

Tue., August 25 – Bluffton (Ohio) University

Remember Bluffton University faculty/staff on retreat today for a time of connection and focus as they enter this new academic season.

Wed., August 26 – Bethel College, North Newton, Kan.

Pray for faculty and staff instructors and examiners for Bethel College's senior capstone course, "Basic Issues of Faith and Life," as they spend today together working with the texts, Dietrich Bonhoeffer's *Cost of Discipleship* and the Gospel of Matthew, and preparing for the year.

Thu., August 27 – Instituto Bíblico Anabautista (IBA)

Pray for Tony Brun who will teach the IBA course, "Acts: the first communities of faith," to the students of the Iglesia Cristiana Ebenezer study center in Apopka, Fla., tomorrow through Sunday. Pray that Tony's teaching will bless the students, their congregation and community. May God grant him wisdom as he teaches this course and for safe travel.

Fri., August 28 – Associated Mennonite Biblical Seminary, Elkhart, Ind.

Pray that God will bless the new year for Associated Mennonite Biblical Seminary and will guide faculty and staff who meet today in the first gathering of the school year.

Sat., August 29 – Eastern Mennonite University, Harrisonburg, Va.

Pray for each new and transfer student at EMU as they make the transition from being in their home communities to a new community of faith and learning.

WEEK OF AUGUST 30-31

Suggested bulletin announcement for August 30: Pray for the students in this year's Parables Worship Team at Goshen College—Emily Bowman, Aaron Kaufmann, Molly Kellogg, Jay Mast, Rachel Nafziger, Reuben Sancken, Allen Shenk and Ashley Walker—as they begin leading worship services on campus and around the community. Ask the Spirit to develop their gifts throughout this year, and ask that congregations will be blessed and inspired by what the students offer.

Daily prayers:

Sun., August 30 – Bluffton (Ohio) University

Pray for students, faculty, administration and staff as classes begin tomorrow on the Bluffton University campus.

Mon., August 31 – Goshen (Ind.) College

Classes begin this evening for the 2009-2010 school year at Goshen College. With the largest incoming class in years and many transfer students, pray for a sense of community on campus. Ask a special blessing on those who are worried about being away from home and familiar routines. Pray for openness to new learning and discovery of gifts.

Mennonite Education Agency, the Mennonite Church USA agency that works with school-based education, brings you prayer requests from our preschools, elementary and secondary schools, colleges and universities, seminaries, and various programs that work to strengthen the church through education. If you are interested in receiving a free subscription to Prayers for Faith and Learning, e-mail or call Mennonite Education Agency. *Thank you for joining us in these prayers for faith and learning.*

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The education agency of
Mennonite Church USA

AUGUST 2009 PRAYERS FOR FAITH AND LEARNING

WEEK OF AUGUST 1

Daily prayers:

Sat., August 1 – Lancaster (Pa.) Mennonite School

Pray for families considering enrollment at LMS for the 2009-2010 school year. Pray that they will take advantage of the Christ-centered value that LMS adds to education.

WEEK OF AUGUST 2-8

Suggested bulletin announcement for August 2: Pray that parents will utilize opportunities to feed children's souls as they explore the wonders of the earth beneath their feet, the plants and animals surrounding them, the warmth of the sun, the cooling breeze and refreshing rain enjoyed in puddles, pools and lakes, and as they reflect on God's greatness while gazing at the lights of the nighttime sky. (Mennonite Early Childhood Network)

Daily prayers:

Sun., August 2 – Bethel College, North Newton, Kan.

Pray for smooth staff transitions in the Bethel College Office of Institutional Communications, especially for Erin Myrtle as she settles into the communication coordinator position.

Mon., August 3 – Eastern Mennonite University, Harrisonburg, Va.

Thank God for the work and ministry of Steve Benson, men's and women's volleyball coach at EMU, as he guides and mentors youth this week during volleyball camp.

Tue., August 4 – Associated Mennonite Biblical Seminary, Elkhart, Ind.

Ask God to bless David B. Miller and guide his preparations for teaching as he joins the faculty of Associated Mennonite Biblical Seminary as director of missional leadership development.

Wed., August 5 – Lancaster (Pa.) Mennonite School

Praise God for senior presentations that gave us a glimpse of the holistic growth students have experienced during their years at Lancaster Mennonite School.

Thu., August 6 – Eastern Mennonite University, Harrisonburg, Va.

Invite God to be fully present with Dr. Fred Kniss, Provost of EMU, as he begins his work and ministry in this role.

Fri., August 7 – Lancaster (Pa.) Mennonite School

Pray for the teachers who will develop an exciting new curriculum in the Lancaster Mennonite High School social studies and Bible department over the summer.

Sat., August 8 – Mennonite Education Agency

Pray for MEA staff—Carlos Romero, Tim Burkholder, and Rafael Barahona—as they travel to three different conference meetings this weekend. Pray for formal and informal opportunities to discuss Mennonite education with those from Allegheny, Mountain States and Western District.

WEEK OF AUGUST 9-15

Suggested bulletin announcement for August 9: Pray for a smooth transition for Dr. Conrad Swartzentruber, the new Christopher Dock Mennonite High School principal and for students, faculty and staff as they begin the 2009-2010 school year. Pray also for Elaine Moyer, the former principal, as she continues to transition into her new role as associate director for MEA.

Daily prayers:

Sun., August 9 – Bethel College, North Newton, Kan.

Pray for first-year students preparing to enter Bethel College, and their parents, as they prepare for this significant milestone.

Mon., August 10 – Lancaster (Pa.) Mennonite School

Praise God that Lancaster Mennonite Schools' PreK program is now licensed by the state of Pennsylvania and that this will provide the possibility of securing more grants for PreK students and expanding the school's missional reach.

Tue., August 11 – Goshen (Ind.) College

Pray for the staff of the physical plant and grounds crew at Goshen College as they make final preparations for the 2009-2010 school year. Give thanks for all those who paint, clean, weed, fix, move, install, mow and more to make sure the campus is ready when students arrive.

Wed., August 12 – Hesston (Kan.) College

Pray for David Greiser, director of Hesston College's Pastoral Ministries program, who is beginning his last semester at Hesston College and preparing to return to the role of pastor. Pray for those searching for a new director for this important program.

Thu., August 13 – Mennonite Schools Council

Pray for the Mennonite Educators Conference Planning Committee as they prepare for this event, February 4-6, 2010. Pray that God will lead as they finalize details for this conference of Mennonite Schools Council teachers.

Fri., August 14 – Bluffton (Ohio) University

Pray for new Bluffton University students and family members attending an all day orientation as the students prepare to join the campus community for the 2009-2010 year of learning and discovery.

Sat., August 15 – Eastern Mennonite University, Harrisonburg, Va.

Ask God's Spirit to embrace each new faculty and staff member at EMU as they prepare to begin their work of guiding and mentoring students to serve and lead around the world.

WEEK OF AUGUST 16-22

Suggested bulletin announcement for August 16: Pray for teachers, professors, staff and administrators of Mennonite educational institutions who begin a new academic year this month. Pray that they can ignite the excitement of learning in students.

Daily prayers:

Sun., August 16 – Lancaster (Pa.) Mennonite School

Pray for the congregations that partner with Lancaster Mennonite School to nurture students and faculty.

Mon., August 17 – Goshen (Ind.) College

Pray for Goshen College student teachers as they begin orientation tomorrow and prepare to enter local K-12 schools and gain hands-on experience on "the other side of the desk." Ask God to grant them confidence, energy, compassion and wisdom.

Tue., August 18 – Eastern Mennonite University and Seminary, Harrisonburg, Va.

Pray for the faculty and staff of EMU and EMS that they have the wisdom, vision, courage and grace to live out the mission of the university.

Wed., August 19 – Goshen (Ind.) College

Pray for the annual Goshen College faculty retreat today and tomorrow for worship, work, discussion and play. Pray for shared vision and trust among faculty and administrators. Pray for Jim Brenneman and other campus leaders as they prepare for the year ahead.

Thu., August 20 – Bethel College, North Newton, Kan.

Pray for new faculty at Bethel College who start orientation today, and for all Bethel College faculty and staff as they meet for the annual fall retreat tomorrow.

Fri., August 21 – Hesston (Kan.) College

Pray for students and parents during Hesston College's Opening Weekend. Pray that this time will offer many opportunities for new students to get to know others on campus, enjoy the activities together, and begin this important transition.

Sat., August 22 – Bluffton (Ohio) University

Remember the Bluffton University campus ministry staff, Tig Intagliata, Jeff Boehr and student hall chaplains as they spend time in retreat, training and worship this weekend in preparation for students arriving for fall classes.

WEEK OF AUGUST 23-29

Suggested bulletin announcement for August 23: Pray for new and returning students to Mennonite elementary and secondary schools, colleges, universities and seminaries. Pray that they may experience God's nudge during the learning process and grow in their understanding of and commitment to Christ.

Daily prayers:

Sun., August 23 – Associated Mennonite Biblical Seminary, Elkhart, Ind.

Give thanks for Sharon Baker, full-time volunteer at Associated Mennonite Biblical Seminary for the last seven years. Pray for blessings as she returns to her home in Colorado, and for Sam and Helen Lapp who are new volunteers.

Mon., August 24 – Bluffton (Ohio) University

Pray for the retreat and preparation time for Bluffton University resident hall advisors, hall directors and student life staff this week.