

LEWIS ALUMNI & FRIENDS

MONTHLY  
**JET-SETTER** 

**Happy March, Flyers and Friends!**

March has arrived — bringing a little green ([St. Patrick's Day](#)), a little red ([St. Joseph's Day](#)), and a lot of Flyer pride. There is A LOT going on at Lewis these days, including the exciting announcement of our new president (see below)!

This season is a beautiful reminder that faith, renewal, and purpose go hand in hand here at Lewis. We're grateful for the ways you continue to stay connected and support our students—through every season.

Whether you're reconnecting with classmates, supporting today's Flyers, or simply cheering from afar, you remain an important part of the Lewis story.

With spring right around the corner, we are wishing you a March filled with good fortune and many blessings,

Go, Flyers!

Warmly,  
**Lewis University Alumni Office**

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**Dr. Christopher Sindt has been selected as the 11th President of Lewis University!**

A visionary leader and passionate champion of our Catholic and Lasallian mission, our current Provost has helped shape Lewis' momentum

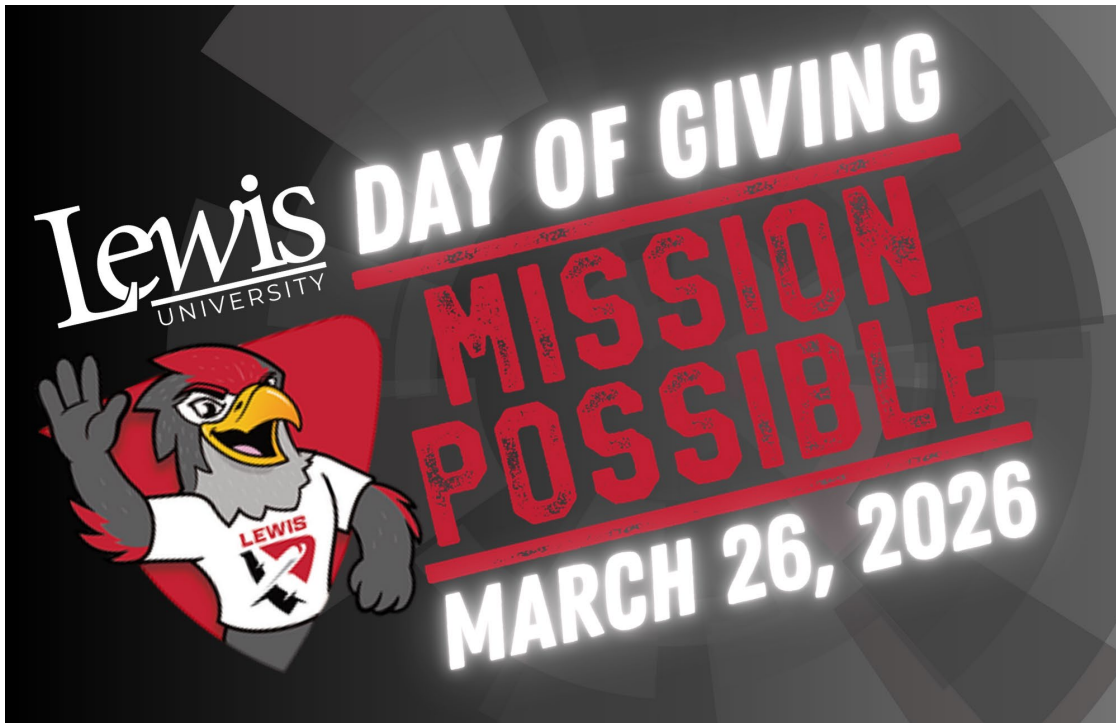


since 2018—advancing student success, innovation, and our strategic future.

Join us in congratulating Dr. Sindt as he leads Lewis into an inspiring new chapter, beginning July 1.

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## SAVE THE DATE!



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### UPCOMING EVENTS

March

**Monarch Winds Concert - Monday, March 2, 2026** | Woodwind quintet ensemble featuring

Laurel Tempas, Robert Gordon, Mary Payne, Amanda Karowske, and Jie Chen | 7:30 p.m. | St. Charles Borromeo Convocation Hall | To stream, please [CLICK HERE](#).

**Gros Institute F.I.R.E. | Empathy in Action: Living our Lasallian Values - Wednesday, March 4, 2026** | Join us for this annual interfaith forum where we share stories and break bread together. | 5 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. | University Dining Room (AS 104C) | Free for students, faculty and staff with a suggested donation of \$10 for community members | To learn more and register, please [CLICK HERE](#).

**Third Annual CoHFAC Kickback - Saturday, March 7, 2026** | Join us for evening of delicious food, drink, and an inspiring program where we honor our outstanding students and achievements of the College of Humanities, Fine Arts, and Communications. This year, we will be honoring **Mary DeGraw**, alumna, recently retired Associate Provost, and long-time, deeply loved campus leader. | 6 p.m. Doors open for Cocktail Hour | 7 p.m. Program begins | Philip Lynch Theatre & Wadsworth Family Gallery | Sponsorships available | To register or learn more, please [CLICK HERE](#).

**Men's Volleyball Alumni Night - Saturday, March 7, 2026** | Calling all Men's Volleyball alumni! | Join us as we cheer on the Flyers as they take on Ball State (80's Night) | 5 p.m. | Neil Carey Arena | Reception for all MVB alumni in Seiler Room during the game | For more info or to register [CLICK HERE](#).

**Tedx at Lewis University - Tuesday, March 10, 2026** | TEDx is a program of local, self-organized events that bring people together to share a TED-like experience. Join us as members of the Lewis University community take the stage to give very timely talks on some of today's most relevant topics. 7 p.m. | Philip Lynch Theatre | For more information and to purchase tickets, [CLICK HERE](#).

**Lewis Career Expo (Job & Internship Fair for Students & Alumni) - Wednesday, March 11, 2026** | Are you a Lewis alumnus who is looking for a job or making a job change? Bring copies of your resume and attend the Lewis Career Expo to talk to prospective employers. | 12 p.m. to 2 p.m. | Lewis University Fieldhouse/Rec Center | For more info or to register as an alum, please contact [careerservices@lewisu.edu](mailto:careerservices@lewisu.edu).

**Fourth Annual Brother Bernard Rapp, FSC Lecture on Faith & Science: Dr. Jason Keleher of Lewis University - Tuesday, March 24, 2026** | Dr. Jason Keleher will invite participants into an interactive exploration of how scientific insights, especially from chemistry and nanoscience, can illuminate questions of faith and meaning. | 3:30 p.m. | University Dining Room | All are welcome.

**DAY OF GIVING - MARK YOUR CALENDAR! | Thursday, March 26, 2026** | 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. | Stritch Hall - Romeoville Campus | Join together with the entire Lewis community and support the programs, teams, and scholarships that matter most to you! Every gift, no matter the size, gets us closer to our goal of \$100,000. Make your gift online or in-person at Stritch Hall. There will be snacks, drinks, and plenty of Flyer spirit! To learn more or be a part of "Mission POSSIBLE: Operation Lasallian Mission," [CLICK HERE](#).

**Spring Sczepaniak Lecture** - Distinguished historian Andrew Hartman, Professor of History at Illinois State University and author of *Karl Marx in America*, will present the Spring 2026 Sczepaniak Lecture titled "Culture Wars, Then and Now." | **Thursday, March 26, 2026** | 6 p.m. | University Dining Room (AS 104C) | For more information or to register [CLICK HERE](#).

**Lewis Spring Concert - March 30, 2026** | 7:30 p.m. | St. Charles Borromeo Convocation Hall | To stream, [CLICK HERE](#).

## April

**Lewis President's 18th Annual Art Exhibition - April 2-24, 2026** | Awards & Reception: April 9, 2026 at 7 p.m. | Gallery Talk: **April 22, 2026** at 2 p.m. | Wadsworth Family Gallery

**Qur'an and Bible Lecture Series: Disability and Scripture - Sunday, April 8, 2026** | This event will feature Dr. Lauren Osborne (author of *Hearing Islam*) in conversation with Dr. Daniel Smith (both from Whitman College). Dr. Osborne will focus on deafness as it intersects with Qur'anic

recitation and oral/aural traditions, and Dr. Smith will explore disability and otherness in revelation in New Testament and Biblical traditions. Halal lunch will be served. | 12 p.m. | D'Arcy Great Room

**5 Lesbians Eating Quiche (Play) - Tuesday, April 14, 2026** | 7:30 p.m. | Keith White Theatre | To stream, [CLICK HERE.](#)

**Sister Act: A Divine Musical Comedy (Musical) - April 24-26, April 30-May 3, 2026** | 7:30 p.m. | Philip Lynch Theatre | To purchase tickets, [CLICK HERE.](#)

**Out of Darkness Lewis University Campus Walk for Suicide Prevention - April 25, 2026** | Hosted in collaboration with the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention, this event raises funds for suicide prevention education, research, and advocacy, while supporting mental health resources for the Lewis campus community. | 9 a.m. | Student Recreation & Fitness Center | To register, please [CLICK HERE.](#)

**Lewis Rock & Jazz Band Concert - April 28, 2026** | 7:30 p.m. | Keith White Theatre in the Oremus Fine Arts Center (FA-18) | To stream, [CLICK HERE.](#)

## May

**Lewis Spring Choral Concert - May 4, 2026** | 7:30 p.m. | St. Charles Borromeo Convocation Hall | To stream, [CLICK HERE.](#)

**Metropolitan Youth Symphony Orchestra - May 6, 2026** | 7:30 p.m. | St. Charles Borromeo Convocation Hall | To stream, [CLICK HERE.](#)

**Senior Capstone Exhibition - May 7 - 17, 2026** | The Lewis University Department of Art and Design is proud to present the Senior Capstone Exhibition. This biannual art show coincides with the capstone course, Senior Project. The course challenges graduating students to put their newly acquired skills and understanding of art to the test by participating in a professional exhibition experience. | Gallery Talk & Reception: May 7, 2026 at 7 p.m. | Wadsworth Family Gallery

**Golden Flyers Reunion - Saturday, May 30, 2026** | Check-in begins at 9 a.m. in University Dining Room (AS 104C) | All members of the Class of 1976 and earlier are invited to join us for Mass, photos, brunch, campus tours, and an opportunity to connect with fellow Flyers! We will welcome the Class of 1976 into the Golden Flyer Society | Discounted hotel rooms are available | For more information or to register [CLICK HERE.](#)

## June

**46th Annual Flyers Athletics Golf Outing - Friday, June 12, 2026** | 9 a.m. Shotgun start | Cog Hill Golf & Country Club (12294 Archer Avenue, Lemont) | Lunch & Silent Auction to follow golf | Sponsorship opportunities available | Due to increased demand, golf will take place on **two courses** this year to speed up play. | To register [CLICK HERE.](#)

## July

**SAVE THE DATE: Experimental Aircraft Association (EAA) AirVenture Alumni Gathering - Saturday, July 25, 2026** | Calling all aviation enthusiasts! Lewis Aviation will once again host a tent at EAA AirVenture in Oshkosh, Wisconsin! Stop by during the week to enter our raffle for some cool Lewis swag. Then join us on Saturday evening before the airshow for food and Flyer fellowship at Booth #53. Registration is coming soon!

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## CAMPUS NEWS

### Mission & Ministry

On the morning of **Ash Wednesday**, February 18, Brother Rob prayed with students and distributed ashes in the Learning Resource Center. Later that day at noon and 4:30 p.m.,

Mass with ash distribution was celebrated by Father Paul Novak, OSM, our University Chaplain, in the Sancta Alberta Chapel. At our Uptown campus, ashes were distributed at 11 a.m. at the Divine Wisdom Chapel.

**Daily & Sunday Mass:** All are welcome to attend Mass, which is celebrated when school is in session Monday through Thursday at noon, as well as on Sundays at 7 p.m. in the Sancta Alberta Chapel on the Romeoville campus.

**Rosary:** The Rosary is prayed Monday through Thursday at 11:30 a.m. in the Sancta Alberta Chapel.

**Interfaith Healing for the World Prayer Service:** Tuesday, March 10, 2026 at 7 p.m. in the Sancta Alberta Chapel.

**Reconciliation Prayer Service:** Tuesday, March 24, 2026 at 7 p.m. in the Sancta Alberta Chapel.

*All are welcome!*

### **Mission Trip Open to Alumni**

Lewis University is making the Lewis Mission Trip to the Philippines available to alumni! The trip, which takes place from **June 6–21, 2026**, is a unique opportunity to work alongside Lewis students, living out your Lasallian values while building homes and sharing in the culture of those you serve. An information session with additional details will be held in March. The trip costs approximately \$3,000 per participant. If you're interested in learning more or participating, please email us at [alumni@lewisu.edu](mailto:alumni@lewisu.edu).



### **Cyber Defense Club Places First at Strategy Challenge in Austin, Texas**

Lewis University's Cyber Defense Club placed first in the "Presentation Skills and Policy Proposals" award category at the Atlantic Council's Cyber 9/12 Strategy Challenge in Austin, Texas. The annual

competition challenges students from around the world to develop policy recommendations in response to a hypothetical cyber catastrophe. The club has participated in the event for over five years, giving students unique, firsthand experiences with real-world cybersecurity scenarios.

The team consisted of Lewis undergraduates **David Simeone, Nabeel Ahmed, Uzair Khan, and Andy Valdez**. They were coached and accompanied by alumnus, **Matthew Kwaitkowski '00, '06**.



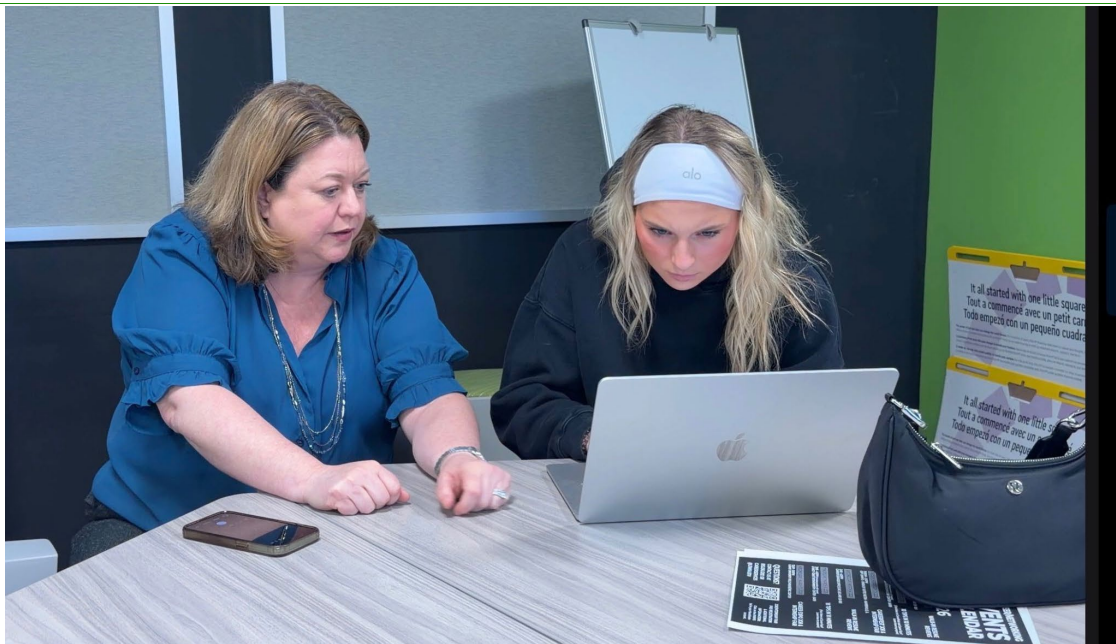
### **CoB Accounting Students Participate in IRS Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Certification**

Earlier this semester, more than 30 accounting students from the College of Business participated in IRS Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) certification training hosted by the Accounting Program in partnership with Ladder Up | Free Tax Return & College Aid Guidance.

Students received training on filing individual income tax returns and applying relevant tax laws through hands-on practice scenarios focused on serving lower-income individuals and families. Upon completion, they met the requirements to become certified VITA volunteers and are now prepared to assist during tax season while strengthening their applied technical skills.

### **Women in Business Career Fair Workshop**

The Women in Business Career Fair Workshop recently brought students together for an afternoon focused on professional preparation and confidence-building ahead of the Career Fair. Participants worked on strengthening resumes, refining elevator pitches, and gaining valuable feedback from faculty mentors. Thank you to **Elizabeth Belgio, Ph.D., Brie Brubaker, Michele Ryan, DBA, and Dr. Tanqueray Hart** for supporting our students. And special recognition to the **Cherilyn G. Murer Women in Business Club** for organizing and leading this impactful event.



### **Advanced Sales Class Visits Windy City Bulls**



Last month, the College of Business' Advanced Sales class had the opportunity to attend a Windy City Bulls game. According to Flyer Women's Basketball player, **Alayna Soukup**, "Before tip-off, we had the chance to network with members of the Windy City Bulls staff and hear firsthand about their journeys in the sports industry and what business looks like off the court for them. Their insights were incredibly valuable and made the night even more meaningful."

Special thanks to **James DeMory and the Windy City Bulls** for organizing this opportunity. Alayna Soukup continues to set the standard both on and off the court—bringing dedication, teamwork, and heart to her Women's Basketball team.

### **PR/Advertising and Marketing Students Attend Chicago Ad Federation Career Day**

Last month, PR/Advertising and Marketing students attended the Chicago Ad Federation's Career Day at the UIC Forum. The event included keynote speakers, panel discussions, a networking lunch, job fair, and resume review. Lewis students gained real-world insights and were able to establish relationships for future careers in advertising and marketing.

### **New Podcast Studio Programming**

In February, Advanced Digital Media Writing students interviewed Lewis alumnus and President & CEO of **Kids Above All**, **Dan Kotowski '03** in Lewis' new video podcast studio. The topic was "How Can I Help?" Listeners were given actionable opportunities for engagement and impact. Since 1894, **Kids Above All** has helped more than 161,000 children and families facing poverty, violence, and injustice in the Chicago area to build better lives.

Earlier in the month, Advanced Digital Media Writing students were the first to use the new video podcast studio when they interviewed their class community partner, **Helping Hand** with the help of alumna, **Halimah Shukair**.

Special thanks to Lewis Director of Television Operations, **John Kilpatrick '92 '08**, for creating this new podcast space.



### **St. Augustine College Pre-apprentice Program Onboarding**

Last month, nearly 30 individuals participated in the Illinois Pre-apprentice Program orientation St. Augustine College at Lewis University on our Uptown campus. Congratulations to project manager, **Berenice Juarez** and her team for facilitating the onboarding process. Pre-apprentice programs are an excellent opportunity not just to get a job, but to build a career.



### **Aviation Students Attend Substance Use & Alcohol Awareness Event**

In February, Lewis held a Substance Use & Alcohol Abuse Awareness event to give Aviation students real-world insight into the challenges and expectations they'll face in the aviation profession. From FAA rules to understanding the impacts of substances on safety, speakers delivered knowledge that every future aviation professional should carry into their careers.

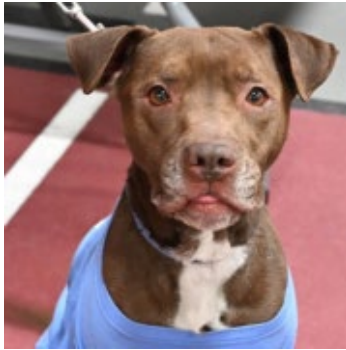
### **Faculty Recognition**

Congratulations to the College of Business' **Ty Kim** on receiving an Internal Award through the Research Initiation Awards (RIA) Program for his project, "AI vs. AI: Analyzing the Arms Race Between Generative AI Astroturfing and Detection Models." This innovative work tackles one of the most pressing challenges in today's AI landscape and highlights the power of research at the intersection of technology, ethics, and societal impact.

Congratulations to the College of Business' **Dr. Shibu Philip, PMP®, PMI-ACP®, PMOCP** for recently earning the Project Management Institute – Agile Certified Practitioner (PMI-ACP®) credential, reflecting advanced mastery of agile principles, frameworks, and evidence-based project management methodologies across multidisciplinary contexts. In addition, he delivered a keynote address titled "A Socio-Technical Approach to Project Management Office (PMO) Leadership" at Global PMO Career Week, organized by the PMO Global Alliance (PMOGA), sharing scholarly insights on integrative leadership, socio-technical systems, and contemporary PMO governance with an international professional audience.

### **Puppy Bowl held on February 4**

In anticipation of the Super Bowl on February 8, Lewis students were invited on Wednesday, February 4 to wear their favorite football gear and enjoy a "Puppy Bowl" at the Student Recreation Center with puppies from Ruby Whiskers Animal Rescue. There were fun football-related activities as well as a kissing booth with Lewis Police Department's comfort canine, Jet.



### Meet a Flyer: Karen Hernandez '28

"My experience at Lewis has helped me develop the discipline, focus, and determination needed to succeed inside and outside of the classroom."

Accounting major, Karen Hernandez is eager to graduate in May 2028 and pursue a career focused on responsible money management and helping others make informed financial decisions. Her journey to higher education reflects resilience and strength, motivating others to pursue their goals with confidence.



Don't miss the exciting lineup of our Arts & Ideas program. To learn more and discover the full schedule of Arts & Ideas offerings, please [CLICK HERE](#).

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### ALUMNI NEWS

#### Rob Delaney Scholarship Celebration

Thank you to all of the alumni, faculty, staff, and friends who joined us on Wednesday, February 11 at Embers in Lockport for a celebration of the life and legacy of Lewis alumnus, Rob Delaney. Special note was made that it was the 10-year anniversary of Rob's passing. A big Flyer shout-out to alumni, **Andy Bassett '03, Josh Brown '02, Pete Millier'04, and Josh O'Keefe '18** for spearheading this event. And for all who couldn't attend but contributed to the Rob Delaney Endowed Scholarship for aviation students, we know you were with us in spirit. The evening was made even more special by having our 2025-2026 Rob Delaney Endowed Scholarship recipient at Embers with us. We are happy to report that just over \$8,000 was raised for this scholarship in Rob's memory and we look forward to seeing even more Flyers there next year.



### **Golden Apple Award Finalists**

#### **Michelle Orth - Madison School, South Holland**

Michelle Orth is a fifth-grade teacher at Madison School known for meeting the needs of all learners. As her co-teacher of more than 15 years shares, "She meets students where they are and holds them accountable for their learning...and gives students many opportunities they may not otherwise have."

That strength is evident in her instruction. When students struggled with long division using two-digit divisors, Orth and her co-teacher developed "math banks," a student-built strategy that supports multiplication and regrouping while maintaining grade-level expectations. Through structured conferencing and real-time adjustments, students gain the confidence to work independently.

Orth brings that same hands-on, student-centered approach to schoolwide initiatives. She co-founded "MAD 7 Action News," a student-run broadcast program featured on CBS Chicago and supported by Illinois Press Foundation grants, where students write scripts, report on camera, and produce news segments. She also founded the "Deep Sea Explorers' Club" and leads the "15 Days of Kindness," engaging students in service projects that connect them to their local community, such as writing thank-you cards to local police and fire departments or creating holiday cards for nursing home residents. Together, these efforts reflect Michelle's commitment to educating the whole child and creating a classroom where students feel supported, challenged, and inspired.

**Congratulations to 2026 Golden Apple Award for Excellence in Teaching Finalist, Michelle Vandommellen Orth, who earned her Elementary Education undergraduate degree from Lewis in 2000.**



**Matthew White - Scullen Middle School, Naperville**

When a deaf student with a cochlear implant struggled to hear his own tone on a traditional violin, most teachers would have accepted that as a limitation. But Matthew White, orchestra teacher at Scullen Middle School, collaborated with audiologists and engineers to connect an electric violin directly to the student's implant system, creating what he calls an "epic success." He then advocated that the school purchase the instrument to provide the student with permanent access to music.

This kind of effort is par for the course for Matthew. Every student can find a place in the curriculum. To launch the school's first Carnatic ensemble, Matthew sought out a local guru and learned the art form himself. By doing so, he models cultural respect and lifelong learning to his students. His classroom blends Western and non-Western music in ways that challenge students to explore identity, history, and culture while developing real skills.

Matthew also goes beyond technique and teaches that being a musician is also a civic role. Students perform at nursing homes on Martin Luther King Jr. Day to combat isolation, and small traditions, like saying "Rabbit, Rabbit, Rabbit"—a British and North American superstition believed to bring good luck for the next 30 days—on the first of every month, create a sense of belonging. Parents and colleagues describe his classroom as "life-altering," noting that students grow not only as musicians but also as confident, empathetic people.



**Congratulations to 2026 Golden Apple Award for Excellence in Teaching Finalist, Matthew White, who earned his Master of Arts degree in School Counseling from Lewis in 2022.**

Congratulations to **Rudy Horist, MS, EFO, CFO '04**, who will retire after 43 years in the fire service. Rudy has spent the past five years as Fire Chief of the McHenry Township Fire Protection District. "I am a proud Lewis alumnus and my degree from Lewis has greatly benefited my career." Thank you for your public service, Rudy!

Congratulations to double Flyer alumna, Commander **Margie Lill '16, '19**, who has been named the next Chief of the Lewis University Police Department, effective upon Chief Mike Zegadlo's retirement on February 20. She is the first female chief of LUPD.

"Chief Lill is a natural choice to lead LUPD given her vast professional experience and deep understanding of and dedication to LUPD's unique approach to campus law enforcement," Dr. Christopher Sindt, provost of Lewis University, commented.

Lill, who currently serves as a police commander, has previously held positions as a patrol officer, field training officer, sergeant, and lieutenant with LUPD.

In 2012, she was the first external police officer hired by the department, which had been established a year earlier. Prior law enforcement experience includes service as a community service officer with the Elmhurst Police Department and as a police officer with Oak Brook Terrace and Campton Hills.

Lill completed her bachelor's degree in criminal justice and her master's degree in organizational leadership at Lewis University and is also a graduate of the Illinois Law Enforcement Training and Standards Board Executive Institute's Police Executive Role in the 21st Century course, an intensive leadership training program for executive-level police leaders.

In addition to being a certified RAD self-defense instructor, Lill is an experienced survivor advocate, having worked for decades in both law enforcement and with community organizations supporting survivors of sexual assault and domestic violence.

Congratulations to alumna, **Rebecca Banasiak '97 (Art)**, whose artwork is currently being featured at the Brent and Jean Wadsworth Family Gallery on our Romeoville campus. "Women Artists at the Field" features three women artists at Chicago's Field Museum, and their work bridges art and science in bold, imaginative ways. Inspired by the museum's collections and mission to connect all of us to the natural world, their creations reveal the beauty of discovery and the power of visual storytelling. The exhibit at the Wadsworth Family Gallery is free and open to the public from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. daily until March 13.

Congratulations to **Dominick Bartels '23** on being inducted into Creighton University Law's Alpha Sigma Nu fraternity. Membership in Alpha Sigma Nu is awarded to students who demonstrate scholarship, leadership, and service.

### Alumni in their own words...



#### Corey Anco '09

I may not have known it at the time, but my experience at Lewis University set me on the path to be the Curator of the Draper Natural History Museum at the Buffalo Bill Center of the West. Don't let the name fool you, we're a fully operational natural history museum and the only natural history museum dedicated to understanding and interpreting the wildlife, ecosystems and phenomena of the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem.

On any given day, my responsibilities range from writing interpretation and developing exhibits, building our collections through salvage-based acquisitions, designing and delivering

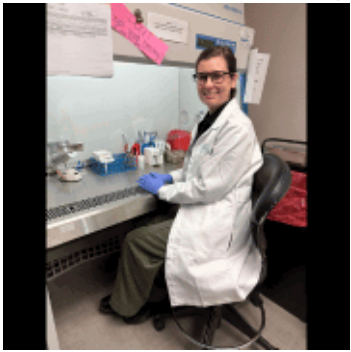
onsite and offsite programs for learners of all abilities and ages, conducting collections-based and field-based research, and writing grants to support all of the above.

One of the best parts about my job is deepening my understanding of the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem, an incredibly complex landscape I am fortunate to call home. For the past couple years, the Draper Natural History Museum and a team of researchers has been monitoring and studying Pinyon Jays in Wyoming's Bighorn Basin. The Pinyon Jay is an incredibly charismatic and social corvid that has suffered extensive declines throughout its range. Almost nothing is known about the

species ecology in Wyoming, which is near the northern extent of its range. Museum research is not constrained to the vaults, we're actively collaborating with state, federal, academic, and non-profit partners to aid conservation efforts and development management recommendations.

I earned my Bachelor of Science in Environmental Science at Lewis University. During my tenure at Lewis, I pursued internships in natural resource management at a forest preserve district and Midewin National Tallgrass Prairie. Academic courses and early exposure to careers in my fields of interest provided a strong foundation to deepen my understanding of ecology and launch a career trajectory that has brought me more fulfillment and joy than I could have hoped for.

Museum exhibits often reflect the research activities of staff. Natural history museums offer unique opportunities to leverage skills in creativity, research, and science communication and have long stood as a bastion of credibility and authority, reliant on science-based evidence.



### **Courtney N. Dial, Ph.D., D(ABMM) '17**

I am a board-certified medical microbiologist. I currently work for Peoria-Tazewell Pathology Group (PTPG) as their Section Director of Microbiology. PTPG serves multiple community hospitals in Illinois. My job involves running a hospital microbiology laboratory (at Carle Health in Peoria) and consulting for many other labs. I ensure protocols are up to date with current standards, I help laboratory technicians interpret culture results, and I confirm that the most accurate information is entered into a patient's chart. I also work closely with our team of infectious disease clinicians to guarantee their patients receive the best available diagnostics, and I help guide them on their antibiotic choices. I was able to

start my research career and discover my love for medical microbiology early, thanks to the opportunities and classes I took at Lewis University. I look back on my time at Lewis fondly and am honored to be featured as an alum.

## **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](mailto:mcgheebr@lewisu.edu).

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## **FLYERS ATHLETICS**

### **Flag Football**

Lewis University has appointed Aaron Richardson as the first head coach in the history of its flag football program. Richardson joins the Flyers from Graceland University, where he led the team to its first winning season and conference tournament appearance.

The university officially added women's flag football as its 23rd varsity sport in late 2025, with competition set to begin in the 2026-27 academic year. Lewis is the first NCAA Division II school in Illinois to sponsor the sport, reflecting its commitment to establishing a national contender in this rapidly growing athletic field.

### **Track & Field Ring Ceremony**

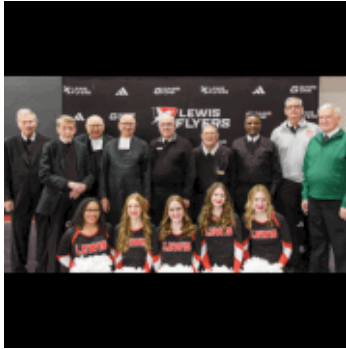
Pictured below (left) are members of the Flyer Women's Track & Field team who were awarded rings for winning last year's Indoor and Outdoor GLVC Championships. Pictured (right) also are members of the Flyer Men's Track & Field team who won last year's Outdoor GLVC Championship.

Pictured below (middle) are members of the Flyer Cheerleading squad with Flyer Athletics' most loyal fans...Lewis' De La Salle Christian Brothers.

For all Athletics news, please go to the official [Lewis Athletics website](#).

*Photos below provided by the Lewis Photography Club*

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### Lewis Hockey Senior Night

On Sunday, February 1, Lewis Hockey held Senior Night at Canlan Arena in Romeoville and honored seniors, **Brian Gutt**, **Ben Alagna**, **Scottie Ernsting**, **Logan Pickands**, and **Jake Welninski** for their dedication, leadership, and commitment to the team.



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### Feeling lucky? Leave a legacy with FreeWill!

**FREEWILL** 

This St. Patrick's Day, while you're searching for four-leaf clovers and maybe a pot of gold, consider a different kind of treasure—your legacy. With **FreeWill**, you can create your will for free, in just about 20 minutes, and, if you choose, make a lasting impact on the causes closest to your heart, like Lewis University.

It's simple, secure, and a meaningful way to share your good fortune for generations to come. Now that's what we call the luck of the Irish. [CLICK HERE to learn more.](#)

## Lewis University President's Circle

Through your annual gift of \$1,000 or more, you can become a member of Lewis University's President's Circle. PC members are invited to exclusive events like the President's Circle Dinner in December and receive invitations to engage with University leadership throughout the year. Together and by association, our President's Circle members continue to fuel our thriving Lasallian Mission.

Would you like to speak to someone about becoming a President's Circle member? Contact Krysten McGee at 815-836-5966 or at [kmcgee2@lewisu.edu](mailto:kmcgee2@lewisu.edu).



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*Together, we are creating a better world, one Flyer at a time.*

*THANK YOU!*

**Support Lewis University**

Questions about anything you read in this month's *Jet-setter*?  
Please email [alumni@lewisu.edu](mailto:alumni@lewisu.edu).



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