



WILMINGTON  
CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

2020 Volume 1

# PATHFINDER



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Douglas Haas  
Upper School Principal  
  
Mike Ingram  
Director of Operations

**2020-2021 School Verses**

*James 1:5  
If any of you lacks wisdom,  
let him ask God, who gives  
generously to all without reproach,  
and it will be given him.*

*James 1:19  
Know this, my beloved brothers:  
let every person be quick to hear,  
slow to speak, slow to anger.*

*James 1:22  
Be doers of the word, and not  
hearers only, deceiving yourselves.*

*James 4:6  
God opposes the proud but  
gives grace to the humble.*

ESV

# PATHFINDER

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### **WCS Mission Statement**

*Wilmington Christian School provides a distinctively Christian, innovative education that effectively develops Godly influencers who are well prepared for life after high school and who impact the culture for Christ.*

*Building on the foundation of Scriptural truth, we teach students to grow in Christian character, to excel in academic proficiency, and to value mentoring relationships.*



## DEAR FRIENDS & FAMILIES OF WCS,

*Canoeing the Mountains* is the title of a Christian leadership book by Tod Bolsinger which borrows imagery from the Lewis and Clark Expedition of the early 1800's.

In 1804, Meriwether Lewis and William Clark set out in search of an all-water passage from the Missouri River to the Pacific Ocean and their expedition was outfitted with boats—the ideal means to navigate waterways. However, after almost a year traveling by water, the expedition found itself within sight range of an obstacle they never anticipated and for which they were woefully ill-equipped: the Rocky Mountains.

So, what do you do with mountains, when you expected rivers? You adapt and change.

And that is precisely what the WCS family has done over the last six months. COVID-19 has disrupted much of what we normally do, but our mission of cultivating Godly influencers is still as critical as before the pandemic. Just as the team led by Lewis and Clark did successfully over two hundred years ago, WCS has responded positively to the mountainous challenges in our way. Within two weeks we pivoted to distance-learning through the spring of 2020, and in this new school year we are providing 100% in-person or distance-learning for our students. Sure—we've had to learn new ways of connecting with and teaching our students, but the mission of WCS continues to bear fruit in spite of unexpected obstacles.

In the pages of this issue of the Pathfinder, you'll read stories about our students and staff and how they are thriving in uncharted times. Ultimately, though, the times are not REALLY uncharted. As Deuteronomy 31:8 says, "It is the LORD who goes before you. He will be with you; he will not leave you or forsake you." We happily serve a God who goes before us and remains with us.

Even when unexpected mountains pop up on our way.

Ever climbing,

*Roger Erdvig*  
Dr. Roger Erdvig



"It is the LORD  
who goes before you.  
He will be with you;  
he will not leave you  
or forsake you."  
We happily serve  
a God who goes  
before us and  
remains with us.



## THE GIFT OF GA-GA

Christian School junior Edward 'Riley' Bullock desired to complete a service project that would benefit the WCS community as he worked towards the rank of Eagle for Boy Scout Troop 53. After discussion with Headmaster Erdvig Riley decided to build a gaga ball pit for WCS. Ga-ga is a game similar to dodgeball, made popular world-wide at summer camps and retreats.

Through a jeans and tee-shirt day the WCS student body raised \$547 for the

project, with an additional \$200 gifted by the WCS PTF. WCS parent John Azato helped Riley secure a donation of lumber from Home Depot. Construction of the ga-ga pit began on June 28th and was completed on July 3rd with the help of Scouts, friends, and adults.

Riley Bullock joined the Wilmington Christian School community in 2015 as a 6th grader. He plays lacrosse and basketball for WCS as well as lacrosse for Phantoms LC. He is a member of the sound team and a substitute usher at Good News Church.





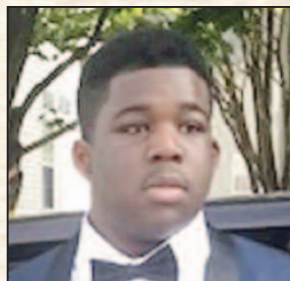
## CLASS OF 2020



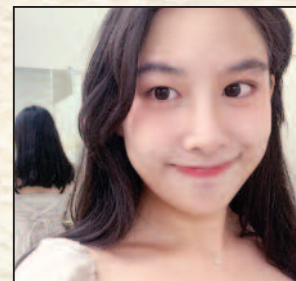
Nathan Blau  
University of Delaware



Joshua Boulet  
Penn State University



Aiden Bryant  
Delaware Technical Community  
College



Xinran Chen  
University of California  
San Diego



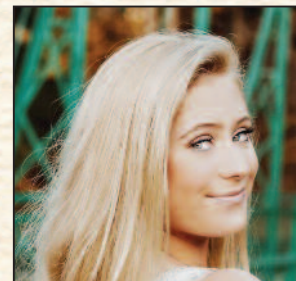
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Palm Beach Atlantic University



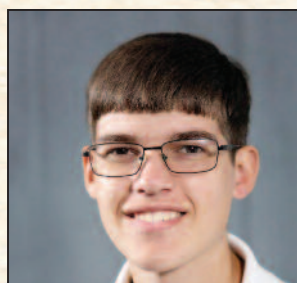
Amanda Evans  
Delaware Technical Community  
College



Yanbing Fan  
Maryland Institute College of Art



Adelayne Fennimore  
University of Delaware



William Hall  
Heavy Equipment Technician



Xia Hu  
George Washington University



Madison Johnson  
Messiah College



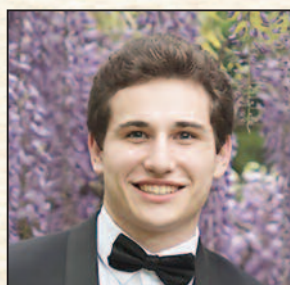
Jacob Lang  
University of Arizona



David Seeman  
Goldey Beacom



Alaina Smith  
Undecided



Joseph Starkey  
University of Delaware



Destiney Steele  
University of Delaware



Jacob Vandiver  
Liberty University



Mingyin Wang  
College of the Holy Cross



Katherine Yasik  
Temple University



Junfu Zhang  
Temple University





Christian Chijioke  
Delaware Technical  
Community College



Santigie Conteh  
University of Delaware



Symphonie Deloatch  
Salisbury University



Yuyang Du  
University of Washington



Dominic George  
Shippensburg University



Erin Geouque  
Susquehanna University



Jeremiah Glavin  
Messiah College



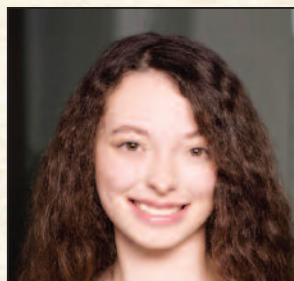
Shane Green  
Skating for Philadelphia  
Little Flyers



Charis Negley  
Taylor University



Giavanna Perrone  
Immaculata University



Mariela Rivero  
Pace University



Rylee Santillo  
College for Creative Studies



Riley Stephens  
University of Delaware



Cole Suwyn  
York College



Sophia Taylor  
West Chester University



Ivana Thompson  
Virginia Commonwealth University



Yuanyuan Zhu  
Regent University

*Therefore, as you received Christ Jesus the Lord,  
so walk in him, rooted and built up in him and established in the faith,  
just as you were taught, abounding in thanksgiving.*

*Colossians 2:6-7*



# Mariela Rivero

## VALEDICTORIAN

Good morning friends, family, staff, YouTubers, and Facebookers. Today is a special day, and so is every other day of our lives if you think about it. Each set of 24 hours, whether composed of endless school-work or hours upon hours of binging ABC's "The Office," helps us grow, changes us, becomes a part of the often undocumented timeline of our lives.

I'd like to thank God and all of you as every one of you has impacted me - whether you've lived with me since I've literally been alive, been so kind to me - going out of your way to make me feel undoubtedly welcomed as I started attending a new school my junior year, even if we've never met. You have helped shape my classmates who in turn help shape me.

There's another person I'd like to thank today - someone who has encouraged me to be all that I am to the very fullest. This man is not an idol, but he certainly has had a major impact on my life. I've been looking up to him for inspiration for a long time now. Today I thank Mr. Benjamin Franklin.

You see, my boy Ben STOPPED being formally educated at the age of 10 before beginning a printmaking apprenticeship. Throughout his life, he engaged in various activities. He published "Poor Richard's Almanac," invented the lightening rod and bifocal glasses, became one of the US's eight Founding Fathers - helping draft the Declaration of Independence and US Constitution. He even served as a diplomat to France and helped establish libraries "for the common good" in the United States. These, of course, were just a sampling of his numerous contributions to society.

What Ben Franklin was able to accomplish in his 84 years of life is mind-blowing. What most catches my attention is the vast difference between, say his scientific advancements and his political affairs. And he didn't have the opportunities we have. He couldn't look up tutorials on YouTube or WikiHow whenever he wanted, couldn't call his coworkers from anywhere in the

world using the cell phone in his pocket, wasn't able to look up scientific articles or save his files on his Google Drive. A lot of the barriers, or perhaps better labeled

"major inconveniences," that he had to deal with are not much of an issue for us today. If he was able to do all he did then, well, why can't we?

Like Franklin, I've always been interested in a variety of things. I love everything from acting and experimenting with electrical circuits and light waves to teaching children to read and playing sports. When I was little, my dream was to go to the University of Cambridge in England as an elementary education major and college cheerleader and if possible add on two more majors: math and spelling. Well, needless to say, that didn't happen. It's no longer my plan. But that doesn't mean I have to give up doing what I love. Ben Franklin--with all his limited resources--didn't just stick to just one thing. He learned across several disciplines, and somehow managed to find all of them, I'm sure "a real blast."

But becoming successful or highly engaged in more than one field is not the moral of the story. We're all heading somewhere - somewhere where we'll be offered chances to explore what we never have in ways we never knew we could. We'll be picking or forced into some lovely or perhaps boring gen. ed. classes. We'll have the chances to get involved in different clubs or events. We'll meet people and ideas that will ask us to listen and consider. What would Ben Franklin do? I think he'd go for it.

Now I'm not saying you have to book up your entire schedule. I'm simply asking you to keep an open mind. You never know how that biology class could help you



choose what headache pain reliever to take or how that choir could make you into a bolder person. That foreign-funky food in the cafeteria may turn out to be your new favorite meal and your Islamic friend may engage you in some scholarly and heartfelt discussions that lead you to become a more-informed Christian with a deeper and

stronger-rooted faith in God in order to show your friend why you believe what you believe.

Proverbs 18:15 says, "An intelligent heart acquires knowledge, and the ear of the wise seeks knowledge." A few verses before, Proverbs 18:2 reads, "A fool takes no pleasure in understanding, but only in expressing his opinion." 'His opinion' is formed from his own knowledge - his own 'take.' A fool doesn't care to consider any knowledge that doesn't come out of his own mouth.

Class of 2020, we're all stepping into uncertainty, probably more than the classes before us. Wherever we go, even if we stay right at home, sooner or later we're going to be given opportunities NOT to give up WHO we are or WHAT we enjoy, but rather to reach for bright stars we never saw before. Use the wisdom that has been instilled in you by your loved ones - family, friends, teachers, church, and of course the Bible. LET it help you discern where you want to go next and what you want to learn.

Today marks our completion of one of life's journeys and the beginning of a new road for us to travel. As Dr. Seuss said, "You have brains in your head. You have feet in your shoes. You can steer yourself any direction you choose." My fellow graduates, I wish you all God speed WHEREVER that road may take you.

# Joshua Boulet

## SALUTATORIAN



My name is Josh Boulet. Small disclaimer, I'm an opinionated person, and I knew the only way they'd let me speak is if I was salutatorian, so now they have no choice.

Today, I want to talk about Trajectory. Trajectory, gravity's rainbow, "the path followed by a projectile flying or an object moving under the action of given forces." When we came to high school, we set our trajectories. We set them with our choices, with our relationships that we make and break. In ninth grade, we were nervous, our ears were filled with scary words like, "You're not in middle school anymore," and "I'm not gonna hold your hand anymore." And so, fear drove us to work hard and establish a good trajectory, a trajectory that would carry us safely to college and the next phase of life. But as all of us know, things don't always work out so easily.

Through freshman year, we begin to get used to high school. Some of us start to talk to the scary seniors. We get into spirit week and the skits, (RIP). We learn how to get a boyfriend or a girlfriend...and then we learn how to get rid of a boyfriend or girlfriend. We get into sports and go to watch the sports teams. We do the Sound of Music and the Fine Arts Festival. We learn about Poetry Out Loud. We learn to find the shortest poems possible. We make new friends and lose friends. We make mistakes, things happen. And that original trajectory is now a little bit blurred.

But then sophomore year comes. Another chance to correct the arc. We start to feel more comfortable in high school. We begin to be able to navigate the hallways and the locker rooms. We start to prepare for the SAT and for APs. We learn to drive a car and not be dangerous, well some of us. We begin to get deeper into language classes and we learn that in German not a single rule makes any sense, just like the NFL. And we make more friends, and we lose friends. Life happens, we get sick, bad grades, infractions, facial acne. And the trajectory is thrown off.

Then junior year. "The hardest year."

We spend time telling our parents that we're studying for the SAT. We regret taking all of our APs. We're finally upper-classmen and we feel the minor effects of senioritis. We begin to be leaders in the school and on the sports field. We begin to look nervously at the distant college and majors. Our parents cringe as we say words like, "student loans," "undecided," "UCLA," or "majoring in philosophy." We start to think about our futures and what we want to do. We think about our trajectories.

Then senior year. Finally, we've arrived. We made it. There's no one over us. We apply to all our colleges, we get into some of them. And after that we get full symptoms of senioritis and completely drop off. We say things like, "This year should be the easiest. We should get some extra leash from the teachers. We're just supposed to coast now." But we soon find out that senior year is not all it is chalked up to be. We find out that it is the hardest year, by far. We find out that the spirit week skits have been cancelled. We find out that the senior trip is not what we thought it was. The Cowboys go 8-8. The Phillies didn't even make the playoffs. People decide to eat bats. Ben Simmonds still has no jump shot. We still don't know what's inside Area 51. And through a series of disappointments and troubles, the landing zone of our trajectories has become very blurred. The path that we set way back in ninth grade is now morphed, twisted, and nearly forgotten.

In College, in trade school, in the workforce, what will be the force behind your vector, what will drive your trajectory? Because in freshman year, I know that my course was driven by fear of the unknown, and that fell short. And in sophomore year, my course was driven by false knowledge, and that missed the mark. And in junior year, my course was driven by anxiety, and that fell short. And in senior year, my course was driven by pride, and that missed the mark. All these forces driving my vector, all

of them missed the mark. The bearing I chose in September of every year was something that I could never hold, something I could never complete in June.

This is where I want to take a moment to thank the work of the WCS staff and their tireless efforts to realign me and my classmates. Every day they came in and spent their energy helping to reorient our arcs. And I feel remorse in knowing that they did this for me without me showing them the right amount of respect. Without the diligence and love of the staff here at Wilmington Christian, I cannot imagine where my trajectory would have hit.

But trajectories are not just for me, and it is not just high school. Everyone here wishes they could be better. Everyone wants a better trajectory than we set for ourselves. And more importantly, God wants us to set a better trajectory. Proverbs 3:6 says, "In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths."

So in college, and at work, everywhere we go, troubles will follow us. We will never escape from them. It's very possible that Ben Simmonds will never have a jump shot. People will always find themselves doing stupid things that they regret...like eating bats. But even though troubles follow us, even though we are infected with trouble, like a virus, we must hold true to God's trajectory, the trajectory of Christ. Because that arc, that path leads to life, rest, and peace.

So this is what I want to leave you with. What is the driver, what is the force behind your vector? I have learned that the forces of fear, knowledge, anxiety, and pride will not hold the bearing that we wish for ourselves and the bearing that God wants for us. The only driver that can hold true is Christ. And in college, in life, Christ must be the compulsion that guides our trajectories. Where will you end up, if you rely on yourself? Where will you be, when your power is not enough? We will always miss the mark if we try to drive ourselves. It must be Christ.



# COMMENCEMENT



On Saturday, June 6, Wilmington Christian School graduated 37 seniors in its 42nd graduating class. This graduation was like none other in that this was the first commencement that was held outside in the school parking lot. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, state guidelines were in place regarding social gatherings. The administration had to quickly come up with a plan to celebrate the seniors and have graduation still be special. Although the setting was not traditional, the ceremony was still full of significance. Women still wore white and the men wore red gowns. As in years past, the start time remained at 10 am. There was still the playing of "Pomp and Circumstance," scripture reading, Commencement challenge word, Microcosm yearbook dedication, awards and recognitions, presentation of the Class Gift, student speeches, and of course cupcakes with the graduates' faces!

The parking lot never looked so beautiful. Large red banners with "WCS Class of 2020" hung from a light post that was centered perfectly in front of the original portion of the building. A stage was adorned with both the American and Christian Flags, flowers, and balloons. The table with the diplomas remained steady through the slightly windy, and warm day. Graduates were asked to arrive in one car with their parent(s)/guardian(s) and any other family members. They had escorted parking and reserved seating. Each family placement included five chairs which were grouped at least six feet apart to keep with social distancing guidelines. Technology played a major role in the event as well with a tech crew who broadcast the event on Facebook Live. Additionally, there was a drone flying overhead filming the event, and a professional photographer.

Before the commencement challenge, Board Chairman Mr. Mike McCudden welcomed everyone, followed by senior parent Mrs. Renae Thompson reading Colossians 2:6-7, the class's verse.

The graduating class was challenged this year with the word "Disappointment." High School Principal, Mr. Douglas Haas reminded the graduates that life is filled with disappointments, and that life is hard because





people are broken. He referenced Lamentations chapter 3, where the author, probably Jeremiah, writes “I am the man who has seen affliction...I am in darkness without any light...I am enveloped with tribulation...I am filled with bitterness...my soul is bereft of peace: I have forgotten what happiness is.” After giving several examples of disappointments, not only in his own life, but in the lives of others, Mr. Haas returned to Lamentations and said that Jeremiah adjusts his thinking about his disappointments and writes these words: “But this I call to mind, and therefore I have hope. The steadfast love of the LORD never ceases; His mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning...it is good that one should wait quietly for the salvation of the LORD.” Mr. Haas concluded by charging graduates to know the truth that “life is hard, but God is good.”

After the challenge, the faculty Yearbook dedication was given to German teacher, Mrs. Nancy Cowchok, presented by editor Erin Geouque. Student awards were then presented by Mr. Haas. Receiving the following department awards were: Charis Negley for Bible, English, and music; Rylee Santillo for science and visual arts; Yanbing “Carrie” Fan for mathematics; Josh Boulet for social studies; and Mariela Rivero for world language. Additionally, there were several athletic awards: Alaina Smith received the Chris Landa Memorial scholarship; Madison Johnson and Shane Green received Outstanding Athlete Awards; and Erin Geouque and Alaina Smith were recognized by the NFHCA National Academic Squad. Students received additional awards, detailed in the printed program.

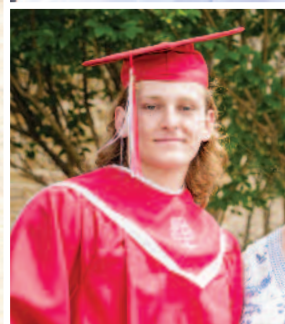
Before the valedictorian speech, senior advisor Nancy Cowchok recognized the senior class officers: Ivana Thompson, President; Rylee Santillo, Vice President; Giavanna Perrone, Secretary; Santigie Conteh, Treasurer; and Charis Negley, Sargeant-at-Arms. For the senior class gift, Ivana Thompson presented Chromebooks for WCS students to use for online learning.

Immediately following the senior gift, the valedictorian, Mariela Rivero, spoke humorously about people she admires and wants to thank. She thanked Benjamin Franklin and spoke at length about his accomplishments, and how he overcame many frustrations. Despite not

having the resources we have today, such as the internet, Franklin was able to make advancements. She mentioned the barriers that he would have had to overcome. Mariela then commented on her personal life and the many things she was interested in during her adolescent years. She alluded that Franklin was able to be engaged in multiple disciplines, but the moral of her speech was not to get involved in everything. She said that keeping an open mind could help graduates in life. Mariela referenced Proverbs 18:2 and 18:15 which speak of not being foolish and seeking knowledge. She said that the class of 2020 is stepping into uncertainty, probably more than other classes. She concluded by advising the class to use the wisdom that has been instilled in them from family, friends, and the Bible and to let it discern where they want to go next.

Salutatorian Joshua Boulet approached the podium and gave a disclaimer that “he is an opinionated person, and that he knew the only way he would be able to speak is if he were salutatorian, so they have no choice.” With laughter from the crowd, Josh spoke about trajectory. After giving the definition, he explained how coming into high school the graduates set their trajectories. He eloquently spoke of the different events throughout high school, and how the trajectory gets blurred because high school was not what it was supposed to be. He rhetorically asked the class what will drive their trajectory. He referenced Proverbs 3:6, but finished by saying that “in life, Christ must be the compulsion that drives our trajectories.” He reminded them that they will always miss the mark if they rely on themselves.

Senior parent, Chris Johnson prayed over the class that they may be a light to their friends in these uncertain times. He challenged them to look past outward appearances, but look inward. He prayed, “May the Lord turn His face to you and give you peace.”





Ivana Thompson, Charis Negley, and Riley Stephens gave the final student addresses. Ivana's speech went down memory lane and referenced how there have been disappointments throughout the years. She mentioned even though things have not been what they wanted to be their senior year, she said, "Let's not think about it as a bad ending to a book, but rather, a bad cliffhanger in a chapter." She encouraged them to take heart because God is not done with them yet and still has a plan. She concluded with Psalm 16:7-11.

After she was seated, Charis Negley gave her speech about how theater has been a major part of her life. She alluded to a time she was singing in a musical, and the accompanying music stopped. She said that although that was a scary moment, it allowed her voice to work at its own pace. She said that there will come a time that the music will cut out, and it will be scary because they may feel alone. She referenced Psalm 139 and how God will be with them even during those times when they feel alone.

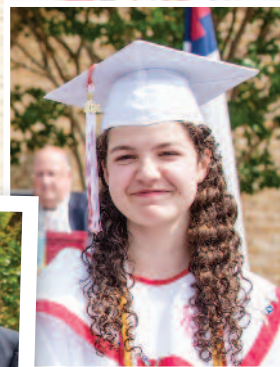
When Riley stepped to the podium she thanked the graduates, teachers, and family. She referenced Proverbs 22:6, "Train up a child in the way in which he should go...." She mentioned that although they did not get

everything they expected during their senior year, that God is still faithful. She said that for her, senior year seemed like a competition. She found that she was seeking the approval of man and that she was buckling under the pressure. When COVID-19 came, the pressure was taken off her. She ended with 1 Corinthians 1:10 and Galatians 6:14 by reminding the graduates that we need to boast in Jesus Christ and not ourselves.

A new portion of the ceremony was that the graduates went to the podium where their parents or guardians handed them their diplomas.

After the commencement, the graduates turned their tassels and then tossed their caps in the air, becoming the 42nd graduating class of Wilmington Christian School.

*Celinda Conteh*  
HS English  
Teacher



## GYM UPDATE

Normally the end of the school year quickly gives way to a full schedule of summer camps and lots of activity on the WCS campus. This year, while we awaited guidance on opening our facility safely, our Athletic Director and volunteers took advantage of the opportunity to do what many of us have done during quarantine – "home" improvements. When you walk into the High School Gym this fall, you may not recognize it! With input from our staff and athletes, a new design for the gym quickly went from a sketch to reality. A new and vibrant color scheme has transformed the space in a matter of weeks. With so much positive feedback, the new look has also taken over the entire athletic hallway giving our athletes an updated space of which they can be proud.





# HALF A CENTURY OF IMPACTING LIVES FOR CHRIST

*Mr. David Bird will begin his 50th year of teaching in a Christian school this September (since 1984 at WCS). During that time he has taught mostly English classes and has coached various sports. We have asked him to give us some thoughts on entering the 2020-2021 school year.*

Here is the main thing you obviously remember after 49 years of teaching in the classroom: the students. In the two Christian schools where I have taught, so many stand out. I'll just give you a representative list:

Jennifer A. (Pre WCS): She was UVA's top medical student and then went with her doctor husband as a missionary doctor to the middle of nowhere in Uganda where she and her husband still are after 30 years.

Eric P.: He read novels to and from soccer games is what I remember—and would have read during half time if I had let him. After getting a doctorate, he has taught for more than 30 years at an elite Christian college.

T.J.H.: He was a top engineering student at university, but has spent his whole career working for Navigators on university campuses.

Jimmy W. and Karen E.: They are missionaries in Africa.

Ryan and Melanie G.; Scott and Jessica K.: After university, both couples went to Asia as missionaries.

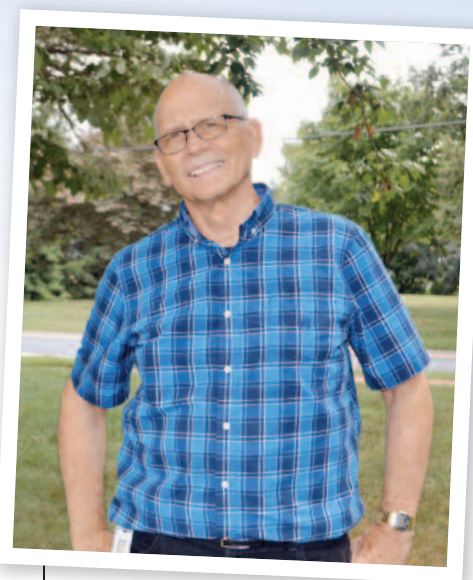
Do you notice a theme here? Very exceptionally bright students who didn't say, "How can I make the most money?" but "How can I use my talents to serve Christ?" What has been great about teaching at WCS has been to see the school nurture this kind of commitment.

But that brings up an interesting question that I got answered all the way back in my college years by the Christian philosopher, Francis Schaeffer: Can the world's

vocations be divided into Christian vocations and secular vocations? Do those serve God best who become missionaries? When I went to Christian summer camp in high school, we were asked to raise our hands if we wanted to go into full time Christian service. Many raised their hands. If we were not doing full time Christian work ourselves we were told, we could at least witness for Christ at work or help support missionaries as our contribution. Then, in the late 1960's, Schaeffer lectured at my college and others with the message that all work can be done for God's glory. It is an old idea from the Reformation, but had been lost over the years. That means that the task itself is done as a service to God. Here is the difference it make in the life of a worker: I remember hearing one time during the Soviet era that one way agents could tell if people were Christians was that the Christians worked as if they were dedicated to a moral code that caused them to do the work with integrity and that caused them to see the task itself as meaningful.

So I am glad to say that I have also known WCS students who have become a number of full time Christian vocations: a pig farmer, a welder, a fireman, a house builder, a computer technician. Soli Deo Gloria.

Of course, when you have taught high school for 50 years, you have a few favorite anecdotes that make you smile. I remember the soccer game to which one of our parents brought his dog which got loose and got into a brawl in the middle of the field



with another dog. I remember the girl who decided to donate blood the day before the state meet where she was to run a 1600 meter relay. I remember Beth P and Mary McD who wrote an elegy to a fly I killed in the classroom, unfortunately my breaking an overhead lamp in the process. (Having lived in Africa, I have a lifelong obsession with eliminating any flies in the room. If only we could still use DDT.)

The main things, though, are these: First, fifty years of work is all meaningless as the writer of Ecclesiastes—and in the 20th century, Sartre and Camus—would say, unless there is a Heaven and Hell and a moral law giver. I pray that all of those I have met along the way have found their work to be meaningful. Second, I've been to a lot of reunions, but the only really important one will be in Heaven. So to all of you alums, I am hoping for a grand reunion in Heaven. And by the way, if at that time you still remember the poem by Gerard Manley Hopkins called "Pied Beauty" that is my all time favorite poem, we will recite it together.



## THE MASK MAKERS

"The Mask Makers," WCS sophomores Amanda M., Emma D., and Ava K. spent time during their summer vacation sewing. The young women made over 100 face masks, which were distributed at a Wilmington Parks and Recreation emergency feeding site. We are proud of these ladies for seeing a need during the COVID-19 pandemic and making a difference in their community!



### FOCUS ON ALUMN:

*Lauren Tideman*



Lauren Tideman is a proud 2010 graduate of WCS. After graduation, Lauren attended Houghton College and graduated with a B.A.. While in college, Lauren discovered her love for linguistics through a class taught by members of Wycliffe Bible Translators. By the end of her senior year, Lauren felt the Lord leading her to join Wycliffe Bible Translators. For the next two years she served on a language survey team in Tanzania. After returning to the States, Lauren then pursued her M.A. in Linguistics at Trinity Western University.

During her college years and work with Wycliffe, Lauren realized she wanted to show minority communities their value and God's love for them by valuing their language. Lauren saw that many of these people think God doesn't speak their language. She saw these communities being marginalized and unable to use their language in society or to receive education in their own

language. She wanted to use her linguistic training to help show people God's Word in a form they could understand.

Lauren's passion for the Lord and for language development is what led her to join Wycliffe Bible Translators full-time. God has taught Lauren that this is His work, not hers. She knows that she can trust Him and not rely on her own plans and abilities. She feels blessed that God has given her this new opportunity to influence others for Christ.

Lauren is now preparing for a role that supports Bible translation, language development, and Scripture engagement. She will be working with the Roma community in the Balkans region.

Please be praying for Lauren and her future teammates as they wait and prepare to move to a new place. Pray that God will prepare a way for them through visa arrangements, travel plans, housing details, and community connections.

If you would like to follow Lauren on her new path or support her financially, visit her personal page through Wycliffe, <https://www.wycliffe.org/partner/tideman>.



### CLASS OF 2015

attending Gregory Driscoll Wedding

Top Row- David Robinson, Tyler Smith, Chase Wilkinson, Luke Muller, Michael Palermo, Elias Reed, Nathan Volz  
Bottom- Jamie Gree, Derek Needham, Gregory Driscoll (groom), Katie Stonkus (Needham), Amanda Nashed, Sydney Foster



WILLIAM J. HARDEN II

2020 ALUMNUS  
OF THE YEAR

*"Bill, through both direct instruction and his own example, has taught me countless lessons on how to live out my faith in a secular professional setting."*

Join us in celebrating the 2020 Distinguished Alumni Award Recipient, Mr. William J. Harden II.

Bill, who attends Brandywine Valley Baptist Church, was born and raised in Wilmington and graduated from WCS in 1981. Bill later earned a BS in Business Administration from Goldey-Beacom College, married Mary, and then was accepted into the New Castle County Police Academy.

During his nearly 24 years of service with the New Castle County Police Department, Bill was assigned to multiple operational and administrative positions, obtained his MA in Educational Technology at Wilmington University, and rose to the rank of Senior Lieutenant.

After his retirement from the force, Bill worked as a Program Manager for the Police Athletic League of Delaware, developing and implementing educational and athletic programming for at-risk youth, while acquiring over \$1 million in grant funding to support these activities.

Bill currently works as the Lead Instructor for the Delaware Session of the Command & Leadership Program, which functions to develop Public Safety leaders from DE, NJ, MD, and PA through college level courses derived from

the United States Military Academy at West Point.

A WCS alum who has worked under Bill's leadership had this to say about him:

"In my professional career as a police officer and now police supervisor, I have had no other single greater professional influence. Bill, through both direct instruction and his own example, has taught me countless lessons on how to live out my faith in a secular professional setting."

This individual goes on to say that in the one-on-one conversations he has had with Bill, that, "it was during these private conversations that I heard perhaps some of the most important things I've learned from Bill in the time I've known him: that it was his faith in the Lord that shaped the way he led and carried him through tough times as a leader, such as the line-of-duty murder of a colleague in 2011."

Clearly Bill Harden embodies the WCS mission of being a mature Godly influencer, and WCS is honored to recognize his legacy of servant-leadership in our community.