

Prayers for Mennonite Education

October 2021

Daily prayers for October 1 – 31, 2021

1. **Goshen (IN) College:** Pray for Goshen College alumni and families as they reconnect during Homecoming Weekend.

Hillcrest Academy, Kalona, IA: Pray for our Homecoming & Alumni Family Weekend along with all the activities associated with it. We are hopeful to host events in a traditional way all while keeping everyone comfortable and safe.
2. **Bluffton (OH) University:** Please pray for Bluffton's adult students who are transitioning into their second classes of the semester. We pray that advanced education will make a difference in their lives and in the wellbeing of their communities.

Lancaster (PA) Mennonite School: October 1 and 2 is Homecoming and Fall Festival weekend at Lancaster Mennonite School. Pray for a good time of celebration, fun and catching up with former classmates. Give thanks for the many lives enriched by years spent at Lancaster Mennonite.
3. **Bethel College, North Newton, KS:** Thank God for the gifts and dedication of Bethel College 2021 alumni award winners Steve Friesen (Distinguished Achievement) and Jennifer Scott Koontz (Outstanding Alumnus), who will be honored at the Alumni Banquet this evening, as well as Young Alumnus Joel Gaeddert.

Central Christian School, Kidron, OH: Pray for our middle school teachers as they start the year in displaced classrooms.
4. **Bluffton (OH) University:** This week, students who went on cross-cultural experiences over the summer months will share during Forum. Pray for the health and safety of all Bluffton students during their cross-cultural experiences and that the experience helps them develop an ethic of justice, service and peacemaking.

Lancaster (PA) Mennonite School: Give thanks for all the administrative assistants, maintenance, custodial and food service staff at Lancaster Mennonite School as they continue to spend many hours working to provide a safe environment for all students, faculty and staff.
5. **Eastern Mennonite School, Harrisonburg, VA:** The EMHS class of 2022 will visit government sites, museums, and build relationships during fun activities in Washington, DC, COVID permitting. Pray for strengthening bonds that will last a lifetime.

Bethel College, North Newton, KS: Pray for Bethel College instructor of music Kristopher Hilding and the Wind Ensemble as they give their first in-person performance since fall 2019.

7. **Eastern Mennonite University, Harrisonburg, VA:** Pray that the 113 students involved in fall sports at EMU may enjoy the fruits of their hard work and the joys of being among teammates.

Lancaster (PA) Mennonite School:
Pray for parent-teacher conferences taking place on Oct. 7 and 8 at Lancaster Mennonite School. These are important times for parents and teachers to talk together to ensure students are receiving the education and care that they need.
8. **Dock Mennonite Academy, Lansdale, PA:** Please pray for Dock's Fall Homecoming Weekend & Open House as outdoor plans come together for this big, annual event.
9. **Hinkletown Mennonite School, Ephrata, PA:** Please pray for the community that will gather for Hinkletown Mennonite School's annual HinkleFEST & Benefit Auction. May community members feel the hospitality of HMS and may the event support education at HMS.
10. **Bluffton (OH) University:** This week first-year students at Bluffton head to the Great Smoky Mountains for the Great Adventure. Please pray for them as they contemplate the big questions in life such as "Who am I?" and "What values do I live by?"

Central Christian School, Kidron, OH:
Pray for our athletes as they compete and connect as a team.
11. **Goshen (IN) College:** Today, the Goshen College community celebrates Indigenous Peoples Day, exploring our past, present and future together on this good earth.

Quakertown (PA) Christian School:
Quakertown Christian School prays for God's blessing during our in-service on Oct. 11th where we will work on our Restorative Discipline policy. We recognize that Jesus would model this approach of reconciliation as we work to emulate his love towards others.
12. **Bethany Christian Schools, Goshen, IN:** Pray for Bethany Christian Schools parents and teachers meeting in conferences Oct. 12-13 as they together work at the task of educating youth and nurturing them in faith.

Bethel College, North Newton, KS:
Pray for Bethel College Director of Annual Giving Ashleigh Hollis as she coordinates the 2nd annual Cornerstone Day, a special online giving event.
13. **Dock Mennonite Academy, Lansdale, PA:** Please pray for the health and safety of all Dock faculty, staff & students as cooler temperature settle in during the Fall season.
14. **Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary, Elkhart, IN:** Pray for participants in Rooted and Grounded: A Conference on Land and Christian Discipleship (Oct. 14–16; hybrid format) as they explore ways to heal and renew people's relationship to the land. May they gain wisdom and connections that they can use in their areas of influence.

15. **Eastern Mennonite University, Harrisonburg, VA:** Pray that alumni, families and friends participating in Eastern Mennonite University's homecoming and family weekend are inspired and blessed by experiencing the EMU community.

Mennonite Early Childhood Network: "Where Does It Hurt?," the theme of the 30th ecumenical Children's Sabbath, October 15-17, 2021, recommends listening, learning, and acting with and for children. Pray that teachers and other adults may hear the cries of children and respond with compassionate hearts leading to the fulfillment of God's vision of justice for all children to have adequate food, water, health care, shelter, security and quality education.

Quakertown (PA) Christian School: Quakertown Christian School will celebrate our 70th Anniversary during our Homecoming Weekend on Oct. 15 and 16. We give thanks to God for walking with us throughout our history!

16. **Eastern Mennonite School, Harrisonburg, VA:** Eastern Mennonite School's students, families, alumni and friends gather this weekend for Homecoming activities as COVID-19 allows. Pray for safety and renewed relationships.

Mennonite Early Childhood Network: Pray that adults leading lives of faith in action will guide young children to extend love, justice and equality for all through inclusive friendships, , positive interaction, sympathetic assistance when needed, enabling all children to reach their God-given potential.

17. **Bluffton (OH) University:** Please pray for Bluffton's sophomore students who are beginning their field experiences for their Learning in Community class. The goal of this class is to help students find ways to make a difference in their communities, no matter their major.

18. **Goshen (IN) College:** Pray for Goshen College students as they enjoy a much-needed fall break.

West Fallowfield Christian School, Atglen, PA: Please pray for the health and safety of our staff, students and families. Please also pray for strong enrollment.

Hillcrest Academy, Kalona, IA: Pray for the health and safety of all our fall student athletes, their coaches, and fans. As we compete in volleyball and cross-country, may we be an example of grace and sportsmanship to the community around us.

19. **Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary, Elkhart, IN:** Give thanks for *Leaving Silence: Sexualized Violence, the Bible, and Standing with Survivors* (Herald, 2021), a new book by AMBS Assistant Professor Susannah Larry, PhD, that connects survivors of sexualized violence in the Bible with survivors today. May it lead to fruitful and healing conversations within and beyond the church.

20. **Eastern Mennonite University, Harrisonburg, VA:** Pray for the EMU students traveling to Harlan, Kentucky, to serve with SWAP for the Y-Serve fall break service trip.

21. **Kraybill Mennonite School, Mount Joy, PA:** Today is Race for Education, a community-building event as students, staff, and families work together to raise funds for our school and enjoy our collective school life together.
22. **MEA's Hispanic Bible Institute/ Instituto Bíblico Anabautista (IBA):** Pray for the IBA students in the Study Center at Encuentro de Renovacion Mennonite Church in Miami FL who are starting the course Introduction to the New Testament. Pray for Teresa Perez-Soto and Andres Mendoza, tutors. May God give Teresa and Andres wisdom and guidance as they lead the weekly classes. May this ministry continue to be of blessings for the students, the congregation and community.
23. **Bethany Christian Schools, Goshen, IN:** Pray for the board of Bethany Christian Schools as they provide vision and oversight for the school.
- Central Christian School, Kidron, OH:** Pray for our renovation workers for safety and efficiency.
24. **Bluffton (OH) University:** Please pray for Bluffton University's music and theatre students as they begin performing fall concerts and the fall play.
- Hesston (KS) College:** Please pray for continued discernment and wisdom on the part of Hesston College faculty and administrators as they continue to grow and evolve the college's academic offerings.
25. **Dock Mennonite Academy, Lansdale, PA:** Please pray for Mini-Term and the Senior Kingdom Living Experience this week.
26. **Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary, Elkhart, IN:** Pray for participants in Knowing Your Narrative: Unpacking Our Stories of Masculinity and Equity, a three-part series of Mennonite Men and AMBS that begins today. May they grow in understanding how they've been shaped by masculine messaging and in developing a more inclusive and holistic masculine identity.
- Shalom Christian Academy, Chambersburg, PA:** Shalom seniors will be on mission trip to Kentucky, October 26 - November 4. Pray that we will make wise decisions surrounding health and safety. Pray for protection, class unity, and open hearts so that they are enriched by the experience.
27. **Hinkletown Mennonite School, Ephrata, PA:** Pray for the grandparents who will gather at Hinkletown Mennonite School today for Grandparents Day. May the day celebrate students' families.
28. **MEA' Hispanic Anabaptist Biblical Seminary/ Seminario Bíblico Anabautista Hispano (SeBAH):** We ask for prayer for the professor and SeBAH students. In October, the trimester begins with the class "Jesus and the Synoptic Gospels." Enrollment of over 16 pastors and other church leaders is expected.

29. **Bethany Christian Schools, Goshen, IN:** Pray for the senior class as they plan and carry out the semiannual fish fry to raise funds for their class trip.

Kraybill Mennonite School, Mount Joy, PA: Staff will participate in activities that continue to build on strong relationships and collaboration among the staff. We are blessed with an amazing staff team that God has brought together.

30. **Bethel College, North Newton, KS:** Pray for Bethel College students and staff on a busy day that sees men's and women's soccer, men's and women's basketball, football and volleyball teams in action, and admissions hosting a Senior Visit Day.

Central Christian School, Kidron, OH: Pray for us as we grow Christian leaders who know Christ and make Christ known.

31. **Freeman (SD) Academy:** We ask for prayers for peace and understanding as the pandemic continues. We are grateful for the talented faculty and staff that continue to shape the young lives in our school. We also are grateful for the amazing students that brighten each day.

Hesston (KS) College: Please pray for Hesston's commuter students as they balance the challenges of attending classes while dealing with COVID realities at home.

Mennonite Education Agency (MEA), is the education agency of Mennonite Church USA. These prayer requests were gathered from across all levels of Mennonite education, from early childhood programs through grade 12 schools, undergraduate schools, graduate schools and seminaries, and MEA's Hispanic Ministries' Anabaptist seminary and Bible institute. By partnering with these schools and educational programs and helping them flourish, MEA works to strengthen the church through education. Thank you for joining us in prayer for the schools. To subscribe to this monthly publication, please contact JoleneV@MennoniteEducation.org or 574-343-1310. www.MennoniteEducation.org