Mennonite Education Agency

Monday, May 1

Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary,

Elkhart, Indiana: Please pray for participants in Ministry Integrity Circles, an AMBS program in which pastors going through significant transitions meet with peers and experienced consultants for guided conversation and reflection.

Bethel College, North Newton, Kansas: Give

thanks for music instructor and band leader Brad Shores, as he directs his final Steel Drum Band concert at Bethel College before retiring and moving on to new adventures.

Tuesday, May 2

Hesston (Kansas) College: Please pray for the Hesston College community as faculty, staff and students begin processing the recently released report regarding the college's Title IX-related safety policies, practices and procedures and begin to take action to implement the report's recommendations to better support our students. Pray for wisdom as they work together to rebuild trust, enhance student support measures, and further the college's mission to educate and nurture each student in a Christcentered community.

Lezha (Albania) Academic Center: Principal Klementina Shahini is traveling to Croatia today to participate in the European Summit, a gathering of churches, ministries, and businesses. Pray for good meetings as they connect with other missions and missionaries in Europe to share what God is doing. Pray that they will find more ways and strategies to work together for God's Kingdom.

Wednesday, May 3

Bluffton (Ohio) University: Bluffton University students are taking their final exams for the spring semester this week. Please pray for their physical, mental, and spiritual well-being during this stressful time. Please pray for graduates and their families who may be traveling far distances to celebrate their students.

Prayer Requests

May 2023

Mennonite Early Childhood Network: Spring

is upon us and children are experiencing the wonder of God's creation as they spend more time outdoors. Pray that we may support children in the discovery of the world God has provided for us. May we teach our children to respect and care for the world that has been given to us.

Thursday, May 4

Central Christian School, Kidron, Ohio: Please pray for our Middle School cast performing "Alice in Wonderland" May 5-6. Pray for good health, recall of their lines, and warm spirits.

The City School, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania: Please pray for our hiring needs: new teachers and an upper campus principal.

MEA's Hispanic Ministries: Please pray for Director Marco Güete and his wife Sandra as they prepare to continue their pilgrimage along *el Camino de Santiago* (the Way of Saint James) in Spain to raise awareness and funds for MEA's Hispanic Anabaptist Bible Institute, known as IBA (*Instituto Bíblico Anabautista*). Pray for strength and stamina on their journey. Please also pray over the IBA program: the students, tutors, and host congregations.

Friday, May 5

Bethany Christian Schools, Goshen, Indiana:

Pray for Bethany Christian Middle School as they will be performing their play, *Camelot and Camelittle*, today and tomorrow, May 5 & 6.

Eastern Mennonite University,

Harrisonburg, Virginia: Please pray for our students and faculty as they finish up the semester and embark on their summer endeavors.

Shalom Christian School, Chambersburg,

Pennsylvania: Our major school fundraiser,
Dutchfest, is today and tomorrow: May 5 &
6. Pray that there will be a spirit of cooperation and support for the school.

Saturday, May 6

Hillcrest Academy, Kalona, Iowa: We are grateful for another opportunity to host our Jr/Sr Banquet today in historic fashion! Pray for wisdom and safety as our students enjoy the special evening together.

Quakertown (Pennsylvania) Christian

School: We pray for the participants of our Community Day. Pray for good weather, fellowship, and friendships as we open our doors to all!

Sunday, May 7

Bethel College, North Newton, Kansas: Celebrate God's leading with Michael Unruh, Bethel College campus pastor, and the Bethel community at Michael's ordination this afternoon.

Goshen (Indiana) College: Pray for Goshen College athletes, specifically baseball, softball and track & field, whose seasons come to a close this month.

Monday, May 8

Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary, Elkhart, Indiana: Please pray for participants in AMBS's supervised Spiritual Direction: Mystery seminar as they meet for the last time this year. Give thanks for their growth as spiritual directors as they have accompanied people on their spiritual journeys.

Goshen (Indiana) College: Pray for Goshen College students as they begin May term, either on campus or off campus at Merry Lea Environmental Learning Center or the Florida Keys, and for those learning virtually.

Quakertown (Pennsylvania) Christian

School: We give thanks to ALL our teachers as we celebrate them during this week of appreciation. We pray God's blessing over our faculty and give thanks as they teach the love of Jesus to our students.

Tuesday, May 9

Central Christian School, Kidron, Ohio: We pray God will make our students outstanding leaders and imitators of Christ's character, and to be secure in their faith.

Hinkletown Mennonite School, Ephrata,

Pennsylvania: Hinkletown Mennonite School is holding Servathon Week. Please pray for safety and a good learning opportunity as the students experience the value of serving others firsthand. Pray that students understand the deeper reason for serving as we follow the example that Jesus demonstrated and serve with agape love for others.

UMEI Christian High School, Leamington, Ontario: All our students and staff are headed out for year-end trips May 9-12. Prayers for safe travels and time for fellowship and learning.

Wednesday, May 10

Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary, Elkhart, Indiana: Give thanks for endowed scholarships such as the Darrell W. Fast Scholarship — which has benefited three graduate students since its inception after Darrell's death in 2017 — and for donors who generously contribute funds for continued student support.

Hesston (Kansas) College: Please pray for Hesston students as they take their final exams. Pray that they may have confidence in the face of test anxieties, that the knowledge they have gained will stay fresh in their minds, and that they can enjoy the last few days of the 2022-2023 academic year despite the mixed feelings that come with the ending of any chapter.

Thursday, May 11

Bluffton (Ohio) University: Please pray for Bluffton University graduates. Pray that those entering the workforce find careers that are not only jobs but vocations. Pray for our students who will continue their studies in graduate school. Pray for our graduates who are entering voluntary service that they may faithfully serve the community and the world.

Dock Mennonite Academy Early Childhood to Grade 8 Campus, Lansdale, Pennsylvania:

Please pray for Dock Administration as they start to think about plans for the 23-24 school year

Hinkletown Mennonite School, Ephrata,

Pennsylvania: Please pray for our high school Venture Program as we continue conversations about moving it to a local church which would give the school the opportunity to expand and enroll more students. Pray for unity and clear direction in this process.

Friday, May 12

Bethany Christian Schools, Goshen, Indiana: Pray for Bethany Christian Schools musicians as they prepare for spring concerts today, May 12th (high school), and May 16th (lower school).

Eastern Mennonite School, Harrisonburg,

Pennsylvania: High school juniors and seniors are paired with new middle school students at Eastern Mennonite School each year as support buddies for social activities and chapel seating. Pray for relationships begun this year, that older students can be role models, and younger students can gain confidence.

Eastern Mennonite University, Harrisonburg, Pennsylvania:

Please pray for our May graduates as they venture out into the world to pursue their callings.

Saturday, May 13

Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary, Elkhart, Indiana: Please pray for AMBS Master of Arts: Theology and Peace Studies students as they prepare for work and scholarship in theology and transformative peacebuilding.

Dock Mennonite Academy Early Childhood to Grade 8 Campus, Lansdale, Pennsylvania: Please pray for all the students and teachers as they compete in grade-level field days. Pray that they will remember to stay hydrated and that they are running the race for the Lord.

Hesston (Kansas) College: Please pray for the students who will be graduating today. Pray that as they leave Hesston College they can navigate the best path forward for them, remembering the lessons learned, and staying in contact with their friends and mentors.

Sunday, May 14

Bethel College, North Newton, Kansas: Pray for the 98 members of Bethel College's Class of 2023, as well as their families and friends, as they worship and celebrate in Baccalaureate and Commencement today.

Goshen (Indiana) College: Pray for everyone at Goshen College's Merry Lea Environmental Learning Center as they host their annual spring celebration Nature Fest.

Hillcrest Academy, Kalona, Iowa: As our

Touring Choir continues with their local performances, including their Spring Concert today, we pray for safety and for endurance. We are thankful for the opportunity to perform in our local congregations and pray our presence is uplifting.

Monday, May 15

Dock Mennonite Academy Early Childhood to Grade 8 Campus, Lansdale, Pennsylvania: Please pray for Dock students and teachers as they go off campus for class field trips. Be with those behind the wheel as they drive the students and teachers.

Hesston (Kansas) College: Please pray for the Hesston College students, faculty, and staff who will be going on the Bel Canto Choir Tour to the southwestern states of Oklahoma, New Mexico, Arizona, California, and Colorado. Pray for safe travels, wonderful memories, meaningful concerts, and positive experiences.

Shalom Christian School, Chambersburg, Pennsylvania: Pray for our spring performances - vocal, instrumental, and drama.

Tuesday, May 16

Bluffton (Ohio) University: This month, many Bluffton University students will be leaving the comfort of their homes to take part in a crosscultural experience. Pray that students will learn from these cultures and share kindness and mercy with those they meet.

Dock Mennonite High School Campus, Lansdale, Pennsylvania: Please pray for our coaches and athletes in Spring sports.

Rockway Mennonite Collegiate, Kitchener,

Ontario: Rockway's Spring Concert is happening today, May 16, and we are so thankful that we are able to showcase our full music program once again! Please pray for the young performers as they rehearse and prepare for this meaningful musical event in the life of our school and pray for our wonderful music department as they lead our young musicians.

Wednesday, May 17

Bethel College, North Newton, Kansas: Pray for Bethel College students and faculty during May term – especially those on travel courses in Mexico and Italy – for safety, good health, and rich experiences.

Freeman (South Dakota) Academy: We give thanks for a successful Schmeckfest, our signature fundraising festival. We resumed this year for the first time since 2019, and it exceeded expectations.

Lezha (Albania) Academic Center: The Board of Directors is traveling to Lezha, Albania for their annual meeting onsite. Pray for their safety as they travel to and from Albania. Also pray that the board will make wise decisions for the future of Lezha Academic Center.

Thursday, May 18

Mennonite Early Childhood Network: Today, May 18, is Ascension Day, the 40th day of Easter. Considering using this occasion to retreat and thank God for child advocates. Pray that they may receive wisdom, encouragement, and strength to become reflections of God.

Lezha (Albania) Academic Center: We are organizing a conference for all Christian teachers in the country from May 19-21. There are 210 people registered so far. The theme of the conference is "Teaching for Eternity." Pray for the best outcomes. Pray that the teachers will be equipped with tools to teach from a Christian perspective, even when they do not teach in Christian schools.

Friday, May 19

Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary,

Elkhart, Indiana: This evening, May 19, AMBS will host the first public viewing of a new documentary, "What Happened at Benham West: African American Stories of Community, Displacement and Hopes." The documentary and a forthcoming book feature elders' stories of Elkhart's predominantly Black Benham West neighborhood and document the process of the city's eventual clearing of the neighborhood.

Central Christian School, Kidron, Ohio: Please pray for our senior class as they conclude their high school career at CCS academically today, experience senior trip May 22-25, and graduate on May 28.

Dock Mennonite Academy Early Childhood to Grade 8 Campus, Lansdale, Pennsylvania:

Pray for all involved in Dock's Country Fair & Auction and that this event can be a light in the local community.

Saturday, May 20

Lancaster (Pennsylvania) Mennonite School:

LMS has many activities scheduled for the month of May including concerts, Junior-Senior banquet, field trips, field days, and awards ceremonies. Pray that all students and faculty will enjoy these special events while remaining focused on finishing the school year.

MEA's Hispanic Anabaptist Bible Institute, known as IBA (*Instituto Bíblico Anabautista*):

Pray for the five IBA students who recently graduated from the Sarasota, Florida, study center. May they be blessings in their local congregation as they continue to be active leaders. Pray that the IBA program will continue to be a blessing for the Hispanic churches in U.S. as it trains leaders to work to expand God's kingdom.

The City School, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania:

Please pray that our teachers and students will finish the school year well.

Sunday, May 21

Freeman (South Dakota) Academy: We give thanks for the recent choir festival.

New Holland (Pennsylvania) Early Learning

Center: Please pray for the children at the Early Learning Center as we complete the last full month of school. Pray that we can share the love of Christ as they learn through play, as they participate in learning their colors and ABCs, and as they are nurtured, loved, and encouraged by their teachers.

Shalom Christian Academy, Chambersburg, Pennsylvania: Please pray for our seniors as they prepare to graduate.

Monday, May 22

Dock Mennonite Academy High School Campus, Lansdale, Pennsylvania: Join us in giving thanks for meaningful chapel experiences that encourage faith formation.

Kraybill Mennonite School, Mount Joy,

Pennsylvania: Pray for teachers and students as we complete the last several weeks of school. We are thankful for God's presence and direction throughout this school year and are trusting that each class will finish their year strong and with great memories of their time together, with their teachers and classmates.

Tuesday, May 23

MEA's Hispanic Anabaptist Biblical Seminary, known as SeBAH (Seminario Bíblico Anabautista Hispana): SeBAH and

Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary (AMBS) in Elkhart, Indiana, have partnered to create the SeBAH-AMBS Master Certificate in Theology in Spanish. Pray for the launch of this program in the fall semester of 2023, for faculty and students. Give thanks for this historic partnership.

Rockway Mennonite Collegiate, Kitchener,

Ontario: Please pray for the safety and wellbeing of our Rockway students, faculty, and staff as the entire school travels to various places in Ontario and Quebec during our May 23-29 Trips Week. We ask God's grace and presence as students in grades 7-12 participate in excursions where they will learn more about our Indigenous neighbours, our parliamentary system in Ottawa, test their French speaking skills in Quebec, develop their leadership skills, and create deeper connections with one another.

Wednesday, May 24

Central Christian School, Kidron, Ohio:

Field Day is today for our Elementary School students. Please pray for safety and an enjoyable outdoor experience.

Freeman (South Dakota) Academy: Please

join us to pray for our hiring process and for budget work.

Thursday, May 25

Quakertown (Pennsylvania) Christian

School: We give thanks to God for our physical abilities and how they might shine during our Field Day. May our students enjoy each other during this day of active learning.

The City School, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania:

Please join us in praying for safety for our school family and for our city amid increased gun violence.

Friday, May 26

Hillcrest Academy, Kalona, Iowa: As our academic school year comes to an end, we wrap up spring athletics and look forward to our summer outdoor baseball and softball seasons. We pray for the health and safety of all our student athletes and our coaches, for spectators coming onto our campus, and for our fans as they travel.

MEA's Hispanic Anabaptist Biblical Seminary, known as SeBAH (Seminario Bíblico Anabautista Hispana): Join us in praying for the SeBAH course "Theology of Pastoral Ministry" that is being offered next semester, from July to September 2023. Pray for the participants from the United States and beyond.

Saturday, May 27

Lancaster (Pennsylvania) Mennonite School:

Lancaster Mennonite High School's Campus Chorale will join with other choirs from the US and Canada at Carnegie Hall today. This will be an exciting performance of choral works by various composers. Pray for safety as they travel to and from New York, and pray that students perform to the best of their ability while enjoying the whole experience.

The City School, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania:

Pray that our school will make a Gospel impact within the surrounding neighborhoods.

Sunday, May 28

Bethany Christian Schools, Goshen, Indiana: Pray for seniors at Bethany Christian High School as they prepare for graduation today, May 28, and decide on the next step in their lives: may they choose in light of God's calling on their lives.

Hillcrest Academy, Kalona, Iowa: We

celebrate with gratitude the graduation of our senior class today. As we hear from Commencement speaker, Jeff Gingerich (President of St. Bonaventure University and member of the Class of '86), we pray that with God as their foundation and guide, our seniors will lead others through their faith and go forward with hopefulness and preparedness to change our world for the better.

Monday, May 29

Lezha (Albania) Academic Center: Today is the last day for the Roma Literacy, Numeracy, and an Awareness of God Project. As we close another year of this program, pray that God will speak to Roma adults and children and that they will become followers of Jesus.

Rockway Mennonite Collegiate, Kitchener,

Ontario: Rockway's 28th Annual Golf Classic, a student tuition assistance fundraiser, is happening today, May 29th. We pray for those who are participating and raising funds for our future alumni, those who are sponsoring our event, and for the families who will be receiving the benefits of our efforts.

Tuesday, May 30

Bluffton (Ohio) University: Continue to keep in your hearts our Bluffton University students. Pray for safe travel and learning while they return from their cross-cultural experiences.

MEA's Hispanic Anabaptist Bible Institute, known as IBA (Instituto Bíblico Anabautista):

Please pray for the preparation and implementation of the new IBA virtual course that will be starting next month. It is the first time this course will be offered intentionally and not as a result of Covid19.

Wednesday, May 31

Kraybill Mennonite School, Mount Joy,

Pennsylvania: 8th grade promotion is today, May 31, and our desire is that this will be a time of celebration and reflection on all that God has done in the lives of each student. Please pray for our the class as they finish their time at Kraybill and make plans for high school. We pray that each student will feel God's direction and call as they move forward to what is next for them.

Lezha (Albania) Academic Center: May 31 is the last regular instructional day for our seniors. Pray that God will give them the wisdom and direction they need for the next step of their journey in life. Pray that they will make the right choices for further education. **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, primary and secondary schools, undergraduate schools, graduate schools, seminaries, and MEA's Hispanic Ministries' Anabaptist Seminary (SeBAH) and Bible Institute (IBA). 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.