

EMS EXPRESSIONS

October 2023

MIDDLE SCHOOL SPORTS EDITION

Vol 12 Issue 2

MEMORIES FROM FIRST GRADE

Written by Shakira Burkholder

Miss Birt has been a teacher at Ephrata Mennonite School for 36 years. She estimates that she has taught 818 first-grade students. Throughout the years her students have said many memorable things, which she has written down and put away for times when she needs a laugh. Here are some things students have said in first grade, who are still attending Ephrata Mennonite.



- Miss Birt: When the IEW Writing coach was going to be visiting at school, I reminded the class that they should listen, be engaged, and take part in the lesson. Jayson Hoover very seriously asked, "Do we have to be married?" I said this was a different kind of engaged.
 - Jayson: I remember making gingerbread houses out of milk cartons.



- Miss Birt: Bryanna Weaver told me her great-grandparents live in a "college" at Fairmount Homes.
 - Bryanna: I remember Miss Birt had clear shapes that were magnetic. She used them for math and I wanted some like that.
- Miss Birt: Today our writing activity was responding to a poem about what we can give to Jesus. Luke Gibson wrote: "I want give a bunkbed. I want give a electric guitar." He drew Jesus playing the electric guitar. He said it is very loud, so he drew a big scribble to show the noise!
 - Luke: I would keep tally marks on my desk for every time I had to stay in from recess. I had 123 tally marks.



- Miss Birt: We make word banks when we list words that mean about the same. We were making a word bank for "Pretty" and the children had thought of words like "lovely," "beautiful," and "cute" and then Parker Martin said, "Hot!" He had a twinkle in his eyes when he said it.
 - Parker: It was fun taking Tim the Bear home.



- Miss Birt: For Bible class, the first-graders illustrated and wrote about Bible stories. Noah Brubaker had a great story about Philip and the Eunuch. We had talked about how Philip obeyed, and how God's Spirit carried him away to Azotus. Noah wondered how far Philip went, and I said Azotus is about 20 miles away. So he wrote: "He went Zoom a doodley-do, up fast as a cheeda. He went and he went. 20 miles. He went so fast that he went 20 miles in a second. That is very fast."
 - Noah: I remember Miss Birt blew up a dome thing for Insect Day that we got to go inside. I dressed up as a bee.



- Miss Birt: Mr. Strickler had an incubator in his office and hatched Silkie eggs. These chicks had a patch of feathers that stuck up on their heads. Lauren Fahnstock said the chick she was holding had a 'mohawk.'
 - Lauren: Miss Birt was teaching us about pointillism and showed us a picture she drew of a little girl just using tiny little dots. I was sure on that day I wanted to be an artist just like Miss Birt.



- Miss Birt: After we talked about George Washington and the Revolutionary War, Katelyn Newswanger made a comment about the "Evolution War."
 - Katelyn: I remember the big pens for handwriting.

- Miss Birt: The first-graders wrote about "When I am a Grandma" (or Grandpa). Part of Hadassah Martin's writing: "When I am a grandma, you know I will not be a grandpa, so please call me Grandma, and not Grandpa."
 - Hadassah: I remember Miss Birt would hand out awards each week to students who didn't get in trouble. I would get them every week but one week I didn't. I was devastated and I felt like such a terrible person.



JAARS HELICOPTER

Written by Karson Zimmerman

On September 20th, the EMS students got to watch a JAARS R66 turbine helicopter land outside in the oval grass area. Then the students assembled in the gym and sat on the bleachers. The two pilots who operated the helicopter spoke in front of the students, explaining how JAARS helps missionaries go into hard-to-reach areas. Their

mission statement is the following: "We reduce barriers, ease burdens, and deliver God's Word. We do that by training, equipping, deploying and sustaining individuals, teams, and stations to aid in the work of proclaiming the gospel to the whole creation."



LIMESTONE SPRINGS

Written by Blake Hoover

On September 27, the Backyard Ag class went to Limestone Springs Fishing Reserve. Each student tried catching a Rainbow Trout with a bait or lure of their choosing. Once the fish were caught, they were chilled, fileted, and brought back to the school. Then for the next couple of days, the students found recipes and prepared their fish. Four fish were also brined and smoked so that the students got to try smoked trout with other flavors. Zachary Weiler concluded, "It was a great experience to go on a fishing trip with the Backyard Ag class."



FRANKLIN INSTITUTE

Written by Blake Hoover

On September 29, the 8th-grade class went to the Franklin Institute. They drove for about an hour until they arrived at the Franklin Institute in Philadelphia. They had around three hours to explore the museum, which contained a large number of displays. There were displays showing how the heart and brain function in different ways. There was even a heart that you could climb in and explore. Tyrese recounted, "The most interesting part was when they had a Tesla coil hooked up to the ceiling, which flared up and created lightning. That was pretty loud." Then, after exploring the Institution for a while, the class met back up at the planetarium display. Inside it had a dome which was a projector screen, which displayed the planets and solar system. It was a great way for the 8th grade to experience the world and universe that we live in.



FALL FESTIVAL

Written by Zachary Weiler

On September 30, Ephrata Mennonite School held the fall festival. There was a great turnout, and the school raised a lot of money towards the new school and other expenses. The festival went from four to eight on a Saturday afternoon when teachers, students, parents, and friends could gather to eat and fellowship with one another. The festival had games and food throughout the entire evening. There were many activities for all ages, including a cornhole tournament, apple cider donuts, balloon darts, and a bounce house. The fall festival was an enjoyable time of fellowship for the Ephrata Mennonite School community.



HUMAN TRAFFICKING

Written by Mitchell Good

Human trafficking is a form of modern-day slavery involving the illegal transport of individuals by force or deception, for the purpose of labor, sexual exploitation, or activities in which others benefit. Almost a million people are estimated to be trafficked each year globally, and between 20,000 and 50,000 are trafficked into the United States, which is one of the largest destinations for victims of the sex-trafficking trade. You don't have to go far to find victims of this crime. In fact, Lancaster county is first in Pennsylvania for the most cases of human trafficking. Just last year, dozens were arrested for organizing and committing human trafficking offenses.

Human trafficking is a highly structured and organized criminal activity. The criminal enterprises need to transport a large number of migrants over a significant distance and possess a substantial amount of money. Human traffickers have developed a multibillion-dollar industry by exploiting those forced or willing to migrate. For this reason, migrant trafficking is increasingly recognized as a form of organized crime.

Now that you know a little bit more about this horrific crime, I'm sure you are wondering something. How can I help? Well that answer isn't simple, but I'm going to offer a few tips. It is important to begin with prayer. The human trafficking industry is so large and long-standing that there are many organizations and nonprofits dedicated to combating human trafficking. Pray about how much time you might be able to devote to this, and if this is not your main ministry, consider financially assisting other Christians in the fight. Another crucial step is to educate yourself on the tactics used by traffickers. Being informed will enable you to both protect your loved ones and report odd behavior in public. Some of the 'red flags' of human trafficking include signs of extreme hunger, signs of physical abuse, scripted communication, and behaving in a way consistent with being watched or followed. Human trafficking will never be completely eradicated, but we can do as much as we can to help those in need. It's all around us, especially in Lancaster county. So what are you going to do about it?

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Upcoming Guys
Basketball Tryouts
November 13/15

Upcoming Girls
Basketball Tryouts
November 14/16

VOLLEYBALL



FINAL RECORD 5-2



INTERVIEW WITH COACH FOX

By Jenna Martin

Cindy Fox spent her childhood in the beautiful state of Iowa until she was twelve years old. Then she moved to Minnesota and attended Cloverdale Christian School, and played on their volleyball team. She then graduated from Cloverdale and started coaching their volleyball team, the fall after she graduated. Then she got married to Charles Fox and they moved to Lancaster. Over that time she had three different knee surgeries that

prevented her from playing as much volleyball, so instead it opened up opportunities for coaching. She coached for Fairview school for about three years, and at that time her first child, Candace, was born. When her second child, Chayla, was born they moved to Bangladesh where they were missionaries for three years. Then they moved back to Lancaster and Cindy is now the mom of five children who all attend Ephrata Mennonite.

Cindy has been coaching volleyball at this school for four years and also teaches some other classes. When asked why she chooses to coach, Cindy replied that sports teach us a lot about life. There are so many valuable life lessons we can learn from sports. Being on a team creates more opportunities for discipleship conversations with each other. She also observed, "It is easy to sit and learn and not actually do what we learn." Cindy is passionate about coaching because it gives students opportunities to live out what they're learning.





10-0



2-0



8-1



Upcoming Bible
Quizzing Scrimmage
Gehmans and
Linville

SOCCER



FINAL RECORD
4-2



BIBLE QUIZZING

By Brayden Heisey

Maria Yoder is a sophomore and one of the two high school quizzers this year. She is in her fifth year of Bible Quizzing.

Q: What do you enjoy the most about quizzing?

A: Getting to hang out with friends.

Q: Why do you think retreat is a lot of people's favorite quiz event?

A: You get to see a lot more people.

Q: What do you think is a great memorizing/quoting strategy?

A: Quote a certain amount every night.

Gulianna Tapia is a senior this year and is the only other high school quizzer. She is in her seventh and final year of quizzing.

Q: What do you enjoy the most about quizzing?

A: Learning the Bible passage well, and over the years I have developed a lot of friendships.

Q: Why do you think retreat is a lot of people's favorite quiz event?

A: The first day is all socializing, a great time for fellowship.

Q: What do you think is a great memorizing/quoting strategy?

A: Read it out loud and half read it, half say it by memory. Quote until 100% memorized.

