



Alumni and Friends:

Happy August! As summer winds down, excitement is building on campus! In just a few short weeks, we'll welcome back our returning Flyers—and greet new students who are beginning their Lewis journey. This fall we are making a concerted effort to get you information about events and volunteer opportunities early so you can mark your calendar well in advance. In this edition of *The Jet-setter*, you'll find plenty of details and great reasons to get back to campus or connect with us virtually!

FEATURED EVENT



Signum Fidei: Celebrating the Transformative Power of Lasallian Education - If you are an educator, this is the night we celebrate YOU! We are excited to honor the transformative power of our Lasallian educators, those who have taught at Lewis and those who have graduated from Lewis and are using their talents to teach (including retired teachers).

Our Lasallian educators ARE Signum Fidei (the Sign of Faith) for so many and we hope you will join us in celebrating them as we support Lewis University's Mission Fund! Join us **Saturday, October 25, 2025** at the Hilton Oak Brook Hills for an open bar, full dinner with reserved seating, inspiring program, and plenty of dancing. "Maggie Speaks," the band

that performed for us at the House of Blues, will provide the music. Sponsorships are available, and discounted tickets are being offered for educators and young alumni. [CLICK HERE TO REGISTER.](#)

UPCOMING EVENTS



Doctor of Physical Therapy Information Session – Thursday, August 7, 2025: Join us for an additional in-person information session for Lewis University's Doctor of Physical Therapy (DPT) program! We offer a comprehensive, lockstep sequence, full-time entry-level curriculum, designed for completion over 7.5 consecutive semesters. To learn more and register for this session, [CLICK HERE.](#)



New Student Move-In Day – Wednesday, August 20, 2025: Join us as we welcome new Flyers on New Student Move-In Day. Volunteer to be a friendly face and help Flyers (and their parents) unload and get settled into the dorms. Nobody can answer questions better than our alumni! To sign up, [CLICK HERE.](#)



2025 Hockey Golf Outing - Sunday, August 24, 2025: Hang those skates up and join us at Glendale Lakes Golf Club as we raise funds to offset expenses for Lewis University's D2 and D3 hockey teams! Sponsorship opportunities are available. [CLICK HERE TO REGISTER.](#)



Second Annual *Black at Lewis* Welcome Reception – Wednesday, August 27, 2025: Join us for the Second Annual Black at Lewis Welcome Reception, an opportunity to welcome first-year black students and their families to the Lewis community. Held as part of Lewis University's Black August observance, all are welcome to join in solidarity, celebration, and support. [CLICK HERE TO REGISTER.](#)

To view a full list of the programming for Black August, click [HERE.](#)



Open Mic Night at Embers – Thursday, August 28, 2025: All are welcome to join Lewis' Office of Diversity, the English, and Music Departments, and the *Jet Fuel Review* for a Black August Welcome Back Open Mic Night! [CLICK HERE TO REGISTER.](#)



Baseball Golf Outing – Saturday, September 6, 2025: Join us for a great day out on the fairway at Wedgewood Golf Course in support of Lewis University Baseball! Registration includes coffee and donuts, 18 holes of golf, cart, drinks, lunch, and a Flyers Baseball t-shirt. Sponsorship opportunities are available. [CLICK HERE TO REGISTER.](#)



Film Screening & Discussion: "One Million Experiments" – Wednesday, September 3, 2025: Join us for a screening of "One Million Experiments," an experimental documentary exploring real-world, community-driven approaches to safety, healing, and liberation. The screening will be followed by a discussion with the film's creators. All are welcome. [CLICK HERE TO REGISTER.](#)



A Black Film & Dialogue Series on Resistance and Reclamation – Wednesday, September 17, 2025: Join the Office of Diversity, Legacies of American Slavery project, the Sociology Department, and African American Studies program for the launch of "Refusing Silence: A Black Film & Dialogue Series on Resistance and Reclamation," a three-part co-curricular film and dialogue series inspired by Dr. Kellie Carter Jackson's powerful work. The first film will be shown on September 17th with others to follow. [CLICK HERE TO REGISTER FOR THE SERIES.](#)



Prospective Student Visit Day - Saturday, September 20, 2025: Volunteer to accompany prospective students on campus tours and answer their questions about Lewis. Also help out with check-in. Please contact Brandon McGhee to volunteer at mcgheebr@lewisu.edu.



Lewis Fest – Saturday, October 4, 2025: Join us for our third annual Lewis Fest, a day filled with Flyer fun for students, families, alumni, faculty, staff, and friends! In addition to lunch, there will be plenty of activities including a bounce house, airbrush tattoos, DJ, performance by the Flyer Spirit Squad, caricatures, henna art, a service activity, and Women's Volleyball game against Upper Iowa! [CLICK HERE TO REGISTER.](#)



Men's Volleyball Fall Festival Weekend – Friday & Saturday, October 10 & 11, 2025: Join us for the MVB Fall Festival, a fun weekend of MVB connection and community. The weekend kicks off Friday with the annual MVB Legacy Endowment Golf Outing at Sanctuary Golf Course, followed by a Red/White scrimmage that evening at Neil Carey Arena. There are plenty of sponsorship

opportunities available! On Saturday, the MVB potluck picnic will be held on the University Green, followed by an alumni game at Neil Carey Arena. [CLICK HERE TO REGISTER.](#)



Gros Institute Memorial Event – Wednesday, October 15, 2025: Join us for a two-part event hosted by the Gros Institute. Part one is focused on the 100-Year Vision for Dismantling the Law of Colonialism. Part two is focused on Organizing for Systems Change and Repair. [CLICK HERE TO REGISTER.](#)



Fall Szczepaniak Lecture – Thursday, November 6, 2025: Join us as we welcome the newly named 6th Illinois Poet Laureate, Mark Turcotte, Senior Lecturer and Distinguished Writer-In-Residence at DePaul University. Mark will be presenting a poetry reading followed by a Q&A session. [CLICK HERE TO REGISTER.](#)

The Office of Diversity invites you to a powerful series of events this fall and beyond—highlighting stories, scholarship, and social justice at the intersections of language, culture, identity, and equity. We hope you'll join us for these meaningful experiences, in person or online. Space may be limited, so be sure to register in advance. To view a full listing of events and register, click [HERE.](#)

CAMPUS NEWS



Vulcan Materials Company at Lewis

Vulcan Materials Company, one of the nation's leading suppliers of construction aggregates, has been shaping growth and infrastructure for over 100 years. With a local presence—including a rock quarry near our Romeoville campus—Vulcan plays an active role in supporting the educational journey of Lewis University students.

This past June, we welcomed employees, Mia and Kennedy as guest speakers during our Summer STEM camps. They shared valuable insights into their career paths and experiences at Vulcan. A proud and engaged partner, Vulcan has supported Lewis not only through philanthropy but also by regularly presenting in classrooms to provide real-world industry perspectives to Flyers and future Flyers. In Fall 2025, we are excited to offer a behind-the-scenes quarry visit exclusively for Lewis degree-seeking students.



Lasallian Students from Barcelona Learn at Lewis

In mid-June, students from La Salle Campus Barcelona engaged in a full day of immersive learning, cultural exchange, and mission-driven service at Lewis University.

The day began in the College of Nursing and Health Sciences, where students participated in high-impact simulations in the Nursing Lab and explored human anatomy through virtual reality with the Physical Therapy department.

In the afternoon, the focus turned to the intersection of business and nonprofit strategy. Students volunteered at Feed My Starving Children in Aurora, packing meals for global distribution, followed by a tour of the Loaves & Fishes food pantry and warehouse. These experiences offered a real-world view of how mission and business align to support communities—echoing the shared Lasallian values that unite Lewis and LaSalle Barcelona.

A sincere thank-you to **Kurt Schackmuth, Ph.D., Vice President for Student Life and Chief Mission Officer**, who visited with the group on Wednesday to offer additional insight into the Lasallian mission and its global impact.

Experiences like these underscore the power of global education and Lasallian partnership in preparing students to lead with purpose.

Summer Mission Trip to the Philippines

During the month of June, a group of Lewis students, along with faculty members, traveled to Bacolod City, Philippines to build community, serve those in need, and experience Filipino culture. Throughout the two-week trip, the group stayed at the retreat center at Lasalle University and helped build a home for a family of four in Gawad Kalinga Village, managing to do it two days ahead of schedule. They also spent time with members of the community, learning about their culture and cooking local cuisine. One highlight of the trip was visiting homes built by participants in Lewis' mission trip over the past 15 years and distributing gifts collected during Lewis Mission & Ministry's Christmas Giving Tree. Before returning to the United States, they were able to gift 2000 pounds of rice, enough to feed 102 families for two weeks, to the Gawad Kalinga Village community.

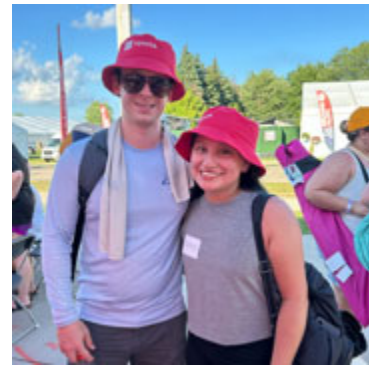
A special thank you to all those who generously supported this year's Mission Trip!



EAA AirVenture Oshkosh



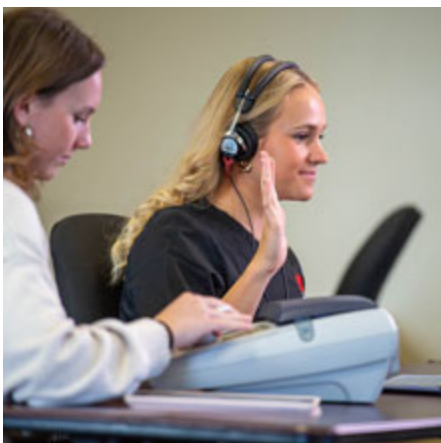
On Saturday, July 26, nearly 100 alumni and friends joined us for our annual Lewis University gathering at EAA. It was a pleasure to welcome so many Flyers and share great food, conversation, and a love for all things aviation. Thank you to everyone who stopped by the Lewis tent throughout the week and entered our swag raffle. Congrats to our winner, **Gabriella Delagarza**! Gabriella will receive a special package of Lewis goodies. Save the date for next year's event on **Saturday, July 25, 2026**, and click **HERE** to watch a quick video recap!



BACK TO SCHOOL, BACK TO PLANNING



As the back-to-school season approaches, it's a natural time to reset, refocus, and plan for what's ahead. Between shopping for supplies and setting new routines, consider taking just 20 minutes to plan for your future and create your FREE will through FreeWill. It's a simple, powerful way to protect the people you love—and, if you choose, to leave a lasting legacy at Lewis University. Just like a fresh notebook on the first day of class, this moment offers a clean slate and a chance to bring peace of mind into the new season. Click **HERE** to learn more.



EXPLORE GRADUATE DEGREES AT LEWIS

The ability to communicate is one of our greatest assets. As a Speech-Language Pathologist, you can impact the world for the better by helping those with communication disorders improve their interactions with others. And as a student in our **Master's in Speech-Language Pathology**, you'll find faculty who partner with you and mentor you as you work toward acquiring the knowledge and skills required for clinical practice. Upon graduation, you'll be prepared to work in a variety of settings, including schools, healthcare facilities, private clinics, and more.

Apply now or contact Rhonda Richter at (815) 836-5811 or richterh@lewisu.edu to learn more.

ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

Every Lewis University alum is a member of the Lewis Alumni Association. If you would like more information about how you can get involved as a volunteer in the classroom, as a mentor, on social, etc., please contact Brandon McGhee '08 '10 at mcgheebr@lewisu.edu.

ALUMNI NEWS

Congratulations, **Jazmine Summerville (Williams) '10**, who received a Master of Social Work from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign in May 2025.

Congratulations, **Miriam Muhammad '08**, for releasing her second children's book, *123 Count & Rhyme with Me*.

Congratulations, **Dalonte Burns '11**, on becoming the New Program Director of the Black Principals Network.

Congratulations to **Lindsey Minas '25**, who has accepted a position as Visitor Services Associate at the Gaylord Building Historic Site in Lockport, Illinois.

Congratulations to **Richard Krauland '75** on the release of his new book, *The Bridge - From Science to God*.

Congratulations to **George Bilecki**, an outfielder for Lewis University, on being selected in the Major League Baseball draft by the San Diego Padres.

Congratulations to **Laura Fox '16**, who recently received a silver Telly award as Executive Producer for her employer's company culture video. Titled "What You Do Matters," the video was a snapshot of what it means to work at PMA Financial Network. She won this award in the banking and financial services category in collaboration with her producers, Charter and Co.

Congratulations to **Kelly (Johnston) Kohrt '11 '16** on the recent birth of her baby girl, Khloe!

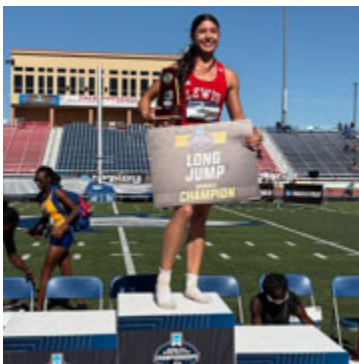
Congratulations to University Advancement's **Ashley Micetich** and her husband Joe on the birth of their beautiful baby girl, Hazel!

FLYERS ATHLETICS



The Lewis University Athletic Department finished in 11th place for the 2024-25 Learfield Directors' Cup, announced by The National Association of Collegiate Directors of Athletics.

"Finishing 11th in the Learfield Directors' Cup final standings is both a remarkable accomplishment for Lewis University Athletics and a strong reflection of that commitment. This achievement is a testament to the dedication of our student-athletes, the leadership of our coaches and the unwavering support of our campus community. It's a proud moment for the entire Flyers family and a true representation of the championship culture we strive to uphold; both in competition and in the classroom," stated, Assistant Vice President for Athletics, John Ashaolu. To learn more, click [HERE](#).



If you are a supporter of Lewis University, we would love to hear from you! Your story and the reasons behind your generosity are inspiring, and we want to know what motivates your support. Please take a moment to share your "WHY" with us by [CLICKING HERE](#).

Together, we are building brighter futures and a better world!

Support Lewis University

Questions about anything you read in this month's *Jet-setter*?
Please email alumni@lewisu.edu.



[LEWIS U NEWS](#) | **[ALUMNI DIRECTORY](#)** | **[CAREER SERVICES](#)**

[Unsubscribe](#)

[Lewis University](#)
alumni@lewisu.edu