

Mustard Seed

CONTEST
Redesign our heading.
Details next month

October 1979

Faith Mennonite High School

Vol. 2, No. 1

Mr. Wilbers Joins Faculty

This year we have a new teacher on campus, Mr. Dale Wilbers.

He was born in Perkasio, Pennsylvania. For two years he studied at the Bucks County Community College and later graduated from Eastern Mennonite College with a major in history.

He spent two years at the Wahbon Bay Academy under Northern Youth Programs in Ontario, Canada. There he

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Board Moves to Buy Lot

At the September and October board meetings the school board approved the purchase of the property for the new building.

Approval to purchase the lot, located on the farm of John Glick, had been withheld pending the approval of the Lancaster County Planning Commission. The planning commission has now given tentative approval to the project.

The site measures approximately 500' x 925' and encompasses 10.5 acres. Approximately half of the property is wooded. Some of the woods will need to be cleared before building can proceed.

The building is to be built on the east end of the lot, leaving the back end for athletic areas, including a combination soccer field and softball diamond.

Morton Building OK'ed

Approval was also given to buy a Morton building for a combination auditorium/gymnasium. The building will be a pole building similar to those built for agricultural purposes. Members of the building committee viewed such a structure being built for a function similar to ours and reported that "the building should serve us very well and can be constructed at a considerable savings."

The building committee has been authorized to purchase the building if the quotation given by the salesman proves acceptable. Since a discount is given for winter construction, the committee is viewing the possibility of having the gym erected prior to April 1980. The building finance committee will be soliciting for gifts to pay for the building prior to the time that the building is built. The board expects to have 75% of the purchase price of the building on hand before construction begins.

The construction of the classroom building, which is to be brick, will follow.

Enrollment Increases Again

Enrollment of students at Faith Mennonite High School is up again this year. There are presently 75 students enrolled compared to the 68 last year. This leaves the total student increase at 8 with 26 new students and 49 returning from last year.

This year the student body includes 18 seniors, 23 juniors, 14 sophomores, and 20 freshmen.

The 68 students present last year came from a variety of church groups. 37 students came from 19 different Lancaster Conference churches;

19 came from 4 different Beachy Amish churches; 5 other Mennonite groups were the supporters of 11 students and 1 student was from a non-Mennonite background.

This year the students come from 3 different church groups. 18 Lancaster Conference churches support the largest number of students. The New Danville district supports 11 of these 40 Lancaster Conference students. 21 come from 4 Beachy Amish churches, and the remaining 14 students come from 6 other Mennonite groups.

Principal's Corner

The Lord has supplied staff, students, and supplies for another school year. Student attitudes and conduct are improved in many cases. We praise the Lord for this.

But we can't rest there. To keep our school growing and developing, we need to keep growing as well.

All of these experiences will be open to you, the students this year. However, you have a choice to make. You can sit idly by and watch the year pass, seeking only academic grades and finally a diploma. You could also choose to work against God's leading by discouraging and making light of those who are growing. Or you could be wholeheartedly involved, seeking all that God has for you.

What happens to you this year is up to you. What are you going to with it?

Coming Next Month

- * Meet your board chairman.
- * News on library materials.
- * Principal's Corner -
"Christian Education:
A Broad View."

Mustard Seed is published monthly during the school year by Faith Mennonite High School and distributed complimentary to students, donors, and Mennonite schools in the area. Editorial Staff: Joy Brenneman, Rose Esh, Ken Gehman, Sharon Lapp, and Lynnette Zimmerman. Reporters: Elaine Nolt, Dawn Newswanger, Marvin Stoltzfus, Kay Bowman.

New Programs Inaugurated

On Tuesday and Thursday afternoons, students at FMH are participating in a work/study program which provides them with learning and work experiences that relate to vocational goals.

Seven of the girls, who are working at Linville Hill Mennonite School as teacher aides, help with the typing, checking, tutoring, and singing.

Three other girls are spending two hours doing similar work with the teachers at Weavertown Mennonite School.

Others enjoy the opportunity to work on farms, in rest homes, in stores, or at home.

Independent study courses are provided for students who are not old enough to par-

ticipate in the work-study program.

The top priority course seems to be that of child care. Other courses include driver education, agriculture, music theory, physics, home gardening and landscaping. The courses were distributed October 18.

The more I study, the more I know. The more I know, the more I forget. The more I forget, the less I know. So why study? (You tell us, Ken!)

* * * * *

What appears to be the end may really be a new beginning.

Alumni News...

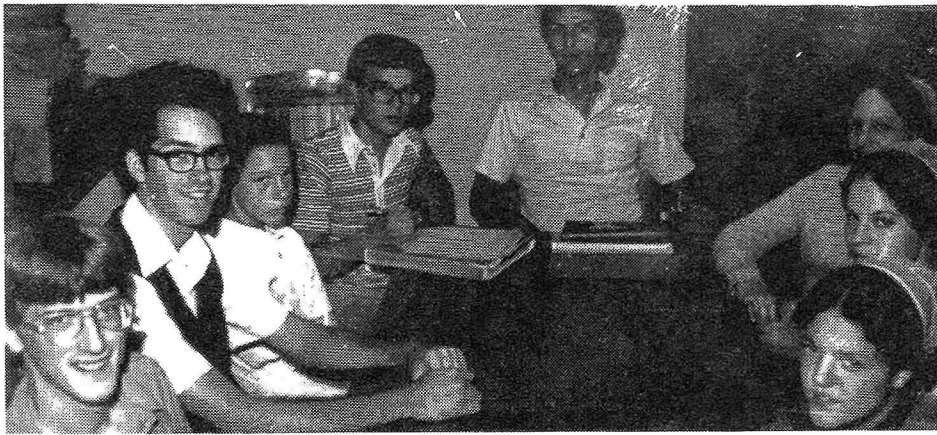
When students from Faith were looking forward to seeing each other at the beginning of the school term, we alumni were also anxious to see each other.

Labor Day weekend seven of the alumni went out to visit Cindy Brenneman, (79) who moved near Chambersburg. Friday evening after a fun van ride, we arrived at 10:00. During our visit we were privileged to stay at Sharon Mennonite Bible Institute. Before our evening ended we played volley ball, ate pizza, and did lots of talking. Finally we wound down and got some rest.

The Lord gave us a beautiful day on Saturday. In the morning we saw Cindy's home, then drove up Scrub Hill and looked down into the valley and saw the

the school. Some of the guys had fun throwing stones down the mountain and hearing them gain speed. After a scrumptious lunch prepared by Cindy's mother and sisters, we left for a long hike. The hike featured singing on a fallen tree over a creek, watching the guys swing from saplings, and throwing stones in the streams we crossed, causing "splashing battles."

We were served a surprise daffy supper when we returned to SMBI. What laughs we got when Brenda and Naaman had huge soup dippers, Paul had an enormous metal pitcher and Cindy had a deep mixing bowl. Harry Brenneman reminded us that the next time we ate we'd be thankful for utensils too!



Parents Visit Classes

Our first Parent Teacher Fellowship was held on September 18 with 37 families represented. Following a devotional meditation a short business meeting was held.

The remainder of the evening was spent in "a regular school day" session when parents followed their teenager's schedule through a normal day. Ten minutes in each class gave parents an introduction to the subjects their young people have.

The evening ended with refreshments and fellowship.

Miss Stoltzfus to Teach Sewing

Miss Melody Stoltzfus, Atglen, has been hired to teach home economics part-time, Principal James E. Gochnauer announced this week. Miss Stoltzfus, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John S. Stoltzfus, graduated from Lancaster Mennonite High School in 1976 and the Lancaster General School of Nursing in 1979. In addition she has received all levels of sewing instruction at 4-H and has taken other courses in sewing. Although her full-time employment is at Harrison House in Christiana, she also is self-employed as a part-time seamstress.

Student Council Organized

Planning a sub sale, discussing workdays, ordering films...this plus more, describes the work of student council.

To improve student and teacher communications, student council started this year. People were voted from each class, and are required to meet with Mr. Gochnauer, their advisor. They are seniors, Nate Stoltzfus-president, Becky Stoltzfus-secretary; juniors, Dwilyn Beiler and Frieda Stoltzfus; sophomores, Kathy King-treasurer and Perry Engle; freshmen, Betty Engle and Glenn Ranck.

There is high anticipation among the students as their representatives plan for activities in the year ahead.

Datebook

- Oct. 23 - PSAT/NMSQT for Juniors
- Nov. 8 - End of first quarter
- Nov. 16 - Report cards due
- Nov. 21 - Thanksgiving vacation begins at 2:00 p.m.
- Nov. 27 - Thanksgiving vacation ends 8:30 a.m.
- Dec. 13 - Christmas Concert, 7:30 p.m.
- Dec. 21 - Christmas vacation begins, 2:00 p.m.

Gospel Teams Organized

Gospel Team is an extra-curricular activity which gives the students an opportunity to express themselves, and share Christ's love with others. The team will be available to give programs in churches once a month. A second team may be developed if the first team can not handle all the programs.

Mr. Lapp is in charge of this year's Gospel Team. He is looking for approximately twelve students to participate.

Do you know any friends who would like to receive the Mustard Seed? Send us their name and address on the card below and we'll mail it to them.

NOTE: Use the back of this card to order your 1980 Silver Crest.

Please send the Mustard Seed to:

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Achievement Tests Scheduled

Students in all grades have just finished a week of achievement testing.

The tests, which are administered annually, indicate the relative levels of knowledge and comprehension of six subject areas: social studies, composition, science, reading, mathematics, and literature.

The test scores become part of a student's permanent record and are used to help teachers know what areas to spend more time on in their classes.

Incoming students are also ranked against returning students and scores compared. Past tests results have shown that students who spent ninth grade at Faith do consistently better in their tenth grade tests than incoming students. It is not known if these differences persist following the tenth grade level.

Students at Faith have also consistently ranked above their peers in other area schools according to the local norms. It is believed that this is due to the quality of families sending students to Faith.

Teachers Attend MACSA

FMH teachers attended the Mid-Atlantic Christian School Association with 2400 other teachers last Thursday and Friday.

The convention, which was held at Host Farm because of its size, featured seminars by many qualified educators on the subjects of curriculum improvement, discipline, relating to others, and spiritual growth. Teachers attended an average of six one hour seminars each in addition to a 45 minute keynote address each morning and a banquet address Thursday night.

Teachers came to the convention from as far as Western Pennsylvania, north to Maine and south to Georgia. Registration was approximately 600 above last year's convention in Downingtown.

Teachers from Faith were also involved in planning the convention and in giving seminars.

Mr. Lapp, student pastor gave a similar on "The Development of Disloyalty in the Christian School," a topic which was shared with FMH parents in a PTF meeting last year.

Mrs. Martha Mellinger, last year's home economics teacher, gave a seminar on "The Teacher's Personal Devotional Life."

The convention is divided into tracks for elementary and high school teachers; Mrs. Mellinger shared in both tracks. Prior to the convention she had spoken on the subject to her church youth group and to FMH teachers at a regular weekly faculty meeting.

Mr. Gochnauer, who delivered a seminar last year, shared on the program committee which planned the convention. He also helped along with Ruth Gochnauer, and Nancy Ressler, the secretary, in organizing the convention and with registration.

Mr Wilbers, con't

taught math, history, and physical education. He also taught an Accelerated Christian Education program for a short time there.

He became interested in Faith when he saw an ad in the newspaper and Gospel Herald concerning openings. An answer to prayer!

He now lives at the Aaron Lapp Jr. residence in a small apartment.

We welcome him warmly.

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Don't worry, Bev; news on the yearbook will come later.