



TODAY

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Learning by Doing and Trying

Mary Golden Hughes

“One must learn by doing the thing, for though you think you know it - you have no certainty, until you try.” -Sophocles

Each April EMS students and faculty in grades 6-12 expand their education beyond the classroom walls through unique experiential learning experiences that enable students to learn by doing and by trying new things.

Middle school students participate in a grade level specific “Explore Week” based on a theme and planned course of study. Travel is incorporated incrementally into the middle school experience, culminating with the 8th grade class trip to Philadelphia. High school “E-Term” courses enable students to learn a new skill, interact with another culture, participate in service learning, or explore experientially-focused academic learning alongside high school faculty leaders. High school students also keep a journal of their week and earn academic credit for participation.

Working, learning, and in some cases, living side by side one another during Explore Week and E-Term are powerful opportunities for EMS students and faculty to bond over a common goal, challenge themselves with new experiences, and become engaged in learning in new and unique ways. Please take a moment to peruse the breadth of opportunity in our Experiential Learning program through this issue, or better yet - ask an EMS student in person what they’ve learned by doing and trying.



New York City E-Termers explored life in the Big Apple, including a chilly harbor ride. (Photo by Elwood Yoder)

SAVE THE DATE!

Join us for these great events -
details at www.embs.net

May 29 - 8th Grade Celebration

May 31, 10:30 a.m., 5th Grade Graduation

June 1, 7:30 p.m., Commencement Concert,
EMS Auditorium

June 2, 7:00 p.m., Baccalaureate and Tea,
EMS Auditorium

June 3, 2:30 p.m., 100th Commencement,
Lehman Auditorium - EMU

August 22, 8:00 a.m., First day of school!

October 19-21, Homecoming 2018



Faculty Elwood Yoder (far left, front row) and Jennifer Young (far right, front row) led an E-Term to New York City, including a visit to the United Nations. (Photo by Jennifer Young)

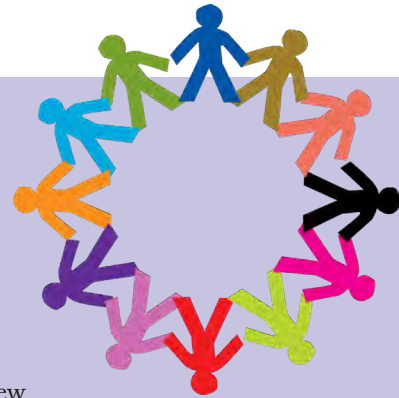
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www.easternmennoniteschool.org



Keep the EMS Flame Burning Brightly!

As we wrap up the 2017-18 academic year, we thank all who have kept our EMS light shining brightly through generous donations and support. Go to www.emhs.net/support to see a list of our kind supporters. Each gift strengthens our mission and gets us closer to our Centennial goal of 1,000 gifts of \$100 each. Enclosed you'll find a postage-paid envelope that you may use to help us finish this year even stronger. When you return this envelope, please indicate the areas of EMS life which have been a light to you! We'd like to share your encouraging words with those who have made an impact at our school.



EMES - On the Move This Summer!



(Staff Photo)

EMES will relocate this summer and occupy the second story of our Main Campus while construction continues of their new location in the former MennoMedia building. We're excited about the opportunity that cross-grade mentoring will bring in a shared space and grateful for this interim solution while we continue to work toward a permanent home for our robust elementary program. Support for *Let the Children Come* and an integrated K-12 grows closer every day toward the goal of one school, one campus, one purpose. To learn more about LTCC, including how to support this project, log on to www.emhs.net.

Come EXPERIENCE with us!

We're accepting applications in several grades for the 2018-19 school year. Apply online at www.emhs.net or contact admissions@emhs.net for a tour and details on how a holistic education of faith, academic excellence, personal integrity and compassionate service can be possible for your family! All are welcome at EMS - join us!



(Staff Photo)

Learning by Doing— Explore Week and E-Term It's Who We Are!

VISION:

Eastern Mennonite School aspires to reflect Christ's light as a learning community where every student belongs, thrives, and lives God's call.



Grade 6 - Focused on lessons about water including exploring living organisms, understanding water quality, and enjoying water exploration through canoeing, fishing and play. Pictured here 6th Graders Sophie Hendricks and Hannah Fairfield seemed pleased with the newt they discovered. (Staff Photo)

2018 Middle School Explore Week



Grade 7 - Learning was centered on the body, being healthy and active through biking the C&O Canal from Harper's Ferry, W.Va. to Washington D.C. Students took rests along the way to take in local sights. (Staff Photo)



Grade 8 - Focused on our place in community through a cultural and service trip to Philadelphia, Pa. In this photo Angelina Semeniv enjoys the fountains of city life. (Staff Photo)



Touring Choir students spent E-Term singing with 420 students from 13 different Mennonite schools from across the U.S. and Canada during the Mennonite Schools Council Festival held at EMU's Yoder Arena. Directed by former EMS Choir Director Jay Hartzler, the festival culminated with a grand concert featuring individual choir performances and selections performed by a mass choir of all 420 students. Of the eight soloists chosen by blind audition by MSC choir directors, four were from EMS!
(Staff Photo)



When they weren't performing dissections in labs, Science by the Sea participants took advantage of the South Carolina coastal waterways.
(Staff Photo)



Spanish teacher Wendell Shank '98 shared his woodworking talent and expertise with Aidan Weaver '21 during Learn to Turn. (Staff Photo)

Service, Silence & Solitude students spent the week doing physical labor and service for the YDI camp at Head Waters, Va., while also practicing the disciplines of prayer and silence. They are pictured here after emerging from their cave activity, which demonstrated the power of Christ's light in the darkness. (Staff Photo)



2018 High School E-Term Options

- Get Out! Adventure Learning
- Robotics
- Journaling Nature
- Mind, Body & Soul
- Learn to Turn Woodworking
- Service, Silence & Solitude
- The Making Week
- New York City
- Local Service
- Racquet Sports
- Science by the Sea
- MSC Choral Festival



The Get Out! E-Term explored the beautiful Shenandoah Valley through active adventure.
(Staff Photo)

In the News

by Elwood Yoder



Levi '21, Frank '96, Iva '24, Edith and Kaylee '26 Emswiler (Photo by Elwood Yoder)

While a student at EMS, Frank Emswiler '96 played Varsity basketball for two years. His ninth grade son, Levi, played JV Basketball for the Flames this past season. Frank and Edith Emswiler's middle child, Iva, in seventh grade, played basketball for the girls' middle school team. Their youngest child, Kaylee, is in fifth grade at EMES. When asked why they make the financial investment to send all three children to EMS, Edith and Frank Emswiler said they knew they wanted Christian education for their children. They have been sending their children to EMS for the past five years, and they greatly appreciate the community and spirit of working together on the campus. After high school, Frank drove a truck for over 10 years, but then moved into making donuts for a business. Today, Frank and Edith own and operate Strite's Donuts 3LLC, which operates mainly out of

Winchester, Va. The Emswilers, who attend Dayton Mennonite Church, are one of several families with more than one child at EMS. When the school gym doors are open and there is a basketball game, you can count on the Emswiler family to show up and cheer for their teams.

Loudon Emswiler '94 graduated from EMS two years earlier than his brother Frank Emswiler. Loudon earned a bachelor's degree in Economics from the University of Virginia in 1998, and later a master's degree in IT management, also from UVA. In 2011, Loudon earned an MBA from Wingate University, where he currently serves on the Board of Visitors Executive Committee. Loudon and his family live near Charlotte, North Carolina, where he works as an Analytic Manager for Wells Fargo Home Mortgage. Loudon oversees a team of individuals across the United States that support researching loan-servicing errors, generating staffing models, and ad hoc data analysis. Loudon is married to Bhavini and they have two children, Anshu and Aashna. The Emswilers attend a Presbyterian church in Charlotte.



Loudon Emswiler '94, with Aashna, Bhavini, Loudon '94, and Anshu Emswiler (Courtesy photo)

Today is published five times a year for families, alumni and friends of Eastern Mennonite School. We value your input. Send your feedback and story ideas to: today@emhs.net.

Look for previous issues of Today online at <https://issuu.com/easternmennoniteschool>

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MISSION:

Eastern Mennonite School joins home and church in calling students to faith in Jesus Christ, academic excellence, personal integrity, and compassionate service in the world.

Has your address changed?
Still getting your adult child's EMS mail?
Have news to share?
Help us stay connected and keep mailing costs down by emailing updates to alumni@emhs.net.



Visitors to our athletics fields will no doubt notice the improved signage on our softball and soccer fields. "Home of the Flames" and the Valley Mennonite Church League sign, marking the George R. Crawford Ballpark, now blend with other EMS signage and more clearly identify those areas. We extend our sincere appreciation to EMS community partner Park View Federal Credit Union for their generosity in making these signs possible. (Staff photos)



Jon Schrock '19 hit a home run against Shenandoah Valley Academy, helping EMS win 17-0 (Photo by Lori Schrock '89)