

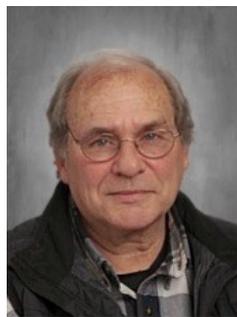


Faithful Servants

The 2022-23 school year is a milestone year for several reasons. One milestone is the celebration of seventy years of providing quality Christian education. Conestoga Christian School (CCS) opened in 1952 with twenty-seven students in grades 1-8 and opened this year with 382 students in grades PS-12. Through the seventy years that CCS has been in operation, many administrators, teachers, and staff members have made an everlasting impact on the families that God has brought to our campus. This year, three of those faithful servants are retiring.

The conclusion of the 2022-23 school year will bring about the retirement of three individuals who have all served CCS at least a decade . . . one who has served our school for thirty-four years. CCS is shaped by the men and women who answer God’s call and accept a position on our educational team. Regardless of his/her position, the impact on our entire community is evident. Mr. Mark Detwiler, Mrs. Nancy Eberly, and Mrs. Ginnie Lodge will “hang up” their keys this June, but their legacies will live on.

Mr. Detwiler has been the CCS



Mr. Mark Detwiler

Business Manager for the past ten years and has brought a humble and professional demeanor to a role that deals with

many numbers. However, Mr. Detwiler’s role as our Business Manger reached much further than “numbers” here at CCS; Mr. Detwiler led and ministered to people as well. Mr. Detwiler shared that what he will miss most about being the CCS Business Manger are the day to day interactions with fellow believers who have become his friends. Mr. Detwiler found a great amount of joy in knowing that God would provide for CCS and watching Him do it. Once Mr. Detwiler retires, he plans on being open to other ministry-oriented activities that God has planned for him, whether at church or elsewhere. Mark wants to spend time with his wife Janet, their kids and their grandkids and of course . . . just relax.

Mrs. Eberly has been one of



Mrs. Nancy Eberly

CCS’s kindergarten teachers for the past thirteen years. Mrs. Eberly started her ministry to kindergarten students in 2009 and has loved and cherished the students that the Lord has brought into her classroom. Whether she had a classroom of eight students or twenty, Mrs. Eberly embodied what a teacher should be: energetic, loving,

caring, and Christ-honoring. Mrs. Eberly can be found smiling and encouraging her students and our staff. Mrs. Eberly shared that the three things she enjoys most about teaching kindergartners are:

1. Being able to share Jesus' love in every aspect of the classroom.
2. Listening to kindergartners believe God will answer their prayers.
3. Helping kindergartners to believe they can succeed and the looks of utter joy on their faces when they "get it."

Mrs. Eberly said she will miss the CCS community, both staff and families, as well as the love and support of the best team of people one could ever work with. After retirement, Nancy plans on moving south with her husband Jim to North Carolina to be near their children. Nancy and Jim have one son in North Carolina and one in Alabama.

Mrs. Lodge has been at CCS



Mrs. Virginia Lodge

since 1977 and has faithfully served in many roles over her thirty-four years at CCS. Mrs. Lodge has been a sixth grade teacher, a third grade teacher, an educational therapist (NILD), a middle school teacher

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Mission

- Educating the whole student—body, mind and spirit—for God.

Vision

- Conestoga Christian School, in harmony with the home and church, provides a quality educational program for preschool to 12th grade students in an environment which develops critical thinking, nurtures Christ-like character, and equips students for a life of discipleship and service.

Faithful Servants—continued from page 1

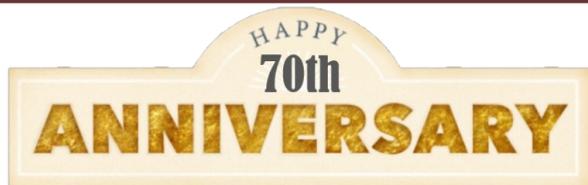
(science, literature, social studies, computers), a middle school supervisor, a high school teacher (graphic design, programming, web design, photography), and our Director of Technology and Media . . . Mrs. Lodge has worn many hats here at CCS! Whatever role the Lord placed Mrs. Lodge, you could always count on one thing . . . her support. Mrs. Lodge has always found time in her busy day to sit and talk or pray with a staff member or student. The “task” never outweighed the personal touch Mrs. Lodge brought to her position. It is no surprise, that when asked what she

loved most about serving here at CCS, Mrs. Lodge shared, “building relationships, praying with and for students, creating fun hands-on lessons including bringing in a pig heart for science and cooking international foods for social studies, teaching photography (a subject I love), working with other teachers and staff who have become friends, and solving technology problems – always learning new things.” Mrs. Lodge also shared that what she will miss most after retirement are the people at CCS, both the students and staff, as well as the challenges God brought her

way each day. Ginnie is looking forward to learning new things (like painting), advancing her love for photography, continuing to freelance for Pennsylvania Magazine (writing/photography), and volunteering in whatever opportunities God has in mind.

May God bless all three of our retiring staff members and their families. We have been blessed to have them as part of the CCS ministry.

Founders Event and Anniversary Celebration Planned for March 31



In celebration of our 70th anniversary, Conestoga Christian School has planned an evening of dinner and music for the Founders Event to be held on March 31st. The theme of the evening will be “I am” in conjunction with the school’s chapel focus this year on the “I AM” statements of Jesus.

of our alumni. There will be a special video highlighting people and events over our 70-year history. This is an event you will not want to miss. If you have not yet sent in information for our alumni slideshow, you may so [HERE](#)

The evening’s featured alumni will be Frank Nefos (1998). Frank Nefos is a 1998 graduate of Conestoga Christian School. After graduating from Conestoga, Frank studied at Eastern University, where he received a Bachelor of Arts in Elementary Education and a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science. At Eastern, Frank served in many different capacities, including Residence Life and Students Activities.

Professionally, Frank works as a 6th grade Social Studies teacher in the West Chester Area School District where he has been teaching for the past twenty-one years. He teaches classes on world geography and culture. He is a two-time recipient of the Citadel Heart of Learning Award, which honors excellence in education in the Greater Philadelphia area. Additionally, Frank serves as an adjunct professor in the College of Education at Penn State University where he teaches courses on geography and social studies education.

For the past twenty years Frank has volunteered for an organization called CISV based in the United Kingdom where he works on Global Peace Education. This has given Frank the opportunity to travel to over sixty-

five countries on five continents, working to educate and inspire action for a more just and peaceful world.

Frank and his wife Emily attend The Vineyard Church, Chester Springs, where Emily is on staff as the Connect Pastor, they have three amazing children: Zachary (11), Maggie (9), and Luke (2).

Frank credits Conestoga and all of his amazing teachers as an essential part of his formation.

If you are interested in joining us, tickets can be bought [HERE](#) or on the school website under the EVENT Tab. The cost is \$30 per person or you can purchase a table for eight for \$200. All proceeds go toward the Capital Campaign.

Come join us at the celebration for more memories and pictures.



96-97 Chapel Worship Team: Guitarists – Ken Beiler, Lisa Fisher, Joel Smith. Vocalists – Shauna Nefos, Frank Nefos, Maria Stoltzfus. Drummers – Chris Buck, Jamie Detweiler. Transparency Operator – Ashley Homing. Violinist – Inez Stoltzfus. Pianist – Dawn Kraybill

The evening will start at 6:30 with a catered dinner at Brick Lane Community Church in Elverson, PA. Dinner will be followed by a program in the sanctuary that will include music by the Lancaster Bible College Chorale and Chamber Singers and an alumni spotlight. The evening will also include reflections on the last seventy years and look at where the Lord has taken some



Front row L-R: Jenny Irey Howe, Karen Miller Hertzler, Marilyn Stoltzfus Beam. Back Row L-R: Katie Hicks, Jill Faust Ludwig, Sylvia Reiff. Picture taken in the Middle School Basement.

God's Provision: Past, Present, and Future

Please allow me to share how God has blessed our school through our *Giving In Faith Together* Capital Campaign. In 2022 several donors came forth with a matching gift offer to help generate funds to build four classrooms, expand our parking lot, renovate our gymnasium, and build a baseball field.



God Provided in the Past—Ground breaking ceremony for the High School in 2005

Here is the financial picture from 2022:

- Prior to May 1, 2022: \$89,411
- From May, 1 2022 to Dec. 31, 2022: \$298,024.50
- Total in the bank to use toward building: \$387,435.50

CCS still owed about \$27,435.50 in pre-construction costs (architectural drawings, permits, site visits, etc...) to bring the total funds available for our building project to \$360,000!! Praise God!!

In December of 2022, our Capital Team received a building quote from Horst Construction. Horst Construction is the company we have been working with since the beginning of this campaign, January of 2016. The total cost for everything mentioned is \$2.3M. This was very hard for our team to hear because we had been hoping the cost would be significantly lower. The four classrooms is approximately \$1.4M, the baseball field \$650,000, the gymnasium \$200,000, and the parking expansions about \$150,000. While the cost of inflation had driven our costs higher and we were humanly disappointed, our building team

knew that God was at the center of this project and that He would make everything possible. Our team clings to Romans 8:28, which says, "And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to His purpose." Another stabilizing verse from I Peter 5:6-7, "Humble yourselves, therefore, under the mighty hand of God so that at the proper time He may exalt you, casting all your anxieties on Him, because He cares for you." And my personal favorite passage from Philippians 4:4-7, "Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice. Let your reasonableness be known to everyone. The Lord is at hand; do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your request be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus."

God's Word is the calming voice that anchors our team!

Where are we going in 2023? Great question, here is our plan:

1. With the money we have already raised, we are going to begin the building process by expanding our parking lot and creating a new driveway connecting the upper and lower parking lots. Parking and congestion are *MAJOR* concerns that will be addressed this summer.
2. We will continue to raise funds so that we do not have to borrow \$1M to complete the classroom project. Our team feels that it is fiscally wise to continue to raise funds and limit the amount we may have to borrow.
PRAISE NOTE – there is already a business partner willing to offer a matching grant of up to \$20,000 for every dollar raised in 2023 toward our Capital Campaign!! New classrooms are closer than ever, but we need to be wise builders.
3. We will continue to raise money to renovate the gymnasium. We will renovate as funds become available.

4. We will raise money to build a baseball field. We will build a new baseball field as funds become available.

The Board of Trustees gives their approval to the above mentioned plan and has committed to pray for this project until its completion. The more men and women we have praying, the more we will feel the strength and peace of our God, so please pray.



God Provided in the Past—One of the earliest ground breakings at CCS

Final question – what do we do if we run out of classroom space before we can build? Our team is looking at many options that include modular buildings, renting unused space from nearby buildings, partnering with churches, etc... No thought is off the table. Remember, in school there are no dumb questions! When asked, "What about this....?" We prayerfully consider it.

Thank you for your prayers, support, and encouragement. If anyone ever wants to discuss our Capital Campaign, please email me or give me a call, and we will get together.

Written by Ken Parris

Alumni Spotlight—Chloe Watkins (2019), serving with YWAM

My name is Chloe Watkins, and I graduated CCS in 2019. Since then, I have spent three years serving the Lord with YWAM (Youth With A Mission) in Kona, Hawaii. My first year at YWAM, I attended a Discipleship Training School (DTS). It's a six month program, and the first three months are spent at the YWAM base doing lectures and trainings. The last three months are spent on an outreach, where small teams of around ten are sent into the world to do ministry. For my outreach, I was sent to South Africa. While there, my team and I spent time traveling around the country to work with different ministries. We were able to do street evangelism, children's ministry, door-to-door Gospel preaching, church events, college campus ministry, and school ministry.

After my DTS, I returned home and felt like the Lord was calling me back to serve with YWAM Kona. I committed the next two years to staff the DTS I had



Serving in South Africa



Serving in South Africa

just completed as a student.

My first year staffing, I was given students to disciple and walk with during their time in Kona. I was also in charge of an outreach team and organized the whole outreach. My first year, I led a team to Mazatlan, Mexico.



Outreach team in Mexico

My second year staffing, I led an outreach team to Tirana, Albania. Unlike my previous two outreach locations, the ministry we did was completely relational. We would meet Albanians, connect with them, form

relationships, and from there share about Jesus. We would host gatherings three times a week to read the Bible, share testimonies, and worship. We were able to use that time as a way to start conversations with the people we would invite.

While there, we had opportunities to do various types of ministry, including Bible distribution, children's ministry, women's prison ministry, door-to-door ministry, and remote village outreach.

relationships, and from there share about Jesus. We would host gatherings three times a week to read the Bible, share testimonies, and worship. We were able to use that time as a way to start conversations with the people we would invite.



Serving in Mexico

As I reflect on the past couple of years serving the Lord in missions, I've grown in so many ways and have found a new depth in my relationship with Jesus. I am thankful for how I was able to partner with God in the nations. It's been life-changing to see the Lord use my "yes" to Him and further His kingdom on earth. I have really been marked by Romans 10 and the urgency to share the Gospel in every sphere of life and in whatever the Lord has for me next.



Serving in Albania

Spring Musical—Cinderella

This year the Conestoga Christian School Fine Arts Department will be presenting the Rodgers & Hammerstein musical *Cinderella*! The musical will be performed April 20–22 at 7pm each day. (Saturday show time subject to change.)

The cast is comprised of students from CCS and two students from Hinkletown Mennonite School. The cast of 17 middle school and high school students has been working hard to prepare for opening night. They are being led by Music Director Sean Ellis, Choreographer

Suzanne Shinn, and Drama Director Autumn Philips.

Tickets can be bought at the door or online via a link on the school's website and will be available soon.



Remembering: Norman H. Brower

CCS recently learned the sad news of the passing of Norman Brower. We rejoice in his eternal homecoming and reflect with gratitude on the time and care he invested in our school and students during his time here at Conestoga Christian. Mr. Brower attended Philadelphia Bible Institute and Kings College in New York. He earned his Master's degree in Administration from Shelton College in New Jersey. Mr. Brower worked at CCS from 2000-

2012 as guidance counselor.



learning and living in the north woods with this small Christian community. It's where I met my husband



Mr. Brower in his "new office" during construction of the HS building.

and many of my close friends. Thirteen years later, I'm still grateful God placed Mr. Brower in my life, helping me along in a pivotal moment."

He loved woodworking and driving the trolley at Garden Spot Village. He is survived by his wife Marian, his two daughters, eight grandchildren, and fourteen great-grandchildren. Mr. Brower was 90 years old.



Norman H. Brower: (1932-2023)

Kristi (Petersheim) Unruh, class of 2010, remembers him fondly and shares that "Mr. Brower helped give me options of colleges that had both majors I was considering at that time, social work and camping ministry. When I expressed interest in what is now Cairn University, he told me about their satellite program, the Wisconsin Wilderness Campus, where his granddaughter planned to attend. His granddaughter and I got in touch, which helped ease my transition into college. It ended up being the best year of life,

Jr. Cougar Carnival

The annual Junior Cougar Winter Carnival was held on Saturday, February 4 from 9:30-11:30 AM. This is the 4th year CCS has opened its doors on a winter Saturday in February to our students in grades Pre-school - 5th grade. Families came together to play, fellowship, eat, and have a great time. The fun included a bounce house, a cake walk, carnival games, and a puppy kissing booth, as well as chance to throw a



shaving cream pie at Mr. Parris, our head of school. Children won tickets that were then exchanged for prizes.



There was no limit to the number of smiles seen that morning.

ADMISSIONS OPEN HOUSES



MORNING DATE

Preschool

Tuesday, February 28, at 10:00am

EVENING DATE

All Grade Levels (grades preschool-12)

Thursday, April 13, drop in anytime
between 6:00-8:00pm

INDIVIDUAL TOURS

Call the office at 610-286-0353 ext402
or email Michelle Parris at
Michelle.parris@conestogachristian.net

RSVP @

www.conestogachristian.net
610-286-0353 x402

Celebrating 70 years of educating students; body, mind, and spirit for God

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REGISTER ONLINE AT
[HTTP://WEBLINK.DONORPERFECT.COM/2023DFE](http://weblink.donorperfect.com/2023DFE)
OR UNDER THE EVENT TAB ON THE CCS WEBSITE



We're on the Web!

ALUMNI FACEBOOK
CCS Alumni



Check out the Alumni section of the school website

www.conestogachristian.net/alumni

MORE INFORMATION ABOUT EVENTS CAN BE FOUND ON THE WEBSITE AT

www.conestogachristian.net

Upcoming Events

- **Elementary Concert and Showcase** — March 30
- **Founders Event** — March 31
- **Evening Open House** — April 13
- **Spring Musical** — April 20-22—*Cinderella*
- **Grandparents Day** — May 5
- **5K at Livingood Park**— May 13
- **Drive for Education**—May 15
- **Evening of Science and the Arts**—May 19
- **Graduation** — Saturday, June 3 outside on the soccer field
- **Spring Athletics**—The schedule and information can be found at www.conestogachristian.net/athletics.

SCHOOL FACEBOOK

www.facebook.com/conestogachristianschool/

SCHOOL INSTAGRAM

www.instagram.com/conestogachristianschool/

ATHLETICS INSTAGRAM

www.instagram.com/conestogachristianathletics

Alumni News

Kaitlyn Myers (2017) married Hunter Davis on July 2, 2022.



Kaitlyn and Hunter Davis

Dylan (2017) and Joanna (Turley) Patton (2018) announce the birth of their son



Malachi Azel-Ray Patton

Malachi Azel-Ray on September 19, 2022 at 10:32 pm. He was 8lbs, 12oz and 21 inches.

Savannah (Brubacher) Musser (2018) and her husband Collin welcomed daughter Kinsley Brielle into this world on July 29, 2022. She was 8lbs, 11oz and 20 inches.



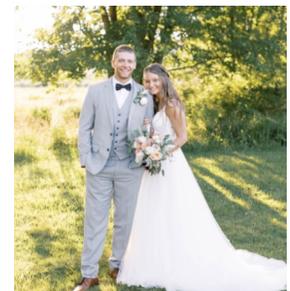
Kinsley Brielle Musser

Peter Lambert (2018) married Rachel VanBlargan on November 5, 2022. The wedding party included six CCS Alumni!



Peter and Rachel Lambert

Raylee Feather (2019) married Zeke Hallman on June 26, 2022 at The Barn at Stoneybrooke in Atglen. Raylee is in her last semester at Lancaster Bible College and will be student teaching at CCS with Mrs. Nafzinger before graduating in May. Zeke also did his student teaching at CCS last December. Outside of school, they recently got a Bernese mountain dog puppy named Luna, and they both enjoy playing volleyball, which is how they met.



Raylee and Zeke Hallman

DO YOU HAVE NEWS? NEED TO UPDATE YOUR EMAIL OR MAILING ADDRESS?

CONTACT JACK GREENLY AT JACK.GREENLY@CONESTOGACHRISTIAN.NET

OR AT WWW.CONESTOGACHRISTIAN.NET/ALUMNI

Conestoga Christian School

270 Main Street
Morgantown, PA 19543

www.conestogachristian.net

CONESTOGA CHRISTIAN SCHOOL



5K RUN

& WALK

WATCH THE SCHOOL WEBSITE FOR
MORE INFORMATION AND HOW TO
REGISTER - CHECK THE EVENTS TAB

www.conestogachristian.net

LIVINGOOD PARK

SATURDAY, MAY 13