Analytics*

**Meghan MacIntyre** Newberry College  
*Political Science*

**Jason Martin** Youth with a Mission

**Evan Moyer** Gap Year

**Logan Moyer** Penn College of Technology  
*Building Construction Technology*

**Jonathan Nieto** Messiah College  
*International Business*

**Haeun (Amber) Park** Minerva College of Art

**Robert Penyak** Penn College of Technology  
*Masonry*

**Halle Putera** Franklin and Marshall College  
*Undecided*

**Victoria Ragusa** Kutztown University  
*Communication Studies*

**Cameron Reinoso** BCCC  
*Business / Marketing*

**Tyler Rice** Lehigh Career and Technical Institute  
*Heavy Equipment Operation*

**Emily Rittenhouse** Eastern Mennonite University  
*Vocal Performance*

**Cole Rupert** Employment: Jason's Diesel  
*Mechanic*

**Natalie Sabath** BCCC  
*Nursing*

**Rashid Saint-Fleur** Elizabethtown College  
*Pre-Med*

**Christopher Sangiuliano** York College of PA  
*Business / Marketing*

**Talia Santiago** Marymount University  
*Interior Design*

**Natalie Schweizerhof** West Chester University  
*Social Work*

**Madison Scialanca** Messiah College  
*Biology*

**Noah Shreiner** Messiah College  
*Mechanical Engineering*

**Giselle Socarras Castillo** ICESI University  
*Medicine*

**Darren Souder** Employment: Halteman  
*Landscaping*

**Grant Souder** BCCC  
*Business* Employment: Bergey's Chevrolet

**Madeline Swartley** Mansfield University  
*Special Education or Business*

**Jiemin (Jimi) Tang** University of California-San Diego  
*Undecided*

**Joseph Thompson** MCCC  
*Mathematics* Employment: Bear Creek Resort

**Rebecca Timmerman** Shippensburg University  
*Special Education*

**Karl Wang** University of California-San Diego  
*Computer Engineering*

**Sidi Wang** University of Texas at Austin  
*Film and TV Production*

**Yangyuru (Anna) Wang** Penn State-Abington  
*Economics / Art*

**Joshua Wolfe** Eastern Mennonite University  
*Business*

**Nathan Woods** BCCC  
*Nursing*

**Qihui (Caroline) Wu** University of California-Berkeley  
*Statistics*

**Armelda Xhari** Mennonite Mission Network

**Xin (Jackson) Xu** Michigan State University  
*Undecided*

**Chuanqi (Arthur) Yin** University of Arizona  
*Undecided*

**Jared Young** Employment: HVAC

**Connor Young** New York University  
*Nutrition and Dietetics*

**Isaac Zehr** University of Pittsburgh-Bradford  
*Mechanical Engineering*

**Yunshu (Joyce) Zhang** Penn State University  
*Computer Science*

**Stephanie Ziegler** Coastal Carolina University  
*Nursing*

# Away we GROW!

## Senior Presentations

As they prepare to leave Christopher Dock, seniors reflect on their high school years as an amazing time of change, growth and maturation.

Seth Kolb

### Abby Frey

My first memory at Dock was meeting my mentor. I got placed with the best mentor. Her name was Amy Bergey, and I remember getting her Facebook message to meet for ice cream. We sat in the Dairy Queen parking lot eating Blizzards and talking about everything from boys to her future plans. She listened to me chatter on about who knows what, which is still impressive to me. She didn't just help me adjust to coming to Dock; she checked in on me throughout freshman year and was always there for advice. Amy was definitely one of the top reasons I was excited to come to Dock. She gave me a window into how caring and involved the Dock community was, and I was so ready to be a part of it for the next four years.



Abby Frey

*"Seriously, everyone needs at least one friend who isn't from America. [International students] opened my eyes to what life is like in other countries."*  
~ Brooke Leaman

### Brooke Leaman

Every junior is required to take Social Issues class and go on a trip to DC. This was one of my favorite classes. One of the most influential parts was talking to the homeless people. They were some of the most joyful people I have ever met; they broke the stereotypes everyone has. They didn't give up hope and some were able to get a steady job.



Brooke Leaman

This is also the class I became closer to Amber Park. She has got to be one of the sweetest girls. She is always looking out for people and is kind. Amber introduced me to many international students. I loved getting to know people who were not in my immediate social group. Seriously, everyone needs at least one friend who isn't from America. They opened my eyes to what life is like in other countries. I am grateful for the friendships I have made with the international students.



Andrew Baldwin

### Andrew Baldwin

One of the best moments from senior year was doing a debate with Mrs. Mong in English class. When she announced that we had to present our stance on a topic in front of the class, I knew I was going to be an anxious mess, as I don't like talking in front of others for a long period of time. My topic was internet censorship, and when I found out Mrs. Mong was against Internet censorship, it helped to calm me down. Instead of speaking in a flat, monotone voice during my debate with Mrs. Mong, I was animated and had fun doing the debate. She congratulated me, and I felt proud for putting myself out there and succeeding in doing something different.

### Arthur Yin

Three months later, my host dad, David Long, asked me to visit the gym he was going to. I said yes immediately. Then he told me I had to wake up at 4:00 a.m. to be at the gym by 4:30. I didn't think too much, I just said yes. After a couple of weeks, the Chinese guy who was bigger than me came to me and asked me who I worked out with and whether he could work out with us. His name was Kevin. I told him our workout was at 4:30 in the morning, and he could join us if he wanted to. One day he texted me and said he would show up the next morning. I woke up late that morning, but I told my host dad that Kevin would be there. They met each other and after they finished working out, David sent me a message saying: "Kevin is bigger than you, and he can bench a lot more than you."



Arthur Yin

That's how we started working out together. Sometimes, one thing can change your life. I'm glad that David brought me into the lifting life. Lifting became the most important part of my life. Whenever I feel stressed or angry, and need an escape, the gym is the place where I can let all the emotions out. Some days, it's not about health or building muscle; it's just therapy.

### Darren Souder

Spanish III was a little frightening knowing it wasn't a mandatory class and would be harder than other classes. I knew it would be hard, but Señor Miller made the class a blast. Señor Miller, you made it easy to learn the material, and it was an enjoyable learning experience. This class led me to try to talk to kids on my Harleysville Select soccer team who were Hispanic. They didn't know English, so I had to use Spanish.

Darren Souder



Jonathan Nieto

### Jonathan Nieto

Finally, it was time to come to Dock. While most people were more concerned about getting lost and not knowing what to do, I could only focus on one thing: How many times I would hear, "Oh, you're Eddy and Tannia's little brother!" I thought I would never hear my name. Thankfully, that wasn't the case. Both of my siblings attended Dock and had left their "mark" on the school. Because of this, I felt like it was my ultimate goal to leave some sort of mark on Dock before I graduated.

The strange thing is that at the same time, my Dock "guitar career" began. It was the first coffeehouse I attended at Dock, and I was full of nerves. This was the first time I had played guitar in front of a crowd; I went into it with confidence and that's when God opened so many doors for me to honor Him.

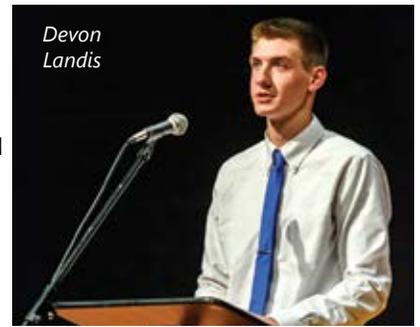
Now a little background to my guitar obsession. I began to play in eighth grade. My dad had always played recordings of Spanish guitarists and I always dreamed of being able to play the way they did. I began to practice 5-6 hours a night, which for me felt like one hour. I believe God has given me this as a way to grow with Him. Every time I play, I have a sense of peace and happiness and I love every minute of it. After playing at the coffeehouse, I was approached by Mr. Rutt and Mrs. Lorcas to play for small venues and gatherings. This was such an amazing opportunity and after a few gigs, other people offered me opportunities to play. I felt this was a way of using my talents to honor God.



Emma Chimera

### Devon Landis

I had wanted to go to Dock since my freshman year. After some prayer and consideration, I decided to go to Dock and finish out my high school career there. There were a lot of differences between Faith and Dock; one big difference is the campus. I would have to get used to going from building to building outside in different types of weather. Dock's block schedule also took some time to get used to. I now realize that it was a good decision to come to Dock because I thrive in a bigger school setting, meeting different people with more options to choose from. Coming into my junior year I just told myself to go out and have fun, make new friends and start fresh with the people I knew from Penn View; that's exactly what I did.



Devon Landis



Ella Barlick

### Ella Barlick

Freshman year, my theme of flight took its literal form: I flew! I had never once in my life cheered, and I had absolutely no idea what a high school varsity cheer team consisted of. However, I fell in love with the upbeat atmosphere, and the overwhelming necessity for teamwork that I had never experienced in any other sport. But mostly I fell in love with flying. As a very leggy, and scrawny freshman, the older cheer girls were eager to put me at the top of their stunts. I was hesitant at first, but never even considered saying 'no' to the terrifying upperclassmen. Each time I set for a stunt I swallowed some nerves, but each time I tried it, I got better and better. This indescribable feeling of flying reflects on my entire mindset freshman year. As a new kid on campus, I was eager to get involved in anything I could.

### Elias Gehman

Arts Day was much more interesting this year since the quartet was born. The four tenors from chorale decided to come together as one to wow the school with our talents. We practiced countless hours; we were new to this kind of thing, but we started making our songs blend well, even if we did mess up. I was exceedingly nervous about it, especially on stage. If you ever have five minutes to spare, go to Christopher Dock's YouTube channel and look up the Arts Day 2015 boy's quartet. You will see the other guys calmly talking in our little skit, and then you'll see me wiping my sweaty palms on my pants every five seconds, timing exactly when my seven-word line was supposed to be spoken. I felt this nervousness all throughout the mashup and especially throughout my solo.



Elias Gehman

Because I was the only quartet member without a girlfriend or banquet date, I decided to point at a whole row of girls during this solo. Although we all were nervous out of our minds, we did well during our performance and ended up winning the People's Choice Award. To be honest, I don't know what was better, the award or seeing Lanae crying because she liked the performance so much.

*"By the end of this year, D-3 became like a home to me, and our AP English class like a family. Thank you, Mrs. McTavish, for believing in me and reminding me of my worth, and teaching me lessons not only about rhetoric and style, but about life."*

~ Emma Chimera

### Emma Chimera

I found myself enjoying most of my classes sophomore year, particularly *American Literature*. I was given many opportunities to write poetry, and this is when I discovered my love of writing. Reading the poetry I wrote sophomore year now, I am thoroughly impressed with myself. I was incredibly insecure about my writing, but looking back I don't see why. Mrs. McTavish made me feel confident, not only about my writing, but about myself as a whole. Taking *AP English* with her my senior year was one of the best decisions I made. By the end of this year, D-3 became like a home to me, and our *AP English* class became like a family. Thank you Mrs. McTavish for believing in me and reminding me of my worth, and teaching me lessons not only about rhetoric and style but about life.

Lanae Hunsberger



**Lanae Hunsberger**

I will never forget our Senior Retreat. The night we got to our hotel, my mom called and told me that my Pop Pop got into a terrible accident. I rushed out of my room and sobbed. I'm not one who normally cries in front of people but I couldn't hold back my tears. It was crazy the amount of support I got from my friends and teachers. They stopped whatever they were doing to surround me and pray for my Pop Pop. I am so thankful that I went to Mexico; because of that trip I got to talk to my Pop Pop one last time. The next weekend was his funeral and it meant so much to me when my friends and the whole volleyball team showed up to support me. I will always remember those who were with me through a time I needed it most.

I want to say a big thank you to all of my teachers and coaches for pushing me academically, spiritually, and physically to be the person I am today. My coaches were more like my friends. They cared about me personally and not just what I contributed to the team; they all came to my other sports events and supported me in whatever I was playing, even if it wasn't the sport they were coaching. It really did mean a lot.

**Maxwell Howald**

My freshman *English* class with Dr. Bishop is a class that I now realize helped me to grow beyond the classroom. I am grateful for the lessons he taught that went far beyond traditional academic teaching. At the time, I thought that some of the lessons made no sense and wondered what the purpose of them was, but it just took a little growing up to see that they were meant to teach students real life morals. He was also the first teacher in high school to give me positive feedback about my public speaking. We had to read an autobiography and give a speech in which we pretended to be the person we read about. After my speech I got my score back on a piece of paper, on which Dr. Bishop wrote, "Best speech in the class, you have a real gift." Because of this comment, I was a lot more confident in my speeches in the future.

Maxwell Howald



Olyvia Longacre



**Olyvia Longacre**

The kids loved the fact that their teacher was Mrs. Longacre, and I was *Miss* Longacre. The second day I was with them, Jayne was starting a basketball unit and, being little preschoolers, they couldn't really dribble yet. To impress the kids, I dribbled in between my legs and behind my back and concluded by asking the kids if they could do that. Some of them excitedly said yes, but most replied no. So along with helping them dribble, I showed them how if they could lift their leg up, it would be easier to dribble through than if they left it on the ground. Soon enough some of the kids could 'dribble through their legs.' In this moment I realized I wanted to be a gym teacher because being a gym teacher combines two of my favorite things—kids and sports.

**Seth Kolb**

I was especially excited for the musical my junior year because I didn't have to compete with Brooks [Inciardi] for the lead. It was announced in chapel that the musical was going to be *Shrek*, and I was pumped because I knew that was the role for me. And can you guess who would've gotten Donkey? If you didn't see the show, it was Evan [Moyer]. It was kind of weird that we would be starring alongside each other and I had to "act" like I hated him. But Evan, Katie, and I had such a good time, and I think they would say out of the two musicals they were in at Dock, *Shrek* was the best, and for me it was the best too. We all became really good friends.

Seth Kolb



**Jared Exler**

Trey [France] had transferred to Dock his sophomore year and said that he was really enjoying it so far. He told me he would be playing basketball too; that news made me happy. God works in mysterious ways and this was definitely one of them.

My parents and I knew it was time to go. Trey had wanted me to come to Dock for a while and I knew Coach Fergus was there, and I had read up on Dock's academic reputation, so it was a no-brainer to visit. I visited right before Christmas in 2014 and loved it. I was amazed at how such a small school had such a big school feel. I decided to transfer there in January 2015...

The academics were different, though. I was not used to the grading scale and the workload was definitely an increase. But this is one of the major reasons I am happy I came to Dock. I learned how to better manage my time to get the grades I want.

Jared Exler



### Sidi Wang

Then came the rejection letter from my dream school. Ever since I developed a passion for art, especially digital media and filmmaking, NYU had been my dream school. Everything about NYU seemed perfect to me. It was like having a crush on someone; although you might see something in that person that's not compatible with you, you convince yourself you will be perfect together anyway.



During the application process, I wasn't interested in any other schools. My mom asked me, 'What if NYU is not the place that God wants you to be?' I answered with tears in my eyes: 'If God didn't want me to go, he wouldn't put such a huge desire in my heart, and later make me miserable.' But the truth is, I was afraid to ask him, afraid that he would show me that he didn't want me to be there. Of course I prayed. But instead of praying, 'God, I will trust your plan and be happy whatever your plan is for me,' my prayer was basically, 'God, please let me get into NYU, I don't want to go anywhere else.' I simply didn't want to believe that his plan is better than mine.

All I was seeking was the spotlight. I was concerned with crafting a successful social media image; personal success in the eyes of others. Getting rejected from my dream school felt like the crash of my dreams at first. But if I didn't get rejected, I wouldn't realize that my dream was never to get into a particular college. My dream was filmmaking itself. This passion of telling stories of the world in which I live would not change, no matter where I go.

### Steve Godshall

My high school experience has had its ups and downs. I have felt out of place, accepted, nervous, comfortable, unwanted, and loved, all in the span of four years. It took God placing certain people at key points in my life to change my outlook from negative to positive. He has done this, practically on cue, whenever I have felt down about myself and my life in general. He gave me Dr. Bishop back in freshman year when I needed some sort of sign that Dock would not be so bad after all. He gave me Marquise and others sophomore year when I was having trouble finding close friends. Junior year he allowed me to transfer to another school so that I would have the experiences and closure I needed before he used my old friends, whom I had neglected and undervalued, to show me how important everyone at Dock has actually been to me. I wish it had not taken so long for me to realize something that is now so obvious, but I am confident that I had to make the mistakes I did for God to really get this point across.



Taylor Downes



### Taylor Downes

Spiritually, I found myself growing immensely my senior year. A big part of this growth came from taking *Faith Walk* class. It was a class that put me out of my comfort zone, yet helped me to realize I'm not alone in my battles. I didn't sign up for the class at first because I figured I didn't really want to share my personal feelings and stories on a deeper level, but after making a pros and cons list with Tyler, I decided to give it a shot. I'm so glad I did because it taught me much more than a textbook ever could. It taught me how I needed God, which is the subject of the song I wrote, *All I Need*. Looking back on my spiritual life here at Dock, I'm beginning to realize all the miracles God has given me that weren't evident before. My friends, Tyler, my music, and even my SAT score that went up significantly after a long battle of studying were all miracles God gave me that shaped me into who I am. Remember that every day is full of miracles and every day is a gift from God.

### Tyler Alderfer

For my Senior Experience, I went on a missions trip to Refuge Ranch in Mexico. This trip was an opportunity to do service and create an impact on other's lives who live in unfortunate situations. As we left, I had a heartfelt goodbye with one of the little kids there named David. David was crying about us leaving so I chose to give him my hat, and I signed it for him to remember me. As a thank you for the hat, he gave me a box full of goodies—drawings, a mini checker board, a coloring book, and a medal. The medal was from a fundraiser 5K that he ran to raise money to fight heart disease. But the story goes further than that; he ran the 5K because his best friend, and one of the only kids his age at the ranch, had just recently died of a heart problem. He



Tyler Alderfer

had given me one of the most valuable things he possesses. Seeing the bond I was able to create with David was moving to me. He has made an impact on me more than he knows, and I hope to someday go back there to do more service.

### Maddie Landes

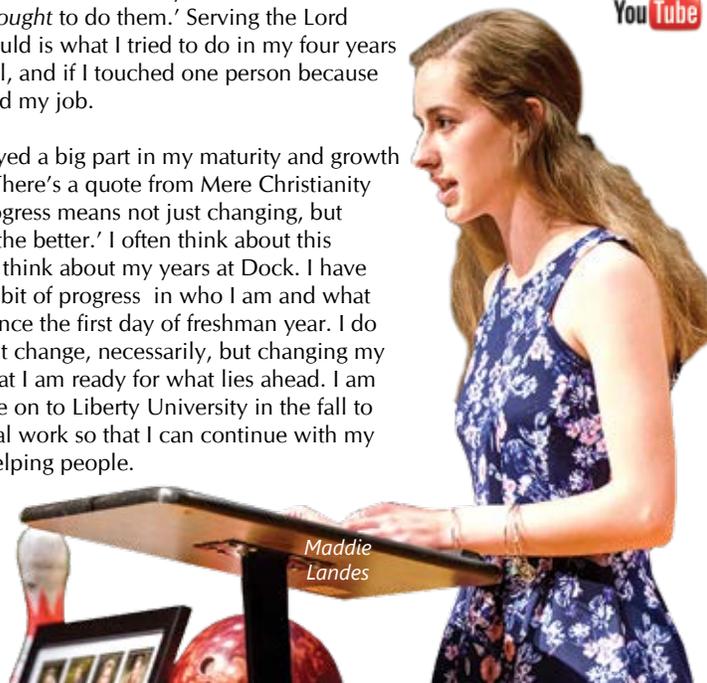
Throughout my high school years I didn't think much of what I did or why, but now I realize Arthur from *Once and Future King* was right when he said, 'I don't think things ought to be done because you are able to do them. I think they should be done because you ought to do them.' Serving the Lord because I should is what I tried to do in my four years of high school, and if I touched one person because of it, then I did my job.

Dock has played a big part in my maturity and growth as a person. There's a quote from Mere Christianity that says, 'Progress means not just changing, but changing for the better.' I often think about this quote when I think about my years at Dock. I have made quite a bit of progress in who I am and what I believe in since the first day of freshman year. I do not consider it change, necessarily, but changing my mindset so that I am ready for what lies ahead. I am ready to move on to Liberty University in the fall to major in social work so that I can continue with my passion for helping people.

Read additional excerpts from Senior Presentations on Dock's web site, and see selected videos on our YouTube channel.



Maddie Landes



# ACADEMIC AWARDS & SCHOLARSHIPS

## DOCK NAMES 2016 AWARD WINNERS

### Christopher Dock Award

The Christopher Dock Award is presented to one senior male and female in recognition of all-around campus citizenship, leadership, and scholarship during high school. The winners of the 2016 Christopher Dock Award are **Julianna Kabakjian** and **Isaac Brunk**. The Christopher Dock Award is sponsored by former Dock English teacher Pearl Schrack.



### Sam & Helen Lapp Peacemaking Award

**Isaac Brunk** is the 2016 recipient of the Sam and Helen Lapp Peacemaking Award from Christopher Dock Mennonite High School.



### L. Travis Bechtel Memorial

**Colin Bernd** was awarded this scholarship, named for the '91 Dock grad and awarded for excellence in academics, athletics and business. The award is sponsored by business advisors Baum, Smith & Clemens, LLP.



### Daniel Reinford Scholarship

**Daniel Hackman** is the 2016 recipient of this scholarship, named for the former Christopher Dock teacher.



### Clayton Kratz Scholarship

The 2016 recipient of the Clayton Kratz Scholarship is **Josh Wolfe**. This award is sponsored by the Delaware Valley chapter of Mennonite Economic Development Associates, and is awarded annually to a senior who will be attending a Mennonite college or university with a Business Administration or Economics major.



### Additional Scholarship Winners

Additional scholarship awards were given to seniors (l to r) **Jessica Chung** (Abington Health Lansdale Hospital); **Ella Barlick** (AAUW Lansdale); **Jordan Addley** and **Brooke Leaman** (North Penn Rotary Club); and **Tim DiLoreto** (Souderton-Telford Rotary Science & Technology Award).

### Citizenship Award

The Christopher Dock Citizenship Award for 2016 was presented to (l to r) **Jessica Chung** (Grade 12), **Emma Hinnershitz** (Grade 11), **Meredith King** (Grade 10) and **Sydney Cardy** (Grade 9). This award is sponsored by Lee and Ruth Delp and State Rep. Robert Godshall.



### John Fisher Citizen Scholar Award

Senior **Julianna Kabakjian** received the John Fisher Citizen Scholar Award. Julianna was one of 34 local graduates to receive the 21st annual John Fisher Citizen Scholar Award, presented by the *Bucks County Courier Times* and *Intelligencer* newspapers. Citizen Scholars are leaders in school and community; share talents with others beyond the classroom; and hold a grade-point average of 3.0 or higher. Julianna also received the Harleysville Rotary Club and Skippack Lions scholarships.



### Perfect Attendance Award



The Perfect Attendance Award is a new award this year. Recipients include (l to r) **Andi Barbullushi**, **Kevin Knapp**, **Brody Moyer**, **Michael Moyer**, **Adam Choi**, and **Madison Buiting**. Not pictured: **Hannah Hackman**. This award is sponsored by Harleysville Savings Bank.

### Athletic Award Winners

To see 2015-16 Athletic Department and Spring Athletic Award winners visit [dockathletics.org](http://dockathletics.org)



## CLASS OFFICERS AND SENATORS ELECTED

Class elections were held at the end of the school year, and the following students were chosen to serve as class officers and senate members:

### Class of 2017

President - Megan Swintosky  
Vice President - Dylan Derstine  
Secretary - Becca Edenfield  
Treasurer - Amber Clemens  
Senators: Alana Bergey, Anna Ford, Sierra Shore, Liz Wanamaker

### Class of 2018

President - Dylan Rush  
Vice-President - Jamie Kolb  
Secretary - Emily Groarke  
Treasurer - Lindsey Bernd  
Senators: Meredith King, Madison Buiting, Rachel Shreiner

### Class of 2019

President - Louis Cocco  
Vice President - Laura Bergey  
Secretary - Lael Flores  
Treasurer - Shirley Yu  
Senators: Ryan Kratz, Jess Schmidt, Seohyun Park

## ONE CAN. TWO CANS. WHO CAN? WE CAN!

That was the theme for the Dock Spanish Department's 2nd annual "Spanish on the Label" Food Drive. Spanish classes at Penn View also participated in the food drive, and donations were taken to Manna on Main Street's food pantry. Spanish teacher Dr. Bella Clemmer says the goal is to help fill the pantry before children are out of school for the summer. "We want to prevent hunger among kids who can't depend on regular meals when not at school," she said. "We can accomplish this, and in the process we will discover how much the Spanish language and culture are all around us."

## BRESLINS GO 1-2 AT STATE SCIENCE FAIR

Congratulations to **Sophia** and **Sydney Breslin** who earned 1st and 2nd place ribbons, respectively, at the recent Pennsylvania Junior Academy of Science competition at Penn State University.

More than 3,000 students from all across the state participated in the competition, so this is a great achievement for Sophia and Sydney. Thank you for supporting them as they worked hard and represented Dock well at the state competition.



## THE TRADITION CONTINUES

A Dock tradition like no other continued on the last Friday in May, as teams of *Physics* students raced their cardboard-and-duct-tape boats across Groff Pond. A hot day made it perfect weather for racing—and getting wet. *See more photos from the All-School Social and Boat Race at [dockhs.org](http://dockhs.org).*



## SENIOR RECITAL



Dock seniors shared their gifts in music, dance, and art during the Parent-Teacher Fellowship's Senior Recital on May 31, including Emily Rittenhouse's performance of Handel's *Lascia ch'io pianga* (pictured), accompanied by Mr. Derstine.

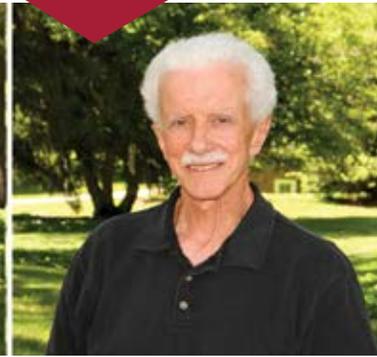
See videos of the Senior Recital on YouTube.



Karen Johnston and Joan Grega



Jane Mast and Gail Anderson



Eldon Miller

## SERVICE RECOGNITION

Dock faculty members were recognized for service anniversaries during a faculty and staff luncheon on June 13. Faculty members **Joan Grega** (Learning Support) and **Karen Johnston** (Science) were recognized for 15 years of service, while **Gail Anderson** (Math), **Jane Mast** (Science) and **Nicole Sylvester** (Cafeteria) completed 10 years. **Lisa Reinoso** (Cafeteria) and **Joah Rittenhouse** (Maintenance) were recognized for five years of service.

A number of personnel transitions were also noted, including the retirements of **Eldon Miller** (Spanish), **Rod Derstine** (Music), and **Don Steiner** (Curriculum and Faculty Development), as well as **Eric Kehs** (Science), who will teach next year at Pennridge High School. Faculty and staff also welcomed **Patti Baker**, who joined Dock recently as Director of Finance and Operations.

## TEAM CHAMPIONSHIPS: 14 WHAT A YEAR IN ATHLETICS!

Christopher Dock Athletic Director **Tim Ehst** reports that Dock's 14 combined team championships are the most the school has won in our history of athletics. Congratulations to all of our 2015-16 champions!

### League Championships

- Girls Cross Country
- Boys Soccer
- Girls Soccer
- Field Hockey
- Girls Volleyball
- Boys Volleyball
- Baseball
- Girls Track and Field
- Boys Track and Field

### District Championships

- Girls Cross Country
- Girls Soccer
- Baseball
- Girls Track and Field
- Boys Track and Field



Photo credit:  
Intelligencer

*Austin Kratz's gold medal in the 200 meters at this year's state meet qualifies as championship number 15! Austin was recently named Male Track Athlete of the Year by the Intelligencer.*

## BEST SEASON YET FOR TRACK & FIELD

Christopher Dock athletes brought home eight medals from the PIAA state track and field championships, and for the first time in school history, swept the boys and girls District 1 titles (see photo, below). At states, sophomore **Austin Kratz** captured the school's first ever gold medal, winning the 200 meters. Kratz also won silver in the 100M and bronze in the long jump. Senior **Josh Wolfe** was 5th in 110M hurdles and 8th in 300M hurdles; **Cole Rupert** took bronze in pole vault; **Maddison Landis** took 7th in the 1600M; and the boys 4x400 relay team (Wolfe, **Joe Thompson**, **Ian Anderson**, and Kratz) captured an 8th place medal.





## NHS CLEANS UP THE NEIGHBORHOOD...AND VISITS THE BIG APPLE

Dock's chapter of the **National Honor Society** had a busy spring! First there was a cleanup of Forty Foot Road; NHS members have been keeping our section of the road clean for over 10 years now—what a great way to show our neighbors we care! NHS members also visited New York City, touring the United Nations and the 9/11 Memorial. Students also saw Grand Central Station, 5th Avenue, St. Patrick's Cathedral, Rockefeller Center and Times Square. Students shared thoughts about the trip:

- "I learned that the UN will meet right after a big event happens, and waste no time at all. This will help me in the future because I will be able to understand more of what is being talked about when big events happen in the world."
- "This really made an impact on me because, maybe through the UN, I could make a big change in the world, especially in a non-violent way."
- "Times Square was so cool; there was so much energy flowing."

## KABAKJIAN WINS 4-WAY SPEECH CONTEST

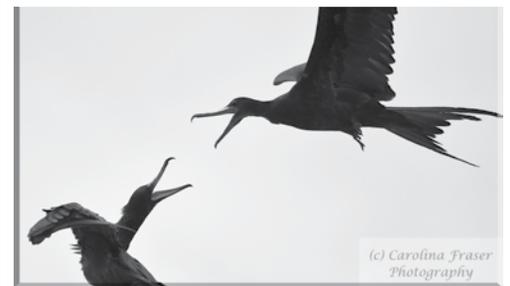
The Harleysville Rotary Club sponsors the Four-Way Speech Contest, which requires participating high school students to create and present a 5- to 7-minute speech on a subject of their choice. Students are to apply the Four-Way Test to guide their thinking and actions: 1) Is it the TRUTH? 2) Is it FAIR to all concerned? 3) Will it build GOODWILL and BETTER FRIENDSHIPS? 4) Will it be BENEFICIAL to all concerned? Dock senior **Julianna Kabakjian** took first place at local, regional, and district competitions with her speech on malnutrition, and was awarded a \$1,000 cash prize.



## CHILD DEVELOPMENT CLASSES GET FIRST-HAND EXPERIENCE

Students in *Child Development I* class got some first-hand experience as children (ages 2 to 5 years old) visited on Wednesdays in May. Dock students planned activities for the children to enjoy, from making play dough to campus nature walks. Meanwhile, students in *Child Development II* visited Early Childhood classrooms at Penn View Christian School for observation and participation. Dock students wrote that after two observations, they are "impressed and inspired" by what happens at Penn View. [Go to dockhs.org](http://Go to dockhs.org) to see an album of photos from *Child Development* class.

## FRASER WINS AUDUBON PHOTOGRAPHY AWARD



Dock student **Carolina Fraser**'s photo of two Great Frigatebirds took top prize in the Youth category in the prestigious 2016 Audubon Photography Awards. Carolina's photo, shot during a family vacation to the Galápagos Islands, was selected from among 7,000 images submitted by more than 1,700 photographers. "I was taking pictures when Great Frigatebirds started landing on our boat," Carolina ('19) said in her photo entry. "The rocking boat, as well as the heat and brilliant Galápagos sun were a challenge, but I braced myself, checked my settings, and focused on the birds' behavior. These two seemed to be challenging each other for a seat on our boat." Congratulations Carolina, and thanks to retired Penn View science teacher **Harry Anselmo**, who helped Carolina with her photo entry!

**HOMECOMING**  
and Family Weekend  
October 7-8, 2016



**Homecoming 2016:  
A Celebration of Music**

Homecoming 2016 will be a special time to be on the Dock campus! **Music** will be the theme and emphasis for this fall's Homecoming Weekend, with performances all weekend by both current students and alumni from seven decades (see page 3). The centerpiece of the weekend will be a **Touring Choir Reunion Concert** on Saturday that promises to be a memorable performance you won't want to miss! Go to [dockhs.org](http://dockhs.org) for schedule and other details.

**Bergey helps determine direction of Mennonite music**

**Benjamin Bergey** ('07) is one of 12 people from across North America chosen to serve on the team compiling a new song collection for Mennonite churches, planned for release in 2020. The first meeting of the committee is planned for September 2016 in Harrisonburg, VA. Bergey will serve as music editor.



Music committee members were selected partially on the basis of their compatibility with the guiding principles for the project, including an Anabaptist missional lens; a forward-looking vision for music in congregational life; an ability to work collaboratively; and a history of engaging a diversity of musical idioms.

Bergey is a doctor of music arts (DMA) candidate in orchestral conducting at James Madison University in Harrisonburg. He is a 2011 graduate of Eastern Mennonite University, where he majored in church music. While at Dock, he was named to the All-State Chorus as well.

**ALUMNI NOTES**



**Swartz painting accepted for juried exhibit**

Art teacher **Tim Swartz** ('73) had one of his watercolors accepted into the Pennsylvania Watercolor Society's 37th Annual International Juried Exhibition. This is the first time he has entered a piece in the exhibit. The subject is a young woman named Andi who works at the Chester Springs Art Studio. "I was participating in a wood-fire there a few months ago and thought this would make a fun painting," Swartz says; he regrets that he did not catch the name of the dog.

**Alumni Notes**

**1963**  
**Lorraine (Bechtel) Sayre**, 70, of Navarre, OH, died on April 11, 2016. She was born April 25, 1945 in Spring City, PA, to Norman and Irene (Souder) Bechtel. Lorraine enjoyed a rewarding nursing career, traveling and camping, family reunions, church involvements, word games, flower gardening and being a Grandma. A memorial service was held May 14 at Berlin Mennonite Church.

**1976**  
**Kirk Shisler** recently completed his 11th year as vice president for advancement at Eastern Mennonite University.

**2000**  
**Dr. M. Christine (Benner) Dixon** serves as the English Department Chair at Winchester Thurston School. She and her husband, Mark, reside in Pittsburgh.

**2003**  
**Robert and Mary (Clemmer) Wilkerson** welcomed their first child, Henry Robert, in October 2015. They reside in Philadelphia and attend Germantown Mennonite Church.

**2011**  
**Brooke (McDaniel) and Brett Firely** welcomed a daughter, Rosalie Sue, on November 4, 2015.

**Share Your Story**

Take a moment to share what's been happening in your life.

Marriage  
Birth  
Job Change  
Degree  
Award  
Achievement  
Recognition

Email Alumni update to [advancementoffice@dockhs.org](mailto:advancementoffice@dockhs.org) or fill out the online form at [dockhs.org/alumni](http://dockhs.org/alumni)



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# Learning for Lives of Purpose

A tag line contains a few select words to indicate the core reason your school exists. As our two campuses (Christopher Dock Mennonite High School and Penn View Christian School) became Dock Mennonite Academy this past year, it was not an easy task to combine our two mission statements and existing tag lines into five words. At the end of this process, we knew we existed to help all our students, from early childhood through grade 12, learn for lives of purpose.

While students are *learning for lives of purpose* throughout their years at Dock Mennonite Academy, it is during the senior year that one can observe the fullest attainment of that goal. As the year concludes, seniors prepare a 20-minute speech of reflection on their school experience to share with their family, teachers, and community. You will find several of these speeches in this issue of the *Lamplighter*.

*Learning* is the first word of our tag line and indicates a key focus of our educational experience. Students are challenged and encouraged to develop a passion to learn and grow, not only

during their school years, but for the rest of their lives. In the senior speeches you will hear students articulate how teachers inspired them to stretch beyond their safe, comfortable environment, testing new skills and developing their curiosity of the world God has created. Coaches mentored athletes to push the limits of their physical skills. Affirmation for skills in art, music, and academics encouraged students to dive deeper into these areas of focus. This drive for learning will not end upon graduation.

*A life of purpose* is the key phrase of our tag line and the primary goal we have for each student. Lives of financial success or prestige may be a part of one's journey but should not be the goal. Our faculty strive to instill in each student the goal of discovering a life of meaning and purpose. One's faith journey is woven throughout the school experience. Our relationship with God is not reserved for Sunday, but is an integral part of every detail of our lives. In this understanding we find a life of purpose.

You will better understand the role of faith and social development as you read the

## SUPERINTENDENT'S MESSAGE

Dr. Conrad Swartzentruber



senior speeches. The drive for finding a life of purpose is fostered through mentors, colleagues, parents, and faculty. One student commented that it was because of her mentor that she was excited to come to Dock as a new freshman. You will note that students do not wait until they are seniors to contribute to the community, but are welcomed and encouraged to be significant members of the school family as freshmen and sophomores. International students help their classmates better understand the broader global context in which one may discover a life of purpose. *Faith Walk* class, chapels, *Social Issues* trip, and other designed activities are noted by students as key components of their educational experience.

While most of our students will continue their academic pursuits through higher education, the grasp of *Learning for Lives of Purpose* is paramount to the fulfillment of our primary drive as a school. I am inspired by the stories I have heard from so many of you who have graduated from this school and discovered a life of purpose. You continue to impact those around you and give great hope for our community and world. You spur us on to welcome next year's students, and help them find *their* lives of purpose.