



NURSING NEWS

SPRING 2018 • DEPARTMENT OF NURSING NEWSLETTER

VIEW FROM THE CHAIR

By Nancy Woods, Ph.D., MPH, RN



**“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 (NIV)**

TO ACT, TO LOVE, AND TO WALK...

Micah prophesied from 750 to 686 BC, a time of change in the politics of Israel and Judah during the reigns of Jotham, Ahaz and Hezekiah, kings of Judah. I have always found Micah 6:8 to speak clearly to our vocation as nurses and nurse educators. It addresses our relationship with God and with our neighbor. As nurse educators, our “neighbors” are our students as well as our fellow educators and staff. And in nursing education, change is a part of life: changes in local health system requirements, NCLEX-RN® licensure exams, state board regulations, national accrediting body regulations and so on! A critical aspect of nursing education is to prepare the beginning RN and the beginning advanced practice nurse for an ever-evolving complexity in patient/client care, with increasing comorbidities, rapidly increasing treatment modalities, increasing health care costs, and continued concerns about access to care. Messiah College’s nursing programs have a reputation for stellar quality and rigor, developing high quality professionals in beginning and advanced nursing practice roles to serve the most vulnerable, with compassion, cultural humility, caring leadership and reconciliation from a Christian worldview. Just as our nursing care must

be evidence-based, nurse educators have a responsibility to base our educational practice on the best scientific evidence, combined with our practice expertise, and our client’s values and preferences. How is this accomplished? How do we do what the Lord requires of us?

Evidence-based nursing consists of the best scientific evidence, our practice expertise, and our client’s values and preferences to achieve the best outcomes. Nurse educators not only incorporate evidence-based nursing across a program of study, they also implement the elements of evidence-based nursing into their teaching strategies (National Council of State Boards of Nursing – ncsbn.org/668.htm).

BEST SCIENTIFIC EVIDENCE

Nurse educators continually identify the best evidence for nursing curricula at both the undergraduate and graduate levels. This is accomplished through a variety of ways. Faculty keep abreast of the latest research through membership in professional organizations and reading the current literature on nursing education.

“Messiah College’s nursing programs have a reputation for stellar quality and rigor, developing high-quality professionals...”

– Nancy Woods, department chair

Attendance at national educational conferences bring top nurse educators and researchers together to provide the latest and best scientific knowledge for educational practice. Your nursing leadership team in the department regularly attend the American Association of Colleges of Nursing (AACN) national meetings/conferences as well as the National Organization of Nurse Practitioner Faculty (NONPF) for access to best practice recommendations. Evidence for practice also is derived from data on our own population of students as well as benchmarking with other nursing programs. The combination of these sources of scientific evidence informs faculty, committee and department decisions about a host of issues from admission and progression criteria to teaching-learning strategies across courses. The evidence fully supports the use of a variety of effective pedagogies to develop critical thinking, such as simulation across the curriculum, as well as innovative classroom strategies in both undergraduate and graduate programs, including the “flipped” classroom, unfolding case studies, discussion forums, and writing across the curriculum.

PRACTICE EXPERTISE

Messiah College’s Department of Nursing is blessed to have outstanding nursing faculty with extensive years of nursing practice both in the clinical setting as well as in academia. Among our full-time nursing faculty, 50% have a doctoral degree (Ph.D. or DNP) and another 33% are in

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the process of obtaining their terminal degree. Sixty percent also continue in clinical practice and several faculty maintain clinical certification, indicating expertise in clinical specialty areas. Additionally, four nursing faculty are credentialed as Certified Nurse Educators (CNE). This certification demonstrates “to students, peers, and the academic and health care communities that the highest standards of excellence are being met” (nln.org/professional-development-programs/Certification-for-Nurse-Educators). Faculty are engaged in nursing research and they disseminate their findings through publications in nationally recognized journals and presentations at various local, regional and national professional conferences. Faculty also attend numerous conferences related to professional practice and nursing education. The Department of Nursing also provides access to all nursing faculty—full time, clinical adjuncts and preceptors—to free access to faculty development courses and webinars through NurseTim, Inc. This dedication to continued professional development incorporates extensive academic practice expertise in the evidence-based practice approach to nursing education.

CLIENT’S VALUES AND PREFERENCES

Evidence-based nursing practice in academia would not be complete without our students’ values and preferences. At Messiah College, our Christian values are integrated within all nursing courses within the context of a strong foundation of liberal arts and sciences. Students’ voices are valued and their ideas and suggestions are an important part of department decisions. Undergraduate and graduate nursing students are actively engaged as representatives on multiple Department of Nursing committees: curriculum, e-Portfolio, evaluation, policy and bylaws, and the graduate nursing committee. Additionally, all students evaluate nursing courses to provide their assessment of courses and faculty. These evaluations are reviewed every semester and the faculty highly values feedback from the students. This feedback is monitored and impacts decisions for course revisions and continued faculty development.

For the **NCLEX-RN®** licensure exam, our 2017 undergraduate nursing class achieved a **first-time pass rate of 94.4 percent!**

100% of 2017 graduates were employed in a variety of hospitals and facilities across the United States within 4 to 6 months of graduation.

TEAMWORK

Although not specifically identified as part of the evidence-based practice triad, exceptional teamwork is critical in achieving evidence-based nursing education. Our administrative assistants bring critical skills in managing the complex and multifaceted aspects of two major programs in nursing education at Messiah College. Our clinical liaison/clinical placement coordinators work collaboratively with multiple outside health care systems to facilitate student placement for clinical experiences across the undergraduate curriculum. Faculty, staff and students form an integral team bring the best evidence to educational practice.

This commitment to evidence-based practice in nursing education provides exceptional outcomes for our graduates. Our 2017 undergraduate graduating class was focused and dedicated in their preparation for the NCLEX-RN® licensure exam. I am very pleased to report that they achieved a first-time pass rate of 94.4%! Equally as exciting, 100% are employed in a variety of hospitals and facilities across the United States within 4 to 6 months of graduation. And several have already enrolled in graduate nursing education programs. Congratulations to our 2017 cohort!

Our graduate programs in nursing continue to grow and we will launch a new MSN in Nursing Administration this August! Stay tuned for an upcoming dual degree MSN/MBA as well.

Just as the prophet Micah spoke God’s word during a time of change, we have some upcoming changes in the Department of Nursing as well. At the end of the academic year, we have several retirements and we will be welcoming new faculty and staff as part of the new 2018-2019 academic year. Eileen Gardner, BSN, MSN, Patient Simulation Laboratory Coordinator will retire after 33 years at

Messiah College. Her contributions enhanced the complex learning environment inherent in nursing simulation education preparing our next generation of nurses for the complex arena of health care. Pam Linstedt, MSN, RN, CNE, Associate Professor, will also retire after 22 years at Messiah College. Pam laid the foundation for our undergraduate students in the introductory nursing courses and the first medical surgical nursing course, preparing them for more complex nursing courses across the curriculum and for future nursing practice. Lastly, I will be retiring after 10 years at Messiah College, to spend additional time with my husband as he lives with multiple myeloma. I will truly miss everyone here! Each of you have touched my life is countless ways!

It is such a blessing to be part of the Messiah College Department of Nursing. We have incredible students and outstanding faculty, administrative assistants and staff. Being here allows each of us to act justly, to love mercy and to walk humbly with our God as we prepare the next generation of RNs and advanced practice RNs.



FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK!

MESSIAH COLLEGE DEPARTMENT OF NURSING

BEDSIDE CLINICAL PRACTICE AS A NURSE EDUCATOR

By Tara Jankouskas, Ph.D., RNC

I WORK PER DIEM at Penn State Children's Hospital in the Acute Care and Intermediate Care units. After advancing to a nurse educator role, I have continued my clinical practice as a bedside nurse for four reasons. First, I truly enjoy providing direct care; it's part of my identity since graduating as a new nurse 30-plus years ago. Second, I believe that maintaining my clinical competence broadens potential professional opportunities and strengthens my resume. Third, since my clinical practice occurs on the same units on which I supervise Messiah College nursing students, I have a strong relationship with the unit staff members. These relationships help promote a positive environment for the student clinical experience. Fourth, there is a positive reciprocal influence between my role as a nurse educator and my role as a bedside nurse. As an undergraduate-level nurse educator, clinical practice helps me to be more fluid and confident when supervising clinical experiences with students. Likewise, as a nurse educator who must remain current on nursing knowledge and evidence-based practice



Tara Jankouskas practicing at the bedside at Penn State Children's Hospital

for undergraduate teaching, my theoretical knowledge helps ensure that my clinical practice remains current. Completion of required competencies and clinical hours for bedside nursing is a challenge when also serving as a nurse educator; however, I have found the two roles complimentary and extremely fulfilling.

WELCOME, LISA BRUBAKER!



MY NAME IS LISA BRUBAKER, and I am the clinical liaison and placement coordinator for the undergraduate Department of Nursing.

I began working with Messiah in September of 2016 with the developing Doctor of Physical Therapy Program and made the transition to my current position in August of 2017. During my undergraduate and some post-graduate courses, I gained knowledge of nursing and medical terminology. I am truly blessed to be able to work with the nursing department, students and area clinical sites to ensure that students have successful and meaningful clinical experiences.

I am married and have five wonderful children—two girls and three boys. God continues to teach me lessons through them every day, as they are each uniquely

gifted. I am humbled and grateful to be their mom. Their schedules keep me quite busy, but I love every minute of it—football, rugby, basketball, gymnastics, dance, piano... I love to watch them play!

We also love our church—being involved there over the past 16 years has grown my faith, deepened my walk with God, and helped develop lifelong friendships. In my free time, I enjoy playing softball for a team I've been with for 24 years. I also like to stay active by exercising, playing pickup basketball games, hiking, boating and swimming.

I am so thankful to work with such an amazing team of nurses and educators—all truly devoted to providing quality nursing education to students—holding to standards of excellence and caring for and encouraging their students to become the best nurses in the region.

ADJUNCT NURSING FACULTY

GRADUATE, 2017-2018

Marsena Howard, DNP, CRNP, CNM—
NURS 505, NURS 622, NURS 702
Rebecca Harris, Ph.D.—NURS 503
Jeffrey Kreitman, PharmD—NURS 504
Holly Langmuir, MD, MPH, MS—NURS 621
Sheri Matter, Ph.D., MHS, MBA, RN,
NEA-BC—NURS 500, NURS 620
Danielle Oakes, DNP, CRNP, FNP-BC—
NURS 704

UNDERGRADUATE, FALL 2017

Lauren Bredin, BSN, RN, CCRN—NURS 411
Katie Deitrick, MSN, RN—NURS 311
Nicole Gautsch, MSN, RN, CEN—NURS 411
Emily Griffith, MSN, RN—NURS 310
Enid Kreiner, MSN, RNC-MNN/OB C-EFM—
NURS 310
Laura Lebo, BSN, RN—NURS 310
Savannah Lynch, MSN, RN—NURS 410
Sarah Mauldin, MSN, RN—NURS 410
Mary Lou Mortimer, DNP, RNC-NIC—
NURS 405
Carol Stein, MSN, RN—NURS 311
Talisha Sneeringer, MSN, RN—NURS 311

UNDERGRADUATE, SPRING 2018

Maureen Asper, MS, RN, ACNS-BC—
NURS 412
Kelly Boesch, MSN, CRNP—NURS 313
Lauren Bredin, BSN, RN, CCRN—NURS 312
Sarah Curtis, MSN, CRNP—NURS 211
Katie Deitrick, MSN, RN—NURS 211
Keterly Franken, BSN, RN—NURS 210
Emily Griffith, MSN, RN—NURS 210,
NURS 211
Pam Harris-Haman, DNP, CRNP, NNP-BC—
NURS 313
Shelley Heinbaugh, MSN, RN, CEN—
NURS 211
Jennifer Hughes, MSN, RN, CCRN—
NURS 313
Leslyn Keil, MSN, RN, CPN—NURS 313
Joanne Konick-McMahan, MSN, RN,
PCCN—NURS 413
Sarah Mauldin, MSN, RN—NURS 312
Leah Pardoe, MSN, RN—NURS 413
Jenny Rex, MSN, RN—NURS 313
Melody Seitz, PhD, RNC-OB—NURS 412
Talisha Sneeringer, MSN, RN—NURS 211
Carol Stein, MSN, RN—NURS 210, NURS 211
Alicia Urich, MSN, RN, CMSRN—NURS 413



Kristen Slabaugh is a nurse practitioner at UPMC Pinnacle FastCare.



Wanda Thuma-McDermond and Megan Gross checking blood pressures at Melrose Elementary School.

FACULTY DIRECT PATIENT CARE CLINICAL PRACTICE

MANY OF OUR FULL-TIME NURSING FACULTY continue to provide direct patient care through local health care agencies. Current clinical practice connects faculty with the surrounding community. Wanda Thuma-McDermond manages the Wellness Centers in Dillsburg, Steelton and Mechanicsburg all year, including during the summer months when students are unavailable. Wanda enjoys engaging in the community and demonstrating the scholarship of application. Megan Gross works as a community health nurse in the service pool for Lancaster General Health: Penn Medicine. Additionally, Wanda and Megan regularly serve in the community

with students as clinical faculty.

Current clinical practice helps faculty remain clinically competent. Kristen Slabaugh works as a family nurse practitioner at UPMC Pinnacle FastCare and Express walk-in clinics. Current practice allows her to maintain national certification through the American Association of Nurse Practitioners, which requires a minimum number of clinical practice hours with each renewal. Additionally, Kristen enjoys working at the “bedside” and how direct patient care helps her to stay up to date on treatment guidelines, medications and therapies.

Faculty find that clinical practice

enhances their ability to teach. Jeff Stroup works for UPMC Pinnacle as a nurse in the float pool. He provides direct patient care in the Emergency, Intensive Care, and Medical-Surgical units, which connects with his classroom and clinical teaching responsibilities. Nancy Frank finds that her clinical practice at UPMC West Shore provides real life stories to illustrate material in pathophysiology and pharmacology. Tara Jankouskas works for Penn State Children’s Hospital in addition to teaching pediatric nursing courses. In her article, she has expressed the many benefits of current clinical practice that all faculty providing direct patient care discover.

- **Nancy Woods** published two articles:
 - Hickey, R. G., Buchko, B. L., Coe, P. F., and Woods, A. B. (2017). Effect of the salary model on sustainability of a professional practice environment. *JONA*, 47(10), 497-500. doi: 10.1097/NNA.0000000000000521
 - Wool, C., Repke, J.T., & Woods, A.B. (2017). Parent reported outcomes of quality care and satisfaction in the context of a life-limiting fetal diagnosis. *J Matern Fetal Neonatal Med*, 30(8), 894-899. doi: 10.1080/14767058.2016.1195362
- **Sarah Jones** presented “Got HTN? Your Employee Wellness Program Should Know You Well!” as a poster at Wellspan Collaborative EBP and Nursing Research Day conference.
- **Kristen Slabaugh** presented “Initiation of Standardized Depression Screening in

College Health: A Quality Improvement Project” as a poster at the Geisinger Holy Spirit and UPMC Pinnacle research conferences.

- **Nancy Woods** presented “Effect of a Scheduled Nursing Intervention on Thirst and Dry Mouth in the ICU” as a poster at the Geisinger Holy Spirit research conference. She also presented “A Step-by-Step Guide to Disseminating Research and EBP Findings,” a 4-hour workshop for nurses at UPMC Pinnacle.
- **Nancy Frank** presented “Servant Leadership in a Baccalaureate Nursing Program: A Case Study” as a poster at the Sigma Theta Tau/NLN Nursing Education Research Conference.
- **Debbie Loop** presented “Using Simulation to Develop Clinical Judgement” at Boromarajonani College of Nursing, Chiang Mai, Thailand.

- **Megan Gross** presented “Nurse Educators Leading Collaboration to Engage Community Partners: A Case Study” as a poster at the Association of Community Health Nurse Educators 2017 Annual Institute.
- **Kristen Slabaugh** completed her Doctor of Nursing Practice, Family Nurse Practitioner with a Nursing Education subspecialty from University of South Alabama in August 2017.
- **Sarah Jones** achieved term tenure and was promoted to associate professor.
- **Wanda Thuma-McDermond** became certified as a Basic Life Support instructor and provides hands on demonstrations at the Dauphin County Housing Authority.
- **Nancy Woods** serves as the clinical research consultant for UPMC Pinnacle and Wellspan Health

STUDENT NURSES ASSOCIATION

By Autumn Nelson '18, vice president

THE MESSIAH COLLEGE STUDENT NURSES ASSOCIATION (SNA) is affiliated with the national organization which includes about 60,000 nursing students from across the country. SNA is a pre-professional organization that is committed to both education as well as the nursing profession. Each semester, SNA invites different speakers that pertain to the field of nursing to come speak and share career advice and experiences with members. SNA is also passionate about being involved in community activities, fundraisers, campus wellness events as well as attendance at the National Student Nurses' Association conference each year.

During the 2017-2018 school year, SNA has been busy hosting and participating in several events. At the beginning of the fall semester, a welcome party was held to welcome new and old members back to campus and prepare for what SNA has planned for the upcoming year. After the welcome party, our first fundraiser, a car wash, was held. Throughout the first semester, a variety of speakers came to share with members. Speakers from the Messiah College Career and Professional Development Center spoke about resumes and cover letters for those looking to apply to jobs and summer externships. Nursing representatives from Hershey Medical Center as well as flight nursing have also come to share their professional journey and answer any questions members may have.

In addition to nursing professionals, upperclassmen were also invited to come speak in regards to study abroad experiences and professional opportunities including previous externship and work opportunities. This allowed underclassmen students to be notified of what is to come, as well as the different opportunities not only in the nursing department's scope, but also actual career development and experience.

SNA members participated in a hypertension wellness seminar, where members offered free blood pressure screenings to all who attended the seminar. Members were able to hold a bone marrow drive on campus, in which students could register



(Top) SNA members Kylie Hornbarger, Katie O'Neil, Libby Sawyer and Sarah Klapper participated in the bone marrow drive. (Above, l to r) SNA board members Chelsea Toburen, Elizabeth Brokenshire, Autumn Nelson, Sarah Klapper, Hannah O'Donnell and Katie O'Neil

to become bone marrow donors, by swabbing their mouths and filling out a brief form. This allowed members to educate and get fellow students involved and active in health care related topics.

For the remainder of the spring semester SNA is looking forward to hearing from a nurse anesthetist from UPMC Pinnacle, as well as several Messiah alumni who are coming to share their experience in the working world. A group of SNA members will also be attending the National Student Nursing (NSNA) convention in Nashville, Tennessee in April. This convention allows

members to explore further career opportunities with hospitals and universities from across the country. Members will be able to attend different seminars on different topics in nursing such as pharmacology and hot nursing topics, as well as NCLEX prep sessions. To conclude, SNA will host a farewell party with both faculty and students.

SNA will continue to pursue nursing students in the nursing program to encourage involvement in future semesters and to continue to develop professional and prepared nurses post-graduation.

This year, SNA events included guest speakers, wellness seminars, a bone marrow donor drive and the National Student Nurses Association conference.

SIGMA THETA TAU INDUCTION

THE LAMBDA KAPPA CHAPTER OF SIGMA THETA TAU INTERNATIONAL welcomed 17 new undergraduate and graduate students to membership on November 11, 2017. The induction ceremony was held in Hostetter Chapel and included Lambda Kappa members, Messiah College nursing faculty, students and families.

Debbie Loop, simulation educator for the Department of Nursing, gave the keynote address on “Transforming Nursing Education through Simulation.” Debbie shared changes in simulation technology through the years, including future advancement. Since the National Council of State Boards of Nursing study indicated that up to 50% of clinical hours can be replaced with simulation without affecting student outcomes, simulation is a growing part of nursing education. Debbie explained current simulation theories, organizations and scenario development. It was amazing to learn about the many simulation options available within nursing.

Following this educational



(Front, l to r) Emily Hess, Emily Hepler, Emily Doron, Alyssa Herr, Christina Xenos, Emily Brubaker, AnneMarie Swartz, Victoria Jones (Back, l to r) Janelle Kramer, Brielle Alderfer, Melissa Class, Cullen Kanagy, Hannah Munoz, Hannah O'Donnell (not pictured: Amy Hodes, Laura Rannella, Keterly Steyer)

presentation, Cathy Druckenmiller, president, led the ritual of induction. Wanda Thuma-McDermond, faculty counselor, introduced each inductee as they stepped forward to receive their pin, honor cord

and certificate, and sign the chapter membership book. Dinner and fellowship followed the ceremony.

NURSES CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP

By Carrie St Onge '18, president

THIS HAS BEEN A WONDERFUL YEAR OF GROWTH for Nurses Christian Fellowship (NCF) as we learn and cultivate faith in each other while providing support to our nursing classmates and friends. We meet weekly on Wednesdays in K108 to discuss our “highs” and “lows” of the week, to study the Bible and discuss the material together, and to pray for shared prayer requests. This time is meant to be destressing and usually encompasses coloring pages and chocolate. This year, we have utilized RightNow Media as a resource for video devotionals for our weekly meetings. During the fall semester, we watched J.D. Greear’s “The Book of Ephesians” series, which encouraged us to live out the gospel while learning more about Jesus’ story. We are currently studying Francis Chan’s “The Book of James,” which is encouraging us to build true faith that produces action and fruit. These have produced dynamic conversations each week and are enjoyed by those attending!

NCF began this year with our annual Kickoff Picnic and outreach in September, which was widely attended. We had a game night in October, with board games and snacks. In November, we had our annual Destress Fest and celebrated the busy midterms week with snacks, prizes, crafts and music. Our annual Christmas party at Professor Linstedt’s home finished off the semester with an annual Christmas sweater contest, white elephant gift exchange and a delicious brunch. This February, we had a wonderful craft event where we made stamped stationary and enjoyed conversation together. We look forward to having our bowling event this April, as well as another Destress Party and an end-of-the-year party in collaboration with our friends in SNA. The Lord continues to bless NCF and we look forward to seeing what He will accomplish through us!



NCF members Sarina Gonzalez, Jackie Comley, Rachel Card, Zoe Kamin and Becca Shallenberger relax during the Destress Fest.

“We are currently studying Francis Chan’s ‘The Book of James,’ which is encouraging us to build true faith that produces action and fruit.”

– Carrie St. Onge '18

SELF-CARE IMPORTANT TO FULFILL OUR CALLING

By Abigail Lapp '20



I CAN'T DENY THAT GOD HAS CALLED ME TO NURSING, but His plan is vaster than these next two years of school.

I can't say I know what all is in store, but I know that it will be incredible. However, without giving time for myself, it is very easy to forget why I am in nursing school. I become quick to complain and quick to wish a different route for my life. I'd argue the majority of nursing students feel the same way as me. We can get so bogged down with the work, we forget our call. It's in these moments we need an escape.

There are many ways I escape. I can't really say I have a go-to de-stress method,

“I'd argue the majority of nursing students feel the same way as me. We can get so bogged down with the work we forget our call. It's in these moments we need an escape.”

– Abigail Lapp '20

but all of my methods help relieve stress about the same, it just depends what mood I am in. If I am really stressed out and need to think, I will go on a run. I don't know what it is, but during a run there is nothing on my mind but going another step, stride or mile. There are no distractions; it is just me and the pavement, and after a couple of miles running I feel so accomplished. I can see how far I pushed my body. Even though it has nothing to do with nursing, I think it is a reminder that I can do all things I stick my mind to. As long as I keep pushing on, giving it the best I've got, I can't ask myself for more.

If I am not running, playing soccer or doing something else active, I am most likely doing the exact opposite. I can almost guarantee that I am either behind my guitar or behind my camera. I have been drawn to both music and photography since a young age. Being able to create something of my very own is so refreshing

to me. It's in those moments when I look at a song I wrote, or a picture I took, realizing that no one else could have done it exactly the same, that I'm reminded of the uniqueness that God has instilled on every person. Every nurse brings something different to the table, but together we can all bring healing and health. It helps me refocus on the reason God has called me to nursing, and what my purpose is. Never did I expect a picture or song could remind me of so much.

There is no hiding the fact that nursing school is challenging. The classes push and stretch us to be the absolute best we can be. It would be super easy to get so caught up in all the work, that we would miss out on everything else that comes along with college. Though studying plays a big role in nursing school, it shouldn't consume us as students. In the chaos, we can't lose our calling.

JOIN US IN THE NURSES LOUNGE

Nurses Lounge **WE ARE PLEASED TO ANNOUNCE** that Messiah College Department of Nursing has joined Nurses Lounge, an online professional network for nurses. At Nurses Lounge, you can search for the latest nursing news, events, employment and continuing education opportunities. This free site provides a great way for students, nurses and faculty to stay in contact with what's happening in the profession and connect with alumni. Join us today! messiah.edu/nurseslounge

LIQUID COMPASS JOB SEARCH RESOURCE

WE ARE EXCITED TO ANNOUNCE THAT MESSIAH COLLEGE DEPARTMENT OF NURSING has partnered with LiquidCompass to provide a powerful new job search resource to our undergraduate and graduate nursing students and our alumni. It is a website that can be accessed at liquidcompass.com/messiah. This link is also on the undergraduate Department of Nursing website under Careers and Outcomes.

When you land at the site, click “**Start Here**” (no log-in required). Then simply click a city under the job category that best fits your search. The job categories are as follows:

1. Jobs for current undergrad students – tech and nursing support jobs
2. Jobs for new grad RNs – jobs looking for a new grad BSN or require less than one year of experience
3. Jobs for graduate students – MSN and higher (i.e. APRN jobs, NP, CRNA, nurse midwife and many more)

The job list will load in a new browser tab. The first page shows a summary of all job openings in the city and the employers we are tracking. Scroll down to see the list of jobs.

LiquidCompass tracks the nurse hiring



activity of all major employers and updates these hiring sheets daily.

You may contact LiquidCompass directly at support@liquidcompass.com or **800-201-8030** with any questions or contact Beth Aumen in the Department of Nursing at **717-691-6029**.

A STUDENT'S PERSPECTIVE ON NURSING LEADERSHIP

By Emily Hess '18



I USED TO THINK OF NURSE MANAGERS AS ADMINISTRATORS

distanced from the “real-world” of patient care both functionally and geographically, writing memos in well-lit offices and clad in stylish, uncomfortable shoes. Although my clinical experiences, nursing externship and senior practicum had given me some interaction with nurse leaders, I still lacked an understanding of the part managers play in nursing care. However, as I have shadowed nurse managers through my leadership clinical, I have gained a better understanding of the critical role nurse leaders play in the health care process.

A key nursing function is that of patient advocate, working on behalf of patients to provide safe, effective and individualized care. Nurse managers also serve as advocates for their staff, working with the administration and interdisciplinary care team to provide nurses with the time and resources to implement quality care. One manager I shadowed worked for

four years to instate a rounding pharmacist on the floor for stat med orders. Another is working to improve nurse-patient ratios by reducing ED patient boarding through a hospital-wide rounding protocol. The managers I shadowed didn't wear high-heels or stay behind their desks. They were constantly on the floor, checking up on their staff, responding to concerns and lending a helping hand. Even those with an alphabet-soup of acronyms behind their name weren't too proud to hang a secondary, transport a patient to CVIR, or escort a lost family member to the cafeteria. They weren't just managers in the formal sense, but were effective leaders—those who empower, inspire and motivate their staff.

We talk about Magnet a lot in nursing—from analyzing tenets of nursing research to choosing which hospitals to apply to upon graduation. A key component of the Magnet model is transformational leadership, and although I worked at a hospital this summer as it went through the re-certification process, I didn't really understand what transformational leadership was until I spent time with managers

who embody this style. These leaders are committed to the growth of the unit and its members, and inspire staff to pursue a common goal of excellence. They work toward staff betterment, satisfaction and quality outcomes. They partner with and serve their staff.

Through my leadership shadow experiences, I have gained a richer understanding of the functions of nurse managers. I know the kind of manager I seek to work under as I consider employment after graduating this May. I know the kind of manager—a manager who cares for, with and about her staff—that I may someday seek to be.

“I have gained a better understanding of the critical role nurse leaders play in the health care process.”

– Emily Hess '18

A NURSE MANAGER'S PERSPECTIVE ON LEADERSHIP

By Erica Leber-Burnham, nurse manager at UPMC Pinnacle West Shore ICU



I HAD THE PRIVILEGE OF WORKING WITH MESSIAH STUDENTS

during their leadership course shadow experience. I appreciate the student's energy and passion for their newfound career. The students are so excited to change the world and make a difference. Their excitement excites me because every nurse makes a difference to patients, families and their team. To be a nurse is a complex, hard job. Nursing is about caring for patients and doing what is best for the patient. For most of us, this is the easy, expected part. But what you sometimes don't realize until you're in the thick of your shift is that nursing can be hard. You will cry and feel empathy for your patients and their situation. During these times, I encourage you not to run from this, but embrace it and use your passions

to comfort your patients and their family. This is demanding for nurses, so it's equally important that you take care of yourself, too. It is imperative after stressful situations to debrief with a friend, coworker or someone that you feel comfortable talking to. Find out what is important to you and make time for it. Over the years I have seen many amazing nurses get overwhelmed and burned out as a result of not finding time for what is important to them.

Being a leader can mean many things. To me, being a leader means taking care of your team as if they are your “patient.” In order to truly care for your team, you need to connect with them and find out what are their priorities in life. A good leader knows their team and can readily know what they need. A leader looks out for their best interest. When you take care of your team they are happier, and they do a better job. In the nursing profession, this results

in providing excellent care to our patients.

A leader needs to be fair to every employee and strong to deal with difficult situations. In my role, it is imperative to be empathetic and understand what patients, family and staff are experiencing. A nurse leader needs to be compassionate, inventive and resilient. Health care is ever changing, and as a leader, you feel these changes and the impact they have on staff. This can pull you in many different directions every day. You need to stay grounded and remember what is important. Some days this can be harder than others. Another important job of being a leader is being a mentor your staff. As a leader, it is essential to develop your staff. I enjoy helping them reach their goals and highest potential. A leader is an important part of the team, but it is only one part. Our team has many members and it takes everyone to make the unit excel.

WITNESSING GROWTH IN EVIDENCE-BASED PRACTICE SKILLS

By Beth Transue, MLS, MET, librarian, liaison to the School of Science, Engineering and Health

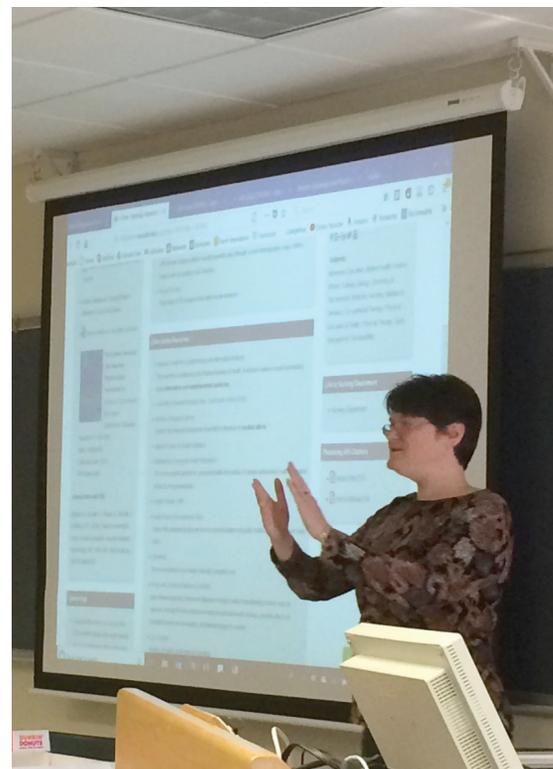
AS A LIBRARIAN EDUCATOR WHO WORKS WITH THE NURSING DEPARTMENT, I am always pleased to see the marked growth in the information literacy skills of finding, selecting, appraising and finally applying quality evidence to nursing practice.

In NURS 203, when I first meet with nursing students to introduce them to library resources, they often have only basic information literacy skills. While students may know how to find books in a library, they do not yet know about nursing databases such as CINAHL, nor how to search them effectively for best evidence. I meet with nursing students again in a junior-level course to facilitate advanced searching skills in nursing and medical literature databases.

I am always thrilled to witness

students' progress by the time I see them a final time in Research Roundtable sections. Students can form PICOT questions, determine resources to search, create search strategies, and evaluate evidence that has immediate implications for real-world practice.

Whenever I feel despair about lack of information literacy skills in undergraduate students, I think about the growth in skills that a structured approach can bring. I think about the ways that graduates bring passion, insight and evidence-based critical thinking to their field. Information literacy may not be the first skill one thinks of needing as a nurse, but in a discipline marked by evidence-based practice, the ability to find, select, appraise and apply that evidence is invaluable.

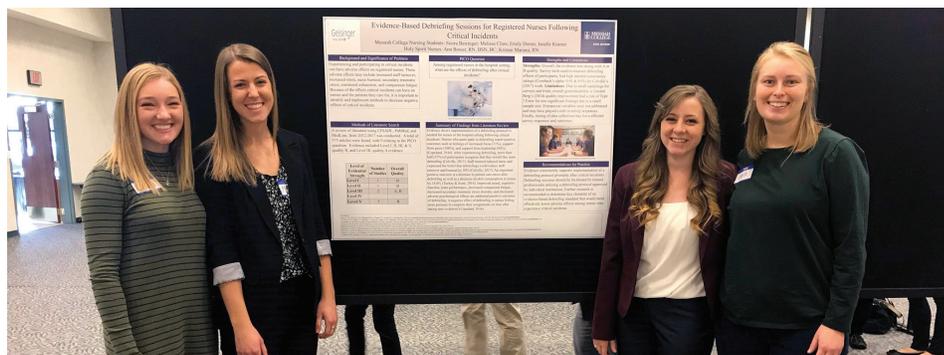


PARTICIPATING IN RESEARCH ROUNDTABLE

By Sierra Berringer '18

FROM SEPTEMBER THROUGH DECEMBER 2017, nursing students from Messiah College paired with nurses from Geisinger Holy Spirit to collaborate on literature review based research. My group consisted of Messiah College nursing students Melissa Class, Janelle Kramer, Emily Doron and myself. We partnered with Kristin Mariani and Ann Bower, both registered nurses from Geisinger Holy Spirit. Our group members had one major thing in common, and that was our interest in areas of nursing which expect high mortality rates. These areas included oncology, emergency, critical care, and heart and vascular. Nurses who work in areas such as these face death on a regular basis. We found a common interest in researching what is being done for nurses who experience critical incidents to help reduce nurse burnout.

This interest formed our PICO: among registered nurses in the hospital setting, what are the effects of debriefing after critical incidents? We performed an intensive literature review, which led to the consistent finding that debriefing protocols



Emily Doron, Melissa Class, Sierra Berringer, and Janelle Kramer present their poster on RN debriefing following critical incidents in the hospital.

should be in place for nurses in the hospital setting following critical incidents.

Having the opportunity to work with registered nurses from a local hospital added such a powerful element to our project. As students, we were able to receive fresh perspective from nurses who have actually experienced the effects of not having a debriefing protocol in place throughout their careers. It was an honor to have participated in this research, and we all look forward to displaying our research at the Science Symposium this spring!

“Having the opportunity to work with registered nurses from a local hospital added such a powerful element to our project.”

– Sierra Berringer '18

PRESENTING AT THE NATIONAL STUDENT NURSES ASSOCIATION CONFERENCE

By Lauren Orehowsky, BSN, RN '17



PUBLIC SPEAKING HAS NEVER REALLY BEEN MY PASSION. Throughout my collegiate years, I became more comfortable speaking in front of groups, in part due to my communications/public speaking required course during my first year at Messiah. As president of Messiah's SNA (Student Nurses' Association), I was obligated to step out of my comfort zone and participate in more speaking opportunities, and as a result, became more comfortable with it.

During the few weeks leading up to the April 2017 National Student Nurses Association (NSNA) convention in Dallas, Texas, we received emails from NSNA to keep registered students informed regarding what to expect during the upcoming convention. One of these emails contained a blurb about International Experiences in Nursing, and said something about

applying to speak at a session called "Global Initiatives in Nursing." Just three months prior, I had had an incredible, life-changing experience during my J-term Senior Nursing Practicum in Zambia, Africa. As a result, I thought it would be wonderful to share about my time there, and I promptly filled out the application.

Sure enough, I was told by the Director West of NSNA that my experiences sounded "amazing" and was selected to present! Suddenly, I was scrambling to prepare a presentation, and considered digging through my old notes from freshman year communications class for some public speaking pointers! I looked through photographs from the trip to put together a power point, read my "Africa journal" that I kept every day while I was there, and actually found much joy in reflecting on my journey again. Preparing my thoughts and refreshing myself on the time I spent in Zambia were quite meaningful to me!

Then Wednesday morning arrived, and I woke up thinking about the "Global Initiatives in Nursing" session later in the afternoon, and felt excited! Surprisingly, I did not feel nervous throughout the day, and when it was time to speak, God gave me peace, strength and fairly eloquent words (or so I hope). I enjoyed speaking about my experiences, and it seemed that the approximately 150 attendees were interested in hearing about them, which was inspiring to me. A few of the students asked questions about the culture, nurse autonomy in other parts of the world, and about nurse: patient ratios, and I enjoyed their inquisitions and participation. The session allowed for the collaboration of nursing students and faculty from all over the U.S., facilitated an atmosphere of passion regarding global health, and gave the Macha Mission Hospital in Zambia recognition and exposure. All in all, I found it to be a positive and encouraging experience.

2017 SIGMA THETA TAU BIENNIAL CONVENTION

By Kristin Shaub, BSN, RN; MSN cohort '19



THIS YEAR, I HAD THE HONOR OF REPRESENTING THE SIGMA THETA TAU LAMBDA KAPPA CHAPTER as a delegate and attendee at the 2017

Sigma Theta Tau International Honor Society of Nursing Biennial Convention in Indianapolis, Indiana. Yes, the official title of the convention is long, but I felt obligated to include it as Sigma Theta Tau has officially been renamed "Sigma," and now features an updated logo that reads "Sigma: Global Nursing Excellence." Although the rebranding of Sigma caused some controversy, I believe that the logo accurately depicts the overall mission of the organization and the purpose of the Biennial Convention itself as the convention had so much to offer, it was almost overwhelming! There were sessions and symposiums, poster presentations and exhibits on topics pertaining to clinical nurses, nurse educators, nurse administrators and nurse researchers. The convention



As Lambda Kappa chapter's delegate, Kristin enters her vote electronically.

also featured a career center, which helped nurses receive guidance on career advancement, and a marketplace where attendees could purchase books, Sigma merchandise, and more.

However, the most exciting events at the Biennial Convention took place within the House of Delegates meetings. During these meetings, delegates voted for or against proposed changes to the organization and also elected new Sigma officials

into office. As Lambda Kappa's delegate, my primary role was to vote in a way that would best serve Sigma and, by extension, the Lambda Kappa Chapter. That being said, I originally thought that deciding how to vote would be the most intimidating part of being a delegate. But, for me, the most stressful part was finding my seat! In fact, the House of Delegates Meetings

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were held in such a big ballroom, that the Biennial Convention Program contained a map to help people find their seats.

Despite the mishaps I encountered while trying to find my seat, I took my delegate responsibilities very seriously and made sure to learn about the candidates and the proposed changes to the organization prior to attending the meetings. During my preparation, I noticed that the Biennial Convention Program contained a

list of intended learning outcomes for the convention. In the past, I may not have recognized the significance of these learning outcomes, but as a student currently enrolled in Messiah's MSN Nurse Educator program, I knew that these learning outcomes indicated standards necessary for the organization to be successful in promoting global nursing excellence. So, just as nurse educators use learning outcomes to motivate their students to learn, the purpose of clearly listing the learning outcomes of the convention was to motivate

Sigma members meet the standards of achievement to advance the nursing profession on a global level.

The goals of Sigma and the goals of nurse educators demonstrate an interesting connection. All nurses are teachers. Nurses teach patients, nurses teach families, nurses even teach doctors, but most importantly, nurses teach future nurses. Therefore, to truly advance the nursing profession on a global level, we must all strive to be nurse educators.



SIMULATION UPDATES

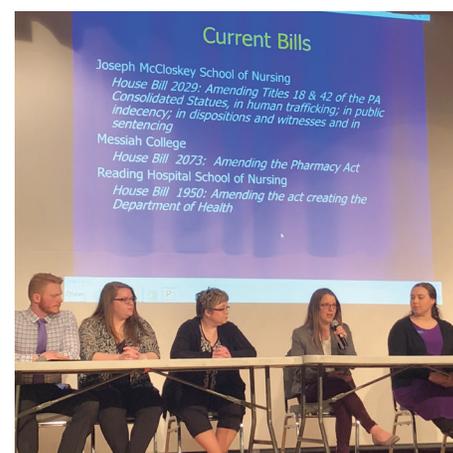
THIS YEAR, NURSING STUDENTS HAVE HAD THE OPPORTUNITY to work with several upgraded high fidelity patient simulators, Athena and Apollo. Athena is a female simulator designed for acute and critical care scenarios. Her highly advanced airway can be intubated and respond to mechanical ventilation. Apollo has enhanced options for bleeding and gastric, nasal, oral and ophthalmic secretions. Each of these simulators is equipped with SymEyes, which allow the eyes to change based on the scenario. The eyes change colors, become jaundiced, hemorrhage, have cataracts, and demonstrate pupillary changes. In addition, these simulators can be operated in the room as well as the control room, allowing for additional flexibility. The variety of skin tones available provided an opportunity to diversify our patient simulators as well. Faculty and students have appreciated the newly updated simulators with their expanded capabilities.

NURSING IN ACTION ON CAPITOL HILL DAY

By Emily Hepler '18

BEFORE I CHOSE NURSING AS A MAJOR, my mind was set on politics. I now fully believe nursing was the right choice, but I enjoyed combining both of these passions at Student Nursing Association of Pennsylvania's Capitol Hill Step by Step event. Nursing students from several area schools gathered nearby the State Capitol Building in Harrisburg on March 27 to learn about the legislative process and the role that nurses can take to influence it. We were inspired by nurses who spoke to us about the significant experience they have had in the political realm and encouraged us with practical ways to get involved. I think it was especially helpful to hear one nurse say that she was terrified of public speaking and never expected to step foot in the political world, but—years later—she is very grateful for the influence she's been able to have on a local, national, and international level. Referring to the original white uniforms of nurses, another speaker shared a story of the "sea of white" that converged on the Capitol several decades ago, illustrating the clout that nurses can have when they unite together.

As students, we participated in the day by researching bills relevant to nursing that are currently being debated in the state government and made our views known to legislators. Especially as novice nurses, one of the most important things we can do is keep aware of political issues



Emily Hepler (second from right) presents H.B. 2073, an amendment to the Pharmacy Act requiring retail community pharmacies to provide a method for disposal of all medications.

related to nursing and communicate with our lawmakers. Each nursing school was assigned one bill to present to the assembly of students and faculty during the day. I had the opportunity to present H.B. 2073, an amendment to the Pharmacy Act sponsored by Representative Kevin Haggerty that would require retail community pharmacies to install and maintain drug collection receptacles for members of the public to deposit controlled, noncontrolled, and over-the-counter medications. It was exciting to stand beside representatives from other schools and increase awareness of this important subject. I enjoyed combining my love for both nursing and politics and sharing this special day with my fellow seniors. Just imagine what our "sea of scrubs" could accomplish someday!

“Just imagine what our ‘sea of scrubs’ could accomplish someday!” – Emily Hepler '18

MEDICAL MISSION TRIP TO HAITI

By Shelby Stouffer '19



OVER CHRISTMAS BREAK, I EMBARKED ON MY FIRST MISSION TRIP and first trip to Haiti through an organization called Hearts United with

Haiti. We stayed in the upper level of a house in Carrefour with limited electricity and no hot water, but we had amazing cooks and translators that were like family. My 10 days in Haiti consisted of touring two different hospitals, helping to run a clinic, first aid education to a local business and also to a local orphanage, spending time at the orphanage playing with the kids, taking locals' blood pressures, and experiencing a totally different culture. I know that was a lot in one sentence, so let me break that down for you.

In Haiti, there are two kinds of hospitals: public and private. The public hospitals are free to the community and the private hospitals cost around \$15 to see a doctor. FREE...yeah you read that right! There are free hospitals in Haiti, but let me explain. The public, free hospitals provide limited care and after the initial visit with a doctor, a person could go

weeks in the hospital without ever seeing the doctor. The initial visit with the doctor is free and the stay is free, but if someone needs any type of procedure or treatment, he or she must pay. Unlike the U.S., where most rooms are private, these patients are placed in wards with around 10 patients per room. The hospital does not provide meals for the patients, which means that the family has to bring food. Also, there are no bathrooms, so they must go outside. By now, I bet your jaw is almost to the ground, but let me continue enlightening you. The private hospital that we toured was similar to hospitals here in the U.S., so that is uplifting to know that there is access to better medical care. The private hospitals do cost money, which means that most Haitians cannot afford them and only few have that luxury. It was eye-opening to realize how much I take our health care system in the U.S. for granted.

Along with having a new outlook on our health care system, I was able to help at a clinic and teach first aid to a local pallet business and the nannies of the orphanage. There is a lack of basic health care education so it was encouraging to be



able to provide them with the knowledge to properly treat cuts and scrapes. Along with teaching at the orphanage, we were able to spend the day playing with the kids and giving them personal attention that they do not always receive. In addition, our group walked through the mountains offering blood pressure checks to anyone who desired. That also gave us the opportunity to get a glimpse into their lives and talk to them through our translators.

Overall, my eyes were opened to a whole new culture that I was blinded to before. I was able to practice some basic nursing skills in a different country. I gained a new outlook on life and a new love for the people of Haiti.

PLANES, LIONS, WATERFALLS AND CLINICAL!

By Teri Witter BSN, RN '97; MSN cohort '18

“I NEVER KNEW OF A MORNING IN AFRICA WHEN I WOKE UP THAT I WAS NOT HAPPY” (HEMINGWAY, DATE UNKNOWN).

For just about three weeks, each day I was able to resonate with Hemingway. This past January, I had the privilege to join Dr. Wanda Thuma-McDermond and eight senior nursing students in Zambia, Africa. The course was the Senior Practicum. The class offered the opportunity for nursing students to experience clinical in the United States, Thailand or Zambia. While the class was designed for undergraduate students, I had the privilege, as a nurse, and as a nurse educator graduate student, to co-lead the experience for the students.

What an awesome opportunity this was! As a current graduate student in the MSN Nurse Educator Program, this was a



(l to r) AnneMarie Swartz, Emily Doron, Emily Hepler, Olivia Madder, Teri Witter, Sierra Berringer, Emily Brubaker, Kylie Hornbarger, Alyssa Herr and Wanda Thuma-McDermond work with files during their January 2018 visit to Zambia.

great experience to help lead. This experience combined all of my passions in one experience: my love for college students, my love for nursing, and my love for the

opportunity to be Jesus' hands and feet all over the world. While observing and

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working at Macha Hospital, I had the chance to see health care in a developing country. There are some similarities and yet there are many differences. We were exposed to the limitations of being in a developing country and experienced firsthand some cultural differences. It was very humbling to watch the Zambian way of life as it meshed with health care. Many nurses we met in Zambia were excellent

and had hearts to serve and care well for their patients.

Not only were we able to experience the health care setting, we also had the privilege of going on a safari and seeing the amazing Victoria Falls! Seeing the animals and the breath-taking falls led all of us to a new sense of awe for the Lord! It was amazing to hear how God met each one of us in different ways in Zambia...in the hospital seeing a smile on a little face, running through the bush holding hands

with children, hiking to see sunsets, being overwhelmed by lions and elephants, and clearly hearing God answer prayers! For me, this trip was a confirmation of my pursuit in nursing education. As a nurse educator, I will have the opportunity to invest into college students while using my nursing skills. I look forward to the adventures that God has for me. I am thankful for the opportunities that are offered to Messiah nursing students through courses such as Senior Practicum.

THAILAND CULTURAL EXCHANGE

By Samantha Dench, BSN, RN '17

IN JANUARY 2017, I shared my days and nights with a people whose customs, cuisine, climate and culture were unfamiliar to me. Sometimes, uncomfortably so. One of my most distinct memories from a month in Chiang Mai, Thailand was made in the first and last ten minutes in their country.

Imagine this: Our first hello was sweaty and jet-lagged. After spending almost a whole day in the air, I and five other Messiah students, along with our faculty leader, were greeted by students and professors that were longing to make us feel welcome. They adorned our necks with fragrant flower-necklaces, spoke sweet Thai greetings over our group, and carried our luggage so we didn't have to bear the load.

Our goodbye was the same, but melancholy. I remember the bus ride to the airport. I remember my young and sweet Thai guide speaking in broken English, "I will come see you someday." I smiled sadly, wondering if she would ever be afforded the opportunity to do so. I remember standing on a platform at the bottom of an escalator inside departures. I was moving up, slowly, and all the waving hands and smiling faces that greeted me weeks ago, grew smaller. Some of the kindest people I had ever met, I knew I would likely never see again.

In a few months' time, I was transitioned back to America long enough to forget how Thailand's scorching sun made my freckles grow darker and sometimes even made me wish for cold, how the food was either the best or worst part of my day, and how it felt to hear the sweet voices of those friends so far away.



Messiah College students and faculty welcome the students and faculty from Thailand to the United States.

“Thankfully, a reunion was about to ensue. Come spring, Thai students and teachers came excitedly to the place we call home: Messiah College.”

– Samantha Dench '17

Thankfully, a reunion was about to ensue. This time, I was the one welcoming the tourists. Come spring, Thai students and teachers came excitedly to the place we call home, Messiah College. For most, it was the first time, and for many, it was also the last time. It is not a small honor to be selected as a student to come to America. Those who made the arduous 18+ hour journey endured a far more trying interview process in the preceding months before the “trip of a lifetime.”

To summarize my experience with these people—many of whom I feel I can

call family—is a difficult task. Instead of providing an itinerary of our time together, I feel it's more valuable to share some lessons I learned from their first visit with us here in America.

1. They were grateful for everything, and complained about nothing: This was not just polite behavior; this was a different way of living. A simple meal in my humble college apartment followed by an experimental Pinterest-fail dessert?

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CROSS-CULTURAL EXPERIENCES

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Their faces said it was the best meal they ever had. Why? Gratitude.

2. **They had fears:** What were they most nervous about? The cold, early spring temperatures, and violence. Most of what they have learned about America has come from media coverage. They asked me if they would be safe here.
3. **They were astounded by the portions provided to them when we went out to eat.** They recognized how much we waste. I can say from experience, they don't waste nearly as much as we do.
4. **They fell victim to tourist traps.** Not so different from us! They wanted to see NYC and LA, but we told them those places aren't nearly as exciting as Mechanicsburg. :)
5. **They love grand gestures and never show up empty handed.** At their good-bye party, I departed with bags full of thoughtfully prepared gifts. None were as valuable to me as their unconditional friendship.

No matter how many years pass, I am confident that if I travel back to my home across the sea, I will be greeted just as my memories describe. And if I should first have the pleasure of welcoming them back to our home, I will try with all my might to make them feel the same care they've always extended to me.



Top to bottom: Snow was a new experience for the visitors from Thailand. Students from Thailand perform a traditional Thai dance at the farewell dinner. Messiah faculty, students and alumni participated in a group traditional dance led by students and faculty from Thailand.

FROM THE DIRECTOR OF GRADUATE PROGRAMS IN NURSING

By Louann Zinsmeister, PhD, RN, CNE



**“COMMIT YOUR
WORKS TO THE LORD
AND YOUR PLANS WILL
BE ESTABLISHED.”
PROVERBS 16:3**

We continue to celebrate the success of the graduate nursing program at Messiah College. In 2017, we marked the second year of graduates from the MSN program. This year is the second year of the DNP-FNP program, and we recently added a MSN – Nursing Administration track option to begin in fall 2018. We are grateful to God that our graduate nursing programs continue to experience growth and success.

Specific celebrations for this year include several special happenings. In August 2018, eight students from the MSN-Nurse Educator program will graduate. These graduates include Christine Dinges, Sharon Kessler, Christina Morgan, Linda Rhine, Serena Shirey, Jason Stover, Kate Taylor and Teri Witter. In November 2017, Abby Schmuck, a MSN-Nurse Educator student was awarded a scholarship from the Nightingale Awards of Pennsylvania. Abby was chosen to receive this award from a pool of many qualified applicants. We extend congratulations to Abby and her outstanding representation of Messiah College. Graduates of our MSN-Nurse Educator program are helping to fulfill the need for qualified nurse educators in both academia and clinical practice settings across a variety of geographical areas.

The Doctor of Nursing Practice – Family Nurse Practitioner program (DNP-FNP) is now in its second year. We were pleased to name Dr. Kristen Slabaugh as coordinator of the program in August 2017. Last fall, the first group of DNP-FNP students began their first FNP clinical-practicum experiences in a variety of primary care sites. The DNP-FNP program is delivered online and uses state-of-the-art technology to allow innovative methods for accomplishment of class and clinical practicum experiences. Therefore, students enrolled in this program can live outside the immediate Messiah College geographical area. Our DNP-FNP graduates will help fulfill Messiah College’s mission of service



MSN students attending class in January. Back (l to r): Kate Taylor, Linda Rhine, Sharon Kessler. Front (l to r): Christine Ealing, Serena Shirey with son Lucian, and Christina Morgan

to others as doctorally prepared FNP, primary care providers.

If reading about our graduate nursing programs has sparked your interest in pursuing a MSN or DNP-FNP at Messiah College, here is specific information about both programs.

The MSN and DNP-FNP programs provide flexible, quality online graduate nursing education for nurses who want to become nurse educators or family nurse practitioners. The need and demand for qualified nurse educators and primary care nurse practitioners continues to increase. In addition, the new MSN-Nursing Administration track offers graduate nursing education for nurses who want to pursue a career path of leadership and service to others in an area of nursing administration.

The MSN-Nurse Educator and new Nursing Administration programs can be completed in two or three years for post-baccalaureate nurses. The post baccalaureate DNP-FNP program can be completed in four years. Upon completion of the DNP-FNP program, graduates are eligible to take the nurse practitioner licensure exam and become certified registered nurse practitioners (CRNP). All programs are delivered in an online format and provide an outstanding, quality education for nurses wanting to pursue graduate nursing education.

Other initiatives happening within graduate nursing at Messiah College

include interprofessional collaboration education with Messiah College’s graduate allied health programs in occupational therapy, physical therapy, athletic training and dietetics. Needless to say, exciting times are on the horizon for Messiah College’s graduate nursing programs. If you, your colleagues, or friends are looking for quality, faith-based, excellent graduate nursing education, please do not hesitate to contact us for more information about our graduate nursing programs and how graduate nursing at Messiah College can help you attain your professional and personal goals.

For additional information about our graduate nursing programs, contact the Graduate Nursing Office at gradnursing@messiah.edu or 717-691-6054.

**“Trust in the LORD
with all your heart and
lean not on your own
understanding; in all
your ways submit to him,
and he will make your
paths straight.”**

– Proverbs 3:5-6

NEVER SAY NEVER!

By Kristen Slabaugh '05, DNP, CRNP, FNP-DNP coordinator



I WAS THE UNDERGRADUATE NURSING STUDENT who insisted that I would never return to school. After graduating with a BSN from Messiah College in 2005, I landed

my “dream job” on the Women’s Health Unit at Hershey Medical Center. I absolutely loved caring for new moms and babies! But after a few years, I started to wonder if there was more. More to my career, more to learn, farther to grow.

Never #1: At the suggestion of a coworker, I applied for an MSN/FNP program and was accepted. I thought to myself, “if it is God’s will, it will happen. I will just start the first class and see how it goes.” A few courses later, I found myself starting clinical experiences and falling in love with family practice. About two years in, it started to get scary. “Will I like it? Am I capable? Why would I change my job if I love what I’m doing!?” But by that point, it was too late to turn back and I plowed through. I graduated from Penn State University with an MSN/FNP in 2010.

Never #2: I knew I loved the college age population and was looking for a nurse practitioner position at Messiah’s student health center when I stumbled across a faculty position for maternity/pediatric nursing. I had always wanted to teach and these were certainly my prime specialty areas. But I was sure I would never be “good enough” for that. After a lot of praying, I kept hearing the phrase “it’s always a ‘no’ if you don’t try.” I was hired as a full-time faculty member in 2011.

Never #3: By this point in my personal life, I was married and had a new baby. The last thing I wanted was a SECOND job. However, I needed a way to maintain my NP competencies and licensure. I was offered a position as a CRNP float through the family care offices at a hospital-based clinic and eventually switched to working at the system’s walk-in clinic.

Never #4: I knew when I was hired at Messiah that I would need to obtain a terminal degree, NOT my idea of a fun time. However, I liked the idea of having it behind me and knew this was the next thing God was calling me to do, even if I hated

it. I found a program that combined all my passions and goals: DNP in family practice (terminal degree with a focus on clinical practice) and a subspecialty/post-master’s certificate in nursing education. Four years, 47 credits, a total loss house fire, and two more babies later, I graduated from the University of South Alabama in 2017. God and I had a “deal.” I promised Him that I would work hard to obtain the degree if He promised to sustain me (of course He did!), but that I would “get to” enjoy a few years of rest, relaxation and a “normal” family life for several years afterwards. Clearly, I have not learned my lesson.

Never #5: A few months before graduation and nine months pregnant with my third baby, I was approached about taking on a new role at Messiah as coordinator of the DNP/FNP program. My graduation date was set for July 28 and the position would start August 1, the same day I return from maternity leave. No pressure, right!? I laughingly answered “no!” Every day for two weeks I was asked and every day I gave the same answer. I finally decided that I had had enough of being asked. One evening, I sat down with my husband and requested his help to compile a list of the reasons why I would not consider this position. The most important, in my mind, was the “deal” I had made with God- that I would have a year “off from crazy life” to enjoy my family and my work. The next day, I firmly stated my position with Dr. Woods as I rattled off all the reasons why I would not consider the position. There have not been too many times in life where I audibly heard God’s voice but this was one of them. “You know you are not supposed to be saying ‘no.’” And I responded back, “I am choosing to be deliberately disobedient. There is no way that I can do this and I’m ready for my year of ‘normal



Kristen with her husband, Ben Slabaugh, and children Everett, Elliana and Owen.

“You only have to do today.”

– Kristen Slabaugh '05

that I have earned.” Long story short, I accepted the position several weeks later while snuggling my newborn boy, returned from maternity leave August 1, 2017, and hit the ground running. I have absolutely loved working with the graduate students and faculty and I know this is what I’m supposed to be doing. All those years of stress from graduate school plus full-time work plus per diem work plus a family and young kids have become the basis for my mission field: to convince graduate students that it is possible with hard work and dedication. I love walking with them through times that feel impossible. They are always hearing me say, “you only have to do today. Focus on what needs done today and don’t look all the way down the road. That’s too overwhelming. You know you can accomplish today and probably even tomorrow. Keep doing today and eventually you will pick up your head and realize that you made it to the end!”

I NEVER pictured myself doing all this and I NEVER imagined loving it as much as I am! I was sure that I would NEVER be capable. Never say never or, if you’re like me, you’ve pretty much written your future.

LEARNING IS LIFELONG

By Linda Rhine, BSN, RN; MSN Cohort '18



GOING BACK TO COLLEGE TO EARN A MSN IN NURSING EDUCATION has been a blessing in so many ways. We are all faced with challenges throughout

our lives and in every part of our lives. No matter our age, we need God's guidance and grace as we continue on predestined path through life.

I received my BSN in 1985 and have enjoyed a variety of positions both inpatient and outpatient. My first position as a graduate nurse piqued my interest in nursing education. The six-month graduate nurse program was a very positive experience despite the challenges of adjusting to day-night rotation, the role of professional nurse, and life as a young adult.

It was important to have a balance between my family life and career. I focused on doing well in my positions and learning all that I could. I continued to enjoy roles as a preceptor, charge nurse and head nurse. I had continued to prepare for a position as a nurse educator through experience. Thirty years and experience was not enough, I would need to go back to school to learn the skills of an educator.

In my most recent position, I became acutely aware of the need for nurse educators in the clinical setting with the rapid changes in health care. I felt the nudge to pursue a MSN. However, I worried that I was too late in my timing. I started to fill out an application to Messiah College to see what the process would be but did not click the "submit" button. I was afraid and was plagued by a lack of confidence.

I prayed for guidance on what to do next. I received an email within a day or two from Ashley Ringquist, encouraging me to finish the application process; I took it as a sign. Here I am, a MSN student in nursing education, and almost done!

My prayers were answered with the encouragement of my family, colleagues, peers and Messiah College professors and staff. I am constantly reminded of the need to trust God for His timing and to yield to His purpose for my life. Acknowledging my fears and surrendering them to Jesus, allows for Him to work. I am comforted and inspired by the verse, "The Sovereign Lord is my strength; he makes my feet like the feet of a deer, he enables me to tread on the heights." (Habakkuk 3:19)

MY JOURNEY BACK TO MESSIAH

By Keterly Franken, BSN, RN '15, MSN Cohort '19



NEVER SAY NEVER.

These are words I now live by, thanks to the wisdom I received from Dr. Kristen Slabaugh during my sophomore year of nursing school

at Messiah. I clearly remember when she shared her story of sitting in the same seats we were in, graduating from Messiah's nursing program, getting married, and then coming back to teach for Messiah, alongside the same professors who taught her undergraduate lectures. In my own head, I thought to myself, "I will never be that person." I was convinced that once I made it through nursing school, I was never coming back to Messiah's campus.

This is where I will tell you that I love God's sense of humor. Today, I work as a full-time RN at Penn State Cancer Institute in Hershey. I married my college sweetheart, and we live one mile away from Messiah's campus. I am a graduate student in the MSN Nurse Educator program, and I was asked to join as adjunct faculty this spring semester for NURS 210. This year marks three years since I graduated from nursing school and I am doing all of the

things I once said I would "never" do.

The transition from student to RN was not easy, but once you get the hang of it, nursing becomes second nature. The transition from RN to nurse educator has brought in a whole new realm of learning and excitement. I chose to work in the specialty of oncology because I am passionate about creating relationships with my patients during one of the toughest times of their lives. In the past few months, I have discovered I am also passionate about creating relationships with students, educating them about nursing, and watching them grow. This passion is what led me to pursue my MSN to become a nurse educator, and come back to my roots to join Messiah's nursing department as adjunct faculty.

Nursing is one of the greatest challenges of my life. Yet, amongst these challenges, I have received some of the greatest rewards. It is because of my career as a

nurse that I have become a stronger person, a better communicator and developed deeper relationships. Being a graduate student has brought its own challenges, but it has brought much more confidence, growth, and opportunities that I would not have today if I were not in Messiah's MSN program. Everyone says there is a shortage of nurse educators in our country and I hope to be one of those who fills this gap.

Patients and students surprise you. They care for you in the process of you caring for them. I am unbelievably grateful for the lives of patients and students Jesus has entrusted in my hands. Today, I am honored to be working alongside the same professors from my undergraduate education. I know completing my graduate degree in nursing education, and this experience as adjunct faculty will continue to shape me into the person and professional I am today.

"The transition from student to RN was not easy, but once you get the hang of it, nursing becomes second nature." – Keterly Franken '15, MSN '19

REWARDS OF CONTINUING EDUCATION

By Rena Zody, BSN, RN '95; DNP Cohort '20



OVER 20 YEARS AGO,

I was an undergraduate nursing student at Messiah College who, to be honest, was not overly excited about her career path. I was, however,

thrilled when I finally graduated and was fully convinced that I was done with school forever! After graduation, I began to practice the art of nursing full-time and discovered how much I loved caring for people, physically and emotionally, in some of their most vulnerable moments. Having worked in many different nursing settings over the past two decades, I have continued to find that the challenges and rewards of nursing seem to fit well with my unique God-given identity. However, no one was more surprised than I when I began to contemplate continuing my education several years ago. Thus, when I discovered that Messiah College was offering graduate nursing programs, I jumped in with both feet. The past two years in the DNP-FNP (Doctor of Nursing Practice:

“When I discovered that Messiah College was offering graduate nursing programs, I jumped in with both feet.” – Rena Zody '95, DNP '20

Family Nurse Practitioner) program have been a thrilling and challenging ride.

The DNP-FNP program offers me the opportunity to earn a cumulative degree while preparing me well to provide quality care as a nurse practitioner. The rigorous courses and extensive clinical practice hours require commitment and hard work but I have enjoyed the classes, the knowledge of the professors, and the unique perspectives offered by fellow classmates. I also have the privilege of representing the DNP student group on the Graduate Nursing Committee. It has been eye-opening and humbling to see the behind-the-scenes discussions by faculty and educators concerning curriculum and program design. Their thoughtful processes ensure that the program remains competitive, comprehensive, consistent with the values

upon which Messiah College was founded, and more than adequate in meeting state/national standards. I can attest to the fact that nursing leadership cares about the quality of their programs but, still more, cares about both the well-being and success of the students in their programs.

I am almost halfway through the DNP-FNP program and although it has been a significant challenge in balancing school, work and family, I am very grateful for the opportunity. I feel confident that my education and experiences are preparing me for the future as provider opportunities continue to change and grow – caring for individuals with knowledge, wisdom and grace as God continues to direct my path. Nursing is indeed an art and Messiah College provides excellent instruction in design.

FOLLOWING GOD'S PLAN

By Anna Gale, BSN, RN '12; DNP Cohort '20



AS STUDENTS AND

NURSES, we are curious about everything. The strange and often unpleasant aspects of life fascinate us; and from the

first day of nursing school, we are taught to be life-long learners. I think God gives us a spirit of curiosity to explore the intimate workings of His creation and grow closer to Him through our discoveries. As a nurse, I am fascinated by the resilience and complexity of the human body. It is this curiosity that brought me to continue my education and pursue a DNP-FNP degree. My name is Anna Gale, and I am a member of the first post-BSN, DNP-FNP cohort at Messiah. I graduated from Messiah College in 2012 with my BSN and began my nursing career on a busy hospital unit. Being an RN challenged me, tested my knowledge, and refined my skills. I gained confidence and embraced my new role. I was content,

and eager to learn all that I could.

My love for learning and desire to contribute to nursing practice caused me to think about my future as a nurse. When I graduated in 2012, I was sure I would never return to school. I thought I would be perfectly happy where I was. Clearly, God had other plans for me. I started to consider other nursing positions, and knew there were more opportunities waiting for me. My curiosities lead me to ask questions and research the nurse practitioner role. The more I learned, and prayed for God's guidance, the more I felt God leading me toward this career path. So, when I saw the billboard advertising the new DNP-FNP program at Messiah College, my curiosity got the best of me and the choice was

obvious. I am excited to be a part of the program, and I have had an excellent experience from day one.

As a Messiah alum, I am thankful that my undergraduate education prepared me for my current education. The faculty at Messiah College created an environment that allowed me to ask questions, explore and be curious. During my undergraduate experience, I learned how to research, think critically and use evidence-based practice to inform my nursing care. Most importantly, I learned how to incorporate my faith into caring for patients and families. It is amazing to see how far I have come in my career and my education. I continue to grow and gain confidence as I take on this new challenge.

“Clearly, God had other plans for me.”

– Anna Gale '12, DNP '20

FACULTY SUPPORT DURING EDUCATIONAL CHALLENGES

By Lacey Ehrenfeuchter, BSN, RN '09; DNP Cohort '20



FROM THE MOMENT I FIRST DISCOVERED

Messiah's Doctor of Nursing Practice – Family Nurse Practitioner (DNP-FNP) program, I knew it was the right fit for me. At that point, I had been researching graduate level programs for over a year and considered relocating and/or changing jobs in order to better prepare myself for graduate school. However, none of the other programs (or jobs I was offered) seemed to be the right fit. I enjoyed where I was in my career at the time, however, I no longer felt challenged. I knew that if I was going to continue my education, now was the time to make that decision. Then, as fate would have it, I saw an advertisement for Messiah's DNP-FNP program. I knew that Messiah had a strong nursing department, since I had completed my bachelor's in nursing (BSN) at Messiah. After researching the DNP-FNP curriculum, it further confirmed that this was the graduate program I had been searching for.

Although I was excited about the DNP-FNP program, starting graduate school was not a decision I took lightly. I knew that the program would not be easy and that I would have to invest a lot of time and effort in order to be successful. Since it is a DNP program, I had to consider whether I was ready to make another four-year educational commitment. In my evaluation, the length of the program was actually a positive quality, as I felt I would be better prepared due to the depth and breadth of clinical experience included in the program as compared to the graduate programs that I had reviewed. Another

concern that I had was the financial burden that I would incur and whether or not I would be able to maintain my current financial responsibilities. However, for a doctoral degree program, the cost was actually significantly lower than many of the other programs that I had reviewed. I also questioned whether I had the ability to complete a DNP-FNP program. Despite the unknowns, I knew that this was the right decision for my career and I felt at peace with my decision.

“That feeling of support has been even more evident as a graduate student.” – Lacey Ehrenfeuchter, DNP '20

The first year was rough getting back into the student mindset. Wait, am I expected to write in APA format? I have not used that in years! Luckily, Dr. Zinsmeister was there to get me back on track. One of the many appealing aspects of the DNP-FNP program was that I already knew some of the faculty from my undergraduate experience at Messiah. Additionally, I knew the culture of the Messiah nursing department. Even when I was struggling as an undergraduate student, I always felt supported by faculty. That feeling of support has been even more evident as a graduate student. Last semester was the most demanding semester of the program thus far and I remember telling Dr. Slabaugh that I felt like I was drowning. No matter how hard I worked, I felt like I was just barely keeping up with the demands. Although the requirements remained the same for the remainder of the semester, Dr. Slabaugh was a constant source of encouragement and she frequently checked in

on us to see how we were doing throughout the semester. From talking with other nurse practitioners, I do not get the impression that other programs provide the same quality of support that Messiah's nursing department provides.

Although I am only halfway through the DNP-FNP program, I can already see myself progressing towards the DNP-FNP role. Similarly, to the first clinical experience as a BSN student, my first practicum experience in the DNP-FNP program was quite nerve wracking and humbling. Even though I have many years of nursing experience, functioning independently as a provider is a completely different way of thinking and level of responsibility. I remember driving home from my first clinical day last semester, holding back tears, as I questioned if I had the skills and knowledge to make it through the DNP program. However, as Dr. Howard reminded me at my mid-semester site visit, I had to show myself some grace and realize that I was not expected to know everything. By the end of last semester, I was amazed at how much I had grown as a clinician and how much I had learned in just one practicum. Additionally, I felt a huge sense of accomplishment that I had made it through the semester and was one step closer towards becoming a nurse practitioner. Now that I am in my second practicum, I can now easily perform a targeted exam, diagnose, and recommend treatment options for the majority of the patients who present. Although I still have a lot to learn, I am confident that by the time I graduate I will be well prepared to sit for the nurse practitioner licensure exam and subsequently become a successful nurse practitioner.

WANTED

Nurse practitioners, physician assistants, physicians, and hospital-based nurse educators to serve as clinical preceptors **AND** online adjunct faculty with DNP or Ph.D. degree in nursing preferred for the graduate program in nursing.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT:

Ashley Ringquist, administrative assistant and clinical coordinator for graduate program in nursing

phone: 717-691-6054 • email: aringquist@messiah.edu

WHO TAKES CARE OF THE NURSE?

By Terri Wentzell, BSN, RN '97

NURSING IS A WONDERFUL PROFESSION, NO DOUBT. It provides great satisfaction for the “care taker” type to nurture, heal and restore those who are sick or wounded. As nurses, we give, and give, and give some more. This sounds so noble, yet ultimately it can take a toll if we are not careful.

Nursing is a physically, mentally and emotionally draining job. We work long hours under very stressful circumstances, and usually leave very little time to actually care for ourselves. Are we eating properly? Getting enough rest? Do we get any meaningful exercise other than just running from one patient’s room to the next? Or lifting heavy patients over and over that can lead to serious back injuries? If we don’t stop and take a look at ourselves, we very well may find ourselves in bed as the patient rather than the nurse at the bedside.

This was my motivation in creating Nurse Gone Strong. I have been a nurse for over 20 years, and I am also a personal

trainer and wellness coach. I see what it is like, and I know how easy it is to forget about our own health when we are constantly caring for others, many times putting others needs above our own basic needs. Time to wake up! Nurses need to realize their worth, and realize that it’s up to them to make sure they stay healthy and well. Why not be strong? Why not eat nourishing food to give our bodies the proper fuel it needs to function at its best? Why not make sure we are getting regular exercise to feel better and move better in everyday life? Why not do more to prevent all the horrible diseases that we see people suffering with every day at work?

I created nursegonestrong.com and wrote my book “Nurse Gone Strong” to share my encouragement and motivation to nurses everywhere to stand up for their own health and well-being. We deserve that! Please join the community of nurses everywhere who are now making their own health a priority.



“We may very well find ourselves in bed as the patient rather than the nurse at the bedside.”

– Terri Wentzell '97

TRANSITIONS

By Nancy Frank MSN, RN, CNE '16



“I CAN DO ALL THINGS, WHICH HE HAS CALLED ME TO DO THROUGH HIM WHO STRENGTHENS AND EMPOWERS ME TO FULFILL HIS PURPOSE.” PHIL. 4:13 (AMPLIFIED VERSION)

Transitions challenge us, but I find it tremendously helpful to know that I am not alone during times of change. About a year ago, I began the process of transitioning to a full-time faculty position at Messiah College. It has been a year full of new things and many questions. However, through all of the changes, I have been sustained by relying on the knowledge that God has called me to this role and He will provide the strength I need. In addition to my personal faith, external sources of strength have been evident throughout this adjustment process.

My education at Messiah College has

provided the necessary foundation for my current role. I have been well prepared. Whether I am teaching, practicing clinically, analyzing an exam, participating in a committee, or writing a doctoral paper, my thorough preparation is evident. Throughout my master’s degree, I was stretched by the course assignments. My professors had high standards and created a top quality program. Now, I see how those challenges encouraged my growth as an educator, nurse and person. It is because my education was rigorous that I am able to transition successfully to a faculty position.

More importantly, the people at Messiah College have supported my transition. I cannot say enough wonderful things about the faculty, staff and students in the department of nursing and the college as a whole. All of the faculty and staff have provided mentorship, each of them teaching me something unique about my new role. I know that when I have questions, the

faculty and staff will answer them patiently. Additionally, they have encouraged me when I experience feelings of being overwhelmed. I believe they are truly agents of Christ in that way. The students, as well, are amazing. Even as I learn, they demonstrate patience and respect. They inspire my continued growth as a nurse educator and I am so thankful for the privilege of teaching them.

Of course, I would be remiss if I forgot to mention my family. I appreciate their tolerance of all of the changes. Their support allows me to follow God’s call. Therefore, through all of the changes and continued transitions in life, I see God moving. He guided me to a nursing education program that helped me to develop strong roots. Additionally, he uses people to encourage and guide me during the transition process. I am blessed to be part of the Messiah College community. I cannot think of any other place I’d rather be.

SCRUBS FOR ZAMBIA

By Jen Ranck, BSN, RN '14; MSN Cohort '20

“WHAT SHOULD WE DO WITH ALL OF OUR OLD SCRUBS when we change over to the color-coordinated scrubs?” asked one of my co-workers. “I definitely don’t want to throw them away. Where could we donate them?” asked another co-worker. It was then that I wondered if it was possible to send them to Zambia with Messiah’s J-term trip. Without giving it too much thought about how this would work logistically, I emailed Dr. Wanda Thuma-McDermond to see if those in Zambia could benefit from the extra scrubs. She responded immediately and I could not wait to start collecting!

A large collection box was placed in our breakroom and signs were posted throughout the hospital to advertise the collection. Every time I came into work, there were more and more bags of scrubs waiting for me in the break room. There were so many, my coworkers had to help carry them to my car each time I worked! We couldn’t believe the response of employees throughout the hospital. After three weeks, we collected a total of 244 tops, 168 pants and 10 jackets. We were amazed by the amount of scrubs donated!

Through my education at Messiah College, I learned to embrace the opportunities that could help others. I saw an opportunity to help those in Zambia in a small, but meaningful way. God’s hand was



Jen displaying the piles of scrubs collected for donation to Macha Mission Hospital, Zambia.

“Through my education at Messiah College, I learned to embrace the opportunities that could help others.”

– Jen Ranck '14, MSN '20

clearly in this collection from the moment He brought the thought into my head. I was unsure how all of the details would play out, but I knew the scrubs were meant to be in Zambia. Everything fell into place. From collection bins to advertising throughout the hospital, it all went very smoothly. I was amazed by the gratuity that the Fox Chase Cancer Center employees

provided. Throughout this experience, I was reminded of the power of the Lord’s work. Through my classes and experiences while at Messiah, I learned that things fall into place and God takes care of the details. A perfect illustration of this was through the scrub donation.

Giving to Nursing between July 1, 2016 and June 30, 2017

Chatlos Nursing Scholarship Awards
The Chatlos Foundation

Lynda Gochner '92 Nursing Endowment
Richard E. Truett, Jr.

Dr. Homer C. Hetrick Memorial Scholarship
L.B. Smith Estate Foundation, Inc.

Margaret O. McCormick Endowed Scholarship
McCormick Family Foundation

Janelle Joy Nisly Memorial Scholarship
Paul W. Nisly
Wanda E. Thuma-McDermond '75

Christy Stark Smith Memorial Scholarship
Carolyn L. Kreamer
Wanda E. Thuma-McDermond '75

Marilyn L. Smith Endowed Nursing Scholarship
Marilyn L. (Byer) Smith '51

Donald and Dorothy Stabler Nursing Scholarship Endowment
The Stabler Foundation
Leah E. Compton '13
Cammie E. (Wilcox) Dodds '12
Jade A. (Craun) Vallejo '12
Jennifer L. (Smith) Wenger '13
Tiffany E. Wolfe '16

Franklin H. and Ruth L. Wells Endowed Scholarships for Nursing Students
Wanda E. Thuma-McDermond '75

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE UNDERGRADUATE CLASS OF 2017!



Front row (l to r): Alison Burton, Olivia Kimmel, Victoria Bee, Sarah Dolan

Second row (l to r): Julia Simpson, Rebecca Nichols, Darby Gallo, Samantha Dench, Megan Sullivan, Darby Catalano, Christina Albrecht, Rebecca Kriner, Katelynne Pappas.

Third row (l to r): Ellen Bechard, Melissa Percherke, Rachel Bennicoff, Mackenzie Belyea, Brielle Frye, Jon Kroon, Melissa Biener, Marissa Weaver, Lauren Orehowsky, Elizabeth Beam, Michaela Miller, Shannon Leary.

Back row (l to r): Victoria Lenox, Joanna Benner, Amy Walker, Eileen Barker, Steve Outland, Hannah Eldridge, Nicole Wagner, Kristen Douglas, Olga Mozol, Courtney Slinkerd

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE GRADUATE COHORT OF 2017!



Back row (l to r): Karen Cruse, Brittany Petry, Leah Pardoe, Jeanette Woodley, Ellis (Choi) LaFrance

Front row (l to r): Talisha Sneeringer, Jaime Kupillas, Christina Johnson, Ashley Bertossi, Katherine Deitrick and Karen Troppman



Talisha Sneeringer MSN '17 was a featured speaker at the School of Graduate Studies commencement.



PSNA District 15 Leadership Award
Lauren Orehowsky



Christy Stark-Smith Award & Excellence in Nursing Award
KateLynne Pappas



Academic Excellence in Nursing Award
Ellen Bechard



Excellence in Nursing Award
Hannah Eldridge



Excellence in Nursing Award
Olivia Kimmel

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE NIGHTINGALE AWARDS OF PENNSYLVANIA WINNER



CONGRATULATIONS TO ABIGAIL SCHMUCK, MSN STUDENT, who won a Nightingale Awards of Pennsylvania scholarship. Nightingale Awards of Pennsylvania is a nonprofit organization dedicated to advancing the nursing profession in Pennsylvania. This scholarship is awarded to students pursuing a basic or advanced nursing degree in the state of Pennsylvania. Selection criteria include professional leadership, academic achievement, leadership potential, community service and personal commitment. Abigail and Dr. Louann Zinsmeister attended an Awards Gala in November 2017 to celebrate nursing and the contributions of scholarship winners.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE GRADUATE NURSING PREIS SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS



CONGRATULATIONS TO MSN STUDENT SERENA SHIREY AND DNP STUDENT NICK MONTGOMERY who are the 2017-2018 recipients of the Harry and Nancy Preis Graduate Nursing Scholarship. This scholarship is awarded to financially benefit two graduate nursing



students who consistently demonstrate academic excellence in their specialty area of advanced nursing. Recipients are chosen by the graduate nursing committee and are honored at the Graduate Nursing Celebration Dinner in August.

The Harry and Nancy Preis Graduate Nursing Scholarship is made possible through the generosity of Harry and Nancy Preis who recognize the increasing demand and need for highly skilled professional nurses.

Magna Cum Laude

(grade point average of 3.60 to 3.89)

Christina Ann Albrecht
Ellen Nicole Bechard
Hannah Joy Eldridge
Shannon Elizabeth Leary
KateLynne Brianna Pappas
Marisa Joy Weaver

Cum Laude

(grade point average of 3.30 to 3.59)

Eileen Claire Barker
Victoria Marland Bee
Mackenzie Alexis Belyea
Joanna Brynnae Benner
Melissa Jane Biener
Allison E. Burton
Darby Jane Catalano
Samantha Alexis Dench
Kristen Leeann Douglas
Darby Anne Gallo
Olivia Dorothy Kimmel
Rebecca Ann Kriner
Jonathan Richard Kroon
Victoria Marie Lenox
Michaela Marie Miller
Olga Mozol
Rebecca Ann Nichols
Lauren Elyse Orehowsky
Stephen Henry Outland
Melissa Ann Percherke
Julia Grace Simpson
Courtney Monika Slinkerd
Amy Christine Walker

College Honors Program

(grade point average of 3.30 to 3.59)

Christina Ann Albrecht
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YES! I want to support nursing education at Messiah College through an endowed scholarship. Please direct my gift to:

- The Nursing Education Endowed Scholarship, given to nursing students who demonstrate financial need
- The Janelle Joy Nisly Memorial Scholarship, for students in nursing or pre-med who are affiliated with either the Mennonite Church, Church of the Brethren or Brethren in Christ Church
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My tax-exempt donation is enclosed for: _____

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