

REFLECTIONS

FALL 2017

NEWSLETTER: HAPPENINGS, ALUMNI NEWS AND EVENTS



Kendra Lee and Ryan Lee reach the summit in December 2016. A student in Tanzania receives her school tablet.

SCALING NEW HEIGHTS, TOUCHING LIVES

Kendra Lee, Class of 2014, and younger brother, Ryan Lee, Class of 2016, spent 6-7 months training for, and then climbing Mount Kilimanjaro as part of a fundraiser, *150 for Change*, inspired by Canada 150 and Kendra's university studies. She is an Arts and Science student minoring in Biology and Political Science.

During Chapel at Rockway last year, Kendra explained that *150 For Change* is a group of eight university Arts and Science undergrad students dedicated to the promotion of gender equality and accessibility to education. Their course topics ranged from "voluntourism" to the ecological impact of climbing Mount Kilimanjaro.

The students partnered with Rumie (a non-profit organization that makes access to free digital education possible for underserved communities worldwide). They decided to climb Mount Kilimanjaro and fundraise for solar powered, software loaded tablets for school communities in Eastern Africa.

All eight group members and Ryan subsequently reached the summit last December, raising over \$17,000 for 50 tablets and 5 charging stations for a CHETI school outside of Arusha in Tanzania.



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“TROUBLE I’VE SEEN – CHANGING THE WAY WE VIEW RACISM”

Join us as we welcome Drew G. I. Hart, Professor of Theology at Messiah College in Pennsylvania. Drew will lead three chapels with students about church and racism, and continue this conversation in classes.

We invite you to a special evening presentation by Drew on **Wednesday, September 27, 7:00-8:30 pm** at Rockway Mennonite Collegiate. *This complimentary presentation is made possible by MCEC. We thank them and their member congregations.* Plan to attend and participate in this important and timely dialogue with students as part of Rockway’s 2017-2018 Chapel theme: *Trust for the Journey*.

Beyond teaching and writing, Drew’s experience includes pastoring for ten years, working for an after-school program in a low-income black neighborhood, leading antiracism workshops, collaborating with faith-rooted organizers and activists, and advocating and addressing societal challenges from a faith perspective. His book, *Trouble I’ve Seen: Changing the Way the Church Views Racism*, utilizes everyday stories, Jesus-shaped lessons, and anti-racism frameworks to transform the church’s understanding and witness. Drew’s writing can also be found at *The Christian Century*, *The Mennonite*, and *Red Letter Christians*, and he speaks regularly across the United States.

Connect with Drew on twitter: @DruHart. Or perhaps you will find him on the basketball court, although he admits while he used to love dominating the basketball court in his younger days, he is now likely to get hurt simply by watching others play. Drew and his family recently moved from Philadelphia to live in Harrisburg, PA. We look forward to Drew’s visit.

YOU DID IT! *Thank you!*

The makeover of the Assembly Area gathering space is finished, complete with new carpet, ceiling, lighting and sound system. The transformation of the basement learning spaces is finished too! Reconfigured and re-imagined spaces for Visual Art (Art Room 2 below), Family Studies and Digital Media have been created by your generous response to a matching pledge – *thank you!*



These renovations are a key part of Lead Us Onward, a multi-year campaign to build bright futures by: 1) securing enough resources for the Go Rockway! Annual Fund/daily operations; 2) supporting students and families with Tuition Assistance to keep Rockway accessible; 3) creating relevant and innovative programming; and, 4) revitalizing Rockway's facilities.

We need to raise \$3M by 2019-2020. To date, you have given gifts and pledged support in the amount of \$1,425,000. While our campaign is going well overall, there was a significant gap in our 2016-2017 Go Rockway! Annual Fund. Thank you for your past and future support. Because of you, the future is starting to look brighter.



"To paraphrase Nelson Mandela's wonderful quote about the light in each of us: Don't be afraid of greatness. Be great."

~ Mark Modolo's incoming message to Rockway students and colleagues



Meet Your 2017/18 Student Council Co-Presidents, Lena and Claire.



WELCOME, VICE PRINCIPAL, MARK MODOLO, and Jenny Enns Modolo, Class of '97, with their young family. Mark is currently working alongside Assistant Principal, Dennis Wikerd until Dennis' retirement at the end of January 2018.

Join us!

CONNECTIONS

HOMECOMING WEEKEND **2017**
October 27 -28

Connections Homecoming Weekend is your opportunity to (re)connect with your Rockway Alumni, families and friends in support of future Alumni. We can't wait to welcome you home!

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 27



ANNUAL GRADE 10 SPAGHETTI SUPPER FUNDRAISER

in support of the Grade 10 Quebec Trip

Spaghetti Supper, 5:00 - 7:00 pm. All are welcome!
Tickets at the door (cash and cheque only please)



ROCKWAY COMMUNITY SILENT AUCTION FUNDRAISER

in support of Rockway's Lead Us Onward Campaign

Community Silent Auction, Friday evening, open to the public and Connections guests. Stop by and bid!



ALUMNI SPORTS CHALLENGE BASKETBALL

- 7:00 pm – Alumnae vs. Flames Sr. Girls
- 8:15 pm – Alumni vs. Flames Sr. Boys

Reserve your spot on an Alumni team today:
advancement@rockway.ca or 519-743-5209 x3011.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 28



FEATURED YEAR CLASS REUNIONS

Get your Class together for a 'featured years' Class Reunion at Rockway during the daytime.

'Featured years' are based on your **Grade 12 graduation year** and include 1952, 1957, 1962, 1967, 1972, 1977, 1982, 1987, 1992, 1997, 2002, 2007, 2012, and 2017.

Contact advancement@rockway.ca to reserve a classroom at no charge and to invite your Class.



RETIRED AND FORMER FACULTY & STAFF BREAKFAST

Breakfast, 9:00 am. If you are a retired or former Rockway Faculty or Staff member, stay tuned for an invitation and details of this year's breakfast in our newly renovated Assembly Area.

We look forward to honouring your legacy!

Not sure if we have your current contact information? Please contact Christine at 519-743-5209 x 3011 or advancement@rockway.ca.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 28

**FOOD, FUN AND FRIENDS
BIG NIGHT OUT**

FEATURING



The Second City

*"the kind of smart, funny, night out
we all deserve now and then..."*

TORONTO STAR

Enjoy a BIG Night Out full of food, fun and friends in support of Rockway Mennonite Collegiate.

How much fun will you have?

You choose!

• 5:30 pm—7:30 pm: Dinner Only

Reception, Dinner & Live Auction. \$50 per person (with a partial charitable tax receipt)

• 7:30—9:30 pm: Show Only

Enjoy some drinks (alcohol-free) and desserts before the Show. \$50 per person (no tax receipt). Please note the Show is rated PG-13 (Parental Guidance 13)

• 5:30—9:30 pm: Dinner & Show

Your best value and most fun! \$80 per person (no tax receipt)

**TICKETS NOW ON SALE:
rockway.ca or 519-743-5209**



**ROCKWAY
ALUMNI**

NOTES

Carmen Dalrymple, Class of '73 – If you're travelling around Nova Scotia, be sure to stop by Hall's Harbour, where you will find local Potter and Rockway Alumnus, Carmen Dalrymple. Rockway's Director of Advancement, Christine Rier (right), crossed paths with Carmen during her summer vacation.



Christa Witt, Class of '56 – b. December 6, 1935; d. August 9, 2017.

After completing her highschool diploma at Rockway and then graduating from the Hamilton General Hospitals School of Nursing in 1959, she travelled and worked as a registered nurse until 1978.

Continued from Front Cover



Kendra and Ryan hope that these innovative learning tablets will fuel a love of learning in students, and encourage them to complete their secondary education and continue on into post-secondary education so that they might be able to access employment and contribute to their home communities in more powerful ways.

This fall, Kendra is combining her fourth year of studies with work as a Student Help Advocacy head coordinator, while Ryan is combining his second year of civil engineering studies with varsity rugby, a favourite sport from his Rockway years.



CLASS OF 2017

"Even if I knew that tomorrow the world would go to pieces; I would still plant my apple tree." – Martin Luther King

CONGRATULATIONS, 2017 Scholarship/Graduation Award Recipients

- **Benjamin Eby Scholarship** – *Jonathan Janzen*
- **Salome Bauman Scholarship** – *Katie Goerzen-Sheard*
- **The Record** – *Matthew Klahsen and Saskia Snyder-Penner*
- **English Scholarship**– *Abigail Willms*
- **Bridging Cultures Award** – *Mavis Keung*
- **Abundance Spirit of Generosity Award** – *Abigail Sapp*
- **Peter Hallman Athletics Leadership Scholarship** – *Sydney Potts*
- **Lobe Cross Cultural and Service Scholarship** – *Danika Morrison*
- **William Kruger Scholarship** – *Matthew Klahsen*
- **Rockway Diploma Scholarship** – *Leah Bauman*
- **Civic Leadership Award** – *André Dixon*
- **Leadership Award** – *Elhana Dyck*
- **Lieutenant Governor's Community Volunteer Award** – *Benjamin Schwartzenruber*
- **Valedictorian Scholarship Award** – *André Dixon*
- **Visual Art Scholarship Award** – *Maxwell Bender*
- **Math & Science Academic Achievement Award** – *Conrad Heidebrecht*
- **Governor General's Award** – *Conrad Heidebrecht*

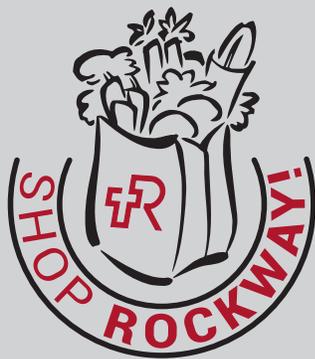


ROCKWAY ALUMNI RECREATIONAL BASKETBALL LEAGUE

Remember how much you enjoyed playing Flames basketball? This fall, Rockway is introducing an Alumni Recreational Basketball League.

- Teams will play at Rockway, Sunday, 6:30 pm - 9:30 pm.
- The season will run Sunday, October 1 for ten consecutive weeks, not including long weekends or holidays e.g. Thanksgiving.
- You must sign up in advance to play – visit www.rockway.ca/alumni/alumni-events/ and complete the registration form.
- Once you have registered, the League Convenor, Luke Moyer, Class of 2004, will contact you.
- Registration is \$75 for ten weeks and due at the first game, cash or cheque (made out to Rockway Mennonite Collegiate.)
- **Questions?**
Contact Christine, 519-743-5209 x 3011 or advancement@rockway.ca

SEE YOU ON THE COURT!



My name is Rob Klassen, and I teach at Rockway Mennonite Collegiate. I Shop Rockway and save. There is no cost, only the joy of helping students and families.

Rockway purchases gift cards from major grocery store chains (Loblaws, Sobeys, Frescho, Tim Hortons, Food Basics, and Metro) at a discounted value (5%). There is no expiration date on the cards and they can be used anywhere in Canada, at any store within the chain. Any remaining balance on the cards can be used at another time and there is no transaction fee.

Rockway sells the cards at face value and uses the value of the discount to support daily operations. Participating families have the option of allocating half of the savings (2.5%) toward their future tuition payments. Since my children have graduated from Rockway, I registered my home church as a 'family' so the money from the cards that I purchase goes toward the future tuition for students from my church. In a short time, we have raised several thousand dollars.

For me, Shop Rockway is an easy way to help out; it has become a habit. I rarely carry cash, but always have my gift cards that are convenient to use to buy the things I would normally buy anyway.

*This one simple habit enabled me to help my family and many other families. You can too — **simply call 519-743-5209 to shop and save.***

BUILDING A MORE INCLUSIVE SCHOOL COMMUNITY

Just as the face of our community is changing so too is the face of our local Mennonite community. Several emerging Mennonite congregations now bless us with a more diverse experience, and the opportunity of a more inclusive future.

After a long time away, Rockway Alumna, Mary Groh, Class of '49, recently returned to Kitchener. Having sold a property in Toronto, and feeling confident that she had more than she needed, she wondered what she could do to support the future of her Mennonite community and tradition.

After looking around, Mary decided that she wanted to support Mennonite education. But more specifically, she wanted to reach out to emerging or new Mennonite congregations, and offer families the same opportunity that she had had as a child, to attend Rockway.

Upon approaching us with her dream, we connected Mary with Abundance Canada, who listened to her. They helped create a gifting account that suited Mary's circumstances and wishes.

Inspired by her generosity, Rockway is now able to enhance its efforts to invite families to consider a highschool education in the Anabaptist Mennonite tradition for their children.

"We look forward to... discerning together what makes for a just and compassionate world."

In 1945, Mary's father, Harold Groh, Principal, and Rockway's other founders, wanted to create a school that would provide a strong academic and faith education while also creating opportunities for students to both grow in character and understand their ability to positively impact the world around them.

Mary's gift continues this legacy and continues to extend this vision to our more recent neighbours. Thank you, Mary, and welcome to students from local new and emerging Mennonite churches. We know from more than seventy years of experience that when we welcome students from diverse backgrounds, we are a richer school community for it.

In the words of Principal, Ann L. Schultz, *"We look forward to...discerning together what makes for a just and compassionate world."* We can not think of a more timely conversation, nor a more timely gift.

ROCKWAY'S MISSION

As a Christian educational community within the Anabaptist Mennonite tradition, Rockway Mennonite Collegiate integrates sound academic learning with growth in character and faith, together with a passion for peacemaking and service to God and all creation.



SEE YOU SOON! Upcoming Events



Join Us!

DISCOVER ROCKWAY
Thursday, November 9, 2017

ROCKWAY CHOIR Church Service Schedule

- Sunday, November 19, 2017
Gr. 10 Choir @ Rockway Mennonite Church
- Sunday, November 19, 2017
Sr. Choir @ St. Jacob's Mennonite Church

 See you at Church!



ROCKWAY'S ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

All Welcome!

Piecing it Together

Finding Your Place in the Puzzle

Thursday,
November 23, 2017
7 pm

Check out
Rockway's
NEW LOOK!
rockway.ca

Contact Us

For more information about our school and mission:

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#lifeatRockway

Reflections is a publication of Rockway Mennonite Collegiate. If you prefer to receive your copy by email please let us know at advancement@rockway.ca or 519-342-0007 x3011. Thank you.