



**Allegany Mennonite  
Conference**

A conference of Mennonite Church USA



# AMC NEWS

**JUNE-JULY 2014**

## **WORLD'S ATTIC APPRECIATES VOLUNTEERS!**

The annual Volunteer Appreciation Dinner for World's Attic volunteers was held on June 21 at Kaufman Mennonite Church. Approximately eighty people were present to enjoy a delicious meal, a bit of business, and wonderful entertainment.

The business portion of the evening involved a very uplifting report by Charles Kanode, board treasurer, who presented a five year history of the gross sales and MCC contributions by World's Attic. In 2009-2010 sales were \$41,640 which resulted in a contribution of \$12,619 to MCC. In the current fiscal year (which ended on June 30) sales reached over \$80,000 with an MCC contribution of \$25,000. The board feels this significant increase is largely due to the hiring of a part-time manager, Sheri Speigle.

Linda Geissinger, the MCC East Coast Thrift Shop Development Coordinator, was present to remind the group of the work in which MCC is involved, both overseas and in the US. She also showed photos of all the East Coast shops with innovative ideas from each of them.

The final portion of the business of the evening was the election of board members. Terms of three board members; Carolyn Tice who has served as board president the past two years, Shirley Brandes, and Jodi Mock have expired with only Jodi up for re-election. Four other candidates were nominated for the open positions. A ballot vote was conducted resulting in the election of Jodi Mock, Mel Blough, and Wes Yoder to the board of directors.



As an enjoyable end to the evening, the group was entertained by the singing of Sheri Speigle's grandchildren and by the talents of "front porch pickers" Jordan Speigle and Jared Goforth playing guitar, banjo, and fiddle.



Sheri Speigle (left) introduces Linda Geissinger, East Coast Coordinator.

Several humorous "special gifts" were presented to individual volunteers and all received a Payday candy bar with the label, "Volunteers are not paid because they are worthless, but because they are priceless!" World's Attic would not function without volunteers and they are greatly appreciated.

If anyone is interested in how you may volunteer, please contact Sheri Speigle at 814-445-4886.

## CONFERENCE STUDENTS RECOGNIZED AT GOSHEN COLLEGE AND EASTERN MENNONITE UNIVERSITY

The following students were recognized as members of the dean's list for the spring semester at **Eastern Mennonite University**, Harrisonburg, Va.

Krista Rittenhouse, a senior liberal arts major from Mount Pleasant, Pa. She is the daughter of Jane Rittenhouse and attends Scottdale Mennonite Church.

Hannah Swartz, a senior nursing major from Rockville, Md. She is the daughter of Kenton and Amy Swartz and attends Hyattsville Mennonite Church.

To qualify for the dean's list a student must achieve a semester grade point average of at least 3.750 or above and complete at



The following students were recognized as members of the 2014 graduating class of **Eastern Mennonite University** in Harrisonburg, Va., on Sunday, April 27.

\***Alyssa Cable**, a liberal arts degree recipient with an education licensure from Salisbury, Pa. She attends Kaufman Mennonite Church.

\***Krista Rittenhouse**, a liberal arts degree recipient from Mount Pleasant, Pa. She attends Scottdale Mennonite Church.

\***Hannah Swartz**, a nursing degree recipient from Rockville, Md. She attends Hyattsville Mennonite Church.

Jacob Smucker, Grace Weaver, Brian Charles, and Brody Thomas are all participating in a **Goshen College Study Service Term** this summer.

SST is a 13-week program that's divided into two distinct parts. During the first half of the journey, students dive headfirst into the local culture — usually in the country's capital city — with intensive study and language instruction alongside other Goshen College students. For the second leg of the journey, students begin work on a volunteer service project, often in a more remote part of the country.

Jacob Smucker of Woodward, PA, is participating in Senegal. He is a junior Music major who attends University Mennonite Church.

Grace Weaver of Harrisonburg, VA, is also in Senegal during the summer semester. She is a sophomore English major from Scottdale Mennonite Church.

Brian Charles who attends University Mennonite Church in State College, PA, is participating in Nicaragua. Brian is a sophomore Sociology major.

Brody Thomas of Springs, PA, is in Peru during the summer semester. Brody, a senior Music major, attends Springs Mennonite Church.

Web updates and photos from the group are available from Goshen College's SST website at [www.goshen.edu/sst](http://www.goshen.edu/sst)

**Goshen College** has recognized the following Allegheny Conference students for their academic excellence by naming them to the Spring 2014 Dean's List.

Emily Schrock of Bridegville, DE, the daughter of Eli and Loretta Schrock, is a senior majoring in Elementary Education/Special Education and attends Grace Fellowship.

Julianna Tennefoss of Greenwood, DE also attends Grace Fellowship and is the daughter of T.J. and Jolene Tennefoss. She is also a senior majoring in Elementary Education/Special Education.

Brody Thomas of Springs, PA is the son of Kenneth and Amy Thomas. He attends Springs Mennonite Church and is senior majoring in Music.

Grace Weaver of Scottdale Mennonite Church is the daughter of Neal and Lauren Weaver and is a junior majoring in English.



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## Naomi Tice Graduates from AMBS

Elkhart, Ind. (AMBS) – Naomi Tice graduated May 24 with a Master of Arts in Christian Formation with a concentration in worship from **Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary**, Elkhart, Ind.



Tice is pursuing a pastoral ministry assignment. She is a member of Springs Mennonite Church, Springs, Pa., and she is the daughter of Enos and Carolyn Tice of Salisbury. Previously she earned an A.A. from Hesston (Kan.) College and a B.A. from Goshen College.

Tice said, "Being a student here at AMBS has enriched me and stretched me in ways I could never have imagined when I first started. For instance, my Spirit World and the Global Church class was perhaps the most diverse class I've ever been part of in my life. We were all from different denominations, different parts of the world, and we were of a variety of races and ethnicities, but this only stood to enrich our conversations about the work of the Holy Spirit. Our conversations were often continued outside of the classroom, and we were challenged to share our stories of where we have encountered the Holy Spirit in our lives."

The AMBS commencement service at College Mennonite Church, Goshen, Ind., marked the graduation for thirty-five students. The commencement address was presented by James Logan, Ph.D., associate professor of religion and associate professor and director of African and African American studies at Earlham College, Richmond, Ind.

Sixteen graduates received the Master of Divinity degree, two the Master of Arts: Theological Studies, three the Master of Arts: Peace Studies and two the Master of Arts in Christian Formation. Twelve students received a Certificate in worship, ministry or theological studies, signifying completion of the equivalent of one year of graduate study.

AMBS is a seminary of Mennonite Church USA and Mennonite Church Canada. The two seminaries that formed AMBS have been preparing workers for the church since 1945; they began their association on the Elkhart campus in 1958. *Mary E. Klassen*



Each year, faculty choose students to receive special awards that are presented at the annual Dean's Breakfast. Naomi received the Heart of the Community Award presented by Janeen Bertsche Johnson. Congratulations!



### **Song-Writing Challenge Presented**

In an effort to promote songwriting among Mennonites in the United States, and to broaden the musical spectrum congregationally and communally, Mountain States Mennonite Conference is organizing the first Anabaptist Songwriting Challenge (ASC), which began on March 1, 2014.

Composers from all around the nation, people of all ages and speaking any language, qualify to participate in the ASC, by providing new compositions of music for the church.

According to the organizers of the event, "What we are seeking are new songs with lyrics that expose Anabaptist/Mennonite values such as nonviolence, love of your enemy, reconciliation, life in community, etc. These compositions can be done in any musical genre and/or cultural expression."

As we all know, music has and will continue to play a significant role in the spiritual and communal life of Anabaptist/Mennonite culture and faith formation.

The deadline to submit songs is October 1, 2014. For more information, visit the ASC website,

All Allegheny Mennonite Conference news releases are now being posted online at [www.alleghenymennoniteconference.org](http://www.alleghenymennoniteconference.org).

Since many in our congregations do not have access to the internet, these articles will periodically be compiled in a printable format. If you have questions or concerns please contact the conference office or news editor.



## ***GC Students' Quick Response Helps Save a Life in Munich Airport***

Somewhere in the world, there is a man who owes his life in part to Goshen College students. Call it a coincidence, call it fate or call it divine intervention. Whatever you call it, GC students were fortunately in the right place at the right time. On May 1, not long into the second leg of their flight to Thessaloniki, Greece, for a May Term class to study the Apostle Paul and the ancient church, a flight carrying 30 Goshen College students and faculty made an emergency landing due to a technical issue. The students and other passengers disembarked in Munich, Germany, and learned that a cracked windshield was responsible for their unplanned stopover.

Frustrated and jet-lagged, the group gathered in the terminal, gearing up for a long layover until the next available flight to Greece. As the group settled in and looked for food and free Wi-Fi, a Goshen College student noticed that a man nearby had collapsed. The man was sprawled in the middle of the terminal, his body lying across his shoulder bag. It appeared that he had not been breathing for a while.

“As he was motionless on the floor of the airport I could tell that he was in bad shape,” said Seth Conley, assistant professor of communication and a co-leader of the class. “I saw that his face was beyond blue, it was deathly gray and still. One or two people stood and stared down at him but really didn’t appear to know how to help.”

“Another man who spoke only a little English tried to find a pulse in his neck and said to me, ‘it’s done,’ then he walked on,” Conley added.

But it wasn’t done. Panicked, Conley ran around the corner to a group of Goshen College students who had just sat down to eat lunch, asking if they knew CPR. Molly Malone and Julianna Tennefoss, both education majors who had recently completed CPR training, jumped up to help. “They appeared fearless,” Conley said.

Malone, a 2014 graduate from South Bend, Indiana, and Tennefoss, a senior from Greenwood, Delaware, ran around the corner and to the spot where the man lay lifeless. “It was like my body automatically kicked into gear,” Tennefoss said. “I felt a sense of urgency, but in the moment, also a sense of calm. When we reached the man, I remember looking into his face and feeling my heart sink.”

Malone began compressions and Tennefoss called for an AED machine. As luck would have it, a third student, Brett Conrad, had noticed one in the airport earlier and sprinted to grab it. “While I was getting food, I saw the AED machine and thought, ‘those seem handy, we should have more of them.’ It was a really lucky thought,” said Conrad, a senior from Lakewood, Colorado.

The three, accompanied by an airline worker at this point, continued compressions and attached the AED shock pads to the man’s body. The machine required 30 seconds to get an accurate read on his heart. “It was the longest 30 seconds that I have ever experienced,” Tennefoss said. “As we waited, I looked into his face for any response and I was drawn in by the blank look in his eyes. Suddenly, life seemed so fragile that all I wanted to do was get on the plane, go home and hug everyone that I loved.”

The AED machine did not receive any response from his heart, so they delivered a shock. The man coughed and took three quivering breaths, then fell silent again. The students continued performing CPR. “The next thing I remember was Brett pulling me back as the paramedics ran in to work, and then sitting back at the table where we were eating, listening to the paramedics work on the man,” Malone said.

The paramedics took over chest compressions and worked feverishly to get the man’s heart restarted. Eventually, they carted him down the terminal and to a hospital. The students were told that the man was alive and talking to paramedics when he was taken away, but never learned his identity.

“Nobody knew how long he had been down, I don’t know how long we had been doing compressions before the paramedics came,” Malone said. “Nobody knew a whole lot other than that man had been blue, lying on a floor, dead. It still feels completely unreal.”

As the group went back to waiting for a flight, Conley couldn’t help but wonder if there was a reason the group ended up in Munich. “Did God allow us to be diverted to give this man a chance at life? Did God allow our Goshen College education majors trained in CPR to be there at that place and that exact moment for that purpose?”



GC students Julianna Tennefoss (left) and Molly Malone (right) put their CPR skills to use in the Munich Airport during May Term.