



GOSHEN  
FRIENDS  
SCHOOL  
—Established 1959—



# ANNUAL 2017 2018 REPORT

Dear Parents and Friends,

In the Ackers household, we have a saying: Many hands make light work.

“What does that mean?” my daughter, Anna, once asked. “Well,” I replied, “it means the more we help, the easier the job.”

I find that this expression has many meanings, perhaps more so here at Goshen than at any other place I can imagine. I see little hands working all day long: painting at the easel, watering the gardens, carrying snacks to the table, digging in the sand. I see big hands, too: pushing children on the swings, holding books at story time, putting band aids on boo boos, zipping up coats.

And then I see the hands of parents and friends, volunteering at events, pitching in to clean up our campus, carrying donations for charities, baking food for classroom gatherings. So many hands here at Goshen, building a beautiful community.

Last year was a remarkable one for Goshen Friends School. With the closing of the Lower School in 2017, our community became smaller. But look what we did! We mobilized to support seven local nonprofits and expanded our curriculum to include studies in Quaker practice, Spanish, and Art. We grew our enrollment, expanded our summer camp program, and made our playground better than ever. We hosted more guests for tours, open houses, and community events than we have in many years.

It took many hands to accomplish all of these things. But we did it ... together. We couldn't have done it without the support of many families and friends, old and new, coming together. Thank you, from the bottom of our hearts and with grateful hands. Thank you for all that you do!

In appreciation,

*Mimi Ackers*

Mimi Ackers  
Head of School

“It took many hands to accomplish all of these things. But we did it ... together.”



Dear Friends,

The community that is Goshen Friends School—the General Committee, the Head of School, faculty, staff, parents, students, alumni, and friends—is strong and vibrant. There is energy, excitement, and enthusiasm. The buildings on campus—the Preschool classrooms, the Grange, and the administration building—hum with activity. The playground sings with the sounds of happy children, playing and having fun together.

By giving your time, talent, and financial support, students continue to grow and thrive in the caring environment of Goshen Friends School. What you do matters. Your dedication to the school reflects your care, which is invaluable. Parents' active involvement with their children establishes the important link between family and school.

Both the legacy and promise of Goshen Friends School endure. There is much to celebrate and appreciate. Thank you for making a difference in the lives of the children and their families.

*Irene Crichton*

Irene Crichton  
Clerk, General Committee

Professional photographs by  
Edwin Williams Photography, LLC

# COMMITMENT TO SERVICE AT GFS

During the 2017-18 school year, students, faculty, staff, parents, and friends of the school pitched in to help 7 different nonprofit organizations that are making a difference in our local community. We also came together for an Earth Day cleanup of the GFS campus!

## FOOD BANK

In September, students planted radish seeds in the school's raised bed gardens. Later that fall, students harvested the radishes for donation to the Chester County Food Bank. Since that initial harvest, the school's four raised beds have yielded hundreds of pounds of produce to donate to the Food Bank and the West Chester Food Cupboard!



## SMOKE DETECTOR DRIVE

The school conducted a smoke detector drive in October as a way of saying "thanks" to the members of the Goshen Fire Company, which visits campus each year during National Fire Safety Week to talk to students about fire safety, demonstrate how they prepare to fight fires, and even let students test out the hose!



## GIVING THANKS

In November, we honored the spirit of giving thanks with a breakfast food drive to benefit the Chester County Food Bank, donating 44 boxes of cereal; 39 containers of oatmeal; 44 cans, jars, and

pouches of fruits and veggies; 56 boxes of breakfast bars; 6 jars of peanut butter; and an assortment of stuffing, soup, mac & cheese, and desserts to help fight hunger in our area.

## CHRISTMAS CHEER

Holiday magic was in the air at Goshen Friends in December! We worked together to spread warmth and joy at Devereux's Kanner Learning Center by collecting hats & mittens and gathering with parents in the Grange to create ornaments and decorate a special Christmas tree for the young men and women who call the center home.



## HONORING DR. KING

On Martin Luther King Jr. Day, parents, grandparents, students, alumni, siblings, faculty, former faculty, and friends came together to honor the life of Dr. King in support of our service project to benefit Safe Harbor of Chester County. Altogether we packed 112 bags of donated toiletries for Safe Harbor residents!



## ICE CREAM SOCIAL

In February we felt the love during an afternoon Ice Cream Social with our neighbors at Bellingham Retirement Community. Tasty treats and songs made for a wonderful afternoon with friends. We continue to benefit from our long-standing relationship with our friends at Bellingham.



## SPCA DONATION DRIVE

Students were visited by pet ambassadors from the Brandywine Valley SPCA in March, capping off our donation drive that garnered food, treats, blankets, leashes, toys, and other supplies for our fuzzy friends at the SPCA.



## EARTH DAY

We raked, weeded, mulched, planted—and then some!—during our Earth Day community cleanup in April. Children also helped plant peas and carrots to get our raised bed gardens started for the new growing season.

## HELPING OUR NEIGHBORS

In May we welcomed special guests PA State Representative Carolyn Comitta and Janet Zeis, a board member from Home of the Sparrow, to join us for our final service project of the school year. The children created a craft that was used as a prize at Home of the Sparrow's summer fundraiser, we sorted donations for the organization, and we listened as both Ms. Zeis and Rep. Comitta told us about the importance of community and helping our neighbors. It was a terrific ending to a terrific year of service!





# 25

**New Students  
Welcomed to  
Our School**



# \$17,480

**Awarded in Financial Aid & Grants**



# 75

**Summer  
Campers**  
The Most Ever!

# 389

**Followers on  
Instagram**

Launched July 2017



# 73,240

**Visits to Our Website**

# 500+

**Mini School Buses  
Distributed at 10  
Admissions Events**



## THANK YOU TO OUR GENEROUS DONORS

Please forgive any omissions or misspellings. You may bring these to the attention of Michele Kornegay in the advancement office at 610-696-8183 or [michele.kornegay@goshenfriends.org](mailto:michele.kornegay@goshenfriends.org).

Mimi & Keith Ackers (in honor of Anna & Owen)  
Amy & Jon Altshul  
Karen Andiaro  
Anonymous (4)  
Jack Armstrong  
Timothy Barnard (in memory of Marjorie D. Barnard)  
Kristen & Robert Batley  
Brett Bauz  
Jon & Jennifer Ray Beckman  
Cheryle & Elson Blunt  
Chuck & Ginny Bracken  
The Bryn Mawr Trust Company  
Sandra B. Cressman  
Andrew & Irene Crichton  
Ronald & Patty Darden  
Eve DeSoldo (in honor of Teagan Bainbridge)  
Christopher & Michele DeNardo  
Diamond Mind Business Services, LLC  
Don DiStefano, DiStefano Landscape Services, Inc.  
DNB First  
Mr. & Mrs. Lawrence A. Dowdy  
Michael Earyes & Marne Repetto  
Edu-Tech  
Albert & Elaine Fell  
Michael & Sandra Fisher  
Kara & David Fontes  
Mark & Norma Jean Forsythe  
Douglas Freeman  
Rakesh Gade  
Michele Gallagher  
Gift on Behalf of Irene Crichton  
Goshen Monthly Meeting  
Elizabeth Griffith-Smith  
Bruce Harrison  
Dana Harrison  
Kristy & Rob Irwin  
Sharon & Bob Kenson  
Christopher Knowles  
Chris & Ashley Kopp (in honor of Devon Reichenbach)  
Michele & Dan Kornegay (in honor of Jonathan)  
Delee Laird  
Alice & Ted Lenthe  
Laurie Lewis  
Donald Lynn  
Marcy & Tom McGee  
The Merck Foundation  
The National Bank of Malvern  
Mike Neely & Judy Scheffler  
Joyce & Ted Nichols  
Pepper Mill Restaurant

Rodney G. Peters & Sandra L. Peters  
Kim Prann  
Dorothy Ray  
Brian & Katie Richardson  
Wade Robinson  
Maria Rufe  
Kim & Mike Ruggiero  
Robert Sager  
Scott Sanders, Shady Tree Inc.  
Richard & Monica Scheibe  
Andrew & Kathryn Semon  
Sheraton Great Valley Hotel  
Sukhjinder Singh  
Barbara Jo Spellman  
Joe & Laura Stratton  
Susan Swanson  
Thomas H. and Mary Williams  
Shoemaker Fund  
Linda Traver  
Doug & Liz Turner  
Erin & Greg Voshell  
Sallie Welte  
Jennifer (Fell) Whigham  
Geoff Wilkinson  
Gerard & Margaret Rhein Williams  
Tom & Laura Woodward  
Woodward McCoach, Inc.

**And to all parents, members  
of the General Committee, and  
others in our community who  
so graciously donate their time,  
talents, and so much more!**

