

### President opens year with message on Compassionate Peacemaking

The 2017-18 school year at Goshen College opened with much joy and excitement during a welcome convocation led by Interim President Dr. Kenneth Newbold. Newbold spoke about this year's theme and core value, "compassionate Peacemaking," where he assured students and employees that they have come to the right place to learn about making peace. "Not because we are perfect at it here or don't have our conflicts, but Goshen College is a place where compassionate peacemaking is deeply embedded — in our motto, core values, in our academic programs, in clubs, in our study abroad program, in how we understand our identity and our calling," he said. The convocation concluded with powerful singing from the Parables Worship Team, followed by the annual applause tunnel, a 16-year tradition with a cheering tunnel formed by faculty and staff, then seniors, juniors, sophomores and finally the first-year students. The procession led out to Schrock Plaza, where, in the good-natured tradition of new Goshen College presidents, Newbold was dunked in the Schrock Plaza fountain by students.

### Conference connections

This academic year we have 22 students enrolled from 11 Ohio Conference congregations. Those churches generously pledged \$80,930 in congregational student aid for the academic year. The Goshen College Church Aid Matching Grant program provides a dollar-for-dollar match of the first \$1,000 per student and a 1:4 match after that, up to full tuition.

Students from the conference are involved on- and off-campus in many edifying ways but we specifically recognize students who studied and served abroad for a semester through GC's Study Service Term (SST) program. Rowan Miller from Berlin Mennonite Church and Mara Beck, Joshua Liechty, Katie Yoder and Nathan Yoder from Zion Mennonite Church

(Archbold) studied and served for a semester in Peru. Emily Kauffman from Zion Mennonite Church (Archbold) spent a semester in China through GC's Study Service Term program.

### 2017-18 Campus ministries theme

The Campus Ministries theme this year is "Blessed are the Peacemakers." Eleven Ministry Leaders, five Worship Assistants, and countless other Goshen College students provide leadership as we explore what it means to be peacemakers. In the first chapel of the year, Campus Pastor Bob Yoder shared that the Hebrew word for peace is "shalom," which refers to wholeness, completeness and right relationships with God, others, and creation. Bob shared several personal stories when he was not "whole" or "complete," but had several people reach out to him as shalom-makers. In the same vein, Bob encouraged the students to be shalom-makers on campus, in their home communities and around the world. Students and employees were also invited to engage the theme through the GC Prayer Book, which includes twelve devotions written by students as well as over a dozen different ways to pray. This material is available to people in both print and electronic formats. Visit [www.goshen.edu/faith/campus-ministries](http://www.goshen.edu/faith/campus-ministries) to learn more about GC Campus Ministries.



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