

# HERITAGE

## Building courageous, creative and compassionate leadership



**JUST OVER ELEVEN** years ago I was in the middle of my second semester at Goshen College. Living on the fourth floor of the Miller Residence Hall, I was knee-deep in general education courses and trying to figure out what

exactly this whole college thing was about. Was the most important aspect of higher education the campus life? My communication major studies? The spiritual life activities? Picking the most exciting SST experience? Or was it some combination? Well, it took me about the first full year to figure out that all of those things were the most important. I wanted to be involved in it all, plus be part of the 91.1 FM The Globe (WGCS) staff. Thankfully, Goshen College was, and still is, a place where I had the freedom to supplement my education in a lot of different ways.

So, what does this have to do with leadership and planned giving? This look into “first-year Trisha” sets up the story of how Goshen College nurtured my drive to be a leader. Professors and

staff encouraged me to consider many leadership opportunities, which led me to being the student station manager of The Globe my senior year. That year as station manager provided the experience and skills to pursue leadership roles post-college. Those skills have now landed me back on campus working in the Advancement Office, nearly nine years after graduating. And what an exciting time it is to be back!

You are ensuring that your gifts are providing for the future leaders, like me, who choose to experience all that Goshen College has to offer. Thank you!

— **Trisha Handrich '11**  
Major Gift Officer  
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## Our students are saying...

*“I have always had a dream to be an announcer for a major league baseball team, and I am hoping that my education at Goshen College will allow me to pursue my dream. My scholarship has given me the opportunity to further my studies.”*



— **Gabe Kermode**  
a sophomore broadcasting major from Boulder City, Nevada



## Class of 1969 builds study abroad endowment for 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary

**ON SEPT. 12, 1968**, the first official Study-Service Trimester (SST) groups left Goshen College for Costa Rica, Guadeloupe and Jamaica. Nearly 50 seniors took part in SST groups that year, and 50-plus years later are leading the way again by helping build the endowment for the college’s Study-Service Term program.

As part of their 50th class anniversary in October 2019, members of the Class of 1969 raised more than \$180,000 in cash and pledges and nearly a half million dollars in deferred gift pledges from 65 class members, which will help endow the SST program.

The idea began to form in 2013 when **Ron '69** and **Linda '90 Gunden**, of Willis, Texas, saw the Class of 1953 raise money during their 60th reunion for a new picnic table for students. Their gift

inspired Ron to reflect on the ways his class could also give back to the college.

“As I reflected on my positive relationship with the college, I was motivated to explore the possibility of doing something significant as a 50th anniversary class gift, and the idea of the SST endowment came to mind,” Gunden said.

Gunden, who worked at Goshen College from 1981-1997 and led an SST group in Guadeloupe, knew that the college covers the costs of the program above what student tuition covers. This includes travel costs, housing in host countries, adjunct professors to replace faculty SST leaders and other administrative costs, which totals more than half a million dollars each year.

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Gunden began running the idea by classmates, including **Tom '69** and **Trinda Bishop '69**, of Greenwood Village, Colorado, and **Larry '69** and **Rosemary Rupp '69**, of Goshen, as well as others whenever they had the chance.

"At the time of our 45th class reunion in 2014, we continued to test the idea with a few other classmates, and all reacted positively," Gunden said. "So we knew we had a compelling class project and we were motivated to keep moving forward."

The three couples formed a committee and made pledges and estate

commitments to the project, and set goals for what they'd like to bring in from their class.

"We began asking classmates who we knew well to join us, and this continued sporadically over the next four years," Gunden said. "During the entire time, we were working closely with the advancement staff; they were very helpful and supportive."

"While I may have had the idea originally, none of this could have happened without the counsel and full support of our committee and the ongoing support of the college," Gunden said.

About a year before their 50th class reunion, the committee stepped up their push.

"Overall, I am very pleased with how the project turned out and the response of our class members," said Larry Rupp. "Doing something like this takes a significant commitment of time and energy if it is going to work"

Gunden said, "We hope that our cash gifts and pledges in estate commitments can be an example to other classes when they celebrate their 25th or 50th reunions and they too will be inspired to reflect on their Goshen College and SST experience with generous gifts for SST endowment."



Kathryn Aschliman cuts the ribbon for the new Ashcliman Peace Arts Collection in the Good Library in Oct. 2017.

Photo by Brian Yoder Schlabach

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nephews, who are generous supporters of the Aschliman Peace Arts Collection.

In 2009, Aschliman wanted to create an early childhood fund using her life insurance funds. The process was complicated, so she worked with Goshen College's advancement team to start an endowment fund.

The *Kathryn A. Aschliman Children's Peace Education Endowment Fund* was established by using the proceeds from a surrendered life insurance policy that Goshen College owned, covering Aschliman. In addition, she made a

substantial gift from her retirement assets to increase the size of this endowment fund.

Aschliman's dream became a reality, and she is grateful to see the fund in use during her lifetime. Its resources will be used to support children's peace education through materials, guest speakers and programming.

"I commend Goshen College for recognizing that it is expedient to begin with children if we, a Christ-centered institution, earnestly seek to uphold one of our core values — nurturing compassionate peacemakers."

— by **Grace Van Note '21**

## Funding for future peacemakers: Kathryn Aschliman '54

**MANY DAYS**, you'll find **Kathryn Aschliman '54** in the Aschliman Peace Arts Collection in the Good Library basement. This room is a testament to Aschliman's life work, including an anthology of peace written by Goshen College education students, peace collectables from her travels around the world and a thousand origami cranes inspired by the book *Sadako and the Thousand Paper Cranes*.

Aschliman loves teaching, and her passion is teaching about peace.

In 1962, Kathryn joined the Goshen College faculty as director and teacher of the laboratory kindergarten, and professor of early childhood education. She served in these capacities until her retirement from Goshen College in 1996.

"I had the best job on campus," Aschliman said. "At Goshen College I could help equip many others to meet challenges around the world." Aschliman is still in contact with many of her college and kindergarten students in several different states and countries around the world.

Aschliman was born in 1931 in Fulton County, Ohio, and grew up on a farm with three older brothers. She enrolled in Goshen College in 1948 and finished



Kathryn Aschliman reads a book to kindergarten students in 1991. Photo by John D. Yoder

in 1954, after interrupting her education for three years to teach first grade in Ohio. After graduation, Aschliman taught east of Goshen, where many of her students were Amish, and then in inner-city Chicago, where she lived and worked with African-American families. It was while she was teaching in Chicago that Goshen College reached out and asked her to return to teach.

Aschliman recalls teaching in children's Bible school in England during a summer abroad, and watching children play in a bomb shelter. It is here Aschliman marks as the beginning of

her journey in teaching children about peace.

Even after her retirement, Aschliman continues to be active on campus. She lives across the street and often attends campus events. According to **Kathy Meyer Reimer '83**, professor of education, she can be found weeding around campus and has been active as a member at College Mennonite Church for many years. Aschliman is close to her family, especially her nieces and

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## HERITAGE

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## THEN & NOW



1969

### 50 years later, still all smiles

These 10 alumni from the class of 1969, who lived in East Hall together during college, re-created their graduation picture during the 2019 Homecoming Weekend and their 50th class reunion. They are:

*First row:*  
**Tom Bishop**  
**Mike Klaus**

*Second row:*  
**Ron Gunden**  
**Lynn Smith**  
**Fred Miller**

*Third row:*  
**John Davidson**  
**Ray Funk**  
**Dave Minter**  
**Henry Benner**  
**Randy Noe**



2019