

# THE MUSTARD SEED

April 2018

Faith Mennonite High School

Volume 39 Number 7

## Teaching Bible School on the Isle of Spice

It seems so strange that less than two months ago, we were in Grenada as a class for our senior trip. In so many ways, it feels like a long time ago, like a different time, something that had nothing to do with school. But when I look at pictures, when I think of everything we did, it feels like a few days ago.

Our senior trip followed the same pattern as the many FMH senior trips to Grenada before us. We met at school at 2:00 on Saturday morning, March 24, to head to JFK airport. On Sunday, we attended the mission churches in Limes and Laborie and did canvassing for Bible school. The rest of the week consisted of teaching Bible school to the Grenadian kids in the morning and sightseeing and going to the beach in the afternoons.

The mission staff in Limes and Laborie generously opened their homes to us for the week. They were willing to work behind the scenes and make sacrifices so we could have an enjoyable week.

Mr. Fox, Mr. Stauffer, Mr. Lapp and his wife, Kate, John and Naomi Stoltzfus, Lisa Ressler, and Marian Smucker came along as chaperones. The ladies did a lot of work suppling us with amazing meals all week.

Some of my favorite memories from the trip were the moments when God felt so close. On Monday evening, we noticed we had a shortage

of craft supplies for the next day. It was amazing when God answered a specific prayer and showed us how to improvise. I think back to the little moments, like the time an eight-year-old girl asked me why I wear a veil or the time all of the students at Laborie watched the beauty of the sun rising over the ocean. I remember the children's excitement for another day of Bible school, and the way God answered our prayers for health. Another of my highlights was on Friday night, our last night in Grenada, when we had sharing time at Galby Bay. On the way back, our



entire class rode on the back of the pickup and sang a mixture of Bible school songs, worship songs,

and hymns at the top of our lungs for nearly forty-five minutes.

When we left the JFK airport after our flight home, we were welcomed by forty five degree weather. It felt cold after spending a week in the warm sun. We missed the mission staff in Grenada, the warm weather, the gentle rain, and the wind in our

faces during truck rides. We came home with many good memories and fresh testimonies of God's faithfulness.



Kristal Bange

## Senior Men Sew

In Cabin Living, we get to do a lot of cool hands-on projects. Lately we have been sewing pillow cases. To sew a pillowcase, you need to buy your fabric, measure and cut it, iron it, pin and sew it, zig zag the edges, iron it again, turn it inside out, punch out the corners, iron it, and then iron it again if needed. The hardest thing about sewing is threading the needle, while the easiest part is pressing the pedal. My favorite part is watching my fellow classmates. It is really

great to see the extreme concentration that some of them have. The most intriguing thing about the sewing machine is the needle, because it makes me dizzy while I watch it fly up and down. To the future pillow case makers, please take Cabin Living, you won't regret it!

Allen Stoltzfus



## Overcoming Conformity

The danger about conforming is that people will conform and not know the reason behind what they are doing. This leads to a lot of people that are asking the question, "why," because they did not understand what they were conforming to in the first place.

I believe the strongest thing to overcome is peer pressure or the thought that the only way the "cool group" will like me is if I do what they do. This mind-set will lead to people not thinking on their own, but letting the "cool group" decide for them. This also encourages people to let others make decisions for them.

Conformity can be a good thing when someone understands what they are doing and the reasons for it. Conformity is good when it affects a person for the better, and may also cause people to do something that they might not do if they were by themselves.

Teens struggle with making decisions they think may be wrong, but often times comply with the group because they don't want to stand out and be different. Some teens struggle with diversity in their age group, and will try to find friends that share their skill level instead. Many times teens conform to social media because they see their peers posting things they did and in turn feel like they need to do the same to gain a few more followers or likes.

Overcoming conformity means that you have to go against what the majority or "cool group" is doing. This takes a lot of strength that you cannot get by yourself if you are standing alone. If you are in a good relationship with God, you do not need to conform because you will understand that you are a person that God has created with purpose. God clearly states in the Bible that we are not to be conformed to this world, but are to be transformed by the renewing of our mind. (Romans 12:1-2)

Marcus Kauffman

## Staff Openings

We currently have four staff openings for the 2018-2019 school year.

History Teacher  
Science Teacher  
Spanish Teacher  
Secretary

To request an application or send a referral, Please contact the principal, Mike Fox via email at: [MrFox@faithhighschool.org](mailto:MrFox@faithhighschool.org)

# Editorial

“Don’t copy the behavior and customs of this world, but let God transform you into a new person by changing the way you think. Then you will learn to know God’s will for you, which is good and pleasing and perfect.” (Romans 12:2, NLT)

I’m going to be honest— for a long time I struggled with this verse. Coming back from the mission field and trying to resume my life after being gone for five years wasn’t as easy as it sounds. It took a complete restructuring of the way I thought, plus three years, till I felt like I was starting to get back into the regular cycle of life in America. In fact, sometimes I tried so hard to fit in that it caused problems that wouldn’t even have been necessary, had I been content to just sit back and accept that I’m just never going to “fit in.”

So why do we try so hard to “fit in”? Why do we spend money on new clothes, shoes, sports gear, and phones, just so that we can keep up with our peers? I think the whole “fitting in” thing goes much deeper. Satan can and will use our self-confidence to accomplish much. As Christians the whole problem of not “fitting in” originates from where we put our assurance. If our assurance is in the social status of this world, we will never feel assured. But if we put our assurance in God, we don’t have to worry about what the people around us think, because if God loves us and cares for us, what difference does it make, whether or not we “fit in”?

Darin Stoltzfus

# Students Speak Out

What parts of school did you enjoy this year? How was the year different than you expected?



### Junior - Kelvin Stauffer

“I enjoyed being able to play basketball in the new gym and having my brother as my coach. I also like singing in chorale with a good music teacher and other students who cared about singing. The year was different because I was expecting to get a lot of homework and it wasn’t as bad as I thought it would be.”

### Junior - Karina Garmin

“When I first started thinking about changing schools I was looking for one with a good music program and better sports. Faith did not disappoint. I have enjoyed singing on FMH Chorale this year and I loved that I was pushed to excel in the sports I played. I definitely recommend taking Chorale and various sports if you have the chance.”



### Freshman - Sarah Stoltzfus

“The thing I like most about this year at Faith is the school atmosphere. The classes are very interesting and I like that you have to work hard for your grades.”

### Freshman - Wendell Kauffman

“School was different than I expected because I thought classes would be harder than they actually were. I have greatly enjoyed making many new friends.”



# Calendar

May	17	7:30 pm Spring Concert
	18	Junior Ham and Cheese Sale
	20	7:00 pm Chorale Program at Mine Road
	22	Softball Tournament with Terre Hill
	28	No School - Memorial Day
	31	Last Day of School - half day
August	31	Graduation
	27	First Day of 2018-2019 School Year

# Alumni Feature

“The time I spent at Faith, and the classes I took prepared me for a wide range of opportunities. Upon graduating, I was hired as a secretary where I frequently used the skills I learned in Accounting I and II, Yearbook, and Photography. After spending two years in the office I moved to South Carolina where I currently serve as a cook at Fair Play Camp School. Mrs. Lapp taught our unusually small Home Ec class the basics, and sparked my interest in the kitchen. I am now halfway through my



eighteen month commitment, and I anticipate where God will lead me next! I’ve appreciated the skills and relationships I built at Faith and for the way it has enabled me to be involved in a variety of experiences.”

Karina Yoder was valedictorian in the FMH graduating class of 2015.

THE MUSTARD SEED (USPS Per. #932) is published by Faith Mennonite High School. CONTACT US: [mustardseed@FaithHighSchool.org](mailto:mustardseed@FaithHighSchool.org)