

Expressions



**EPH RATA
LEGENDS**

Volume 9, Issue 1

September 2020

Student Publication

A Festival of Fun



Photos by Kassidy Zimmerman

began to sprinkle about the grounds. Not enough to fully soak the devoted staff but enough to make them a little grumpy. But this was not to deter them from their work, for the avalanche of people was still to come.

And come this did. At around two o'clock persons from every aspect of the EMS community began pouring in. Families, students, teachers, and local community members, all full of anticipation for what the day would hold. Children, of course the most energetic out of the bunch, raced towards the first objects that caught their eye. A mini carnival! Not only that but two giant bounce houses illuminated in the distance. The mini carnival was hosted by the senior class as a fundraiser for their upcoming senior trip. After several weeks of planning the carnival had success on its mind. Children stood not at all patiently in line to purchase little yellow tickets with their parents money, and then clambered to play games and eat food. They then proceeded to trample around the fest with numerous stuffed animals, happy hearts, and blue cotton candy stained faces.

With empty pockets and their children preoccupied, adults and teenagers settled into ruthless games of corn hole and Spikeball. First place winners received a cash prize as reward for their triumphant efforts. Second place winners received a lesser cash prizes. As these events came to an end the announcement of an egg toss rolled over the loudspeaker. An egg toss is a game of skill and luck. Some eggs are made stronger than others while others turn the game from enjoyable to a slimy and icky situation. However (names) conquered all feats as they successfully had tossed their egg through the air once more than all the others. While the elation of the egg toss began to wear off, the slight murmur of the upcoming event began to buzz through the air. Like every staple fall event throughout the history of a pig chase was in order.

With shrills from the young children as they chased a chicken, since of course a pig was too wild for them, adults cheered them from the side lines. And then like promised, a pig was revealed for the adults. However the stubborn old pig knew what was coming and did not appreciate being the laughing stock of the fest. After a little coaxing, he thought he might give it a chance and proceeded to walk away from the safety of his trailer. Instant regret flooded his soul as he realized humans were hot on his tail. With squeals from the pig and the women on the sidelines the race concluded with Jesse Ginder as the victor.

After the exhaustion of the pig chase, spectators and participants followed their noses to a beautifully decorated food court. Customers were able to choose from either a sizzling burger or mouthwatering smoked pork sandwich and delectable fried sides such as fries, garlic cheese curds, and mozzarella sticks. A fully stocked coffee bar and creamy soft serve ice cream were available to finish out the delightful meal. (cont. pg 3)

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Diving Into Volleyball

Summer being over, EMS Legends have dived head first into their games. Girls volleyball started off strong with a near win against Fairview, but lost to them in the fifth game. Girls varsity then traveled to Upperbucks for a tournament and landed themselves in third place. The following week, Varsity again traveled to Upper Back and fought hard but lost in the third game of the set. Monday, September 28 Ephrata Menmonite School hosted Faith for their first home game. Girls JV and Varsity both fell to their competitors in three games. The men's game, however, was a success with a victory for EMS! A big shout out to sixth grade! They played soccer against Gehman's and took a 7 to 1 victory for EMS!



Photos by Corina Zimmerman

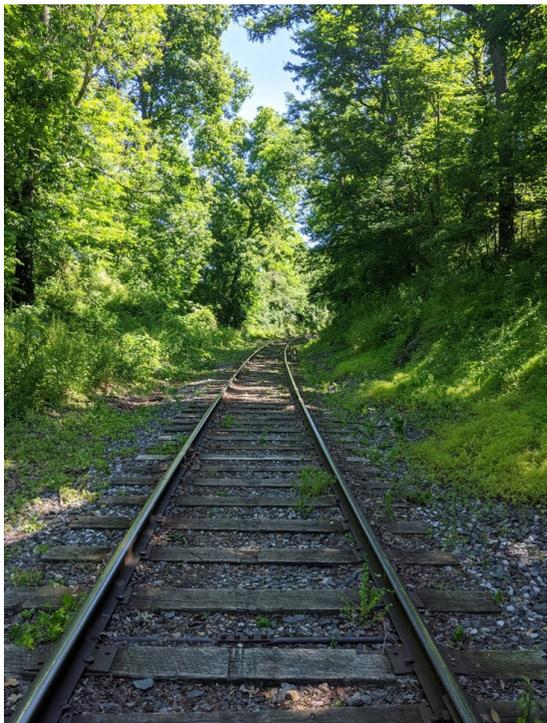
Volleyball Games Won:

Guys Varsity:	Guys Junior Varsity:
1-1	No games played
Girls Varsity:	Girls Junior Varsity:
4-6	2-2

Brianna Stoltzfus, Expressions Writer

Obituary

DEATH AND FUNERAL



Photos by Laura Patches

Summer of 2020 passed away suddenly in Pennsylvania on Wednesday, August 19, 2020. He was predeceased by his parents, Summer of 2019. Aged five months, Summer lived a long eventful life, longer than the average summer lifespan in fact. Summer was quite the unique character. He was well-loved by the younger population. We grieve for their loss.

Summer is survived by two children, his daughter, School Year 2020-21, and son, Fall of 2020. Born the same day as Summer's passing, School Year 2020-2021 started life with a passion for learning with a record breaking 331 students. The death of Summer caused these students to be able to come together with the family and meet all the teachers who are related to School Year 2020-2021. It was a bittersweet reunion as the students remembered the life of Summer. They were happy to be able to meet School Year 2020-2021 though. School Year has a long life ahead and we are excited for all they will learn and accomplish. Despite the pain of Summer's death, there are good things to come.

The funeral for Summer of 2020 shall be a small private event and no viewing will be held. Flowers may be sent to 598 Stevens Road, Ephrata Pa.

Laura Patches, Expressions Writer

Looking Above, Not Ahead



A possible representation of the future EMS building

As you have probably heard, EMS is in sore need of campus expansion. Our water and sewer systems are stretched nearly to the breaking point. The township gave us a timeline of 2-3 years in our 6 modular buildings. The good news is that God provided a plot of land just a quarter mile north of our location. And with the help of Hoover Construction and Cornerstone Architecture, we have a plan that would meet the needs of our 330 students. We need your help. We are looking to raise up an army of supporters for this important work. You can help several ways:

Most importantly, we are looking to find ***Prayer Partners*** who will join us in the effort. We believe in the power of prayer. Some folks may not be able to support the work financially, but they can contribute mightily through prayer.

We are also looking for ***Financial Supporters*** who believe in the work and are able to give. While we know not everybody can give "huge" amounts, the truth is every penny counts and all gifts are valuable, as Jesus taught us with the Widow's Mite story.

We are looking for help to surface other ***Potential Partners*** (prayer and financial). We know there are many from years gone by who attended, or were patrons, of EMS and who now may be interested in partnering in this work

The total cost of the project will be around \$10 million. We are excited that God has already led people to give \$1.3 million dollars for this work! We believe that with God's help (and your support), EMS can move into a new school where we will be able to disciple and teach our children in the way of Jesus for another 75 years.

Mr. Good is dedicating 3 days a week to meet with people to simply pray together over the EMS children and our future plans. He is wanting and willing to meet with *anybody* that believes in Christian education and would like to be a part of building the Kingdom of God one child at a time. Please contact him at joshua.good@ephratamennonite.org or 717-847-7568. He is wanting to hear from you!

Track the ongoing progress at this <https://www.ephratamennonite.org/build>.

Joshua Good, Principal

A Festival of Fun cont.

After dinner, the loudspeaker rumbled again as it announced the newest event. A hayride. Children and adults piled onto wagons stocked full of hay. Tractors pulled them away from the farm giving all who rode a sense of excitement.

Meanwhile others were hurriedly setting up for the main event of the night. As people began to arrive back at the grounds, they set up lawn chairs in the yard facing a trailer. The trailer was set up with sound equipment and performers stood on the stage to do a final sound check. As everyone found a seat, the Daryl Weaver family was introduced. They sang several songs, with the young performers blowing the audience away. Next the Brian Fox band sang. There were several guest appearances by different people. The crowd enjoyed the lively upbeat music and sat enthralled under its sound. The final performance of the night came from the EMS band themselves. Teachers did an excellent job of showing their skills at not just teaching but singing! Everyone clapped and cheered as the singing portion of the night concluded.

Happy, tired, and blessed by the night, families slowly began to clear out. Staff and committee members started the process of cleaning up but the experience they had given families made it worth the effort. A special thanks goes out to all who helped plan, put together, and pull off the Fall Fest. It is only a community that works well together that can support the body of a school. When we support each other we not only live out a commandment from God, but we create a success story like Ephrata Mennonite School.

Kassidy Zimmerman, Expressions Writer

COVID Complications

As much as everyone has spoken and written on this, I also felt led to share some thoughts on the subject. 2020 has held some interesting surprises and isn't over yet. The virus threw unprecedented hills into our lives. Many of us faced several uncertain months with concerns relating to finances, school, health, and social lives.

Along with these uncertainties we suddenly had 'nothing to do'. We didn't have a hundred things pressing on us that we needed to do in the next week or month. Now that we have started school again, those uncertainties have relaxed slightly, but we don't know for sure what the rest of 2020 or 2021 will look like. There is a chance we will have to return to online schooling and some of us could easily lose our jobs.

One of the many positive approaches you can take is that if we DO have to return to the yellow or red stage is that many of us will know how to use our time more wisely. Personally, I know I could have done a lot more with all my spare time. Instead I kicked back and relaxed, enjoying the freedom of no pressure. And while we were quarantining I believe we had a strange mix of the removal of social pressures and co-dependency, yet it was replaced with a social media image. This had to change back when we returned to the 'real' world.

Unfortunately, this has led many to struggle with transitioning back into school and our 'normal' lives. What was a regular busy schedule for us 7 months ago has become a stressful,

overwhelming lifestyle now. Studies have shown that cases have risen in mental illnesses and people are mentally crumbling. This is not to say that we should

pity ourselves and put less effort in because "it is too much to handle" but rather, we should lean on God.

I have learned that as hard as it is, we need to bring our worries to Him and leave them there. God has seen us through these rough times and provided for us. He is constantly by our sides even when we don't give Him the glory, honor, or relationship he deserves. As we head into the next few months, I encourage you to persevere and trust God in every circumstance that presents itself - good or bad.

Taryn Mellinger, Expressions Editor



Photo by Taryn Mellinger

Aiding Success



Shanda Nissley, Teacher's Aid

With the start of a new school year, we here at Student Newspaper are working hard to come up with fresh ideas that can help capture and expound on what we do here at EMS. One product of our brainstorming is a new section featuring our alumni, specifically the 2020 graduates. We will be interviewing a different Ephrata Mennonite 2020 graduate each month and seeing where life has taken them in the months post-graduation. In this month's edition, we are featuring Shanda Nissley, a graduate who chose to return to EMS primarily as the third-grade teacher's aide.

After graduation, Shanda finished working at Frysville Farms, a local greenhouse, and began training and working here at EMS as a teacher's aide and Barton tutor among other things. When she's not at school, Shanda enjoys spending time with her classmates and friends and found that despite the COVID-19 situation and restrictions she had a more adventurous summer than usual due in part to doing things she'd never done before, including graduating, disc golfing in the rain, hammocking under the stars, exploring several cities with friends, and the list goes on.

Shanda currently loves working at Ephrata Mennonite and Lord willing will continue to do so for the foreseeable future. She remarked, "I definitely have dreams, but dreams and plans are very different things. So I'm trusting God's timing and doing my best to hold things loosely because, after a year like 2020, I've learned that my plans, dreams, and visions are nothing compared to what God has in store." We appreciated Shanda's positive impact on the school during her time as a student and wish her the best and she continues to display Christ's love at EMS and wherever He leads.

Lauren Martin, Expressions Writer

Stuco Update

This year Stuco has been off to a slow start due to Covid-19 precautions but the team looks forward to brainstorming and planning events as soon as possible. Thanks to Mr. Schrock and Miss Heisey, the exec team and class representatives have been chosen. The exec team is as follows: Hans Burkholder - president, Micaiah Weaver - Vice President, Benjamin Zimmerman - treasurer, and Lauren Martin - Secretary. Class representatives are Taryn Mellinger - 12th grade, Samantha Weaver - 10th grade, Mason Zimmerman - 9th, and Damian Hurst - 9th.



Left to Right: Lauren Martin, Hans Burkholder, Micaiah Weaver, Benjamin Zimmerman

The weekly meetings began the last two Wednesdays of September and ideas flew back and forth after the team was introduced to the new Student Council Constitution. The snack stand also opened the last week of September, both in the morning before school starts and during secondary lunch break.

Although many are familiar with the Stuco mission statement, I believe it is worthwhile to share it again. "Stuco will be known for its Christ-like service and humility to the secondary students through consistent high-quality events, devotions, and snack stand that demonstrate to the students that we are #ServingForAPurpose". Although this mission statement is geared towards Student Council members, our hashtag applies to everyone.

Looking ahead to the rest of the school year we hope to keep everything as close to normal as possible in reference to events and snack stand. Since we are just starting up, Stuco is not promising any events at this time, although we are working towards several in the near future. Thank you for your patience and understanding as we venture into a new year!

- Taryn Mellinger, 12th grade rep.

Nicaragua ÷ COVID = New Mexico

Unfortunately, due to Covid, many senior classes have missed out on months of their last year together and many missed out on international trips. Thankfully, our 2020 class was able to go to Nicaragua before the school closed in March.

As this year's seniors, we are grateful to be able to evangelize and aid those in New Mexico! Since traveling internationally is still uncertain, our class has the opportunity to potentially pave the way for future missions here in the United States. This truly is an opportunity as it is common to travel out of the country to share the gospel with others while there is ample opportunities to share the good news of Christ right here in our own country.

Looking forward to January, the senior class had begun fundraising last spring with pizza lunches. Since

school shut down two months early, our fundraising was cut short. This year, we jumped right into the fundraising process and plan to have a total of three pizza fundraisers. Other fundraiser ideas included paid advertising and carnival games at the Fall Fest.

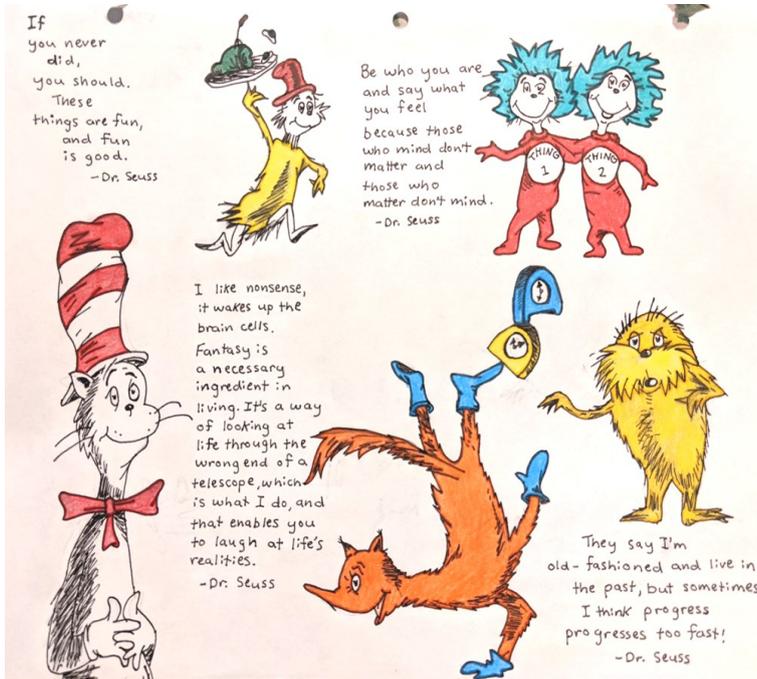


Class of 2021

Whether we fly, drive, or walk, we *will* share what the Lord has instructed us to share. "For Christ did not send me to baptize, but to preach the gospel - not with wisdom and eloquence, lest the cross of Christ be emptied of its power" (1 Corinthians 1:17) Please pray for the senior class as we seek to follow God and share the gospel in New Mexico!

Taryn Mellinger, Expressions Editor

Oh, The Places You Won't Go!



What do you do when you are sentenced to confinement in your bedroom for the next week? Well, in my case, you get out your pencils and draw some good ol' Dr. Seuss. No, I was not grounded. I simply got sick. Now, if it were any other time I would've been active in the world again in a day or two, but unfortunately it was not any other time. I had to await Covid test results before I could depart. So when I found myself mostly recovered, but unable to leave my bedroom, I had to come up with some means to keep my sanity. This particular piece of art was honestly just a mountain of fun to make. From the initial pencil sketch, to the bolder pen outline, to the colorful markers, it was quite therapeutic. Dr. Seuss declares and I agree,

"Fantasy is a necessary ingredient in living."

Laura Patches, Expressions Writer

A Hot Lunch Poem

These... are dark times for us. I doubt a darker time could ever be imagined. Pain and agony... but most of all, a hunger inside us... for hot lunch. Not going to lie, I was somewhat disappointed when I heard we wouldn't be having hot lunch for the first couple of weeks at school. I'm sure that some of you were as well, but now that hot lunch is finally back, I'm excited! I even wrote a poem about hot lunch. I hope you enjoy it.

Tw'as a dark time, nothing was seen
 But lo! T'is a bright, unexpected light!
 Like dawn after a long insufferable night!
 A hope so great.
 No matter how late
 Hot lunch on September 16.
 My heart, nay my body
 Absolutely jumps in delight.
 For this fear of no lunch
 Is no longer in sight
 Hope floods thru me
 Immensely fast
 This love in my heart
 Will forever last.
 Oh hot lunch!
 It's you I love!
 Forever passion!
 You shine thereof
 Wednesdays are now my favorite of days
 I love hot lunch! Simply let me say
 That hot lunch unifies
 Together we stand
 An unbroken bond
 I'm a hot lunch fan

The End

Micah Harnish, Expressions Writer



Q: Why can't T-Rex's clap their hands?

A: Because they're extinct.

A son asks his dad, "Have you seen my sunglasses?" The father says, "No, have you seen my dad glasses?"

A man is washing the car with his son. His son asks, "Dad, can't you just use the sponge?"

Letters to the Editor

Dear Editor,

How do you feel about the current racial tensions in our country? How should I feel about it?

Sincerely,

Walter

Dear Walter,

Before I say anything, I think I'll give a pretty straightforward answer and then go into depth about it: All lives matter, but not all lives are receiving racism and attacks. There's a lot of craziness and panic going on in the world right now, and while some of it has died down there is still a lot of tension in the air. It also seems like there's a lot of controversy in that subject, as various influential people have posted on social media about tearing down anything depicting Jesus as white. So, what to believe? What to support?

Obviously, Jesus doesn't say that His Gospel is for Jews only. He doesn't exclude the Gentiles, or Asians, or black people. He doesn't exclude anyone with His love; we are all equal. It doesn't matter the race, we have all fallen short of the glory of God, but through Jesus we can receive forgiveness and accept eternal life. In this sense we shouldn't view any race as superior or inferior, because we've all messed up, but Jesus still loves every last one of us.

I was looking up some Bible verses and here are some I found. I would encourage you to look them up for yourself. Psalm 82:2-4, Isaiah 1:17, and Micah 6:8 all speak a little bit about

justice and how we should defend the weak and defenseless. If our brothers and sisters are being treated unjustly, are we supposed to ignore it? Do we turn a blind eye? Think about that question. What are we supposed to do when someone is being treated unjustly? What do we actually do?

Maybe you know all this, but the actual problem is how? How can I pursue justice for my fellow brothers and sisters? How can I be just in my own judgement and decisions? How can I show God's love through my daily actions?

To be perfectly honest, I don't have the answer. I don't have the magical ability to take whatever you struggle with. I don't have a position where you can fit in perfectly and pursue justice for others. If you have questions, Jesus has answers. If you feel lost and unable to pursue justice for your brothers and sisters, then pray. God will show you an opportunity, whether it's to protest, to blog, or even invite your friends over.

In an ever changing world, we need to set our sights on something steadfast. *James 4:17*

Sincerely,

The Editor



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Made to Be Courageous

Overview: Courageous is a movie about four men discovering what it means to be fathers and husbands who lead their families in a Godly way. Through grief and betrayal they strive to become the men of God they were created to be. This movie also explores the sobering statistics relating crime to the absence of a father.

Family Friendliness



Rating: This movie is rated PG-13 for violence and drug content. The four men featured are police officers who come in contact with gangs and drugs is spoken of often. There is a gun fight at the end of the movie and a scene of gang violence along with some police chases throughout. As an Anabaptist a parent should be cautious in allowing young audiences member to watch as the movie tends to heroize the main characters. A key aspect of the Anabaptist beliefs is non resistance. While it upholds the belief of men being leaders in the home, it does in no way discourage viewers to avoid violence.



Brianna Stoltzfus, Expressions Writer

Calendar

- October 2: HS Girls Volleyball vs. Fairview (Home)
- October 6: MS Soccer vs. Gehmans (Away)
HS Girls Volleyball vs. Solid Rock (Home)
- October 8: Guys Soccer vs. TEACH (Home)
- October 13: Varsity and MS Girls Volleyball vs. Upperbucks (Home)
- October 16: HS Guys Soccer vs. Fairview (Home)
- October 19: No School
- October 22: HS Girls Volleyball vs. Faith (Away)
- October 27: HS Girls Volleyball vs. Schaefferstown (Home)
- October 28-31: 11th Grade Field Trip to NYC

Thank-you

We would like to express our gratitude first of all to the advertiser who is sponsoring us. We appreciate their monetary support. We are thankful also for the teachers who are committed to our education and making school as normal as possible this year. Last but not least we are grateful to all the parents for their support as we face this uncertain year.

- The *EXPRESSIONS* Team

EXPRESSIONS
Team



Left to Right:

Laura Patches (writer), Kassidy Zimmerman (graphics editor), Brianna Stoltzfus (writer), Miciah Harnish (writer), Taryn Mellinger (editor), Lauren Martin (writer)

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Learning to Serve

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