



WILMINGTON
CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

2015 Volume 2

PATHFINDER



PATHFINDER

Contents

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

- Robalee Deike
- David Kelley
- Michael McCudden
- Linda Schwind
- Rene Solis
- Champ Thornton
- David Tideman
- Mark Wagner
- Kevin Wargo
- Peter Zuber

ADMINISTRATION

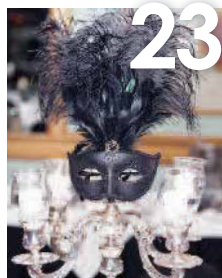
- William F. Stevens, Jr.
Headmaster
- Gwen Campbell
Elementary/Middle School Principal
- Douglas Haas
High School Principal
- Sandy Kroeber
Business Manager

2015-2016 School Verse

Trust in the Lord with all your heart,
and do not lean on your own
understanding. In all your ways
acknowledge him, and he
will make straight your paths.

Proverbs 3:5-6

Pathfinder 2015 Volume 2
Robin Foster, Editor
Tammy (Allston '85) Kater, Designer



Honor Society.....	1
Mission Trip.....	2
Spring Sports Teams.....	4
International Students.....	5
State Fair.....	6
Washington Field Trip.....	7
History Day.....	8
Girls of Impact.....	9
Student Showcase.....	10,11
Dinner Auction.....	11
Graduation.....	12,13
Valedictorian.....	14
Salutatorian.....	15
Class of 2015.....	16,17
Celebrations.....	18,19
Springtime in the Arts.....	20
Fiddler on the Roof.....	21
All-State Orchestra.....	21
Off the Grid.....	22
Yearbook Dedication.....	22
A Special Gift.....	23
Alumni.....	24
Alumni Profile.....	25

WCS Mission Statement

Wilmington Christian School provides a Christ-centered, challenging academic program with instruction based on the Biblical view of God and the world. WCS teaches, influences, and encourages each student to effectively integrate Biblical truth into his/her daily life and to impact the culture for Christ.



National Honor Society SPRINGING INTO SERVICE

Thirty new students were welcomed into membership at our annual Induction Ceremony on April 23. They were juniors Emma Donnelly, Cara Gannon, Soriya Greenplate, Nanxi Jin, Jenna Johnson, Simon Lee, Kelly Liu, Cassie Otersen, Grace Pennington, Daniela Solis and Paige Wagner. New sophomore members were Dominique Atwell-Bojarski, Katharine Bauer, Victoria Drumheller, Francesca Fioravanti, Mackenzie Gallagher, Elise Glauser, Kira Guo, Shane Lopes, Sarah McNeill, Jordan Modzelewski, Aliyah Navarro, Joy Pennington, Amy Powers, Benjamin Rettig, Julia Robinson, Rebecca Soistmann, Dana Sorey, Emily Spangler, and Emma Whitesel.



on March 13. Students obtained sponsors to shoot free-throws and raised over \$800 for AIDS orphans in Zambia. Food packing for ebola-stricken Liberia and sorting donations for Shoes2Share were among other activities. Students also enjoyed assisting with Grandparent/VIP Day and baking cookies for our new National Junior Honor Society Induction Ceremony in May. The year's final service was completed at Urban Promise on a sunny Saturday morning where students worked to improve the grounds and surrounding areas.

Officers for 2015-16 were elected at the last meeting. They are: President: Ben Blatchford, Vice-President: Connor Pitman, Secretary: Gina Kang, Treasurer: Elliot Miller, Chaplain: Brady Esper. Officers will meet in August to plan a busy fall semester of service activities and events to foster relationships among the members and their community.

Spring semester brought many opportunities to serve, including our second annual Hoops of Hope event

NATIONAL JUNIOR HONOR SOCIETY

This May, the WCS chapter of the National Junior Honor Society inducted fifteen new members. Chapter officers for the 2014-2015 school year assisted principal Mrs. Campbell and adviser Mr. Mason in conducting the ceremony. President Sean Holly delivered a speech explaining the society's four pillars: Scholarship, Service, Leadership, and Citizenship. Vice President Olivia Thompson led the Pledge of Allegiance and explained the selection procedures. Grace Pitman, Chapter Secretary, led members in reciting the society pledge, and Treasurer Sarah McGrail closed the ceremony in prayer. The students inducted are Luke Baffone, Joshua Boulet, Noah Bradbury, Santigie Conteh, Ciera Fowler, William Hall, Jonathan Hardcastle, Madison Johnson, Joshua McCudden, Jacob McMurry, Mya Mostrom, Charis Negley, John Rettig, Rylee Santillo, and Riley Stevens. The National Junior Honor Society's first project of the fall will be collecting jars of peanut butter for the Food Bank of Delaware.



EL SALVADOR MISSION TRIP

WCS 2015 graduates Derek Needham, Greg Driscoll, Nate Volz, Tyler Smith, and Mike Palermo accompanied Brett (HS gym teacher) and Erin (his wife) Lelko as one month missionaries to El Salvador during June and July.

The tasks of being a one month missionary were not easy, but very rewarding. Serving was a big part of everyday. Joining others who were 100% driven to serve gives an energy and joy beyond comprehension. There were times of extreme exhaustion, but the motivation to share Christ and serve was where the team found their strength! The weeks were full of the team serving at different locations as well as being team leaders for the 10 Day Team who joined up mid-trip. Tasks included writing the daily schedule, preparing breakfast, keeping order in the mission house, and integrating the 10 Day Team into the work that had begun prior to their arrival. Aely Hotchkiss (9th) was part of that 10 Day Team.

Three days a week were spent at the primary



location, Altivist. This location was the home of Christ

for the City International's Soccer School. AltaVista had two sessions on these days. Since school is only half-day in El Salvador, the students play soccer when they are off from school. The main role at this location was to build relationships with the coaches and players, as well as help run training sessions. The sessions began with a team member leading a devotional through a translator. The devotionals used were based off of the FCA Value Lessons that WCS coaches use with their athletes. After devotions, the players would begin their training session run by a combination of El Salvadorian coaches, American coaches, and very broken Spanish. During the month, many cherished relationships were formed, which made it very hard to say goodbye. As a goodbye gift, the team presented coaches and players with Value Lesson key chains. The key chains were the same key chains that our senior athletes received from

Joe Thomson. Prior to leaving, with the help of WCS parent Israel Pantoja, the cards were translated into Spanish and some of the images were changed to become more culturally relevant. The extra cards were given to the people of El Salvador as a reminder of the lessons the team learned during their time there.

The other two days of the week were spent at





The team learned many life lessons from being a one month missionary.

God is always sovereign, His timing, His safety, His way is the ONLY way.

We need to live a life that is fluid, not just flexible.

God's ALWAYS got this.

God works through community, it's not about just one single person, but takes many to bring about His work and Glory.

We need faith in the power of God's Spirit to move, to heal, and to speak.

The love of God casts out all fear which is the only way to reach out to those who are feared the most.

We will be forever changed by this trip.

different locations such as the Island and various youth centers. The Island is a place of much fear for the residents there. Many of the young men are forced to flee in order not to be recruited by gangs. The goal of the team was to encourage through children's ministry, women's ministry, and to have a soccer tournament with their local island teams. Graduates took the lead on devotions and praying during the tournament. Time was spent at youth centers in areas where the youth are greatly affected and influenced by gang violence. Youth there face and see death everyday in their communities. The church and youth centers are places that the gangs respect. To come out of a gang, members must have a true repentance and live a life for Christ. So the gangs appreciate the Christian community and what is being done to better their children and community. The focus was to encourage and build relationships with the youth. The team learned about the youth and their daily struggles and shared theirs as well. Here the team prepared games, held skits, lead devotionals, and gave testimonies. Of course soccer was ALWAYS played.

Saturdays were not a day off for the team missionaries. They traveled to a remote location at a new youth center. This youth center had just begun, and our team was being used to help build relationships toward creating a soccer school. The team carried on the same activities as before, however, the children here wanted more tournament focused soccer games. The team helped paint and renew parts of the center. It was at this center that one of the leaders of MS 13 Gang came out to spend time with our team during the youth ministry. He had recently been released from prison and wanted to hear more about Christ. He shared that he had at one time been following the Lord but had struggles trying to live a Christian life. A long time was spent with him, hearing his story, encouraging him, witnessing to him, and laying hands on him and praying for him.

It was a blessing and a great opportunity to experience all God did on this trip to El Salvador.

Brett and Erin Lelko

TRACK & FIELD

WCS track and field participated in the Penn Relays on Thursday, April 23. The track team sent girls relay teams 4x100 and 4x400; Aliyah Navarro, Cara Gannon, Elizabeth Latham, Christina Saunders, Danna Sorey, Gabriela Johns, Jenna Johnson and Jenny Kurlj. WCS also sent one 4x100 boys team, consisting of: Connor Pitman, Andrew Volz, Darrell Yiranki, and Daniel Lutz.



wswarriorssports.com

Sports Schedules, Results, Rosters & Photos



SPRING SPORTS TEAMS



Varsity Softball



Varsity Baseball



Varsity Lacrosse

Junior Varsity Soccer



Varsity Soccer



Golf





INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

FAREWELL

ISP seniors enjoyed a farewell lunch provided by our International Program. We honored our seniors with special gifts and a delicious lunch. Fellowship was enjoyed by all as it was our last weekly international gathering, with our three graduates. What was extra special was that two out of our three graduates were our first four year international student graduates from WCS. William Zhong (University of Washington) and May Lu (Boston University) have been with us since 9th grade. This is Anthony Kang's 2nd year at WCS and he will attend School of Visual Arts in NYC, his top school. We are proud of these graduates and all they have accomplished. Our program also had an end of the year host family party. Lunch

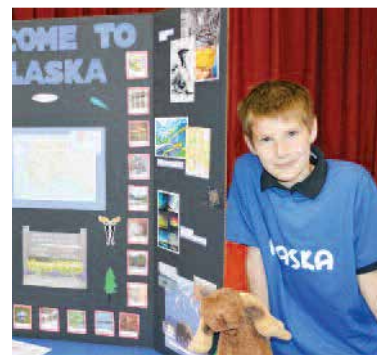
was provided for our twenty students and host families who came to celebrate a great year. This was our biggest group of about sixty who enjoyed this event. A slideshow of this year's international pictures was enjoyed by all. Special character awards and gifts were given out to each student, recognizing a special character trait they showed this year, and to present this honor was truly a privilege. What a great bunch of students and committed families we have in our program.



BECOME A HOST FAMILY

Wilmington Christian School is accepting applications from families who are looking to open their homes for a missions opportunity by hosting an international student for the 2016/17 school year. Families provide a room, meals, and transportation to and from school and church. Families receive a \$1,000 monthly stipend to cover the expenses of the meals and transportation. Students pay for their own tuition, clothes, traveling expenses, toiletries, etc. Our program at Wilmington Christian provides a lot of support for both students and families. Students meet regularly for one-on-one meetings with the Student Coordinator. There is also tutoring for the international students, as well as fun events planned for group. All of the international students have lunch every Wednesday with the Student Coordinator and the Hosting Coordinator. Please contact Kelli Pitman (kpitman@wilmingtonchristian.org) if interested.





4th Grade STATE FAIR

On May 28th, the 4th grade hosted the annual State Fair in the WCS gymnasium. 38 different states were represented this year making it one of the biggest in recent years. For that reason, many commented on how grand the fair was this year with booths not only lining the perimeter of the gym, but also peppered throughout the middle. Each booth had its own unique flair ranging from a large grass skirt flanking the edge of Hawaii's table to Georgia's beautiful fruit stand and collection of Coke bottles, a treat to the eyes. Isabelle Blevins created the Hawaiian booth and Grace Danner exhibited Georgia. It was also entertaining to see Louisiana's camo-styled poster, inspired by Duck Dynasty. Passersby also had the option of tasting hot sauce from New Orleans, Louisiana. Jonah Teal was responsible for putting together that awesome booth.

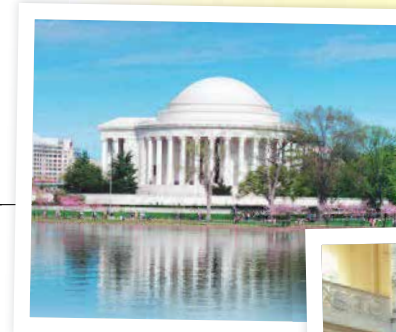
Different grade levels in the elementary could visit the fair and peruse the various booths taking with them souvenirs and tasty treats from each. Those who chose to visit Anthony Casale's Virginia booth could enjoy a cookie in the shape of Virginia. Anthony even had pictures from his very own visits throughout the state and one of him standing on the state line. This year's State Fair was a celebration of learning because each student responsible for his/her state researched the state in depth and not only presented the state by setting up these phenomenal booths but by also writing a 5-8 page paper with informative state facts. Displaying each state was like the icing on the cake. It was the chance to showcase this new knowledge. So next year, when visiting the 4th grade State Fair, please enjoy what it has to offer and know that much time and heart went into its preparation.



5th & 6th Grade

WASHINGTON FIELD TRIP

This year was certainly a memorable one for Mrs. Spangler's 5th grade. Not only did they have a very successful Market Day, but the class was able to share another amazing experience, a field trip to Washington, D.C. This was a "first" for the 5th grade class because in previous years, the 5th grade would go on an excursion to Philadelphia at the end of the school year. However, this year the class decided to partner with the Middle School and go on the D.C. field trip with them. On June 2nd, the chartered buses were filled and students from 5th and 6th grade left bright and early for their day-long trip to Washington, D.C. Once there, parents who volunteered to chaperone, and small groups of students were able to tour the National Mall, along with the Smithsonian, the Washington Memorial, and many other amazing sights. It was reported to be such a great experience because with the large number of parent volunteers, groups as intimate as two or three could cruise the grounds of D.C. with much freedom, deciding where they would like to visit, at their own pace. Some decided to see the Natural History Museum and American History Museum, which are part of



the Smithsonian. Others decided to get a close-up view of the White House. Many found the Air & Space Museum to be extra exciting with its rich history of aviation, and some were pleased with the Planetarium show.

The day after the field trip, 5th graders wrote small articles about their experiences in D.C., and many reported that the Air & Space Museum was their favorite sight to tour. In all, the field trip was a day-long experience with the students returning back in the evening hours. The class was perhaps a bit tired the next day, but they came home with new memories and the thrill that they made 5th grade history. They were the first class to attend a field trip with the Middle School, and one that went to our nation's capital, Washington, D.C.



"OUR FAVORITE THINGS"

"Our Favorite Things," a book written and illustrated by Mrs. Soistmann's 1st grade, has been published! A publishing party was held on Tuesday, May 19th in the elementary library. Students invited Mrs. Weller's class to read their published book with them and celebrate their success. The children worked hard to accomplish this task, and now they are authors and illustrators! The books were available for families to purchase and were sent home with students after the party.

NATIONAL HISTORY DAY *in Delaware*

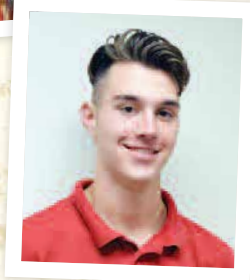
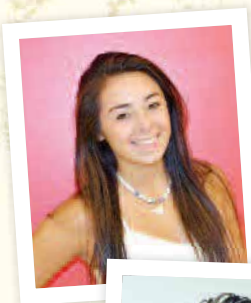


WCS Winners in Senior Division

Congratulations to the following students for winning prizes at the Delaware History Day Contest. The theme was "Leadership and Legacy." The state competition was held at Delaware Technical and Community College.

Daniela Solis and Ashton

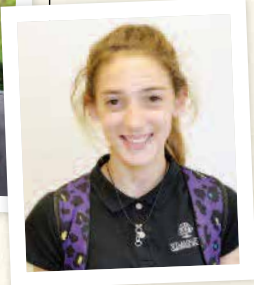
Twitchell both won special prizes from the University of Delaware. Yianni Eleutheriou won third place in the website division for "Leadership and Legacy of General Patton."



WCS Winners in Junior Division (8th Grade)

Kaitlin Walker won first place for her individual exhibit on Napoleon Bonaparte. She also won a special prize for a topic related to World History. Brendan Malone won second place for his individual exhibit on EI duPont and a special prize. Both Brendan and Kaitlin advanced to the National Competition at the University of Maryland. John Wilkins won 3rd place for his research paper on Albert Einstein. Hannah Eleutheriou won a special prize as well.

We are very proud of our 8th graders!



Mini History Day

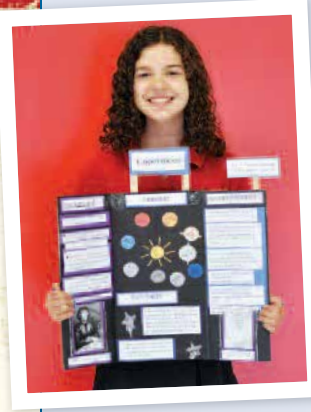
MAXIMUM SUCCESS

This May, the seventh grade completed their sixth annual Mini History Day project. This is a collaborative effort between Research Skills, Social Studies and English. In conjunction with their Social Studies class, each student chose a person from the Renaissance to research. During the fourth marking period, two periods a week were devoted to working in the Library, gathering primary and secondary sources. They transformed their data into a small trifold display, highlighting the person's background and accomplishments and their importance in history, and using critical thinking to explain their subject's impact on future generations. They learned proper citation and paraphrasing in Research Skills class and in English class they wrote a process paper about this assignment. To make it more like the real History Day, we invited a guest judge to evaluate their projects and some of the students were awarded ribbons for their efforts. They produced excellent exhibits, gained new understanding of the influence of scientists, explorers, artists and theologians of the Renaissance, and now are well-prepared to begin National History Day in eighth grade.

Mrs. Schultz, Research Skills

Mr. Speers, Social Studies

Mr. Mason, English





GIRLS OF IMPACT

One of the greatest things about Girls Bible Study is that it happens at school. Sometimes we as Christians are tempted to compartmentalize the Christian life, and we live more godly at church or small group or youth group or wherever. Bible study at school, especially for teens, however, is effective in reminding us that God is God in every area of our lives.

Another thing is the quality of the teaching. Debbie Keever fondly referred to as Momma K, is excellent at broaching topics that are relevant to our lives and using Scripture to solidify and back up her points. Her manner of doing so is convicting and yet refreshing and helpful. Once I was talking with a fellow student briefly before Tuesday lunch Bible study and she said, "Oh we have Bible study now. Thank goodness, I really need it right now." What a statement! It so well describes the sentiment we as teen girls feel towards Bible study. Most girls who come quickly become regular attendees.

Along the same lines is this other truth: what we learn sticks with us, throughout the day and into the future. Obviously as the months go, we may forget a particular lesson, but the impact remains. For example, one

lesson Momma K taught and really hit on was that great change starts one decision at a time. She taught that...what, 7, 8 months ago? But I recall it because now whenever I think about wanting to change something in my life, that theme comes to mind. It's applicable and it's true.

Personally, one thing about Bible study that made the biggest impact on me is the relationships I made, particularly with Momma K herself. Even outside of school, on multiple occasions she has made herself available to me and given me wise, biblically-sound advice, love, and encouragement when I needed it most and didn't know who to turn to. I'm a WCS graduate now, but I know that I will continue to find a loyal friend and counselor in her. God is actively using her at WCS, and it has been a sincere privilege and joy being with her and learning from her.

Last of all...Girls of Impact is true to its cause. I genuinely believe this Bible study has impacted even the students who don't attend Bible study, and I believe it does so by most powerfully affecting the people who do attend. I personally have good friends who attended WCS with me who were not Christians, but they noticed my loyalty to attend Bible study and the enjoyment and better

mood I would have upon returning from it, and I am convinced that it has given them another perspective on Christianity that straightforward teaching could never do: it makes Christ real and personal. Sometimes I would explain a lesson if they asked, and oftentimes Momma K had spoken about something directly applicable to our hearts in high school, things like jealousy or tough relationships in general. An unsaved friend asked, "Don't you feel judged at all?" I would say, "No, because it's real, honest stuff, and we talk in the presence of a real Savior." So I genuinely believe the Girls of Impact Bible Study impacts everyone in the school.

Those are just a few brief points. One last thing I want to tag along is that, inspired by Momma K and Christ in her, Erin Lelko has (most probably) decided to start a similar Bible study for the middle school girls (as Girls of Impact is for the high school girls). I will (God willing) be assisting her in doing so. I think this is an environment that is much needed and pleasing to God for every growing teen.

Amanda Nashed (2015)

Bible study at school, especially for teens, however, is effective in reminding us that God is God in every area of our lives.



Student SHOWCASE

Sophomore, **Katharine Bauer** has been nominated to attend the three-day Congress of Future Medical Leaders in Boston, MA. The Congress is an honors-only program for high school students who want to become physicians or go into medical research fields. Katharine was nominated on her academic achievement,



leadership potential and determination to serve humanity in the field of medicine.

Katy also received an internship opportunity after being one of the many students from area schools

that competed in this year's Mock Trial Competition.

To apply, Katy wrote a 300-word essay on "Why Me" explaining why she should be chosen for this internship. Katy was chosen and accepted to the Delaware Superior Court High School Internship Program. This is the first year this internship has been offered.

The program is designed to introduce high school students to the inner workings of the Delaware court system. Through this program, students have the opportunity to observe various court proceedings, meet judicial officers, and learn about Delaware's court system. The court proceedings are in real time and are real cases.

Katy said her interest in this internship stemmed from her positive Mock Trial experience under the leadership of Mr. Herndon, Mrs. Tuttle, and Ms. Schefflen.

Junior **Dino Cai** was awarded a \$1000 scholarship and attended the Apple Hill Center for Chamber Music in New Hampshire this past summer.

Founded in 1971, Apple Hill is a unique center for chamber music performance and education. Led by Director Leonard Matczynski and the Apple Hill String Quartet, Apple Hill is one of the few centers in the country that has a home campus, resident musicians, educational programs for aspiring musicians, and Playing for Peace, an outreach program that focuses on social change through chamber music.



High School Math League

In April, Wilmington Christian School sent two teams of students to the Delaware Secondary School Mathematics League High School Invitational Meet in Dover, DE. The 9th grade team, consisting of Tiffany Lu, Greta Baker, Marshall Smith, Andrew Dingwall, and Ryan Albrecht, won 1st place in our region. Greta, Andrew, and Marshall tied for 2nd highest individual points, and Ryan placed 3rd in the region.

The 10th - 12th grade team of Will Zhong, Austin Hahn, Greg Driscoll, Daniel Lutz, and Elliot Miller placed 2nd in the region. Daniel and Austin received individual honors for placing 2nd and 3rd respectively in the region. Austin narrowly missed earning a perfect score at the state competition, getting 5 out of 6 questions correct.

Overall, it was another very successful year for our high school math teams.

Richard Liu
High School Math Teacher

Middle School Math League

The winter weather took its toll on the 2014-2015 Math League season. The teams were only able to participate in 2 of the 4 scheduled events due to Delaware's unusual winter weather this year that even canceled a make-up date. It seemed that if a Math League meet was scheduled, we could count on a snow day or early dismissal. Despite this, the 8th grade team had two students that scored high enough as individuals to be invited to the Invitational Meet in Dover in an "At Large" capacity. The two students that participated were Sean Holly and Andrew McNeill. They competed against 200+ students. The competition was held on Monday, April 20th. No further awards were earned, but the evening ended with a delicious banquet meal. Congratulations to Sean and Andrew for being selected. We look forward to next year with a full schedule of competition.





Congratulations to **Tori Drumheller** and **Ryan Bradford** for their outstanding performance on the National German Exam. Both were honored at the annual AATG Awards ceremony

in Philadelphia on Saturday, April 25th. Tori was awarded a Gold medal and also received a cash award from the Delaware Saengerbund. Ryan was awarded a Silver medal. Congratulations to both of them!

Congratulations, **Francesca Fioravanti**, for having been selected to attend The Governor's School for Excellence in the Arts this summer!

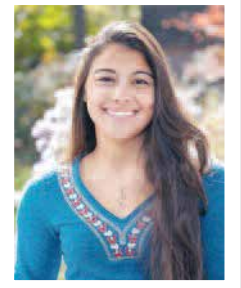


Francesca spent a week at the University of Delaware working with professionals in theatre. The week then culminated with a special performance by the participants. Francesca is one of only eight students in Delaware who were chosen for this prestigious program.



Rebecca Soistmann has also been accepted into the Governor's School for Excellence in Academics. This program, similar to the theater program, is a week of learning and exploration of science and other academic studies. This program is an opportunity for students to explore fields of interest and expand their academic horizons.

WCS would like to congratulate **Corina Bourantas**, who was one of only four people to be awarded a scholarship from DIBCA. Corina received her award in March at the Blue and Gold conference.



Daniel Lutz qualified as a 2015 Recognized Carson Scholar. Daniel was previously honored with a scholarship award, and is now receiving a commemorative pin and certificate to acknowledge his continued academic and humanitarian achievements.

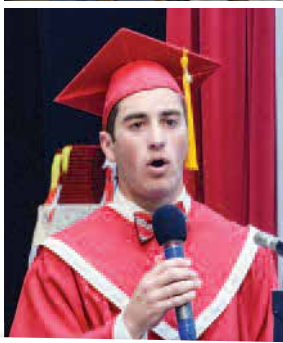
Annual Dinner Auction



Many thanks to all those who helped make WCS's first annual dinner auction, "Great Expectations", a huge success. We were truly blessed by the amazing support from our teachers, families, and surrounding communities. Donations valued at over \$25,000 were graciously given to WCS for the auction. John McMurry, our live auctioneer (and WCS dad), turned the evening into a fun competition for some really great prizes that included custom student artwork, a week's stay at a vacation home in Disney, front row graduation seats, and more! This special night brought family and friends together to raise over \$18,000 for the school. We couldn't have done it without the many volunteers working behind the scenes. Thank you. We look forward to seeing more of God's blessings as we plan our second annual dinner auction to be held March 12, 2016. I hope you will be a part of it!

Sincerely,
Kristen Santillo, Auction Chair

Kristen Santillo, Tara Walker, Kathleen Schmidt



On June 6, 2015, the senior class of Wilmington Christian School graduated with one of the largest classes ever to walk on the stage in the Fine Arts Auditorium. Sixty-four of our WCS family members will head into what many graduating speakers call "The Real World".

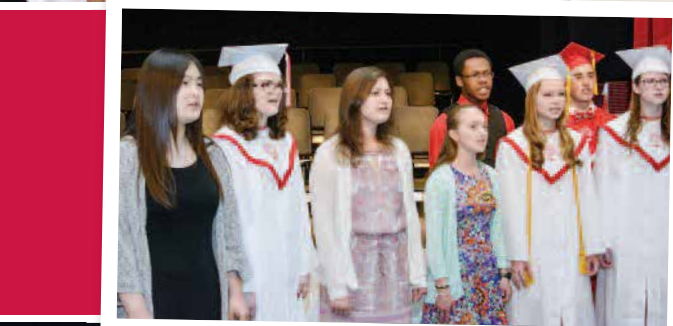
The program was timely and enjoyable. It began with a prelude of three songs including "Brave," sung by Christina Sanders, "The Impossible Dream," sung by Greg Driscoll, and "Man in the Mirror," sung by the WCS Jubilee Singers and directed by Jerry Polman. With teachers entering first, the processional began promptly after the prelude. This year, because of the size of the graduating class, elementary and middle school teachers were not required to attend the graduation. Every seat was filled, with the exception of two rows that were behind faculty.

The tune of "Pomp and Circumstance," played by board member Robbie Deike, led the white and red-gowned seniors into the room. Board President, Mark Wagner, gave the welcome and invocation. Soon after,

senior parent and science teacher, Karin Tuttle, read a scripture. One of the highlights was principal Doug Haas who gave the commencement challenge titled "But." He noted that he took a chance with the title and felt the need to spell each letter. He recognized that "but" has the "power to sweep away everything that has gone before it." Mr. Haas also challenged the class to not use "but" as an excuse, but rather use it with "God statements of truth, promise, and hope." The speech was beautifully referenced with Romans 6:23 "For the wages of sin is death, BUT the gift of God is eternal life".

Shortly after the challenge, the faculty and staff were recognized for their years of service: five years: Janice Johnson, Mark Karmeris, Brett Lelko, and Amy Spangler; ten years: Gwen Campbell, Susan Keller, Israel Pantoja, and Barbara Schiller; fifteen years: Lois Brooks, and Karen Pill; twenty-five years: Jami Stephens; and thirty-five years: Sharon Duncan, and Lana Yerkes. The Fine Arts Department head, Barbara Schiller, remained on stage to receive the yearbook dedication given by Jessica Stinson, editor.

The student awards were then given. Since many of the seniors graduated with honors, this portion of the program took the longest, but it was well worth it because there were so many recognized. Foreign Language and Christian Character Awards: Jack Wehmeyer; American Chemical and Science Awards: Alex Fowler; English Award: Elizabeth Latham; Bible Department and Community Service





Awards: Elias Reed; Music Award: Alyssa Kelley; Art Award: Anthony Kang; Athletic Award: Sarah Rettig; Principal Award: Corina Bourantas; Prudential Community Service Award: Amanda Nashed; Male Athletic Award: Michael Palermo; Female Athletic Award: Katie Stonkus; Outstanding Achievement in Athletics: Lily Kramp; Other Presidential Awards: Emily Patten and Lydia Hadley; Headmaster's Award: Jamie Green and Michael Palermo. There were countless other awards, but too many to recognize.

The Valedictorian, Austin Hahn, gave a brief and humorous speech which challenged the audience to "tap into humanity." He stated that we should "see the good in everyone and love those who are different." Salutatorian, Stephanie Chenault, spoke on her experience of having back surgery in May of 2014, and how she was overwhelmed by the love and generosity that was shown from the WCS family, especially since she had been new to the school. She challenged the class to "push through the pain" of life through hope and prayer. The ceremony would not have been complete without the mentioning of senior Eric Tsiarkezos, who was in a serious car accident in February that rendered him in a coma. He is recovering and out of the coma and hospital. The WCS family asks for continued prayers for him and his family.

Corina Bourantas, Jack Wehmeyer, and Amanda Nashed gave the final student addresses. "Good Morning!" shouted Corina with a loud and vibrant smile. She asked the question, "What are you afraid of?" She said she was afraid of "going into her house alone, really tall people (except for senior Tyler Smith), and what the future might

hold." She did, however, proclaim that she is not afraid of her strong faith in Jesus Christ. She challenged the class to use the years at WCS as pillars and to make a statement in the world. Jack Wehmeyer followed with a scripture reading from Hebrews 12:1. "And let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us, fixing our eyes on Jesus." Since Jack is an avid runner, it was fitting for him to use this reference. He then made light of it by telling a few jokes which made the room laugh. He said that "faith can be strengthened when you are surrounded by people who know Christ." The conclusion of the speeches was given by Amanda Nashed who alluded to her missions trip to Puerto Rico. She spoke of how one night, the sky was a "vibrant shade of purple, and that it was a stunning shade of God's glory." With a few more thought-provoking comments, Amanda made the crowd smile and laugh, and concluded her speech with Acts 4:12 "...there is no other name under Heaven given to mankind by which we must be saved."

At 11:35 a.m., one by one, the seniors crossed the stage to receive their diplomas. Headmaster Bill Stevens presented the class of 2015, and with the turn of their tassels, they became graduates of Wilmington Christian School.

*Celinda Conteh
HS English Teacher*



Austin Hahn

VALEDICTORIAN



Class of 2015, I just want to thank all of you guys. I've been beyond honored to share these halls with you all for the last couple years. It's easy to lose hope when you look at the state of our world, but being able to be around a group like you easily fixes that. Over the last few years, we've been able to rally together in both the highest of highs and the lowest of lows. We've seen our classmates struck by tragedy, and we've stood by them. We've seen our class do amazing things, like when we raised hundreds of dollars for the Food Drive back in middle school, when we still talked like this (voice crack). We've been leaders on the field, on the stage, and in the classroom. Please excuse the whole cliché thing, but I truly believe this is a group that can change whatever parts of the world we wish. Thanks guys.

Over the years, I've noticed something pretty strange, and I'm sure you all have noticed it too. Sometimes, people disagree with you. Whether it's Spirit Week, or who's going to take the crucial free kick, or where to go for Senior Lunch, people will offer different opinions. What I really want to focus on, though, is something even rarer, for some people much rarer. Every once in a while, the other person is actually right. The terrifying aspect of this is that it usually means I'm wrong, something I hate to admit. However, this is the wrong perspective. Rather than seeing ourselves as being wrong, we should learn to see the "right" in the other person, and more broadly, to see the good in those around us, no matter how different they may be.

I believe that one of the biggest plagues on our society is the tendency to get overly attached to an opinion or idea as a matter of personal pride, even in the face of contrary results or evidence. We are too preoccupied in believing we are right to actually look for the truth. One example of this unapologetic delusion that we all see on a regular basis is an Eagles fan's belief that they support a good football team. A more serious example would be the standstill of politics, as both sides are too caught up in themselves to do anything good for the nation. How, then, do

we get over this hump of perspective and look to the merits of others rather than covering up flaws in ourselves?

The answer came to me in probably the strangest place I've ever been in my life.

My friends and I sat barefoot in a Sikh temple in London. On stage, priests played bizarre looking instruments and sung in a language I had never heard before. The temple's decor was gorgeous, yet over the top, and the rituals we saw were, honestly, a little crazy. Despite all this, I saw a worship service that, at its core, wasn't all that different than our own. The singing, the prayers, the tone and posture, and above all, the sincerity really connected me to them. I realized that humans from every walk of life are fundamentally the same, while being radically different.

This paradox-sounding lesson has been one of the biggest revelations of my life. I've learned to see the humanity in people all over the world. Instead of being a headline or a statistic, these people have become just that: people, with dreams, desires, and worries that are just like ours, yet maybe completely different. When you look at the world through this lens, discrimination, in all of its ugly forms, is much harder to embrace when you can see the shared qualities between yourself and someone in a completely different culture, while also being able to appreciate each other's individual cultural quirks. This can actually lead to a sort of "un-discrimination," where we seek to build up those who are different from us. Mark Foster, the frontman of Foster the People, has been one of my biggest role models and helped teach me this perspective. He writes in one of his songs that in order to "smash the wall of apathy" in society, you need to "stop your self-importance and lift the weight off somebody else." We need to just go beyond mere acceptance and tolerance to genuine love. As Bill and Ted put it on their time-traveling adventure, "Be

excellent to each other."

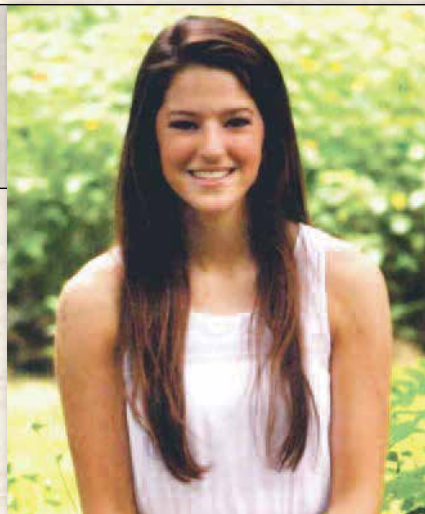
On a personal level, this idea of fitting into the tapestry of humanity as a whole has had incredible implications. For years, I've struggled with pretty bad depression. It's led me to a lot of really dark places, and while it's

nowhere near as bad as it has been, it still follows me. Being able to see myself through this new perspective, though, is freeing. It both unites me with those around me and allows me to embrace my own uniqueness. It has helped me relate to myself and those around me better, and has helped me figure out many personal problems. Unfortunately, it can't make me any taller.

To sort of tie everything together, having a greater appreciation for humanity and the people around us is one of the only things, if not the only one, that could ever lead to a better, more peaceful planet. As Jesus told his followers in Luke, loving people who already love you is really nothing special. The real challenge is loving those who are different than you. When people around the world stop blindly clinging to their own personal brand of humanity, they are able to appreciate the brands they bump into everyday. Ultimately, it leads to a revolutionary perspective change. Rather than begrudgingly admitting "I'm wrong", we are able to tell our neighbors "Hey, you may be right." This doesn't only apply to direct disagreements, like admitting that Wawa is a fine choice for lunch. It's much broader. We can stop seeing different cultures and lifestyles (and differences in general) as direct attacks on our own culture and lifestyle. When we realize this deeper appreciation for the people we share this planet with, we gain a deeper appreciation for the life we will spend with them. We can even learn to love the Eagles fan next door.

Stephanie Chenault

SALUTATORIAN



We are all compilations of the events and interactions of our past. Katherine Anne Porter said in her novel, *Ship of Fools* that “the past is never where you think you left it.” No memory can ever be completely erased, no time period ever fully forgotten. I know from personal experience because I have tried very hard to forget middle school, but the memories are blazed into my mind. Although we are moving on from our time here at Wilmington Christian, each of us in the senior class will take with us experiences and lessons learned from the school.

For me personally, I will take memories of the compassion that others have shown me. In May of my junior year, I had to have an 11 vertebrae spinal fusion, which, if you don't know, is pretty major back surgery. I had never had surgery before. I had never been under anesthesia. Everything was new and terrifying. I had only attended Wilmington Christian since February of my sophomore year, so I felt like my friendships were too new to burden them with such a serious experience. I wouldn't have known how to comfort someone going through surgery, so I figured my friends wouldn't either. I couldn't have been more wrong. People that I hadn't previously felt close to reached out to me and came to visit me.

Graduation last year was the first time that I went out of the house for more than a half hour. Honestly, I was completely exhausted by the time I had gotten ready to get out of the house, but I was determined to make it. When I showed up, so many people, some people I had rarely ever spoken to came up and talked to me and asked how I was feeling. My friends all hugged me with as much love as they could put in a very gentle hug. I felt so cared for and loved. I have a permanent 17-inch scar that will remind me of a time that I was able to push through pain because of this community's encouragement and support.

My fellow graduating classmates may not have as tangible reminder as I do, but we have all been touched by the compassionate people here at Wilmington Christian. Whether it was a bible lesson from Mr. Launer or a discussion in Mr. Liu's class, we have all learned things that will shape who we are in the future. I know that I will remember how supportive our class was of Mr. Liu's love of magic shows. I will also remember how sweet it was of Miss Duncan to give me body wash and lotion before my surgery and how nice it was of Sarah Sorowice to get everyone in

the grade to sign a card for me.

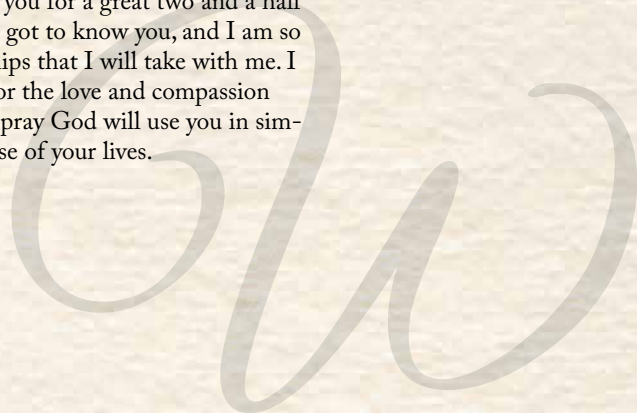
Those little actions of encouragement probably didn't seem like much to

them, but it made a lasting impact on me. I am proud to have been a part of a community that builds one another up. After having received others affection in a time of pain, I know the importance of reaching out to those who are hurting. While our hearts ache for Eric Tcharkizos in his recovery from the terrible car wreck he had this winter, I am so glad that he has this loving community to walk alongside of him. I am sure that he also has been surprised by the number of students and teachers that have reached out to him, which is awesome. I hope that it is just as encouraging to him as it was to me.

As we leave this school and enter the real world, I hope and pray that we do not lose this mentality, the mindset that is always looking for people in need and ready to help them in whatever way best aids them. As Christians, we have the most amazing example of compassion. We were in a pitiful, sinful state. We tried to please ourselves with the fleeting pleasures of sin and failed miserably every time, but God miraculously made a way for us to be in relationship with Him. He allowed His son to go through a humiliating and excruciating death when we still had no desire to know Him. He pursues us time and time again when we run away from the abundance of His love. I cannot think of a more beautiful picture of compassion. So as we leave, let us leave with that in mind. We have been the recipients of the ultimate gift of compassion. What better response to receiving that gift than turning around and being compassionate towards others.

Class of 2015, thank you for a great two and a half years. I am so glad that I got to know you, and I am so thankful for the friendships that I will take with me. I will be forever grateful for the love and compassion you have shown me and pray God will use you in similar ways in the next phase of your lives.

We have been the recipients of the ultimate gift of compassion. What better response to receiving that gift than turning around and being compassionate towards others.





Nathaniel Albrecht
Cedarville University



Corina Bourantas
DePauw University



Charlotte Brooks
University of Delaware



Nicholas Carey
University of Delaware



Stephanie Chenault
College of William & Mary



Jacob Conrad
Purdue University



John Gregory Driscoll
University of Delaware



Joyce Eleutheriou
Word of Life Bible Institute



Jamie Green
Southeastern University



Lydia Hadley
University of Delaware



Haley Hagenbach
Hood College



Austin Hahn
University of North Carolina -
Chapel Hill



Nathan Hawk
Goldey-Beacom College



Gabriella Johns
Hofstra University



Yelena Latzko
Paul Smith's College



Wenshan Lu
Boston University



Jiwon Min
Carnegie Mellon University



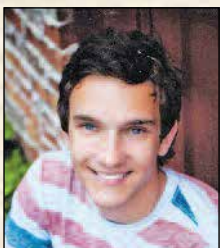
Christina Mulford
Widener University



Luke Muller
Lancaster Bible College



Kaylene Mummert
Messiah College



Elias Reed
Delaware Technical &
Community College



Sarah Rettig
Millersville University



Sally Rice
Neumann University



David Robinson
University of Delaware



Christina Sanders
The Pennsylvania State
University - University Park



Jacob Saylor
Kansas State University



Jessica Stinson
West Chester University



Katelyn Stonkus
Grove City College



Traneigh Triplett
Wilmington University



Peter Tuttle
Universal Technical Institute



Aaron Nathaniel Volz
Liberty University

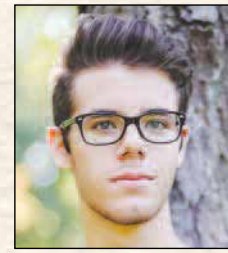


Bryanna Walley
The Pennsylvania State
University - University Park



*"I lift up my eyes to the hills. From where does my help come?
My help comes from the Lord, who made heaven and earth."
Psalms 121:1-2 ESV*

CLASS OF 2015



Ryan Bradford
Loyola Marymount University



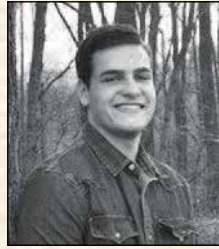
Maya Bradley
University of Delaware



Aleah Ennis-Church
University of Delaware



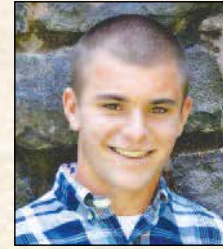
Jeremy Ewing
Goldey-Beacom College



Austin Fedale
Regent University



Sydney Foster
Liberty University



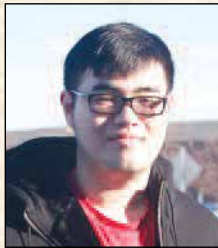
Alex Fowler
University of Virginia



Jeremy Gouveia
University of Delaware



Katiana Jones
University of Delaware



Zheng Kang
School of Visual Arts - NYC



Alyssa Kelley
University of Delaware



Jenna Kirkpatrick
University of Delaware



Lily Kramp
University of Delaware



Elizabeth Latham
Farleigh Dickinson University



Amanda Nashed
University of Delaware



Derek Needham
Kent State University



Jared Oriol
Wilmington University



Alyssa Otto
West Chester University



Michael Palermo
Purdue University



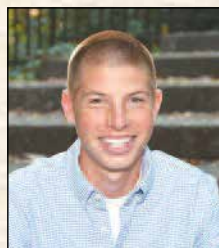
Emily Patten
Rochester Institute of Technology



Autumn Shank
Delaware Technical & Community College



Alyssa Smith
Adventures in Missions The World Race: Gap Year



Tyler Smith
Cairn University



Sarah Sorowice
Liberty University



Peter Spangler
Gordon College



Benjamin Start
University of Delaware



John Wehmeyer
University of Delaware



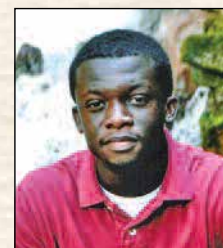
Caitlyn Weinert
West Chester University



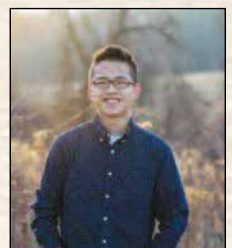
Tanner Wilkinson
University of Delaware



Lydia Willetts
University of Delaware



Darrell Yirenky



Weizhi Zhong
University of Washington

Pre-K4 CELEBRATION



On Monday, June 8, Mrs. Molin's and Mrs. Steven's Pre-K wrapped up a fabulous year with a celebration in the elementary library. Guests enjoyed a special program presented by the Pre-K children. Songs included Hickory, Dickory Dock, Make a Joyful Noise, and a special version of the alphabet song. The children also sang Jesus Loves Me, accompanied by sign language. The songs were

followed by a special Pre-K slideshow highlighting the year. Each child was presented with a special certificate and a bucket full of fun things to enjoy during the summer. Following the program, everyone enjoyed a delicious brunch including a wonderful rainbow cake created by Mrs. Roeper. What a colorful way to kick off summer vacation!

Kindergarten CELEBRATION



As their proud parents looked on, the kindergarten classes marched into the Fine Arts Center on Tuesday, June 9, to celebrate a wonderful year in school.

The children recited the Pledge of Allegiance and sang "We Love Our Flag." They showed their parents how they had learned to count to one hundred by 5's and by 10's. They recalled favorite field trips, sang about the Fruits of the Spirit, recited their alphabet chant, and sang songs in Spanish, led by Senora Beers.

The highlight of the program was when the students recited Psalm 23. Mrs. Veenema noted that this psalm is now tucked in the children's hearts and will become even more precious to them as they grow up.

The students gave their teachers a final hug and received a graduation medal and a certificate of completion of kindergarten. Pastor Norman then closed the ceremony in prayer. Parents, grandparents, teachers, and children all shared in a festive and happy reception to end the school year.



Wednesday, June 10, 2015 was a day to celebrate if you were a fifth grader at WCS! It was fifth grade graduation, a special day in which to recognize students' elementary accomplishments and to welcome them into the middle school. The students arrived beautifully dressed and excited for their day. The ceremony started with the students processing to the stage and Mr. Stevens praying, offering thanks to God for his work in each of their lives throughout their elementary years. Then awards were announced for participation in various activities, as well as, physical fitness achievement. Several students shared essays they wrote: Sam Hardcastle and Matthew Metzler inspired us with their thoughts about being a Christian, and Nathan Williams, Simon Abdullah, and Abby Hausheer shared their essays highlighting some special parts about being a student of WCS. Several students were honored with the Presidential Academic Achievement, and Academic Excellence awards. A select praise team led

the class in singing their chosen song, Thank You, and the class once again preformed our class song, Greater by Mercyme, using various percussion items and sign language to make it uniquely theirs. Finally, Pastor William Lockard, fifth grade parent, prayed for the kids reminding us all to seek after Jesus and asking the Lord to be with the graduates as they go forward.

One additional highlight of the occasion was when Mrs. Gwen Campbell presented the Principal's Award to a student that consistently demonstrates Christian character in addition to academic success. This award was given to Natalie Hamma. It was a beautiful celebration! In conclusion, families, friends, and 5th grade students congregated in the lobby of the Fine Arts Center for refreshments and conversation hosted by the 4th Grade parents and class. The whole event was a delightful culmination of the students' elementary grades. Congratulations to all!



On Thursday, June 11th, we celebrated the completion of middle school with 46 students and their families. 10 of these students began their schooling as WCS pre-kindergartners or kindergartners! John Wilkins began the ceremony with a piano solo L'Hirondelle by Johann Burgmuller. Kaitlin Walker shared her favorite WCS memory, and Annie Lockard gave testimony to what WCS means to her. The hot and humid weather forced us to move our picnic inside, but it did not dampen the spirits on this wonderful celebration of our 8th grade students. We are going to miss these students in the middle school, but we look forward to hearing how they are impacting their culture for Christ in high school.

Springtime IN THE Arts

The Fine Arts Department spent the first four months of 2015 busily preparing for upcoming musicals, spring concerts and art shows from elementary school thru high school. The end result was the sound of choirs and bands reverberating indoors and out, with amazing works of art displayed in our auditorium foyer. Our Spring Concert Series, which began on Thursday, April 30th involved our elementary music and visual arts teachers, Debbie McNiell and Dian Sutton, and their students produced an amazing elementary concert and art show. Thursday, May 7th, under the direction of vocal teacher Jerry Polman, concert goers were treated to the talented Middle School Chorus, High School Concert Choir and Jubilee Singers. The concert was a wonderful night of worship and reflection of the plight of children through the centuries. High School Visual Arts teacher Gabrielle Bradley, filled the auditorium foyer with unique and creative artwork, all giving glory back to God for the extraordinary talent He has given to the students at WCS. The final concert of the season was on May 14th and was performed by the instrumental ensembles outdoors. Students of Amber Taylor, Strings Ensemble Director and Barbara Schiller, Fine Arts and Band Director shared the talent of the Middle and High School String Ensembles, Middle School Band, Concert Band and Jazz Band. Weather-wise, God provided the perfect evening for an outdoor performance.

At both the vocal and instrumental concerts the Music Department said goodbye to their graduating seniors. Twenty chorus members and fourteen band members graduated from the Music Department alone—the largest ever, and for many, their journey in the arts began in elementary school.

Due to the success of the yearly instrumental outdoor concert, The Fine Arts Department is looking forward to next year and is planning, Lord willing, the 1st Annual Outdoor Arts Festival scheduled for Saturday, May 21st, 2016. The event will run from 2-6PM and will replace the traditional Thursday evening concerts for both the MS/HS vocal and instrument groups. Preliminary plans for the venue include outdoor performances of both groups, fashion show, artwork displays, an instrumental petting zoo, area artisans and, of course food! More details will be forthcoming.

The Fine Arts Department is looking forward to this year and is planning, Lord willing, the 1st Annual Outdoor Arts Festival scheduled for Saturday, May 21st, 2016. The event will run from 2-6PM and will replace the traditional Thursday evening concerts for both the MS/HS vocal and instrument groups.



MUSIC STUDENTS ATTEND FESTIVAL

On Saturday April 25th, over 800 high school band, choir and orchestra students participated in the Heritage World-Strides Music Festival in New York City. Music ensembles performed and were evaluated before a panel of three nationally acclaimed adjudicators in the categories of string orchestra, concert, chamber and show choir as well as concert, jazz, and stage bands.

Our own WCS Concert Choir, Jubilee Singers, Concert and Jazz Bands were provided access to perform in the renowned Riverside Church in Manhattan for an exciting day of performance and evaluation. The Concert Band received a Silver Rating /3rd Place Ranking and Jazz Band received a Silver Rating /1st Place Ranking in their division for their performance. Choir and Jubilee Singers received the coveted Gold Rating and were additionally honored by being invited to participate next year in the National Invitational of Gold in Washington D.C. and the National Youth Choir Festival at Carnegie Hall.

The trip was not all work and no play. Students experienced the magic of Broadway with a performance of Lion King, a time of sightseeing in Times Square, a dinner cruise around the Statue Of Liberty and Sunday worship at the Brooklyn Tabernacle. Many WCS music students participated in the annual fall Fine Arts Fruit Sale to help offset the cost of the trip, which is taken once every two years. It was a rich and valuable experience for all.



Fiddler ON THE ROOF

Fiddler On The Roof had a successful run at WCS from February 26-28th. Sixty-five students composed the cast, crew and pit orchestra. They worked extremely hard from December thru February

and their dedication was blessed by memorable performances. Fiddler was a show I had always wanted to produce at WCS. I had been introduced to its music by my father playing it over and over on the record player back in my "Jr. High" years. As I had listened to Tevye talk to God throughout the show, I remember wishing I could talk to God like that—of being able to talk to Him about "whatever." Little did I realize that in producing this show and hearing the music and dialogue once again that in my adult life, having accepted Jesus Christ as my Savior, I could and do talk to Him about "whatever/whenever."

For the past two seasons He has been tapping on my shoulder to bring Fiddler back to WCS. Whatever show is picked, there is

always criticism as to who picked the show and why. To those who have asked, my answer has been "I think, for whatever reason, this is the time God wants us to do this show." Who but God would have known what our world would now be like two years ago. The chaos that we now see nightly on the news occurring in Europe, the continued growing persecution of Jews and Christians in Israel and now even in our own United States—who but God.

In Fiddler, the village of Anatevka has special significance to Tevye and his family. Change, however is imminent. So we too face an ever changing world. I think Anatevka represents wherever you call home. We all have an ultimate destination. And the question to ask...are you trudging through life like Tevye simply not knowing what lies ahead in the next town or are you joyfully anticipating—knowing where the end of your journey will lead. My prayer for the cast and crew was simply this—that they learned the significance of tradition and of the amazing journey that awaits them should they choose to follow Christ.

*Barbara Schiller
Director of Fine Arts*

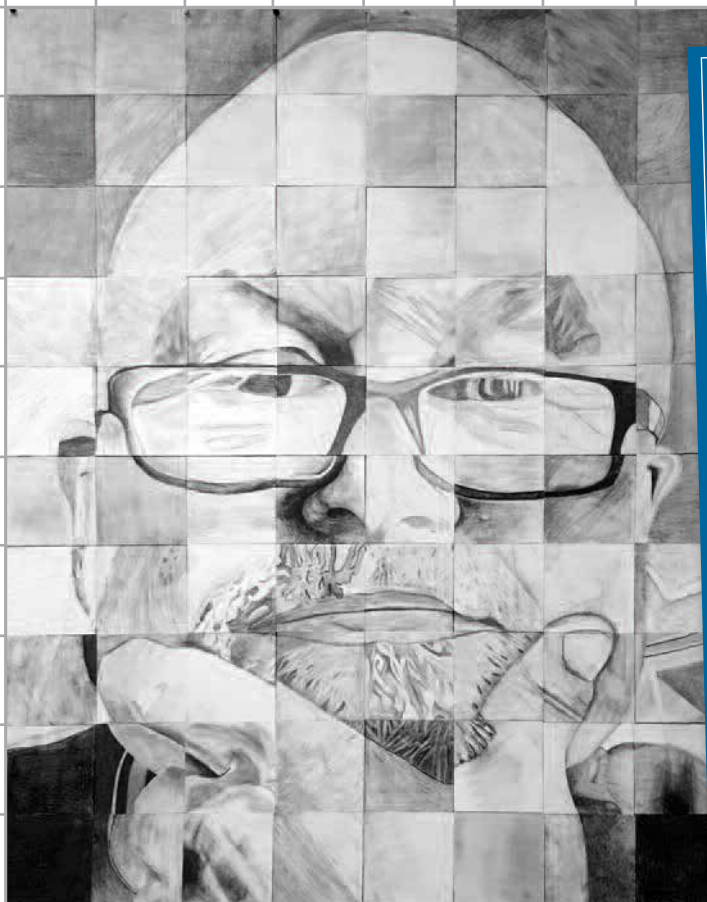
ALL-STATE ORCHESTRA

On Wednesday, April 22nd three students from WCS participated in an all-star orchestra concert. The original all-state event had been scheduled in March, but due to snow, had to be cancelled. The following schools were represented at the event: Cab Calloway School of the Arts, Charter School of Wilmington, Newark High School, H.B. Dupont Middle School, Archmere Academy, Caravel Academy, Middletown High School, Padua Academy, Immaculate Heart Of Mary, Tatnall School, Appoquinimink High School, Newark Charter School and WCS. The forty-one member orchestra, under the baton of guest conductor Gary White, provided an evening of music from Telemann, Cascarino, Gershwin and Britten. White is the Music Director and Conductor of Philadel-

phia Sinfonia and has led his orchestra on critically acclaimed tours of Italy, the Czech Republic, Hungary, Austria, Russia, Finland, Poland and Argentina. The highlight of the night was a solo violin performance by WCS Senior Emily Patten who in December had auditioned and won the prestigious Delaware Music Educator's Senior Solo Competition. Emily performed the 1st movement of Joseph Haydn's Concerto in C Major. Sophomore Dino Cai (cello) and Senior Alyssa Kelley (bass) also auditioned for the select group and were additionally honored by being chosen as the Principal



player for their sections. Emily, Dino and Alyssa are all members of the WCS HS String Ensemble. God truly continues to bless our school in unimaginable ways—we very well might be the best kept secret in Delaware, so spread the word!



OFF THE GRID

As an end of year project, while students were finishing their last assignment, they began to work on a large scale rendering of an “unknown” VIP.

I took a photo of Mr. Bill Stevens, 8x10, and cut it into 1 inch squares that were numbered from 1-80. Each student choose a square from a bag and had to enlarge and render (value shading) onto a 5.5 inch square. Their only requirement was using contrast, making sure light values were light, dark values were dark, medium values, etc... Some of the squares were solid some had unknown shapes on them. I didn't tell them who it was. Once they started finishing the squares, I made a large grid to accommodate the finished pieces and also numbered it 1-80. Each of my 5 classes worked diligently to complete each square and place it on the grid. As pieces of the face started to emerge, the guessing began! It was a fun project that over 60 students participated in. They loved pointing to which squares they completed and asking each other what they thought. All in all it was quite a successful lesson. Collaboration over many classes was a wonderful experience that we will surely do again!

Gabrielle Bradley
High School Art Teacher

Microcosm YEARBOOK DEDICATION



The Class of 2015 gratefully dedicates the Microcosm to Barbara Schiller. Thank you for sharing our journey with us.

Ms. Barbara Schiller's journey and love of music began early in Syracuse, New York. Her mother was a violinist and at age five, Ms. Schiller began performing with her father's musical youth theater group. She performed with them for the next ten years. Ms. Schiller earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Music Education from Roberts Wesleyan College in Rochester, New York. Following college, Ms. Schiller enlisted in the United States Air Force and became a member of the outstanding Air Force Band.

In 1981, she moved to Wilmington and for the next seventeen years taught band, chorus and general music at several schools throughout the tri-state area. In 1998, Ms. Schiller began working as the site manager at Accent Music located in north Wilmington.

Ms. Schiller's first association with Wilmington Christian School occurred in 1997 when she was hired as music director for many of the spring musicals. In 2006, she returned to full time teaching when she was hired as Band Director at WCS. In 2008, Mrs. Schiller was later appointed Director of Fine Arts. Under her leadership, a Fine Arts

Booster club was established which provides financial support to the Fine Arts program at the school. Under her leadership, the music program has grown. Many more students are involved in the band and chorus and dramatic productions. Both the band and chorus have performed at outside venues and traveled to competitions.

Ms. Schiller's quest for excellence is evident in everything. Most striking, however, is her uncompromising commitment to Jesus Christ. One of her favorite things to teach is the 8th grade Self-Confrontation Class which addresses difficult topics from a biblical worldview. One student described her as “by the book but likes to have fun.” Ms. Schiller is known for adding a touch of whimsy to events and is always ready to laugh. A lover of dogs, she cast her cocker spaniel, Sadie, in *The Miracle Worker*.

Because she has touched the lives of so many students in a variety of ways, the Class of 2015 gratefully dedicates this edition of the *Microcosm* to Ms. Barbara Schiller. Thank you for sharing our journey with us.



A NIGHT IN VENICE

This years WCS junior/senior prom was themed a night in Venice. It was held at the Mendenhall Inn, on May eighth. The prom was planned by Rachel Stanley, the junior class president. The decorations inside were beautiful, and the food was truly amazing. The seniors put together a slide show of their pictures from this year that they showed after dinner. Many people had fun dancing the night away. The after prom was held at the Hockessin Athletic Club this year. Overall, prom was a huge success thanks to the junior class student representatives who planned it.

McKenna Hansell



A SPECIAL GIFT

Extended Care Students spent several days preparing gifts to be mailed to soldiers for Easter. The gifts included cookies, donated by parents, a favorite Bible verse chosen by each student and a crafted heart with a glow in the dark cross in the middle...to remind soldiers the Lord is always with them. The pocket size heart was a reminder of how much Jesus loves them. The gift package from WCS was mailed to US troops in Afghanistan.

Within a few weeks a phone message from

Major Jason Suber in Afghanistan called to thank students for their care, generosity and awesome gift. He wanted to thank Mrs. Green and her students and to let them know a package was on its way back to WCS.

The package arrived from Afghanistan attention Extended Care Students. Enclosed was a United States of America flag that flew over Afghanistan, a certificate for the flag and a thank you note from the troops.



Alumni

Jamie Green ('15) Graduate signed to play soccer for Southeastern University in Lakeland Florida.



A.J. Stiles ('14) was recently awarded a \$1,000 Captain Jason Dahl Scholarship in honor of the pilot of United Airlines Flight 93, which was overtaken by terrorists on 9/11. A.J. is on the Dean's List at Liberty University School of Aeronautics, where he is currently studying commercial/corporate aviation. He holds a private pilot's license, and will begin working towards his commercial pilot's license in September.



Kirsten Gooden ('10) After graduating from WCS in 2010, I went on to the University of Delaware to major in Human Services. What is Human Services you ask? Good question, I've spent just about a year explaining that to different people as a post graduate. The short response in my mind is that it is the "helping major." I have always been very interested in finding a career that benefits others.

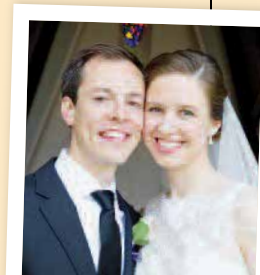


Throughout college I had multiple internships from small non-profits to state Senate offices. I have been able to see a lot of different aspects of social work and how government policies interact with them. For just about a year I have worked as a Children's Nutrition Coordinator at the Food Bank of Delaware. While here I was responsible for the implementation of the Child and Adult Care Feeding Program and the Summer Food Service Program. Both programs benefit children who may not receive proper nutritious meals at home due to many different circumstances. FBD works with the Department of Education to find and create sites throughout the state where children can receive free healthy meals.

Implementing both of these programs has really opened my eyes to the huge problem of hunger that plagues our state. FBD's mission is to end hunger and both of these programs combined with their "Backpack Program" benefit children tremendously. They make it so children in the school year are able to receive after school and weekend meals. And then during the summer when school is out they can find sites near them that serve meals and are open to the public.

After just about a year I felt really strongly about finding employment in Washington, D.C. so I took it upon myself to begin my job search over again. After a few months I was extremely blessed to be offered the position of Program Manager for The Congressional Award. Their office is housed on Capital Hill and is the only non-profit founded by Congress. The Congressional Award is the United States Congress' award for young Americans. It is non-partisan, voluntary, and non-competitive. Participants are responsible for setting their own goals in Voluntary Public Service, Personal Development, Physical Fitness and Expedition/Exploration. It pushes young people to learn and grow as they complete their challenges. I will start this position in August but I am extremely excited for the new challenge! High school feels like a lifetime ago but WCS really gave me the stepping stones to succeed in college and the heart to help others and for that I am very grateful!

Priscilla Weaver ('06) was married to Henry Gabriel on July 17, 2015 in Wilmington, Delaware. The couple met in Bloomington, Indiana where Priscilla is finishing her doctorate at Indiana University and serves as music director at Faith Lutheran Church. Henry works as a financial manager for the university's information technology department.



Elizabeth Ann Lawrence ('99) Received her Master of Architecture Degree (Design-Build) from the Architectural Associates School of Architecture, Bedford Square, London.

Elizabeth and her team designed and built Student Lodge 3 at the Hooke Park campus in Beaminster, Dorset.

SL3 was constructed using lumber cut on site, recycled state roofing and glass, and steel beams from a former BBC radio tower.

Debbie Kever was assisted by alumni, **Andrew Martin ('11)**, in teaching the elementary chapel this spring. Andrew, surprised the kids with his grand entrance as the "Superhero of the Playground. Andrew helped reinforce the principles of being an encourager and team player on the playground; encouraging the kids to take a stand against bullying and arguing. Andrew is presently in Bible College studying to be a pastor. He is actively involved at Trinity Community Church's youth ministry program, REACT. He has recently become engaged and is planning a June 2016 wedding



2015 WCS Kindergarten Graduation was unique in having many WCS Alumni parents.



Tori Dunbar '10

Alumni PROFILE

Tori Dunbar ('10) is working with the Fellowship of Christian Athletes as an Area Representative. She graduated from Wesley College in 2014, with a BS in Nursing. Soon after Tori joined the FCA staff here in Hockessin, Delaware. She has participated in Impact South Africa, an international sports ministry internship with FCA and returned to Barbados for the second time this past March as a field hockey coach for middle school and high school athletes.

Her time in Barbados was filled with excitement as she arrived with greetings from friends there. Throughout the week, Tori, as well as her other mission teammates, had the opportunity to speak in government schools and share the Gospel and their testimonies with student athletes. As a team, they had opportunities to encourage young athletes to pursue their relationship with God and excel in sports. She had the opportunity to continue building relationships that had been formed the previous year with students, coaches, and residents of Barbados. Tori does not know where the Lord will take her next, but is expectantly awaiting and serving as a local missionary and nurse in Wilmington.

Her vision for FCA in Delaware is to see hearts and minds of athletes and coaches turn towards Jesus Christ and seek Him. Excited to be on staff with the Delaware FCA team she has been personally impacted by Jesus through FCA in high school and college. "It is exciting to be on staff and see first hand the impact Jesus Christ is having on athletes and coaches in Delaware!"



*To connect with more
WCS alumni,
visit wcsalumni.net!*



WILMINGTON CHRISTIAN SCHOOL
825 LOVEVILLE ROAD
HOCKESSIN, DE 19707

NON-PROFIT
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
PERMIT NO. 31
RANDOLPH, NY

www.WilmingtonChristian.org



Save THE DATE

Get Acquainted Night - Thursday, August 27th, 6:00-8:00 pm All School Families with Students PreK3-12th Grade. Come and Dine, Visit Classrooms, Meet Your Teacher

Freshmen Kick Off - 6:00-8:15 pm, in Auditorium with Mr. Haas

First Day of School - September 1st
PreK3,4 & K - 8:15-9:15

1st-5th, 6th, 9th - half day dismissal

New Parent Coffee Elementary Library - 8:15-9:15

First Full day of school PreK3-12th - September 2nd

Welcome Wednesday, Open House Dates -

Invite a Friend Oct 7, Nov 4, Dec 2, Jan 6, Feb 3, March 2, April 6

Elementary Back-to-School Night - September 10th

MS/HS Back to School Night - September 17th

Homecoming - October 2nd-3rd

A special thank you to our Sponsors:

Covenant Wealth

Coviello Family

Glauser Family

Quinn's Cafe

Friendly's Lantana Square

PATHFINDER is published bi-annually by Wilmington Christian School

A special thanks to everyone who contributed articles, photographs, and information!

If you have an article, photo, or WCS experience you would like us to consider sharing through Pathfinder please contact rfooster@wilmingtonchristian.org



GRANDPARENT/VIP DAY

WCS welcomed hundreds of grandparents and special guests to our campus for Grandparents/VIP day. All enjoyed meeting the “mom-moms” and “pop-pops” of students along with all the VIPs. School parent, Linnea Tidemann displayed her decorating talents once again with all the elegant table decorations in the gym. The lovely flowers throughout the building and auditorium donated by the Glauser family filled the air with the aroma of spring. A yummy menu of assorted breakfast treat trays were

provided by Hepbron Foods and were waiting as grandparents arrived. A special thank you to Jo-El Azato, Grandparent/VIP Committee Head who helped organize the event. Thank you to our parent volunteers that always go beyond what is asked, Rebecca

Roeper, Leann Bier, Tara Walker, Michele Coveillo, Angie Mercer, Linda Eastburn and Renee Thompson along with the Honor Society Students all helped to welcome and create a beautiful day for our visiting guests.

