



THE HERALD

a publication of *Eastern Christian School*
Volume 62, Issue 2

A WELL-DESERVED
*HATS
OFF*
TO OUR GRADS!

FALL 2021

PLUS
New Head of School



Celebration and Transition

This issue of *The Herald* celebrates our 2021 graduates and students who marked significant milestones in their careers at Eastern Christian School at the end of the recently concluded academic year.

We are thrilled to profile their many accomplishments, to record the important events of this spring, and to reflect upon the Lord's incredible protection and provision for our school throughout a year dominated by the COVID 19 pandemic. Truly, great was the Lord's faithfulness to Eastern Christian School throughout this most unusual year, providing a hedge of protection around our students and staff and enabling us to be one of a very small number of New Jersey schools to be in session, in-person, for the entirety of the 2020-21 school year.

Just as we celebrate important transitions for our students and recent graduates, this issue also marks an important transition for me personally. This column marks the final opportunity that I will have to write to you as Eastern Christian's Head of School.

My 14 years at Eastern Christian have been an amazingly rewarding experience for which I will be thankful for the rest of my life. I have had the opportunity to work with wonderful people who care deeply for those entrusted to us. Thank you to the faithfully committed EC families, my dear faculty and staff colleagues, dedicated board members, and generous community members who have recognized the eternal importance of an excellent, Christ-centered education, and who have been willing to sacrifice in order to provide such an education to the children and young people of this community. You have made a difference in the lives of these young people for time and eternity.

We hope that you enjoy this issue of *The Herald*!

Thomas G. Dykhous '76



EASTERN CHRISTIAN
SCHOOL

IN THIS ISSUE

2

CAMPUS NEWS

- 2 New Head of School
- 4 Concentrations
- 5 Creative Worship
- 7 Yancy Richmond
- 8 Green Screen Drama
- 9 Math Club



PAGE 5
Written burdens left at the foot of the cross during a high school chapel, with stones of hope to take their place.

10

GRADUATIONS

- 10 High School
- 16 Middle School
- 18 Elementary School
- 19 Preschool
- 20 Celebrations



PAGE 07 *Pre-K sings with Christian worship artist, Yancy Richmond*

22

FOUNDATION, EVENTS & ALUMNI NEWS

- 22 Welcome to Our New Executive Director
- 24 Events
- 26 Alumni News



PAGE 29
Rachel Kemp

THE HERALD

EDITOR

Leah (Steenstra) Genuario '97

PHOTOGRAPHY EDITOR

Justin Van Dyke '07

ALUMNI COORDINATOR

Beth (Youngsman) Milkamp '75

DESIGN & LAYOUT

Laura Hartgerink
Signify

PRINTER

Len Wynbeek '84
Amplifi

EASTERN CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

50 Oakwood Ave.
North Haledon, NJ 07508
Phone: 973-427-9294
Email: herald@EasternChristian.org
www.EasternChristian.org

43

EC SPORTS

- 43 Winter Highlights



PAGE 25 *Great Is Thy Faithfulness community picnic*

The Herald is a bi-annual publication of The Foundation for Eastern Christian School. The purpose of this publication is to share the story of Eastern Christian School and to strengthen the bonds among our extended school community in support of Christian education. ***The Herald* is mailed free of charge to over 6,500 alumni, families, and friends of the school.**

Our address database is always being updated. If you would like to update your contact information or if you know of someone who would like to receive *The Herald*, please contact The Foundation for Eastern Christian School Association office and we will be very happy to update our database accordingly.

HERALD MAILING DATABASE CONTACT | Phone: 973 427-9294 **E-mail:** Foundation@EasternChristian.org



Dykhouse passes the torch to Kuder as new Head of School

On September 1, 2021, Dr. Ruth Kuder will assume leadership of Eastern Christian School, a position held by Tom Dykhouse since 2007.

Dykhouse's road to Eastern Christian began out of tragedy. In an event that shook the world, Dykhouse, a long-time business executive, lost 295 colleagues on 9/11. "That event dramatically changed my outlook on a lot of things and in a way prepared me for a significant career change."

In 2002, he accepted a seat on Eastern Christian's board, and in 2007, when he was "subsequently offered the opportunity to join EC as head of school, I felt absolutely called to pursue the opportunity."

Under Dykhouse's leadership, Eastern Christian School experienced a transformation, largely spurred on by his prior business experience and perspective. His tenure realized a growth in enrollment, restructuring of financial and organizational governance models, and several successful capital campaigns that resulted in dramatic improvement to facilities. It was also under his leadership that the school launched several outside business ventures that complement the core mission of the school—ditto, Eagle Solar and Eagles Camps—as well as earned a number of

DESPITE A LONG LIST OF ACHIEVEMENTS, DYKHOUSE'S GREATEST REWARD, HE SAYS, HAS BEEN "MY PERSONAL CONTACT WITH SO MANY PEOPLE—STUDENTS, PARENTS, STAFF MEMBERS, AND COMMUNITY MEMBERS."

awards, including recognition as the National School District of Character and a Best Place to Work in NJ.

Despite a long list of achievements, Dykhouse's greatest reward, he says, has been "my personal contact with so many people—students, parents, staff members, and community members."

"I have had absolutely the best job in the world for the last 14 years! It is truly a blessing to have served in this place." He adds, "I give God the glory for all that He has done to allow EC to thrive through an incredibly tumultuous period."

In a new, post-COVID era, Dykhouse passes the torch to Kuder, a calculated transition that has been planned for more than two years. Kuder, who obtained a bachelor's at Wheaton College, a master's in Educational Leadership from the University of

Scranton and has recently earned an EdD from Vanderbilt University in Organizational Leadership, has been working as Assistant Head of School at Eastern Christian for the past year. Holding NJ certifications as a teacher, principal and chief school administrator, she serves on the NJ Department of Education Non-Public Advisory Committee and is also on the Executive Committee of the Board of Directors at Christian Schools International.

Despite a new title, Kuder has been a familiar presence within the community for many years.

An EC alumni and former EC parent, Kuder started her work at Eastern Christian in 1990 and through the years has served in a variety of roles, exposing her to almost every facet of the organization. She shares, “As a teacher, I could help students discover literature and language. As a dean, I worked with students and families to capture a vision for their future and create a path to reach it. As a principal, I facilitated teams to develop educational programs. In my work with international students, I was able to help families around the world to understand and embrace Eastern Christian’s mission.”

“I’ve loved every role I’ve played. Having experience in so many different roles has provided me with the ability to view opportunities and challenges through a variety of perspectives. I’m always blessed by the gifts and commitments of our families and colleagues who work tirelessly and creatively to serve our students with excellence, “as unto the Lord” (Col 3.23),” she adds.

Kuder has a track record within Eastern Christian of empowering teams to build creative new educational programs. Under her jurisdiction as high school principal, she appointed and equipped

Jesse Wright to launch and lead a work internship program called WINGS. The program pairs high school students “with trusted partners in real-life work environments, allowing them to gain experience, develop skills and clarify their calling.” Kuder also facilitated formalization and

“I’VE LOVED EVERY ROLE I’VE PLAYED. HAVING EXPERIENCE IN SO MANY DIFFERENT ROLES HAS PROVIDED ME WITH THE ABILITY TO VIEW OPPORTUNITIES AND CHALLENGES THROUGH A VARIETY OF PERSPECTIVES. I’M ALWAYS BLESSED BY THE GIFTS AND COMMITMENTS OF OUR FAMILIES AND COLLEAGUES...”

—Dr. Ruth Kuder



“

CRISIS REVEALS CHARACTER”

—a sentiment shared by Tom Dykhouse and Ruth Kuder

growth of a robust international program, as well as teamed with **Phil Verrengia** to develop an innovative STEAM program focused on research and mentorship.

“All of these programs have been relatively inexpensive financially, but have had tremendous impact on the students involved. I’ve appreciated a school culture that encourages and supports innovative thinking,” she says.

As a reflection on the 2020-2021 school year and the COVID-related challenges through which the school persevered, Kuder commented that she and Dykhouse frequently reflected that “crisis reveals character.” She has appreciated the “unwavering support” of the greater community and the character of her colleagues, and has personally experienced an increased commitment to the mission of Eastern Christian “as we continue to serve the students and families entrusted to us, and to do it with excellence.”

Looking forward, “I [also] have confidence in the character of our God, who has sustained and blessed us through many challenges and will continue to do so in the future. While the past year has looked nothing like I anticipated, I look forward to continued service to our students and families as together we steward Eastern Christian for current and future generations.”

ECHS Launches Academic Concentrations

Helping Focus Student Interests



This year, senior Nicole Pienaar leveraged her talent for art into a series of strategic paintings and an interactive art exhibit designed to raise awareness for a school project in psychopathy. Her final piece, shown here, made use of a black light and specialty paint in order to demonstrate that despite significant challenges, there is hope through neurological therapy that encourages building empathy and reducing re-incarceration. Next year, students like Pienaar who are passionate in a particular academic area will have the opportunity to choose a HS concentration such as Visual Arts.

To help aspiring Ivy Leaguers, Harvard published an admissions blog post titled, *What We Look For*. The post was essentially a list of questions, with a few that may come as a surprise: “Do you care deeply about anything—Intellectual? Extracurricular? Personal? What have you done with your interests?”

In a desire to focus student interests, as well as provide another mechanism to aid in the eventual college admissions process, Eastern Christian High School will debut a concentrations program this fall. The program allows students to earn points through electives, extracurricular and co-curricular activities, in order to graduate with one of seven concentrations. Concentrations offered are: language arts, social studies, visual arts, performing arts, computer science & technology, life & physical science, and mathematics.

“Concentrations will be noted on your transcript and as a logo in your EC email signature. It will demonstrate your passion for a specific academic field, which could help make you a desirable applicant for colleges and universities,” says **David Intlekofer**, high school principal.

Students must successfully earn four points to qualify. Points can be earned by achieving an 80% or higher grade in concentration-specific electives, completing independent studies and WINGS internships, or through participation in clubs. Honors-level concentrations are also available.

Despite the change, Intlekofer stresses the importance of and the ability to still explore interests outside of a specific focus. He adds, “High school is about experiencing many subjects—not yet committing to one field. You will have plenty of room for other electives and experiences, but a concentration will be an opportunity to show if you lean towards one academic area as your passion.”

**CONCENTRATIONS OFFERED ARE:
LANGUAGE ARTS, SOCIAL STUDIES,
VISUAL ARTS, PERFORMING
ARTS, COMPUTER SCIENCE &
TECHNOLOGY, LIFE & PHYSICAL
SCIENCE, AND MATHEMATICS.**



An outdoor chapel at the high school.

Worshiping together, apart

Creative Worship in COVID

Hebrews 10 exhorts us to not neglect meeting together. In the 2020-2021 school year, what once seemed like a simple mandate has proven increasingly challenging.

Yet despite quarantines, weather considerations, and CDC guidelines, EC staff and community members have spent countless hours creatively reimagining corporate worship on all three campuses. As always, the school operated under a year-long spiritual theme—this year, from Micah 6:8—and the work of spiritual development was treated with utmost importance.

At the high school, a committee of teachers and staff filled in for what is normally a class,

spearheading a weekly chapel. A typical week included streaming pre-recorded content gleaned from the community, however, the team also worked toward planning special chapels.

A highlight for many occurred outside on October 22, representing the first all-community service since the shutdown last spring. “[Pastor] Rob Parker’s chapel was memorable because we were together as a community outside and got a glimpse of the life we remembered and will experience again,” shared **Jesse Wright**, a member of the chapel team. The chapel ended with an opportunity to pray socially distant with a teacher, and a large portion of the school took the opportunity. “Seeing students come for prayer and pour their hearts out was a highlight,” adds **Anna DeJulia**, leader of the chapel planning committee.

Student involvement was also encouraged despite rigid requirements. In another chapel, a high school student, **Will Critchfield**, spoke via livestream, and in another, students learned about Psalms of lament and participated in physically leaving their written burdens at the foot of a cross and picking up a stone with the word, “hope” written in its place. Crosses, made by student **Tyler Dykhous**, were positioned around the campus.



HS students Macey-Kate Davis, Ruby La Bianca and Tehillah Mwenya lead worship at an outdoor chapel.

Continued on page 6



One class a week was invited to watch chapel from the gym.

Middle school principal, **Dan Lazor**, also reflected on the opportunities to meet outside as the most memorable chapels of the year on the Wyckoff campus. "I would say that our most memorable chapels were those we had outside – it was awesome to be able to gather as a Christian community, sing praise songs together, and be challenged to live loves of love toward one another."

He adds, "Our chapel messages have mainly centered on Micah 6:8. We have looked at what God "requires" of us – that which He is seeking to see in His people. We've learned that what God is seeking in His people is not a list of things to do (i.e. Acting justly, loving kindness/mercy, and walking humbly) but a pattern of life that is reflected in these statements. Of course, we all fall short of this pattern, but Jesus did not. His desire is to transform us into that image (the image of Christ, Col 3:9-10) so that as we are conformed to His image we do reflect His character."

The elementary school also strove for creativity despite the challenges with planning corporate worship in a pandemic. One class a week was invited to attend chapel in the gym, while other classes and remote students watched via livestream. In May, the elementary school was also able to host an outdoor patriotic chapel involving veterans.

In addition, the elementary school focused on a strong service component throughout the year. Principal **Sandra Bottge** shares, "While we miss having a corporate worship time together, we participated in several building-wide service projects to help us live out our

spiritual theme. Students wore their pajamas to school and donated breakfast food to New Hope Community Ministries. We collected coats, mittens and other winter wear to donate to Madison Avenue Crossroads Community Ministries. Students participated in the

St. Jude Math-a-Thon and faithfully prayed for the patients at St. Jude. These service projects unite us as the body of Christ and allow us to Love Mercy."

The work is not always easy, but a focus on spiritual development and nurturing the whole child continues to set Eastern Christian School apart, not just in chapel, but in every area of a student's school life. Lazor shares, "The spiritual development of our students is a major part of who we are. It cannot be decoupled from any of the other work we do because we reject the sacred/secular divide. We want our students to learn to see the world from a biblical perspective, knowing that God's truth reigns in every aspect of their lives and informs the way we practice our faith."

“

[YOU] HAVE PUT ON THE NEW SELF, WHICH IS BEING RENEWED IN KNOWLEDGE IN THE IMAGE OF ITS CREATOR. —Colossians 3:10



Seating arrangement at a MS outdoor chapel last fall.



Preschool class having a Zoom session with Yancy

Pre-K Students Zoom With Christian Artist

Worship Time with Yancy Richmond

Even if you've never heard of Yancy Richmond, if you've spent time with children over the past 23 years, you have likely heard someone sing one of her songs. Although her worship songs have been picked up by Christian artists such as Jaci Valasquez, they are often sung by much younger audiences across the US and even around the world.

So when new preschool teacher and elementary school music teacher, **Kathy Davis**, shared that the two were friends, fellow preschool teachers were excited.

"Yancy and I became friends in 2008 when we attended the same church in Tennessee. My own children were preschool age at the time. Our whole family enjoying listening to the music that Yancy produced. We listened to it in the car, at home, and in concert. We were BIG fans! We have remained friends ever since. I found out that her songs were being sung by several of the preschool teachers in class and asked if she would be willing to meet with us virtually to sing with our students."

The connection resulted in Richmond joining all of the preschool classes via a Google Meet on November 10.

"Yancy shared with us how she is inspired by God's word and His world to write music that kids can relate to as well as have fun singing. She introduced us to a new song, "Ready, Set, Go!" that she recently released in her "Little Praise Party" series," shares Davis.

Davis, though originally from Tennessee, just moved to New Jersey from Florida, together with her children and her husband. Her husband recently took a position at Emergence Church as Worship Pastor.

She shares a passion for both the arts and also for Christian education. "Children connect to the arts in a different way than they do to their core curriculum. Music and art touches a person's soul. It unlocks things in some children that they didn't even know they were capable of. In Christian education, we have the privilege of influencing the heart of a child well into their adult lives by teaching them scriptural truth through the arts."

Green Screen Brings Drama to Life

A Virtual Performance

When Yvonne Vitale was in kindergarten, she attended a play about Queen Esther. From then on, "I knew that's what I wanted to do when I grew up. I wanted to be a communicator, like those actors were communicating a story," she shares.

Vitale, who has worked as a professional actress, has been leading the elementary school drama program for more than 15 years. However, this year in COVID-19, there were considerable challenges. Yet despite them, through creativity and perseverance, the program could go on.

On Nov. 3, the third grade drama team performed a 10-minute production about Jesus' healing of the 10 lepers. The students were able to perform without masks, thanks to the help of green screen technology and set-up outside. The production was filmed and then later shown as an elementary school chapel.

The inspiration to use a green screen stemmed from Vitale's work over the summer with Scripture Union, a British-based ministry, which Vitale and her son volunteered with, to coordinate a Zoom-based production. She explains, "My son Skylar is adept in film, and was able to put virtual scenes behind the kids for a variety of locations on a green screen. Really, I just transitioned what I had done for that



Nicholas Yandun and Avery Mulder

“

...GOD ALWAYS SHOWS UP AND SEEMS TO PUT HIS SIGNATURE ON EVERY SINGLE DRAMA...

—Yvonne Vitale

ministry to our elementary kids at EC.”

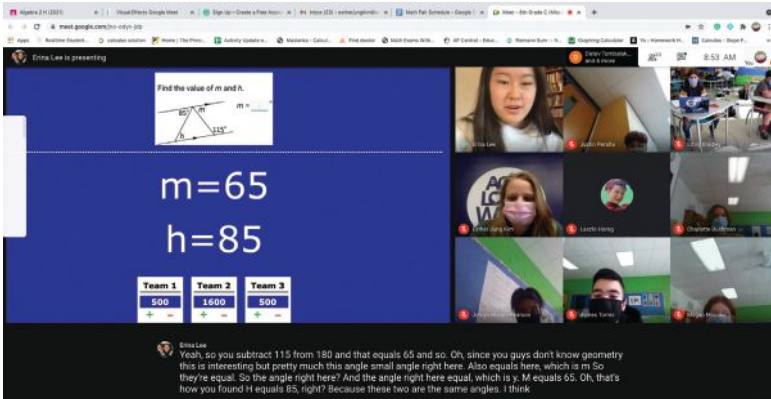
A firm believer in developing theater shows through improvisational exercises, the third grade drama team began to prepare for the performance a full six weeks before production. “The methodology is to provoke the spark of creativity through these carefully chosen theater games,” explains Vitale. She adds that the improvisational method offers additional benefits, namely, “I believe it’s something that will stay with them, build their confidence with their peers and give them the chance to do the highest work, which is to go and tell the Gospel.”



Although there were challenges in moving to a virtual format this year, Vitale sees the benefits as well and believes in the importance of the calling. “It’s one of our highest privileges to be able to verbally as well as physically communicate the alive Word of God. I guess if you wanted to wrap up why it’s a mission of mine, it’s because God always shows up and seems to put his signature on every single drama, so as long as it seems that communication is being made, I am happy and privileged to be a part of it.”

Senior Erina Lee instructs middle school students during a game of math jeopardy.

The group has met virtually once a week. Regular competitions consist of a 5-question test with a maximum time limit of 30 minutes to complete. Competitions are administered nationally, with top performing students recognized in a newsletter. The EC club also keeps a record and recognizes top students at EC.



Math Club Excels Despite COVID

American Math Competition

Every year around March, approximately 300,000 students participate in a 25-question, 75-minute multiple choice test called the American Math Competition (AMC). The test covers trigonometry, advanced algebra and advanced geometry, and is taken by students in the US and across the globe.

Those who score in the top 5% of this elite competition qualify for another, even more prestigious, competition, called the AIME. This year, senior **Cyndi Park** was the highest performing student in the school's math club, and for the first time in school history, qualified for the contest.

Park is one of 20 students who, despite the pandemic, continued to participate in the Eastern Christian Math Club this year. Founded by former teacher **Deb Andrews**, and re-established several years ago by current math teacher, **Esther Kim**, the club has been active throughout the year and has even grown under Kim's leadership.

"We do a lot of competitions," Kim explains. "This club brings together international and domestic students, and for this reason, we also come up with fundraising and volunteer activities. Out of this group, there is also an opportunity to apply for the National Math Honors Society."

In addition to competitions, the larger group is broken up into smaller committees, which includes an SAT group, a math fair group and a math volunteer group.

For the first year, under the leadership of senior **Erina Lee**, student president of the Eastern Christian Math Club, the math fair committee planned math classes for the entire middle school, which consisted primarily of a day of virtual math Jeopardy.

Seven classes participated in the Jeopardy event, which was run by five high school students—Lee, **Karissa Kuperus**, **Maria Nabih**, **Rebecca Eshuis** and **Jun Seo**. The students also prepared an assortment of prizes.

"The part of the day I most enjoyed was interacting with the kids and playing the game with them. We played music in the background while they were solving the questions, which was bonus fun. I also enjoyed showing them how math is very applicable and helpful in their lives, including a video of how math equations can be used to make half-court basketball shots. I really appreciate all the support we received from teachers, coordinators, etc., and the excitement of the kids. It was enjoyable for everyone who was involved," says Lee.



Senior Karissa Kuperus signs into the middle school math jeopardy game remotely from the high school.

High School Graduation

Class of 2021



Isaac Reitz

The joy was palpable on the evening of June 17 as the class of 2021—a class that had endured so many losses during COVID—entered the high school gym for an in-person celebration that could have easily not happened.

Even with a few elements of the graduation modified due to the pandemic, the feel of the room was exuberant. Amidst thunderous applause, graduates entered single file and started their walk going up the stairs and past their socially distanced teachers. Going back down to the main floor, they took seats alongside their families for the ceremony portion, which remained largely the same as in years past.

This year's valedictorian was **Aidan Schulster**, who spoke on the theme, "Getting Ready to Walk." Recalling a COVID-era phenomenon of walking around the school's front loop as part of routine mask breaks, he related walking to a lifelong journey of faith.

"There are several walks in the Bible, first starting with God in the Garden of Eden, to the Israelites walking around Jericho and

wandering in the desert for 40 years, and even to our theme verse, Micah 6:8: "To walk humbly with your God." And now, there's our walk..."

"...Looking back, these past four years were times of growth, change and maturity...As graduates, we are about to walk away from the simple, easy days of our childhood, and are now walking towards the world of adulthood and independence," he said.

Bible teacher **Stephen Bailey** delivered this year's commencement address, titled "Conform to Love," reminding the crowd that "it is within God's desires to have us share Jesus' image." In a passionate address that comforted and challenged, Bailey shared insights and advice drawing from his own life. One of these included a personal account of redemption after the unexpected passing of his father.

"Let the plan change if it needs to. Sometimes God sparks the change, sometimes the suffering of life sparks the change. Regardless, he is with you throughout the change of plans. Sometimes life

"...LOOKING BACK, THESE PAST FOUR YEARS WERE TIMES OF GROWTH, CHANGE AND MATURITY..."

—Valedictorian Aidan Schulster



Luke Antoci, Stephen Frank, Baijun (Jack) Jiang



circumstances might mean you have to sacrifice an old plan, for a holy one. He has a path laid out that is not just good for you, but holy for you."

Bailey ended with a reflection on enjoying the best and beautiful moments, and finally, invited family members and the community to lay hands on the students and proclaim a community blessing over the class of 2021.

He ended with, "We bless you to conform to Christ, to conform to love. Thank you and congratulations Class of 2021."



Emma Robinson and Josaida Pineyro



Phil Verrengia and
Valedictorian Aidan Sehulster

***"LET THE PLAN CHANGE IF IT NEEDS TO. SOMETIMES GOD SPARKS THE CHANGE, SOMETIMES THE SUFFERING OF LIFE SPARKS THE CHANGE. REGARDLESS, HE IS WITH YOU THROUGHOUT THE CHANGE OF PLANS."* —Stephen Bailey**



Emmanuel Adege



The Class of 2021

BY THIS EVERYONE WILL KNOW THAT YOU ARE MY DISCIPLES, IF YOU LOVE ONE ANOTHER. —*John 13:35*



Cassidy Abma



Emmanuel Adegbe



Audrey Adin



Luke Antoci



Fnu Baiyunqigie



Rachel Baker



James Blanco



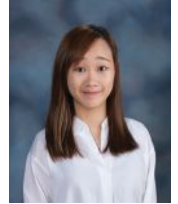
Elizabeth Botbyl



Carrington Brooks



Daniel Buckles



Wai Yee Chan



Young Suh Choi



Ava Cipriano



Mya Coello



Matias Cortes



William Critchfield



Adam Dalton



Thomas De Block



Emmanuel Dyer



Tyler Dykhous



Nicole Foster



Kate Foy



Stephen Frank



Qia Fu



Kristen Ghinelli



Sofia-Vesti Graine



Sarang Han



Banglong Hou



Christiana Hubbard



Joshua Hubbard



Macy Jackson



Baijun Jiang



Richard Jones Jr.



Yunseo Jung



Hyeok Kang



James Klas



Katherine Kuiken



Benjamin Kuipers



Karissa Kuperus

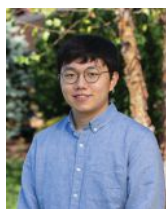
GRADUATIONS



Stephanie Laguerre



Erina Lee



Junseo Lee



SeoJun Lee



Yuzi Liao



Jiahui Lin



Zhicheng Liu



Gabriela Lopez



Jinhao Ma



Maximus Miller



Juhyeon Moon



Jayla Morgado-Derilus



Maria Nabih



Alya Nassrallah



Bradley New



Edward Park



Sin Young Park



Name withheld by parental request



Alexander Perez



Nicole Pienaar



Josaida Pineyro



Matthew Proano



Eva Reinmuth



Isaac Reitz



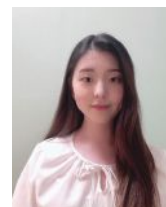
Emma Robinson



Brian Schaaf



Aidan Sehulster



Hyewon Sohn



Maddie Solano



Jemin Son



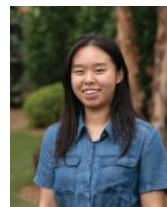
Kelly Steenstra



Michael Steingiga



Runqi Wang



Zherui Wang



Annika Westra



Ryan Westra



Maya Wilkinson



Zeyi Wu



Yueying Zhang

***Congratulations
to the Class of
2021!***



***HE HAS SHOWN YOU, O MORTAL, WHAT IS GOOD.
AND WHAT DOES THE LORD REQUIRE OF YOU? TO
ACT JUSTLY AND TO LOVE MERCY AND TO WALK
HUMBLY WITH YOUR GOD.” —Micah 6:8***

Class of 2021 Awards

Department Awards

Art Department Award

Cassidy Abma and Sarang Han

Art and Technology Department "The Da Vinci Award"

Stephen Frank

Bible and Life Award

Christiana Hubbard

Journalism Award

Baijun Jiang

Technology Department Award

Adam Dalton

World Language Award

Excellence in French – Gabriela Lopez
Excellence in Spanish – Juhyeon Moon

STEAM Excellence Award

Erina Lee and Aidan Sehulster

English Award

Kelly Steenstra

English as a Second Language Award

Hyeok Kang and Zeyi Wu

Mathematics Award

Sin Young Park

Science Award

Matias Cortes and Sin Young Park

Social Studies Award

William Critchfield and Baijun Jiang

Physical Education Award

Matias Cortes

John Philip Sousa Band Award

Sin Young Park

The National School Orchestra Award

Seojun Lee

The National School Choral Award

Christiana Hubbard, Kelly Steenstra

Arion Award

Erina Lee

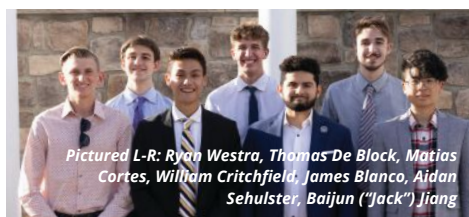
Faculty Award

William Critchfield

Valedictorian

Aidan Sehulster

*Seniors during
senior parent
night, an event
held at the end
of the year.*



School and Community Scholarships

Lakeland Bank Scholarship

Maria Nabih

Christine H White Memorial Scholarship

Karissa Kuperus

R Bruce Van Hine First Responders Award

Tyler Dykhous

Henriette & Kathryne Houseward

Vocational Scholarship

Carrington Brooks and Kristen Ghinelli

Hoitsma-Jeffer Award

James Klas

Smith-Shute Nursing Scholarship

Hanna Faber and Megan Leegwater (alums)

STEAM Scholarship, Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc.

Carrington Brooks

Excellence in Creative Writing Award

Rachel Baker

Excellence in Scholastic Writing Award

Kristen Ghinelli

Excellence in Mathematics Award

Karissa Kuperus

President's Education Awards

(Alphabetical Order)

Cassidy Abma
Audrey Adin
Luke Antoci
Rachel Baker
James Blanco
Elizabeth Botbyl
Carrington Brooks
Wai Yee Chan
Matias Cortes
William Critchfield
Adam Dalton
Kate Foy
Stephen Frank
Kristen Ghinelli
Sofia-Vesti Graine
Sarang Han
Christiana Hubbard
Baijun Jiang
Yunseo Jung
Katherine Kuiken
Benjamin Kuipers
Karissa Kuperus
Erina Lee
Junseo Lee
Yuzi Liao
Zhicheng Liu
Gabriela Lopez
Jinhao Ma
Maximus Miller
Juhyeon Moon
Maria Nabih
Sin Young Park
Edward Park
Nicole Pienaar
Josaida Pineyro
Eva Reinmuth
Emma Robinson
Brian Schaaf
Aidan Sehulster
Maddie Solano
Jemin Son
Kelly Steenstra
Michael Steinginga
Zherui Wang
Ryan Westra
Annika Westra

Athletic Awards

ECHS Athletic Department

Varsity Club Award

Matias Cortes and Nicole Foster

NJSIAA Scholar Athlete Award

Michael Steinginga

Athletic Department Golden Eagle Award

Danny Buckles, Nicole Foster,
Michael Steinginga

PCCA Senior Athlete of the Year

Matias Cortes and Nicole Foster

NJ National Women in Sport Award

Karissa Kuperus

NJIC Sportsmanship Award

William Critchfield and
Kristen Ghinelli



Class of 2021 Colleges

COLLEGE ACCEPTANCES

**Carrington
Brooks,
American
University**



Adelphi University
Alfred University
Allegheny College
American University
Arizona State University - Tempe
Artistic Academy of Hair Design
Baylor University
Belmont University
Bergen Community College
Binghamton University
Bloomfield College
Boston University
Brandeis University
Bryn Athyn College of the New Church
Bucknell University
Cairn University-Langhorne
Caldwell University
California State University-Sacramento
Calvin University
Cedarville University
DeSales University
Drake University
Eastern University
Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University-Daytona Beach
Fairleigh Dickinson University - Metropolitan Campus
Felician University
Florida Institute of Technology
Florida Southern College
Fordham University
George Mason University
Georgian Court University
Gettysburg College
Gordon College
Hampshire College
Hartwick College
Hendrix College

Hillsong College
Hobart William Smith Colleges
Hofstra University
Hope College
Illinois Institute of Technology
Iona College
James Madison University
Kean University
Lafayette College
Lawrence University
Liberty University
Lincoln University
Marist College
Marist College
Maryland Institute College of Art
Marymount Manhattan College
Marywood University
Messiah College
Michigan State University
Monmouth University
Montclair State University
Mount St. Mary's University
New Jersey Institute of Technology
New Jersey Institute of Technology (Newark College of Engineering)
New York University
New York University (College of Arts and Science)
Northeastern University
Northern Arizona University (College of Health and Human Services)
Norwich University
Nova Southeastern University
Ohio State University
Otis College of Art and Design
Palm Beach Atlantic University
Pennsylvania State University
Pennsylvania State University - Main Campus
Pennsylvania State University - Main Campus (College of Engineering)
Pepperdine University
Pratt Institute - Main
Providence College
Purdue University - Main Campus
Quinnipiac University
Ramapo College of New Jersey

Randolph College
Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute
Rider University
Ringling College of Art and Design
Roanoke College
Rochester Institute of Technology
Rowan University
Rutgers University School of Nursing
Rutgers University - New Brunswick
Rutgers University - New Brunswick (Rutgers Business School: Undergraduate-New Brunswick)
Rutgers University - New Brunswick (School of Arts and Sciences)
Rutgers University - New Brunswick (School of Environmental and Biological Sciences)
Ryerson University
Sacred Heart University
Salve Regina University
San Diego State University
San Jose State University
Savannah College of Art and Design
School of the Art Institute of Chicago
School of Visual Arts
Seton Hall University
Southern New Hampshire University
Spelman College
St John's University-New York
St. Thomas Aquinas College
State University of New York at New Paltz
Stevens Institute of Technology
Stockton University
Stonehill College
Stony Brook University
Syracuse University
Syracuse University (David B. Falk College of Sport and Human Dynamics)
Texas Christian University

The City University of New York - CUNY
The College of New Jersey
The King's College
The University of Alabama (Nursing)
The University of Arizona (Public Health)
The University of the South
The Wharton School of Business at the University of Pennsylvania
Tufts University
UC San Francisco
University of Alabama at Birmingham
University of California-Irvine
University of California - Riverside
University of California - Santa Barbara
University of California - Santa Cruz
University of Central Florida
University of Colorado Denver (UC Denver)
University of Connecticut
University of Detroit Mercy
University of Hartford
University of Maryland - College Park
University of Miami
University of San Francisco
University of Scranton
University of St Andrews
University of Utah
University of Waterloo
Virginia Commonwealth University (Honors College)
Waynesburg University
Wheaton College
William Paterson University
York College



Adam Dalton, Penn State

Middle School Graduation

Class of 2021

A first for the middle school, this year's graduation ceremony was held June 17 on the grounds of the high school to better accommodate more family members during pandemic-era restrictions.

Alex Culp presented the student address, likening the faith journey to a race. He reminisced about experiences had and relationships built in fifth through eighth grades, ranging from teachers who have encouraged the class along the way, to sports, to academics.



Terry Allen and Alex Culp



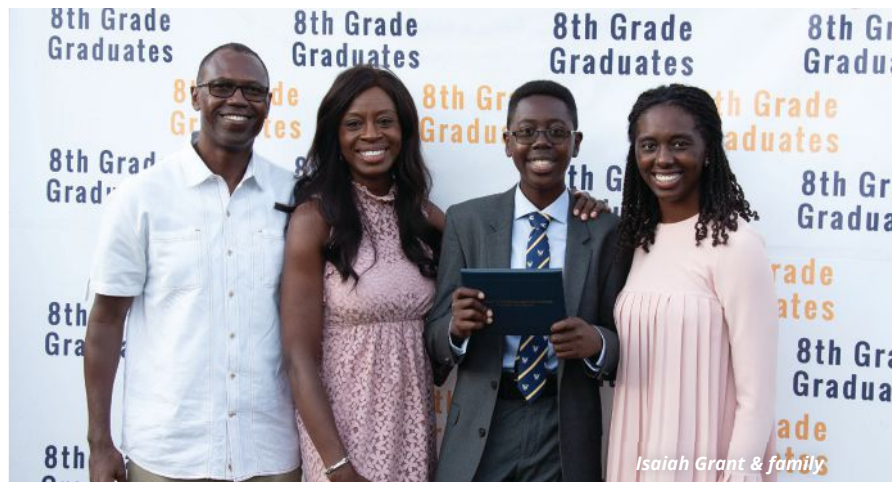
Alex Galupo

He also spoke about the challenges of COVID-19. "In eighth grade, many of us returned to the middle school campus in person, but things were hardly back to normal. We missed our friends who stayed home, we rarely saw classmates in other cohorts, and we mourned the loss of fall sports and much anticipated 8th grade field trips. But no struggles that we faced in middle school can ever begin to compare to what Jesus faced as he considered the cost of saving us. And where did Jesus find the strength to press on? The writer of Hebrews tells us it was for the joy set before Jesus that he endured the cross."

Middle school teacher **Liesl Botbyl** read an address written by principal, **Dan Lazor**, which was delivered "exactly 1 year, 3 months, and 4 days from the time that we entered lockdown 'until spring break.'" In a similar vein to the student address, the speech reminded

"And let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us, fixing our eyes on Jesus..."

—excerpt of Hebrews 12:1-2



Isaiah Grant & family



listeners that despite loss, “we are to be eternity focused, knowing that we serve and worship a God who is faithful to his promises.”

The commencement address explored themes introduced in Daniel 3 during the story of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego. It also considered persecution in the early church before exhorting the graduates of today: “As you walk away from Middle School, keep your eyes focused on God—trust Him not because He removes all the obstacles and makes life easy. Trust Him because he has given us His promises of a coming king and a kingdom, planned since the beginning.”



Rachael DeRooy

“...TRUST HIM NOT BECAUSE HE REMOVES ALL THE OBSTACLES AND MAKES LIFE EASY. TRUST HIM BECAUSE HE HAS GIVEN US HIS PROMISES OF A COMING KING AND A KINGDOM, PLANNED SINCE THE BEGINNING.” —Dan Lazor (read by Liesl Botbyl)



Samantha Barna



Principal David Intlekofer

Elementary Graduation

3rd Grade Celebration Chapel



hearts and feet, to represent this year's spiritual theme.

Other highlights included a student choreographed worship dance to the song, 'Way Maker', a performance of 'The Blessing' in sign language, and a final celebration of the Lord's sovereignty and faithfulness with the song 'Mambo Sawa', which in Swahili means the Lord is on the throne.

In addition to strong student participation, Principal Sandra Bottge gave a short exhortation filled with thankfulness to the students, parents, staff and to a faithful God in this

Despite forecasts that suggested otherwise, June 15 opened to a beautiful, sunny morning, affording elementary school staff the ability to host its third grade celebration chapel outside.

"This is an event that we thought at many times this year that we might not be able to celebrate in person. It's a real treat to celebrate today," shared Tom Dykhouse, head of school in his opening statement.

True to its name, the celebration chapel celebrated the gifts and accomplishments of the third grade class, as well as reflected on the spiritual theme of the year, based on Micah 6:8, Act Justly, Love Mercy, Walk Humbly. The event featured a number of student speakers, songs, and a new addition to the ceremony: live art.

Three easels were set up in the background and at various times in the ceremony, students added to the artwork. At the end of the chapel, it was clear to the audience that they had painted mosaics with hands,

difficult season. Assistant Head of School Ruth Kuder ended with a final prayer. She concluded by recalling 3 John 1:4: "Truly we have no greater joy than to know that our children are walking in the truth."





Sarah Salama

Preschool Graduation

Pre-K Closing Program

This year's pre-k ceremonies were grouped by class and were held outside at the elementary school on June 16. The day included multiple ceremonies arranged 45 minutes apart and running from 9:45 until 2:45.

The sounds of Pomp and Circumstance rang through the air, offering a familiar start even despite a different location, time and format in 2021. For all classes, the events also included a range of songs, which varied depending on the class, the presentation of preschool certificates, and of course, its usual dose of cuteness.

Creativity was in no short supply as teachers read the future career plans of its youngest students. Aspirations ranged from one-of-a-kind job titles, like 'Singing Princess Unicorn' and 'Super Hero' to a bit more practical in nature, like a police officer or construction worker.

Although the songs and words changed with each class, the sentiment remained steadfast. The focus centered on celebrating the accomplishments of the year and a commitment to partner with parents in raising up children in the way they should go. In Emily Fantuzzo's class ceremony, she shared with the parents, "Our hope is that they will love the Lord with all their heart, soul, strength and mind and that they would live out Micah 6:8."

Micah 6:8 was the foundational verse that formed the school's theme, and it was also reflected in the end ceremonies through words and songs. It reads: "He has shown you, O mortal, what is good. And what does the Lord require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God."



Bryce Gelenter



Looking at the camera, Hunter McGowan and Carolina Bassett

Special Moments

From the 2021 Graduations



Zherui (Jennifer) Wang



Ethan Groen



Sophia Kim



Malachi George and Matthew Virga



Juliana Peralta



Liana Varghese



Carrington Brooks



Elizabeth Botbyl

GRADUATIONS



Sadie VanderPyl



Mambo Sawa Sawa song with Instruments



*Zarah Bethea, Justin Peralta, Destiny Miller,
Billy Rodriguez, Jordyn Blands-Pearson*



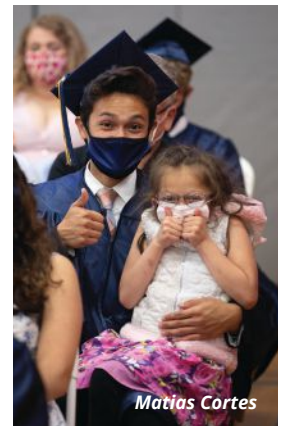
Anthony and Michael Mulder



Annika Westra and Emmanuel Dyer



Hunter McGowan



Matias Cortes



Charlie Kraai

Introducing EC's New CFO



Eastern Christian School appointed Mr. Rick DeBel as our next Chief Financial Officer, who joined the organization in mid-April.

Rick was most recently Executive Vice President of Peapack-Gladstone Bank in Bedminster, NJ and previously served as Senior Vice President of both Wells Fargo Bank and

Bank of America. Rick holds a BS in Accounting from William Paterson University. He currently serves as board chair of the Christian Health Care Center and the Tri-County Scholarship Fund and a member of the Board of Trustees of the Savings Fund of the Netherlands Reformed Congregations. Rick previously served as a member of the board of the Eastern Christian Children's Retreat and the Netherlands Reformed School.

Rick, his wife Ellen, and their family are members of the Netherlands Reformed Church.

NEW EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE FOUNDATION



Suzane (Soo) Rhee Brown joined the organization as the Executive Director of the Foundation for Eastern Christian School in June.

During her 18-year career, Soo has held positions of increasing responsibility at Morgan Stanley, most recently serving as Executive Director and Head of U.S. Philanthropy.

She has also assumed a variety of volunteer roles, including working on the leadership team at the Center for Faith and Work at Redeemer Presbyterian Church, on the Board of Trustees at the Korean American Community Foundation, on the Board of the Association of Corporate Citizenship Professionals, and as Founder and Ministry Co-leader for the Morgan Stanley Christian Network. Most recently, she has served as a volunteer at Eastern Christian Elementary School. Soo holds a B.A. from St. Lawrence University in Sociology and Environmental Studies and has an M.P.A. degree pending from New York University's Wagner School of Public Service in Public and Nonprofit Management. Her daughters, Kaelyn and Elyse, are in first and third grade at Eastern Christian Elementary School. Soo is a NJ native from Norwood and her husband Dave is a Calvin alumni from MI. She and her family now reside in Hawthorne.

Welcome to the new staff and thank you to staff who have served the EC community for 5 or more years!



EC Service Awards

25 YEARS

Joyce Breur
Debra Veenstra

20 YEARS

Cindy Flim
Donna Hoogerhyde
Linda Van Grouw

15 YEARS

Nancy Martin
Tina Schwab

10 YEARS

Ralph Rypkema
Melody Zacharias

5 YEARS

Lauren Markley
Christina McGowan
Marchelle Janaie Roniet
Seth Stadtlander
Petra Vant Slot



WE'RE LOOKING FOR YOUR CLASS' GRADUATION PHOTO

THE ARCHIVES OF EASTERN CHRISTIAN ARE LOOKING FOR A GRADUATION PHOTO FROM THE FOLLOWING CLASSES OF THE 1960S:

1960, 1962, 1963, 1965, 1966, 1967, 1968, 1969

SCANNED COPIES may be sent to nancyhemrick@easternchristian.org

HARD COPIES can be mailed to Nancy Hemrick, 50 Oakwood Ave., North Haledon, NJ 07508. Please indicate if you would like your photo returned – we're happy to do so after scanning it into our digital alumni files.

HOMECOMING 2021

HERITAGE DINNER on FRIDAY, OCTOBER 15
(in accordance with COVID-19 regulations)

All those who graduated 50+ years ago are welcome to attend. We will be honoring the following classes celebrating milestones in 2020 and 2021:

1965 and 1966 - 55 years
1960 and 1961 - 60 years
1955 and 1956 - 65 years
1950 and 1951 - 70 years
1945 and 1946 - 75 years



HOMECOMING FEATURES

Alumni and Friends Golf Outing
EC5K and Fun Run
Homecoming Super Saturday
Alumni Soccer Game
3v3 Basketball Tournament
HomEComing Dance

SAVE THE DATES: OCTOBER 15 & 16, 2021



Golf Outing

On Monday, May 24, 2021, 131 golfers came together at Wild Turkey Golf Club in Hamburg, NJ for a day of supporting the mission of Eastern Christian School through golf.

The day began with a putting contest and lunch, followed by the scramble format outing, and concluding with a delicious dinner under a big top tent.

Special thank you to our Platinum Sponsor – Columbia Bank.



Great Is Thy Faithfulness

In Lieu of EC's annual Auction Gala, *Great is Thy Faithfulness Campaign* was a grand success



Aria Sanchez and
Ava Rainville

on June 3rd, the Eastern Christian School community celebrated God's faithfulness with an extraordinary outpouring of generosity! Our fundraising goal in light of the cancelled auction was \$100,000 and we had exceeded that goal by 11:30am on Giving Day! One hundred and ninety-seven donors in our community came together to give **\$174,089** to ensure that every child receives an excellent, Christ-centered education!

On June 5, the celebration continued with an all-community picnic, held on the grounds of the middle school.

The Lord has made Eastern Christian School a light to nurture our kids in the knowledge of Him, and empowers them to be a light to the world around them. On behalf of Eastern Christian School, we want to give thanks to all of our supporters and families for selflessly and willingly following His call to keep this light shining!

**GOD, GREAT
IS YOUR
FAITHFULNESS!**

Back in February our hopes of holding our spring auction gala sadly evaporated due to COVID-19 restrictions. Our Eastern Christian School faculty and staff had been creatively and sacrificially rising to the challenge of safely educating our kids in the pandemic, and now it was the Foundation staff's turn to prayerfully ask God how we could work hard to raise the funding needed for our school even in a pandemic.

"BECAUSE OF THE LORD'S GREAT LOVE WE ARE NOT CONSUMED, FOR HIS COMPASSIONS NEVER FAIL. THEY ARE NEW EVERY MORNING; GREAT IS YOUR FAITHFULNESS." *Lamentations 3:22-23*

Our God provided abundantly more than we could have asked or imagined!



Eva Reinmuth

We launched our **Great Is Thy Faithfulness Campaign**, first asking our faithful business supporters to give to our mission as they would to our auction. They stepped up for Eastern Christian School and gave even more than their usual support. We asked our families to come together with a spirit of thanksgiving to our great God for bringing us through this challenging year with His protection and blessing, and

Great Is Thy Faithfulness *(continued)*

Jack Meserole

Nora Lazor, Chiara Secades, Rachel Anokye,
Perci Edmondson, Grace Misselbeck

ALUMNI NEWS

Alumni Celebrations



Emily & Jason Bionde

WEDDINGS

Liz Tanzola '06
& Brian Miller
5/7/21

Trevor Brennan '08
& Eleanor Wildey
5/9/21

Emily Karr '08
& Jason Bionde
3/13/21

Felipe Faria '10
& Alexis Lindsell
4/17/21

Joseph Lang '10
& Deborah Monte
6/11/21

Mark Hook '11
& Ashley-Rose Sherman
6/27/21

Jaclyn Jacobs '11
& Drew Friedrich
5/20/21

Noah Ruitenberg '11
& Kelly Sietsma '12
7/2/21

Brianne Traub '11
& Jake Rogala
4/3/21

Dara Veenstra '11
& Mark Bowers
6/25/21

Joshua Davidson '12
& Michelle Kelly
4/16/21

Kathryn Post '14
& Tulu Omole
6/12/21

Cheryl Steenstra '14
& Chris Laux
5/15/21

Jenna Struyk '14
& Seth Alicea '14
4/30/21

Hunter Leegwater '18
& Renee Van Olden
6/12/21



Cheryl & Chris Laux

Jaclyn & Drew
Friedrich

Kathryn & Tulu Omole

**CONGRATS
NEWLYWEDS!**

BABIES



Steve '02 & Jessica Ruit
Jackson Evan 2/13/21

Webb & Deanna (Cirino)
Knudsen '06
Owen Matthew 3/11/21

Andrew & Mary (Tolsma)
van der Meer '06
Mabel Rose 3/19/21

Joshua '06 & Victoria Wisse
Sloane Leigh 1/19/21

Justin '07 & Katherine Vierling
Olivia Grace 11/3/20

Tim & Joanna (Switzer)
Gallacher '08
Charlotte Jo 1/6/21

Chris '08 & Sara (Schipper)
Milkamp '10
Garrett Wayne 3/31/21

Giancarlo & Ira Therese
(Domingo) Sunga '09
Mia Gabriel 1/25/21

Jake & Alyssa (Kuiken)
Morin '10
Caleb Andrew 4/12/21

Cody & Linnea (Fischer)
Schmeer '11
Calvin Andrew 3/23/21

Dan & Emilee (Kim)
Schroeder '11
Garrett Eric 1/26/21

Brandon '12 & Natalya
(Suizzo) Steiginga '12
Benjamin Marcus 3/27/21

Cliff & Abby (Kuder)
Mathisen '14
Annika Ruth 2/24/21

Ben & Bethany (Kuiken)
Munkittrick '14
Jedidiah Daniel 5/8/21



Charlotte Gallacher



Benjamin Steiginga



Olivia Vierling



Jackson Ruit



Caleb Morin



Garrett Milkamp

UPCOMING REUNIONS

To stay up-to-date, please be sure EC has your current email address. Update online at:
www.easternchristian.org/alumni or email: alumni@easternchristian.org

CLASS OF 1960 – 60 YEAR REUNION

Saturday, October 16, 2021 at 12 noon

Portobello Restaurant Oakland, NJ

Please e-mail lwynbeek@aol.com for more information and reservations.

CLASS OF 1971 – 50 YEAR REUNION

Friday, October 15, 2021 at 7pm

Facebook page: "EC Class of 1971"

Co-Chairs: Bill Reitsma: reitsma1@ptd.net; Dave Bruinooge: dcbgolfer674@aol.com

CLASS OF 1982 – 40 YEAR REUNION

"Get ready for our 2022 cheers to 40 years" gathering

Facebook page: E.C.H.S Class of '82!

GroupMe: ECHS CLASS OF 1982 40TH REUNION INFO

Remembering

ALUMNI

Henrietta (Regnery) Larson '34
Hobe Sound, FL 3/14/21

William Hoogstra '44
Middletown, NY 4/13/21

Jeanne (Wattez) Smith '49
Waveland, MS 4/19/21

Harry Gros '51
Pine Bush, NY 6/7/21

Robert Jeffer '55
Shohola, PA 1/17/21

James Henry "Hank" De Jong '56
Grand Rapids, MI 3/24/21

Joseph Wallendal '57
Flemington, NJ 5/2/21

Robert Greydanus '59
Ocean City, NJ 1/22/21

Donald Distelberg '63
Grand Rapids, MI 4/23/21

John Vander Molen '64
Prospect Park, NJ 5/11/21

David Zuidema '87
North Haledon, NJ 4/25/21

FORMER BOARD MEMBER

Adrian "Ed" Gerritsen
2/23/2021

Served three terms on EC's Board of Directors

1966-1969; 1974-1977 and 1983-1986

Vice President 1984-1986

President 1985-1986

FORMER FACULTY AND STAFF

John Santangelo
5/28/21

ECBS Custodian 1983-1998

Gifts in Memory

The following is a list of donations received 2/16/21 through 6/15/21.

IN MEMORY OF

Andrew Andela
Debra Wilkes

Timothy De Boer
Margaret Necita

Donald De Bruin
Tannette Botbyl
Henry & Lori Groenewal
Sharon & Peter Van Der Heide
Carol & Howard Visscher

Jacob "Jack" De Jong
Todd De Jong
Joyce De Jong

Jean Dreisbach
William & Carol Beckmann
Dale Dreisbach
Nancy & John Hemrick

Adrian (Ed) Gerritsen
Bob & Liz Aupperlee
James Doezeema Jr.
John Drukker
Kenneth & Susan Dyer
James & Kathy Gerritsen
Bernice Houseward & Stephen Pastoor
George & Frances Kroeze
Garret & Florence Nieuwenhuis
Daniel & Jan Rowenhorst
Florence Van Hook

Elise Gorter
John Golden

Donald Holwerda
Jane de Waal Malefyt
Kenneth & Phyllis Johnson
Midland Park CRC
Lynda & Thomas Pasqueretta
Ronald & Marilyn Stonehouse
Henry & Sharon Vogel
Leonard & Ruth Wynbeek

William Hoogstra
Robert & Anita Hoogstra

John Hulsebos
Annamae Hulsebos

Henrietta Krug
Grace Catalano
Kathy & Dennis Sikkema

Harold Jellema
Janet Jellema

Charles Memmelaar
Bernard & Marion Memmelaar
Donna & Phil Michaelson

Michael Normile
Garret & Florence Nieuwenhuis

Thomas Noyes
Jean Crawford

Jeanne Smith
Marilyn & Donald Sporn

Ruth Spikeboer
Carol & Howard Visscher

Barbara Vriesema
Bill & Judy Vriesema

Dorothy Woudenberg
Ruth & Phillip De Jong

James Youngsman
Beth & John Milkamp
Betty Youngsman
Jim & Kathy Youngsman

David Zuidema
C. Genevieve Douma
Dom & Geraldine Gallagher

GIFTS IN HONOR

Ethel & Neal Baum
65th Wedding Anniversary
Alice & Henry Luinenburg

Ethel De See
90th Birthday
Carol Byma
Jill & Jason Formicola

John Ydo
70th Birthday
Nancy & Steven Bruining

BEQUESTS

Estate of Marinus Ten Hoeve
Estate of Phyllis Sweetman
Estate of Gladys Van Goor

DIRECT GIFTS

Albert & Elizabeth Huizing

Travel Brand Successfully Takes Off Despite COVID-19

Rachael Kemp, Class of 2011

Rachael Kemp and her brother-in-law officially launched wayre, a travel apparel company, in February 2020. Three weeks after their e-commerce site opened for business, the world went into lockdown.

"At first we thought, 'This is it for us. We are a new travel brand launching during a travel ban...How could we survive this?'"

Yet survive they did, and in a way that exceeded their wildest imagination: coverage in national publications, a nearly sold out inventory, and an opportunity to create sustainable, systemic change in the fashion industry.

As a high school student, Kemp didn't have a dream of fashion entrepreneurship. She shares that high school was hard for her. "I wasn't ready to learn and was absorbed in my social life," she says. Yet, "I had a teacher that could see that and spoke into my insecurities—**Jena Fisher.**" Upon graduating, Kemp took a gap year hosted by Youth With a Mission (YWAM).

Although the year was designed for discipleship training, it was there that "God showed up and totally transformed my future, calling me into the fashion industry," she shares. "I hold on to my vocation dearly, recognizing the privilege it is to have a clear calling."



**WE KEEP PEOPLE
AND OUR PLANET
AT THE CENTER OF
EVERYTHING WE DO IN
OUR BUSINESS."**

In 2018, Kemp took her first steps to found wayre, which was inspired by a little blue travel dress she wore and lost while visiting Spain. By summer 2019, the company launched a successful Kickstarter campaign aimed at funding the first round of ethical clothing production. Aside from a focus on travel-wise apparel—items that are "lightweight, wrinkle resistant, breathable, UV-resistant, and super comfy and stretchy"—the clothing is crafted with fabric created from post-consumer plastic bottles in a factory committed to fair, livable wages.



"Fast fashion is a leading contributor to climate change as the second largest pollutant in the world, and it employs underpaid and underage workers, [providing] unsafe workplace practices," says Kemp. By comparison, "We keep people and our planet at the center of everything we do in our business."

In February 2020, the vision and mission for wayre were clear and the way forward looked bright. Then COVID hit, and in the words of Kemp, "We had a choice to make: we either sink or we swim." An immediate pivot was necessary. "We started buying and testing every mask that hit the market, quickly recognizing a huge gap in what other companies were releasing...we partnered with our sustainable manufacturing team to develop a 99% filtering, 5-layer, breathable mask. And this mask has been our saving grace," she shares.

By summer 2020, the mask was rated top overall mask by the Wall Street Journal, as well as multiple other publications. The exposure brought many to the new site, shopwayre.com, leading to a nearly sold-out inventory. "We could never have predicted for wayre what we would be today," she says.

As travel restrictions ease globally, the company is looking ahead, seeking to reestablish itself once more as an ethical travel brand, and more specifically, as one that puts Christian stewardship at the forefront. "wayre is built on shared values of Jesus—people, stewardship of the earth, honestly. I get to impact people through wayre and be a vessel for God to do work [through] me. He's given and is giving me a platform to share the undeniable love and transformation He gives."

Author Honors Grandmother in Children's Book

Laura (Dykhouse) Schuler '99



Inspiration can strike at the most interesting times, including in the middle of the night during a pandemic.

Last May, after Laura Schuler worked with her daughter on a third-grade biography project

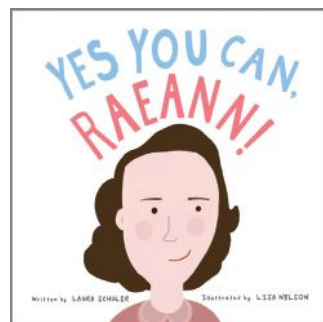
involving women's suffrage, she was suddenly hit with an idea. "All of this must have been swirling around in my head because one night I had a dream that I wrote about one of the most influential women in my life, my grandmother. In the middle of the night, I opened the "Notes" app on my phone to jot down what has now become the first page, and the title, "Yes You Can, Raeann!"

The book, inspired by the life of another alumna, Raeann (Dyksen) Dykhouse, was written to "remember trail-blazing women who have come before, to inspire a new generation of young girls, [and] to honor the life and love of a beloved grandmother." It was published on September 2020 and is available on Amazon.

"My grandparents, Garret and Raeann, lived lives full of grace, service and generosity. In every phase of her life, my grandmother lovingly served others in the name of the Lord," shares Schuler. "My grandparents

were deeply loved and admired by their family, friends, and members of the community."

Raeann graduated from Eastern Christian School's predecessor—Eastern Academy—in 1944. Among its pages, Yes You Can, Raeann! documents some of Raeann's achievements in a time when women's roles were understood differently. Raeann played basketball, volunteered with the American Red Cross, and served as the first female captain of the Wyckoff, NJ ambulance corps. It also includes heartwarming details from a loving granddaughter, such as her penchant for banana bread. Other details are at times fictional to better develop the plot, but "Nevertheless," Schuler says, "I hope that the message and legacy of her service and hard work comes through."



“

I HOPE THAT THE MESSAGE AND LEGACY OF HER SERVICE AND HARD WORK COMES THROUGH."



An EC graduate of 1999 and elementary school teacher, Schuler, who currently lives in Michigan, shares that "Eastern Christian holds a very special place in my heart. So many friends, teachers, administrators and coaches helped shape me into the person I am today. From 'Writer's Workshop' with Mrs. Rhonda Klein in third grade, to trips to Spruce Lake and Philadelphia in middle school, to Spanish class with Sra. Jean Dreisbach in high school and so much more!"



Committed to helping you work toward your financial goals through planning and objective advice. Please call us today to schedule a consultation to determine if we can assist you as you plan your future.



Andrew M. Aran
CFA



Mark D. Reitsma
CFP®, CMFC



Timothy G. Parker
CFA



Bryan D. Kabot
CFP®, AAMS®

500 North Franklin Turnpike, Suite 212, Ramsey, NJ 07446
201-447-5850 www.regencywealth.com

We typically work with clients with investable assets in excess of \$750,000

KUIKEN BROTHERS COMPANY, INC.



LUMBER ■ BUILDING MATERIALS ■ MILLWORK

Since 1912

ADDRESS: 6-02 Fair Lawn Avenue, Fair Lawn, NJ 07410 **PHONE:** 201.796.2082

9 Locations throughout NJ & NY

WWW.KUIKENBROTHERS.COM | INFO@KUIKENBROTHERS.COM

Proud to be a faithful supporter of



CELEBRATING 125 YEARS
EASTERN CHRISTIAN
SCHOOL

Pleased to be a continual contributor
to students' **T.R.I.P.** programs.

Call Jeff for details

4 generations of Eastern Christian alumni

Ethan Vander Molen Class of 2017 | Sarah Everett Vander Molen Class of 1990

John Vander Molen Class of 1964 | Jeanette Haakmeester Vander Molen Class of 1927

TERRIE O'CONNOR
— REALTORS —

395 Franklin Avenue, Wyckoff, New Jersey 07481

Buying or selling, call Jeff for all of your Real Estate needs.
Receive a complimentary market analysis of your home today.

Jeff Vander Molen

Sales Associate

201-290-2103 Cell

201-891-0100 Office

jeff@tochr.com | www.jeffsellsnj.com

Top Company Sales Associate 2020

Top Sales Associate-Wyckoff Office 2011-2020

NJ Realtors® Circle of Excellence® 2009-2020



BUSHOVEN LLC

CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

A FIRM OF BUSINESS PROFESSIONALS SPECIALIZING IN:
TAX, ACCOUNTING, AUDITING, CONSULTING



201-444-0001 | www.bushoven.com
16-00 ROUTE 208 S., SUITE 101, FAIR LAWN NJ, 07410

Christian Health Care Center

Mental Health Central Access

Mental illness affects not only the individual who is suffering, but his or her loved ones as well. Through our new **Mental Health Central Access Department**, understanding and selecting appropriate treatment and making an initial appointment is now just a phone call away.

Christian Health Care Counseling Center:

Individual, family, and group counseling for children, adults, and seniors. *Also designated Center of Excellence for Developmentally Disabled Behavioral Health Services*

Ramapo Ridge Partial-hospitalization Program:

Voluntary, short-term outpatient treatment program for adults experiencing severe symptoms

Ramapo Ridge Psychiatric Hospital:

Fully accredited inpatient psychiatric hospital for adult and geriatric patients. *Also awarded Disease-specific Care Certification for Dementia by The Joint Commission*

MAKE MENTAL
HEALTH MATTER

Mental Health Central Access at
Christian Health Care Center
(201) 848-5500



HEALTH, HEALING, AND WELLNESS FOR ALL AGES

Christian Health Care Center

MAIN CAMPUS: 301 Sicomac Avenue, Wyckoff, NJ 07481

WAYNE CAMPUSES: 1000 Siena Village, Wayne, NJ 07470

2100 Summer Hill Road, Wayne, NJ 07470

(201) 848-5200 • ChristianHealthCare.org

SENIOR LIFE

SHORT-TERM REHAB

MENTAL HEALTH

THE VISTA



"WE ENTRUST OUR CHILDREN'S EDUCATIONAL NEEDS TO THE
EASTERN CHRISTIAN SCHOOL SYSTEM.
YOU CAN TRUST YOUR FAMILY'S AUTOMOTIVE NEEDS TO US!"

-Ron Barna, Dealer Principal



OVER 600 NEW AND
PRE-OWNED
VEHICLES
TO CHOOSE FROM!

In addition,
Paramus Chevrolet will
donate **\$100** to Eastern
Christian with **every**
vehicle purchase by
our EC friends



EC PARENT/DEALER PRINCIPAL,
RON BARN, WILL OVERSEE
YOUR TRANSACTION **PERSONALLY!**



FIND NEW ROADS™

194 Route 17 • Paramus
Sales: (201) 477-2795 Service: (201) 261-7102

View **Over 600 New & Pre-Owned** Vehicles at:
PARAMUSCHEVROLET.COM





TWIN COUNTY IRRIGATION
128 BIRCHWOOD TERRACE
WAYNE, NEW JERSEY 07470

Tel: (973) 595-1174
Tel: (973) 696-6635
Fax: (973) 696-3181

**IRRIGATION • WELL
TANK • PUMP SERVICE**

N.J. Cert. No. 0016983
NEWWA Backflow Cert. No. 8432
Pump Installer Lic. No. 481319

George Lindemulder

george@twincountyirrigation.com



Energy Experts Since 1925

Shotmeyer Bros.

Heating & Air Conditioning

FREE

**Heating & Air Conditioning
System Inspection**

973-427-1000
www.ShotmeyerBros.com

WALDWICK

Business • Social • Nonprofit

**Printing
CO.**
est. 1954

- Graphic Design & Layout
- Business & Personal Stationery
- Invitations & Announcements
- Forms • Brochures • Newsletters
- Booklets • Promotional Items

1 Harrison Avenue, Waldwick, NJ 07463

201.652.5848 print@waldwickprinting.com

FAX 201.652.3120 waldwickprinting.com

THE COOK FAMILY, CLASS OF '51, '59, '82, '87, '94, '20, '23, '26, '29



WE ARE THE CARPET PEOPLE!
FABER BROTHERS BROADLOOM
350 WEST CLINTON STREET, HALEDON
973-595-7523 FABERBRO.COM
SIX LOCATIONS ** 10 EC GRADS



**INDIVIDUAL & COUPLES
COUNSELING**

**Nancy Dykstra-Powers, LCSW
PSYCHOTHERAPIST**

www.ndykstrapowers.com

ndykstrapowers@gmail.com
201.321.5610

A New Floor Makes Your Room Beautiful



save with t.r.i.p.

Carpet, Print Stair Runners, Sheet Vinyl
Laminate Floors, Prefinished Hardwood
Luxury Tile, Cork & Bamboo Flooring
Residential & Commercial



V&S Floor Covering

145 Godwin Avenue
Midland Park

201-445-3311

www.vsfloors.com

**BRAUNIOUS BROS.
INC.**

Value & Excellence



• General Contractors

• Additions

• Renovations

• Masonry Division

• Custom Millwork

• Owner Supervised

• Fully Insured

• Over 50 Years Experience

(201) 444-2689

24 E. Summit Avenue, Midland Park, NJ 07432

www.brauniousbros.com

All good things start with a smile!



Proud to support Eastern Christian Schools.

MARTIN ORTHODONTICS | THE PRACTICE OF EASTERN CHRISTIAN ALUM SCOTT E. MARTIN, DMD LLC
AAO SPECIALTY # 5190

237 EVERETT AVENUE | WYCKOFF NJ 07481 | 201.891.5534 | WWW.MARTIN-ORTHO.COM

CEMENT STUCCO
STONE VENEERS
COATINGS • EIFS
INTERIOR PLASTER



Craftsmanship with Integrity since 1987

CERTIFIED INSTALLERS
NJ HIC #
13VH00033800

RON GORTER JONATHAN GORTER STEVE GORTER
EC CLASS OF '77 EC CLASS OF '08 EC CLASS OF '85

105 INDUSTRIAL EAST
CLIFTON, N.J. 07012

973-423-0770
FAX 973-423-0111

We make it easy.

Inspiration • Design • Expertise



Carpet • Hardwood • Laminate • Tile • Area Rugs • Window Fashions

Duane Faber '84 • Kurt Faber '87 • Glenn Baker '88



**Abbey Carpet
& Floor of Hawthorne**

Family Owned &
Operated Since 1959.



Like Us!

973-427-7900
1030 Goffle Road • Hawthorne
Hawthorne.BuyAbbey.com



abbeyfloors4u

***Proud Supporter of
Eastern Christian School***



HEATING • AIR CONDITIONING • **EST. 1934**

OUR GOAL
IS TO PROVIDE YOU,
YOUR FAMILY OR YOUR BUSINESS
WITH **TOTAL INDOOR
COMFORT**

11-07 River Road
Fair Lawn, NJ

Call Us Today
201 - 794 - 3700

www.REINERAC.com



Dave Lennox Award for highest
quality installations, finest customer
service & commitment to excellence
for 17 consecutive years



RESIDENTIAL & COMMERCIAL **SERVICES**

- Air Conditioning
- Heating Systems
- Emergency Services
- Residential Generators
- Exhaust Systems
- Solar Assisted Systems
- Oil to Gas Conversions
- Air Cleaners
- Humidifiers
- Boilers
& MORE



KV Builders LLC
— Kenn Visbeen —

**Your vision
is our expertise.**
Build your dream with us.

Proud to support Eastern Christian Schools



Commercial Construction
Specializing in churches,
retail space,
medical facilities &
country clubs.

"Whatever you do, work heartily, as for the lord and not for men."—Colossians 3:23

61 Cheryl Hills Dr, Hawthorne NJ 07506 / 201.851.3003 / Kenn@KVBuildersllc.com

ditto

upscale resale

www.dittonj.org | 973.423.4886



ditto has
contributed
more than
\$1.7 MILLION
to reduce tuition
payments at
**Eastern Christian
School!**

Every student in every grade at EC has benefited from ditto's contributions.

You can help to increase these contributions:

- **Volunteer at ditto:** with many opportunities, there is a place for everyone
- **Shop at ditto:** every dollar you spend at ditto will increase ditto's contribution to EC
- **Donate to ditto:** your quality used items will bless our customers, the community, and EC

ditto is Eastern Christian School's Upscale-Resale shop featuring gently used:

- Clothing from infant to adult
- Housewares of all kinds
- Furniture
- Books and videos
- Toys and games
- New seasonal home decor items



Open Tuesday-Friday 10:00-6:00 & Saturday 10:00-4:00 | 965 Belmont Ave, North Haledon, NJ 07508

HOLLAND CHRISTIAN HOME

A CHRISTIAN HOME FOR SENIORS



PROUD TO OFFER INDEPENDENT LIVING, SKILLED NURSING & RESPITE CARE SERVICES.

Our Life Care program offers a full spectrum of care, securing all the Home's services for the rest of your life.

Our proven commitment to quality and safety means
our residents are our first priority.



151 GRAHAM AVENUE
NORTH HALEDON, NJ 07508
973-427-4087 • WWW.HCHNJ.ORG

FOLLOW
US ON





Proud Supporter of Eastern Christian School!



Ashley HomeStore of Metro NY & NJ

These Ashley HomeStores are locally owned and operated by Factory Direct Enterprises based in Edison, NJ.



BOOK A
PERSONAL
APPOINTMENT

Fairfield, NJ
Paramus, NJ
Secaucus, NJ

Middletown, NY
Poughkeepsie, NY
Nanuet, NY

Yonkers, NY
New Rochelle, NY
Bay Plaza, NY

Riverhead, NY
Lake Grove, NY
Farmingdale, NY

Carle Place, NY
Valley Stream, NY
Brooklyn, NY

Queens, NY
Patchogue, NY



www.facebook.com/AshleyMetroNYNJ

Winter Season Summary 2021



Will Critchfield

Reitz, both 2nd team all league selections, and **Richard Jones** who received Honorable Mention. Highlights included the two wins over rival HCA which featured an epic defensive battle in the season finale. The team bids farewell to coach **Ben Fuller** as he moves back to PA and is thankful for the leadership, wisdom and spirit he brought to the program!

Boys JV Basketball

First year coach and program alum **Jon Veenstra** enjoyed coaching a young and talented group of hoops enthusiasts through a competitive season.

Their level of play improved significantly in the course of the shortened two month season. Several players including sophomores **David Kim**, **Noah Chae** and freshman **Lucas Genuario** earned varsity minutes with their performance and will play an important role in the future of the program.

GIRLS BASKETBALL

Girls Varsity Basketball

Coach **Barry Veenstra** and the team were pleased to have been very competitive in 11 of their 13 games this season finishing at 6-7, including two close ones in the rematches with Hawthorne and Pompton Lakes and three wins in the final week. The season highlight was the come from behind win vs Saddle Brook, outsourcing them 20-6 in the 4th quarter.

Senior sharpshooter **Nicole Foster** led the scoring with 13 ppg while Junior **Gabby Angelucci** and Sophomore **Katherine Marshall** led the rebounding with 8+ per game. With many talented and eager to learn underclassmen returning, the future of the program looks very promising!

Girls JV Basketball

What this group lacked in quantity of players was more than made up for with coachability and enthusiasm. If not for a lucky buzzer beating shot

VARSITY BOWLING

Under 3rd year coach **Aaron Goldstein**, the Bowling Team made great strides toward becoming an elite program in the league narrowly finishing in 2nd place with a 73-9 cumulative record. Season highlights included beating first place Glen Rock handily in their first matchup and the 774 score against Hawthorne, which was the highest single game team score in the league all season! We also bowled our first ever girls match in school history vs Lakeland. Individual highlights included team captain **Danny Buckle's** 247 vs Hawthorne, the highest single game in the league all season! The future of the team is incredibly bright with 4 strong returning varsity bowlers in **Sebastiano Secades**, **Camden Vogel**, **Riley Gallagher** and **Josh Heerema**. **Tim Kim**, **David Zhang** and **Derrick Zheng** will also push for varsity time next year after strong JV seasons. The team thanks volunteer coach **Steve Heerema**, the great support from parents and the strong leadership of Danny Buckles, all of whom helped make this a season to remember!

BOYS BASKETBALL

Boys Varsity Basketball

The boys basketball team enjoyed competing together against quality conference and out-of-conference opponents in a truly unique and shortened 2021 season. An overall strong group of seniors were led by **Will Critchfield** and **Isaac**

continued on p42

in overtime, the team would have finished above .500. Not only did the girls fight each JV game, but several gave valuable minutes on the varsity level as well. With so much uncertainty around this winter

season, these girls remained committed and united in their effort, making it what coach Stadtlander called "a most rewarding season to have coached!"

MIDDLE SCHOOL GIRLS BASKETBALL

Led by a strong 8th grade class including leading scorer **Kirsten Braunius** and point guard/ floor leader Kendra Heerema, the girls' middle school basketball team finished undefeated this season! Classmates **Jordyn Blands-Pearson**, **Sadie Vander Pyl** and **Kayleigh Marshall** provided strong rebounding and defensive presence. With 16 girls on the team this year, Coach Araneda is excited about the players returning next year led

by 7th grade standout **Hannah Leegwater**. Soar EC!

MIDDLE SCHOOL BOYS BASKETBALL

The long awaited basketball season arrived as a breath of fresh air with the sounds of bouncing balls, squeaking shoes, and enthusiastic coaches filling the gym once again. Following disappointing early season losses to Butler, Bogota, and Lodi, coach Culp's team turned the corner with wins against Hawthorne Christian

Academy, Elmwood Park, and the rematch with Bogota, featuring a 19 point breakout game by Jack Meserole. **Caleb Chae's** 25 point effort kept the Eagles within 3 against a strong Lodi team. Leadership and consistent competitive play was also provided by 8th graders **Keith Osae-Twum**, **Kevin Osae-Twum**, and **Alex Culp**. Despite being a Covid-shortened season, the boys made great progress with their individual skills and teamwork.

Athletics Highlights Spring 2021



Daniel Buckles

GOLF

Despite 7 of the 9 team members having not picked up a golf club until the 2020 quarantine (or even more recently), coach **Seth Stadtlander's** team finished in second place in the league for the second consecutive season led by **Josh Hubbard**

(12) and **Evan Hopeck** (11) (the only two returners to the team!)

Josh led the team with his leadership on the course and at the range helping new golfers develop their mechanics while teaching them to have short memories after difficult days. Notable individual achievements came in tournament play where Evan Hopeck shot 1 over par in the county tournament (5th overall) and scored an eagle (-2 on a single hole) in the NJIC tournament.

TENNIS

Returning head coach **Adam Culp's** boys tennis program emerged from the 2020 hiatus with renewed enthusiasm and a promising outlook. The team was anchored by senior captain, **Daniel Buckles**, who contributed both as a standout player and an assistant instructor. Daniel earned respect from the entire league as he battled some



Lizzie Lopez

of the states top players at the first singles position. The highlight of the season came at the county tournament when Danny toppled the number one seeded player from Wayne Hills, en route to the first county singles

title in school history. He was recognized by the league and the county with 1st Team honors. He was accompanied by a roster of first time varsity players. **Luke Antoci** held down the second singles position with a year of competitive play and outstanding sportsmanship. **Jonathan Dykman** proved a quick study on the hardcourt by working his way into the third singles spot. First-year players, **Rand Fang**, **Garren Sly**, **Bobby Wu**, and **David Zhang** achieved remarkable improvement, and gained valuable experience while competing in the majority of the doubles matches.

BOYS LACROSSE

With a limited roster littered with 1st year players new to the game and a lot of Covid induced quarantining that saw the whole team practice together only twice before opening day, coach **Cory Hoffman** had his work cut out for him. The team quickly bought into the culture he established with a surprisingly competitive start and even better second half to the season. Their close matches and final record of 6-8 earned plenty of new found respect in the league and county. Team accomplishments included most wins, more goals than goals scored in previous program history, and having a positive goals/goals against ratio. Additionally, attacker **Michael Cook** (11) became our first ever all league selection! The leadership and excellent play of seniors **Stephen Frank**, **Max Miller** and **Ryan Westra** will certainly be missed next year but off season work and the hope of some new faces next year keep both coach and team optimistic for more good things ahead.

BASEBALL

In an historic first year as a co-op program with HCA, the baseball team quickly established a competitive reputation with some quality wins over Midland Park, Saddle Brook and Park Ridge. Other highlights included a huge county tournament win over Passaic Valley (a school 4 times our combined size) and earning a 6 seed in the state tournament en route to a 10-8 season. Coach **Max Harvell** hopes to build off of the team's success next year although HCA seniors **Chris Eelmann**, **Andrew Egedy** and **Michael Lamitola** will be missed. EC juniors **Jake Faasse**, **Jack Veenema** and **Cam Melone** return to lead a solid nucleus for another exciting season.

VOLLEYBALL

This year's girls volleyball team persevered through a Covid delayed season that was moved from the fall to the spring and then experienced repeated shut-downs of opposing teams that shortened an already brief season. Through it all, coach **Steff Honore's** group led by a strong senior class remained positive and competitive, finishing with an exciting win over HCA on senior night in the season finale!

SOFTBALL

In addition to dealing with Covid protocol, playing in a new division and dealing with several unforeseen circumstances, it was also an historic first year as a co-op with HCA for our softball program. Led by first year head coach **Lauren Merkley** the girls bonded well with each other and quickly became like family while putting together a competitive season and a 8-11-1 final record.

continued on p44



Cassidy Abma



SPRING '21 LEAGUE & COUNTY RECOGNITIONS

Baseball

All League 1st Team
Jack Veenema

All League 2nd Team
Cameron Melone

Softball

All League 1st Team
Elizabeth Lopez
Capri Kuiken

All League 2nd Team
Brooke Talsma

All League HM
Nicole Foster

Volleyball

All League 1st Team
Cassidy Abma

All League 2nd Team
Gabriella Angelucci
Eva Reinmuth

All County 2nd Team
Cassidy Abma

**All County Honorable
Mention**
Gabriella Angelucci
Eva Reinmuth

Golf

All League 1st Team
Evan Hopeck

All League 2nd Team
Josh Hubbard

All League HM
Josh Yoon

All County 2nd Team
Evan Hopeck

**All County Honorable
Mention**
Josh Hubbard
Tim Kim

B.LAX

All League 1st Team
Michael Cook

All League 2nd Team
Sean Post
Stephen Frank

All League HM
Ryan Westra

All County 2nd Team
Michael Cook

**All County Honorable
Mention**
Sean Post
Stephen Frank

Track

All League 1st Team
Matias Cortes
Anneke Kuperus

All League 2nd Team
Hannah Visbeen

All League HM
Jaclyn Steenstra

All County 1st Team
Matias Cortes

All County 2nd Team
Anneke Kuperus

**All County Honorable
Mention**
Eva Reinmuth, Jadan
Belen, Richard Jones,
Luke Parker

Tennis

All League 1st Team
Daniel Buckles

All League HM
Luke Antoci

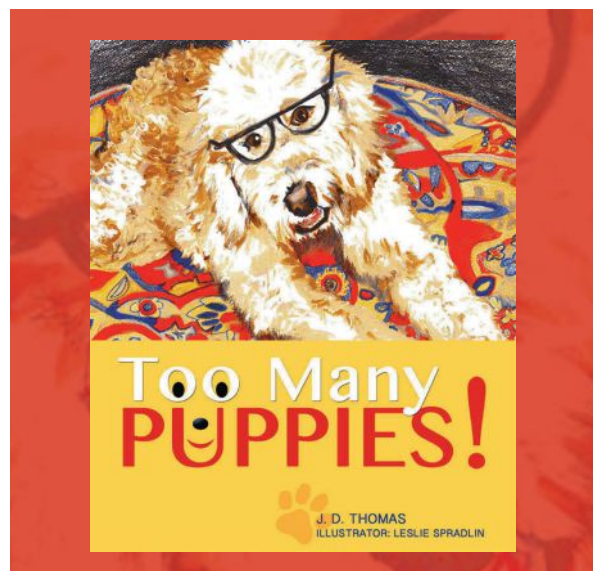
All County 1st Team
Daniel Buckles

**All County Honorable
Mention**
Luke Antoci
Jonathan Dykman

Highlights included an extra inning game with Wayne Valley in the county tournament and a 12 inning tie with Manchester in which junior pitcher **Lizzie Lopez** set a new school record for strikeouts with 22 en route to also becoming the first to have over 200 in a season! The year ended with an exciting home game in the state tournament when the girls sent the tying run to the plate in their final at bat before bowing 2-0 to Montclair Kimberley Academy.

TRACK

Head coach **Joel Apol** returned to lead almost 50 athletes to another successful campaign that saw solid team performances for both the girls (5-3 in the league) and boys (4-4). Outstanding individual performances were turned in by many team members both experienced and new including junior **Anneke Kuperus** winning the high jump at the league championships and senior **Matias Cortes** winning the pole vault in the league, county and state group championships!!



This book is filled with love, gentleness, humor, and can be enjoyed by children of all ages. Beautifully illustrated, the story is based on the real life adventures of one family that had too many puppies. The author is a former school teacher & EC parent.

Available on **Amazon.com**,
BarnesandNoble.com
or through your **local bookstore**.

BUSINESS with PURPOSE

WINNER

(201)

MAGAZINE'S

**BEST OF
BERGEN
2021**

Mission Realty is pleased to announce our new **DIRECT SCHOLARSHIP** to promote student mentorship, advocacy, and volunteerism. The award will be presented annually to one rising and one graduating senior at EC. Visit the College and Careers office for more information.

4-3-2%

Upfront Full Service Listing Packages

*Commissions in New Jersey
are negotiable.*



Amy Werner
Managing Partner
EC – Mom

Ron Pruiksma
Broker, Owner
EC – Class of '85

Visit www.myrealestatemission.com or call **201.891.8200** for details on our cost-saving commission structure!

Mission Realty Company • 637 Wyckoff Avenue • Wyckoff, NJ 07481

#peoplebeforeprofits #businesswithpurpose



missionrealtcompany

Photo credit: Jean Terman Photography



EASTERN CHRISTIAN
SCHOOL

THE HERALD

50 Oakwood Avenue
North Haledon, NJ 07508

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED
DATED MATERIAL

F21

PARENTS OF ALUMNI:

If this issue of The Herald is mailed to a son or daughter who no longer maintains a permanent address at your home, please notify the Alumni Office of the correct address at alumni@easternchristian.org

EASTERN CHRISTIAN'S MISSION

By providing an excellent academic curriculum, offering a variety of extra-curricular activities, and assembling a caring, culturally diverse community, we, with support of parents and local churches, empower students from Christian families to develop their gifts within the context of a Reformed Christian worldview so that they can act as Christ's transforming agents in a global society.



Bringing Positive Change to Our Communities

Each and every day, the Columbia Bank Foundation strives to make a difference in New Jersey through charitable donations.

By supporting innovative programs across the state, our goal is to make our communities better, stronger, and safer.

Find out more at
ColumbiaBankOnline.com



KJB

Fireplaces

www.kjbfireplaces.com

875 RT 17 SOUTH
RAMSEY, NJ 07446

201.760.9585

201.760.9623 fax

CONSTRUCTION OFFICE HOURS:

Monday–Friday 8–4

RETAIL HOURS:

Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday 10–5:30

Thursday 10–8 | Saturday 10–3

IN ADDITION TO GAS & WOOD FIREPLACES, GAS & WOOD STOVES WE OFFER A WIDE VARIETY of Gas Log Sets, Custom Doors, Tool Sets, Screens, Grates, Hearth Rugs, Fire Pits, Fire Starters, and most other products that are fireplace related.