



Goshen College Report to Allegheny Mennonite Conference, August 2012

President opened 2011-12 year with message on servant leadership

Goshen College President James E. Brenneman opened the school year by encouraging students to become servant leaders. Servant leadership is one of the college's core values, and the theme for the 2011-12 school year. Brenneman estimated that each year, Goshen College students, faculty and staff provide at least 30,000 hours of service in various ways.

"As Goshen College students, as future graduates, you now have been given a calling to become servant leaders, across disciplines and intellectual and cultural silos, to become truly intercultural leaders in service — whatever major or profession or career path you take. I am calling on each one of you to become 'Culture for Service' leaders — leaders in service."

Campus ministries theme

The Campus Ministries theme this year is "Serving Christ." As followers of Jesus, we are called to serve Christ, to serve "the least of these who are members of [God's] family" (Matt. 25:40), and to serve and love our neighbors as ourselves (Matt. 22:39). Serving Christ acknowledges Jesus as our guide for life, and calls us to live a life that includes reaching out to others while also reaching out to God for spiritual nurture.

Bob Yoder, campus pastor, edited a new book, "Youth Ministry at a Crossroads: Tending to the Faith Formation of Mennonite Youth," with Andy Brubacher Kaethler.

The book examines how to incorporate Mennonite and Anabaptist themes in ministry. The content is shaped around three sections — Being, Knowing and Doing, a model that encompasses the aspects of discipleship important to Mennonites. These three themes are linked to Jesus' threefold promise of being the Way, the Truth and the Life in John 14.

Conference Connections

>> Allegheny Conference nurtures and supports 6 students from 5 congregations. Those churches have sent \$8,500 in student aid for the academic year 2011-12. Thank you for affirming these students and Mennonite education in this way! The Church Aid Matching Grant program provides a dollar-for-dollar match of the first \$1,000 per student and a 1:4 match after that, up to full tuition.

Experiential learning

>> A number of students are participating in GC's unique summer experiential learning opportunities in 2012.

- 22 students are on **Study-Service Term** in Peru.
- 23 students are on **Study-Service Term** in Nicaragua.
- 22 students are on **Study-Service Term** in Senegal.
- 8 students are participating in the **Ministry Inquiry Program**. (Including Annika R. Miller, Scottdale Mennonite, serving at First Mennonite, Denver, CO.)
- 8 students are participating in the **Camping Inquiry Program**.
- 7 students are participating in the **Service Inquiry Program**.

During 2012-2013, Study-Service Term groups will learn and share in Cambodia, Morocco, Nicaragua, Peru, and locally in Latino Studies.

GC keeps getting greener

>> Have you heard about Goshen's new sustainability semester at the college's **Merry Lea Environmental Learning Center** or how 12 acres (nearly 20 percent!) of grass on campus are being converted to native landscaping? If you would like to stay on top of Goshen's environmental stewardship efforts, news and events, read more at www.goshen.edu/gogreen.

Follow the purple links in this report for more information.

For further news and highlights, visit www.goshen.edu.

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