



SPECIAL INAUGURATION ISSUE

Flyers and Friends,

Last Friday, Lewis University celebrated the inauguration of its 11th president, Dr. Christopher Sindt. It was a beautiful fall day, the perfect backdrop for a momentous day in the life of the University. From the Mass of Thanksgiving in the Sancta Alberta Chapel and the Investiture Ceremony in Convocation Hall, to the lovely reception and Inauguration Block Party on the University Green with students, the afternoon and evening were filled with moments of prayer, reflection, and joy. Please join us in asking God to bless Dr. Sindt as he officially begins his tenure leading Lewis University.

We invite you to watch the video recording of the Investiture ceremony by [CLICKING HERE.](#)

Photos of the entire day can be found by [CLICKING HERE](#).

We're just a few short weeks away from **Signum Fidei: A Night to Soar**—our annual celebration supporting the Mission Fund! Join us as we celebrate more than nine decades of Lewis aviation and come together as a Lewis community to ensure that no student is left behind. Purchase your tickets today (see link below).

There is much to celebrate this fall at Lewis University. We hope you will join us!

Warmly,

The Lewis University Alumni Office Team





LEWIS UNIVERSITY INAUGURATES DR. CHRISTOPHER SINDT AS THE 11TH PRESIDENT

Lewis University inaugurated Dr. Christopher Sindt as its 11th President on Oct. 2, marking a new chapter for the University centered on student success, innovation and expanded access to a transformative Lewis education. Sindt, who previously served as Lewis University Provost, became president July 1.

In his inaugural address, Sindt called on the Lewis community to embrace “holy audacity” – the courage to imagine boldly while remaining grounded in our Lasallian and Catholic identity.

“My hope is that those who gather for our centennial in 2032 will see an enterprising university, grounded in academic excellence and support for student success, and embracing new students, new programs and new geographies,” Sindt said.

“Lewis University will be known as a dynamic university known nationally for excellent, innovative teaching that reaches all students and prepares them for lives of meaning and impact.”

During the ceremony, Sindt received the Presidential Chain of Office from Board of Trustees Chair Timothy Ferrarell and Presidents *Emeriti* Drs. David J. Livingston and Brother James Gaffney, FSC.

As Provost, Sindt led academic affairs, enrollment and student life. Before joining Lewis, Sindt spent 17 years as a faculty member and administrator at Saint Mary’s College of California and earned a doctorate in English from the University of California, Davis.

Sindt assumes the presidency as Lewis implements Taking FLIGHT, its 2026-29 strategic plan focused on future-ready learning, inclusive impact, strategic growth, high-performance culture and innovation.

EVENTS

HIGHLIGHTED EVENT: Signum Fidei: A Night to Soar

October 24, 2026

6 p.m. to 11 p.m.

Westin Chicago Lombard

An Evening that Includes an Inspiring Program, Cocktails, Dinner, and Dancing

For more information, to purchase tickets, or to support the Mission Fund, please click the graphic below.



October

My Town, My Country by Lewis University Alumnus, Bill Bartelt '70 (Art Exhibit) - October 1-23, 2026 | Gallery Talk: October 22, 2026 | Bill Bartelt grew up in Joliet, the son of a farm dealer, in the days when it was still both a "cow town" and a "railroad town." The fascination for both has never left him. During a Chicago career in show business, Bill painted the rails, bridges, and water tanks that he first loved as a kid. Travels around the countryside kept him close to his rural roots, and the hills, forests and rivers have kept him sustained and inspired. | Wadsworth Family Art Gallery | Free admission

The Gods of Comedy (Student Theatre Production) - October 8-11, 2026 | This is a fast-paced comedy by Ken Ludwig about two young classics professors, Daphne and Ralph, who make a career-changing discovery: a supposedly authentic, unknown manuscript of the ancient Greek playwright Euripides. When the manuscript goes missing, Daphne desperately calls on the gods of ancient Greece for help—and to her shock, the Greek god Dionysus and the Muse Thalia actually appear. Instead of quietly solving the problem, the two immortal visitors create chaos across a prestigious university campus. | Play times vary by date | Philip Lynch Theatre | For more info and to purchase tickets, [CLICK HERE](#).

2026 Men's Volleyball Fall Festival - Friday & Saturday, October 9 & 10, 2026

MVB Legacy Golf Outing - Friday, October 9, 2026 | Join fellow MVB alumni, parents, family and friends as you hit the links to support the Lewis University MVB Legacy Endowment Fund. | Start: 9 a.m. | Sanctuary Golf Course - 485 Marley Rd., New Lenox, IL | For more information and to register, [CLICK HERE](#). Questions? Please contact Dan Friend at friendda@lewisu.edu.

MVB Fall Festival Activities - Saturday, October 10, 2026 | Join MVB alumni, parents, family and friends on Lewis' Romeoville Campus for a variety of activities. | One University Pkwy., Romeoville, IL 60446 | For more information and to register for any and all activities, [CLICK HERE](#).

MVB Potluck Picnic - 1 p.m. | MVB will provide the main dish and attendees are asked to bring a side dish or dessert to share. | Gazebo on University Green

MVB Red/White Scrimmage - 3 p.m. | Cheer on the Flyers during an intrasquad game! | Neil Carey Arena

MVB Alumni Game - 4:30 p.m. | Alumni are invited to take the court and relive their Lewis glory days! | Neil Carey Arena

Film Screening - The Voice of Hind Rajab - Monday, October 19, 2026 | This film screening is part of this year's annual Gros Institute Peace Teach-In. Through the preserved recordings of six-year-old Hind Rajab's final phone calls and the efforts of her family to keep her story alive, *The Voice of Hind Rajab* explores memory as a form of resistance and storytelling as an act of communal care. | 6:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. | St. Charles Borromeo Flight Deck (Romeoville campus) | Free admission | To register, [CLICK HERE](#).

Meet the Firms Career Networking Fair - Wednesday, October 21, 2026 | Join us for a Career Fair for Lewis students and alumni, sponsored by the Lewis College of Business and Career Services. | 2 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. | Flight Deck - St. Charles Borromeo (101 Airport Rd., Romeoville, IL 60446) | Free admission | A resume and professional attire are required. | Registration is required. To register as an alumnus, please email careerservices@lewisu.edu or call 815-836-5282.

Gros Institute Memorial Event - Wednesday, October 21, 2026 | The World We Refuse, the World We Build: Resistance, Community, and Collective Survival—In a time of escalating authoritarianism, ecological crisis, and social fragmentation, resistance cannot only be about opposing what harms us. It must also be about building the relationships, practices, and forms of solidarity that make collective survival possible. Drawing on movement history, abolitionist thought, mutual aid, and years of organizing experience, Kelly Hayes will explore how refusal can become a generative force: a refusal of abandonment, isolation, disposability, political despair, and the lie that we are powerless. She will consider what it means to build communities capable of protecting one another, sustaining struggle, and expanding our sense of what is possible. This talk will invite participants to think about revolution not simply as a distant event, but as the ongoing work of becoming people who know how to care for one another, resist together, and create the conditions for a more livable world. | 12 p.m. to 2 p.m. | University Dining Room AS 104C | Registration is required for this free event. | Free will donations to Gros Institute accepted. | To register, [CLICK HERE](#).

Signum Fidei: Flight Path to the Future—A Night to Soar - Saturday, October 24, 2026 | Join us as Lewis University proudly celebrates its enduring legacy in the world of aviation, all in support of the Mission Fund (providing vital financial support for students experiencing unanticipated crises, like the loss of a parent) | 6 p.m. to 11 p.m. | Westin Chicago Lombard | Cocktail attire | Reserved seating, cocktails, dinner, and dancing to the music of "Maggie Speaks" | Sponsorship opportunities available | Discounted tickets for young alumni | For more information and to purchase tickets, please [CLICK HERE](#).

November

Fall Sczepaniak Lecture - Thursday, November 5, 2026 | "White, Black, Brown: Becoming Puerto Rican in Chicago," presented by Mike Staudenmaier, Independent Scholar and Fellow at Center for Puerto Rican Studies at Hunter College in New York. | 2 p.m. | Romeoville campus - AS 156a | For more information and to register, please [CLICK HERE](#).

Kathryn Gauthier and Gregorio Mejia: A 50 Year Retrospective (Art Exhibit) - November 5-25, 2026 | Gallery talk November 5 at 7 p.m. | Multidisciplinary artist Kathryn Gauthier is a graduate of Emmanuel College and Trinity Rep Conservatory. Her extensive fine art career has progressed in tandem with her interests in the performing, culinary, and healing arts. She maintains memberships and frequently shows with CAVA, CSA, and Woman-made Gallery, and is represented in art collections in Chicago and Massachusetts. Gregorio Mejia, a graduate of the American Academy of Art, has distinguished himself with

numerous awards throughout his 50-year career. He maintains memberships in the Palette & Chisel, CSA, CAVA, and the National Portrait Society among others. In addition to his fine art career, he is an experienced muralist, advertising production artist, and painting instructor. | Wadsworth Family Gallery | Free admission

Debating the 2nd Amendment - Monday, November 9, 2026 | Join Br. Peter Hannon and Dr. Mark Schultz of the history department in a debate over the meaning of the 2nd Amendment. How do we strike a balance between freedom and responsibility? | 1 p.m. | AS 024 | Free admission

Reverend Kevin Spiess Endowed Lecture - Thursday, November 12, 2026 | “Ethics in the Workplace – Within a Global and Dynamic Environment” Lecture and Panel Discussion | Lecturer, Johnny C. Taylor, Jr., SHRM-SCP, is President and Chief Executive Officer of SHRM. With nearly 340,000 members in 180 countries, SHRM impacts the lives of more than 362 million workers and their families globally. As a global leader on the future of employment, culture, and leadership, Mr. Taylor is a sought-after voice on all matters affecting work, workers, and the workplace. | 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. | Convocation Hall in Borromeo Center at Lewis University Romeoville campus - 101 Airport Rd., Romeoville | Registration is required for this free event. To register, [CLICK HERE](#).

Deathtrap (Student Theatre Production) - Friday, November 13- 5 and Thursday, November 19-22, 2026 | Deathtrap is a dark comedy-thriller by Ira Levin that combines mystery, suspense, and humor. Rather than relying on gore or violence, Deathtrap builds tension through clever writing, misdirection, and shocking revelations. It became one of the longest-running comedy-thrillers in Broadway history and was later adapted into the 1982 film Deathtrap starring Michael Caine and Christopher Reeve. | Directed by Kevin Trudeau | Philip Lynch Theatre | To purchase tickets, [CLICK HERE](#).

Timothy Archbold: Music for Cello and Piano - Monday, November 16, 2026 | Join us for an unforgettable evening of classical music as renowned cellist, Timothy Archbold, takes the stage at Lewis University. This extraordinary artist will perform a captivating program featuring beloved classical works alongside newer compositions. | 7:30pm | St. Charles Borromeo Convocation Hall | Free admission

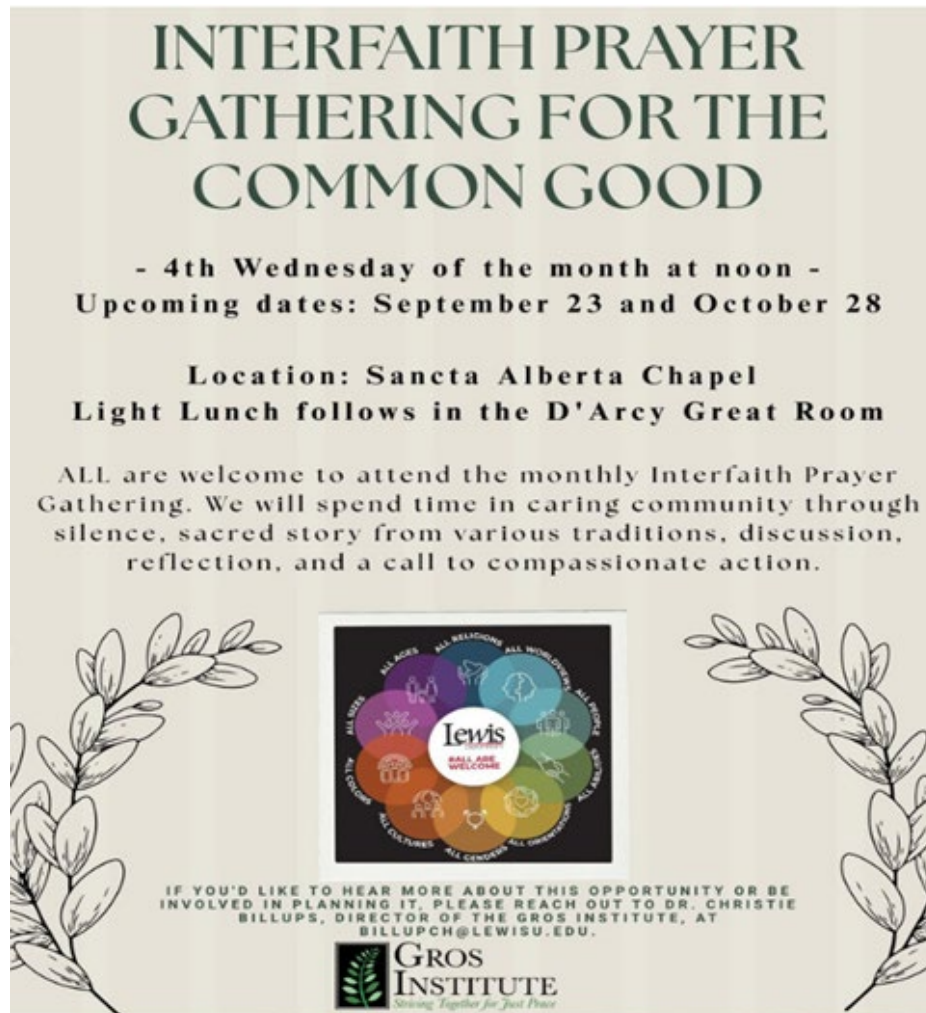
December

Senior Capstone Exhibition (Art Exhibit) - Thursday, December 3-14, 2026 | Gallery talk on December 3 at 7 p.m. | 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. | Wadsworth Family Gallery | Free admission

January

Flyer Red Dinner & Hall of Fame Ceremony - Saturday, January 23, 2027 |

Join us at our annual Flyer Red Dinner where we will celebrate Flyer Athletics and induct a new class of individuals into the Lewis University Athletics Hall of Fame. | 6 p.m. Cocktail hour and 7 p.m. program and dinner | Flight Deck in St. Charles Borromeo - 101 Airport Road, Romeoville, IL 60446 | Registration is required. For more information and to register, [CLICK HERE.](#)



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.](#)

Another Fantastic Lewis Fest

Thank you to all of our alumni, parents, faculty, staff, and friends who joined us at our annual celebration of Lewis Fest during the weekend of October 2-4. The weather couldn't have been better and we welcomed more than 300 students, parents, alumni, faculty, staff, and their families to campus to enjoy theatre, an art exhibition, athletics, activities on the University Green, Mass, and more. It was a great weekend to be a Flyer! To see photos from Lewis Fest, please [CLICK HERE.](#)



CAMPUS NEWS

Lewis University Awarded \$2.95 Million Title III Grant to Strengthen Student Success

Lewis University has been awarded \$2.95 million through a Title III grant to launch "Lewis University FlightPath: Advancing Student Success and Workforce Opportunity," a five-year initiative that will expand advising, academic support and workforce pathways and use new technology to identify and address barriers to student success.

The grant is funded through Title III, Part A: Strengthening Institutions Program (SIP). The first-year funding period is Oct. 1, 2026, through Sept. 30, 2027, with the five-year project continuing through Sept. 30, 2031. Lewis received 100% of its first-year funding request, \$1.1 million.

FlightPath directly advances [Taking FLIGHT, Lewis University's 2026-2029 Strategic Plan](#), particularly its focus on future-ready learning, student access and success, strategic growth, technology and innovation.

"This historic award is an investment in our students and in the future of Lewis University," said President Dr. Christopher Sindt. "FlightPath will help us advance our strategic vision by strengthening the connections among learning, student success and career preparation, ensuring our students are prepared to thrive in a rapidly changing world."

Through FlightPath, Lewis will create a more coordinated network of academic and student support, including enhanced advising, peer tutoring and supplemental instruction in high-gateway courses. New technology will help identify barriers to student success earlier and connect students with the right resources, while faculty development will further strengthen teaching, learning and student support.

FlightPath will also deepen the connection between academics and career preparation, including efforts to provide access to Workforce Pell Grants for eligible programs. Ongoing evaluation will measure student outcomes, identify best practices and guide improvements throughout the five-year initiative.

Interim Provost William Chura, Ph.D., serves as the grant's principal investigator.

Lewis University Celebrates Graduates of Illinois Works Pre-Apprenticeship Program

The Lewis University Illinois Workforce Education program hosted a graduation celebration for its General Construction Pre-Apprenticeship Program on September 19 on its Romeoville campus. There were nearly 200 graduates who completed the 12-week program in Aurora,

Grayslake/Waukegan or Joliet/Romeoville.

Sponsored and funded by the Illinois Department of Commerce & Economic Opportunity (DCEO) and Illinois Works, this program equips participants with essential skills for careers in the construction industry.

The program's curriculum, delivered by the Lewis University Institute for Workforce Education (IWE), included nationally recognized certifications in OSHA-10, Flagger, NCCER, and First Aid/CPR. These certifications are critical for securing positions within the construction industry, with 61 graduates already successfully applying for union jobs.

Javier Garibay, EdS, executive director of IWE, opened the ceremony and underscored IWE's mission to provide high-quality, bilingual workforce development services across Illinois. Celia Colon, CEO of G.O.D. (Giving Others Dreams), delivered the keynote address, emphasizing the importance of such programs in building a skilled and diverse workforce.

New cohorts for the Illinois Works General Construction Pre-Apprenticeship Program are forming, and applications are open online at iwetraining.com.

The Institute for Workforce Education (IWE) is Illinois' leading provider of bilingual workforce development services, offering customized training that meets the needs of a diverse population and supports statewide economic growth.

Third Annual "Say Hello" Campaign

Lewis' **Third Annual "Say Hello" Campaign** began on September 1st and ran throughout the month of September. The campaign highlights the fact that a simple greeting, smile, or brief conversation can have a powerful impact on a student's experience. Taking a moment to acknowledge students helps create a welcoming campus culture where individuals feel seen, valued, and connected.

Lewis University Selects Ellucian Student to Advance Strategic Plan and Power Future Growth

Ellucian, the leading higher education technology solutions provider, today announced that Lewis University, a private Catholic university serving more than 7,000 students and an Ellucian customer for more than a decade, will modernize to Ellucian Student, higher education's complete solution that powers the end-to-end student lifecycle. Together, Student, HCM (Human Capital Management), and Finance operate as one AI-native platform aligning people, resources, and decisions around Ellucian's vision to unlock learning for all.

For Lewis, the transformation will support the university's strategic focus on expanding opportunity and advancing student success through transformative, career-connected learning. The new platform will be delivered through Project Tailwind, Lewis University's institution-wide modernization initiative and a key component of its [2026–2029 Taking Flight strategic plan](#).

Enabling Lewis University's Future-Ready Vision

Transitioning to Ellucian Student will help Lewis University expand education access for traditional, online, workforce, and lifelong learners while building the institutional agility needed to pursue strategic growth opportunities. By investing in a modern technology foundation, Lewis will simplify operations across campus, strengthen decision-making, and give faculty and staff more time to focus on student success.

"We're proud to build on our relationship with Lewis University as it embarks on the next chapter of its transformation," said Laura Ipsen, President and CEO, Ellucian. "Lewis has a clear vision for broadening its reach, serving learners at every stage of their educational journey, and pursuing new opportunities that strengthen its mission. With Ellucian Student, including HCM and Finance, Lewis is combining its bold vision with AI built on decades of higher education expertise — providing the insight and automation the university needs to adapt with confidence and prioritize student success in every decision."

A Foundation for Strategic Growth

"Project Tailwind gives us the foundation to execute our strategic vision with greater agility and confidence," said Michael Rading, Chief Information Officer, Lewis University. "Ellucian Student connects the systems, data, and processes that support our students, faculty, and staff, allowing us to move faster, make more informed decisions, and continue expanding opportunities for the diverse learners we serve. That's how we'll continue delivering on our mission while preparing Lewis University for the future."

Building a More Agile Institution

Lewis University's digital transformation will:

- Build a connected AI-native platform across Student, HCM, and Finance.
- Strengthen reporting and analytics with real-time institutional insight.
- Streamline routine administrative processes through intelligent automation, giving faculty and staff more time to engage directly with students.
- Increase institutional agility to support strategic growth, new partnerships, and an expanding population of traditional, online, workforce, and lifelong learners.

To learn more about Ellucian Student, visit: <https://www.ellucian.com/products/student>

Music Faculty, Erik Skov and Wesley Morgan Get Air Time

Chicagoland's WDCB 90.9 FM recently spotlighted "Magnetic Mirror," the original jazz album recorded by Lewis Music Department's own Wesley Morgan and Erik Skov. The station praised the quartet's tight chemistry, standout writing, and the fresh sound they've built together. Congratulations to Wesley and Erik.

"Degrees of Freedom: The Second Chance Classroom" Podcast

Do you love a good podcast? "Degrees of Freedom: The Second Chance Classroom" is a 20-minute podcast hosted by Lewis University faculty members, Mallory Havens and Vesna Markovic, focusing on prison reform, the human costs of incarceration, and the transformative power of education.

MALLORY

VESNA

DEGREES OF FREEDOM

THE SECOND CHANCE CLASSROOM
PODCAST

*Real Conversations.
Real People.
Real Second Chances.*

We talk with students, educators, and changemakers about education, reentry, and the power of opportunity to transform lives.

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EDUCATION | SECOND CHANCES | STRONGER COMMUNITIES

Student Internship Spotlight: Christian Bivian at Deloitte

Christian Bivian (pictured below), a third-year Accounting major at Lewis, spent his second

consecutive summer gaining professional experience with Deloitte in Chicago, one of the Big Four accounting firms.

As a Discovery II Audit & Assurance Intern, Christian was aligned with Deloitte's Financial Services Industry, specifically Real Estate, where he contributed to a major client engagement. His experience included supporting financial statement tie-outs, audit planning and risk assessment, client walkthroughs, internal control testing, and engagement documentation while working alongside professionals across the firm.

For Christian, the experience has gone beyond developing technical accounting and audit skills. One of his biggest takeaways has been the importance of networking and building meaningful professional relationships.

"I was able to learn a lot from Deloitte professionals, make meaningful connections within the firm, and be a part of a wonderful Audit engagement team."

Christian's hard work has also opened the door to his next opportunity: he has accepted a return offer to join Deloitte as an Audit & Assurance Intern in the Chicago office for Summer 2027!

After completing Discovery I in Summer 2025 and Discovery II in Summer 2026, Christian will now continue building on his experience with Deloitte for a third summer.

Congratulations, Christian, on an outstanding internship experience and this exciting next step! We look forward to seeing where your continued growth takes you.



Scenes from September's Open Mic Night at Embers



Pet Blessing Held October 5

On Monday, October 5, members of the Lewis community were invited to bring their beloved pets to campus for a blessing in honor of the feast day of St. Francis of Assisi on October 4. **Jet (pictured below in center)**, Lewis' comfort canine, was in attendance, along with other animal friends, for a blessing by Lewis chaplain, **Father Paul Novak, OSM**.



VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Veterans Day will be here soon and Lewis University's Office of Military Affairs has some wonderful volunteer opportunities for alumni.

Lewis University & Packages4Patriots Fall Care Package Drive

Join Lewis University now through November 16th as we team up with **Packages4Patriots** to send care packages, comfort items, and encouragement to military personnel stationed in harm's way overseas. The Office of Military affairs will have collection boxes stationed at:

- LRC - ground floor lobby, 1st floor library, 3rd floor lounge
- Harold E. White Aviation Center
- Field House - main entrance
- Gaffney Student Center - 1st floor main entrance
- Charlie's Place
- St. Charles Borromeo Center - front entrance near Convocation Hall

Stop by the Office of Military Affairs on the 3rd floor of the LRC to write a letter of encouragement (optional) when you drop off your donations. The following **"top shelf"** items are requested: packaged Life Savers, mints, gum, travel sized high-performance deodorant, body wash, 2-in-1 shampoo, toothbrushes, toothpaste, dental floss, lip balm (Chap Stick, Carmex), Gatorade and Liquid IV singles packets.

Lewis Romeoville Campus Disc Golf Course Clean-Up

The Office of Military Affairs is looking for volunteers to assist with a clean-up of the Disc Golf Course on the Romeoville Campus. The course has become very overgrown and needs some pruning and sprucing up.

Saturday, November 7, 2026

12 p.m. to 3 p.m.

Meet at Parking Lot S behind Benilde Hall

Please dress in comfortable work clothes with closed toe boots or hiking shoes and bring gloves. Water and any necessary clean-up tools will be provided. Questions? Please email Scott Inskeep at sinskeep@lewisu.edu.

Lewis University Poverty Simulation

The Lewis University nursing students, in partnership with the Northern Illinois Food Bank, are hosting a Poverty Simulation event on Wednesday, November 18th from 11:00a-1:00p in the University Dining Room in the Academic Sciences building. This event is an opportunity for students, faculty, staff, and the greater community to gain awareness, understanding, and a chance to step into the shoes of families facing economic hardship and the real-life challenges so many face. Come and be a part of this enriching simulation and leave with knowledge and tools to equip you to support our communities. Sign up today using the QR code on the attached flyer. Please reach out to Christina Jeslis at cjeslis@lewisu.edu with any questions.

Call for Advisory Board Members

Lewis Department of Engineering, Computing and Mathematical Sciences

Lewis University's Department of Engineering, Computing and Mathematical Sciences (ECaMS) invites industry and community leaders to join its Advisory Board and help strengthen the connection between education, industry, and the evolving needs of the workforce.

WHY SERVE?

- Help ensure ECAMS programs remain responsive to industry and workforce needs.
- Provide perspective on emerging technologies, skills, and professional practices.
- Strengthen connections among students, faculty, employers, alumni, and the community.
- Support internships, projects, career pathways, outreach, and industry engagement.
- Help prepare the next generation of engineers, computing and data professionals, mathematicians, and technical leaders.

WHO ARE WE SEEKING?

- Engineering and technology professionals
- Computing, cybersecurity, AI, data, and IT leaders
- Mathematics, statistics, and analytics professionals
- Employers and industry partners
- Alumni and community leaders
- Professionals who value applied learning, innovation, and student success

ECAMS PROGRAM AREAS

- Computer Science
- Electrical Engineering
- Computer Engineering
- Cybersecurity Artificial Intelligence
- Data Science
- Information Systems / IT
- Mathematics

A PRACTICAL COMMITMENT • A MEANINGFUL IMPACT

Advisory Board members provide strategic input, participate in periodic meetings and activities, and engage with ECAMS in ways that align with their interests and availability.

UPCOMING ADVISORY BOARD MEETING

December 4, 2026, 12 PM – 1:30 PM.
Join us in-person or virtually.
Lewis University, Romeoville, IL.

INTERESTED IN JOINING US?

Contact: Gina Martinez, Chair, Department of Engineering, Computing and Mathematical Sciences at martingi@lewisu.edu.



LEWIS UNIVERSITY POVERTY SIMULATION

HOSTED BY THE LEWIS UNIVERSITY NURSING PROGRAM
AND THE NORTHERN ILLINOIS FOOD BANK

*Step into the shoes of families facing economic hardship
and gain a deeper understanding of the challenges
so many in our community experience.*



Wednesday, November 18, 2026



11 AM – 1 PM



Lewis University Dining Room

AS 104C

One University Parkway, Romeoville, IL 60446



**SCAN THE QR CODE
TO REGISTER**



**BUILD A STRONGER COMMUNITY
THROUGH A GREATER UNDERSTANDING**

Upcoming Events

October 10 – Women's & Men's Soccer vs. Missouri S & T
Women's Game: 3 p.m. | Men's Game: 5:30 p.m.
Cornerstone Award | Alumni Night

October 14: Women's & Men's Soccer vs. University of Illinois Springfield
Women's Game: 5 p.m. | Men's Game: 7:30 p.m.
Fly As One | Fairmont School Night Game

October 22: Flyer Fan Fest: 7 p.m.

October 24: Women's & Men's Soccer vs. Upper Iowa
Women's Game: 12 p.m. | Men's Game: 2:30 p.m.
Senior Day

October 30: Women's Volleyball vs. Rockhurst at 6 p.m.
Youth Night

October 31: Women's Volleyball vs. William Jewell at 3 p.m.
Senior Day

ALUMNI NEWS

Alumni Spotlight

**Andrew Sampson '23 (MBA), CTO and COO of Our Circle
(pictured with his family)**

"I'm a cofounder and the CTO and COO of Our Circle, an Illinois-based 501(c)(3) nonprofit helping families raising children with autism, disabilities, and other support needs find friendship and community nearby.

As of October 2026, more than 5,000 families across all 50 states have joined the platform. Our family's experience and the work behind it have also been featured on WGN and in the Pueblo Star Journal.

I've brought my technology and business background together to build the app and help lead the organization's operations. Our goal is to make it easier for families to find others who understand their day-to-day lives and build genuine friendships."



**To learn more about Our Circle, [CLICK HERE](#).
Three Lewis Alumni Present 'Local History in the National Context'**

On Thursday, October 8, three Lewis University history alumni, **Richard Joyce '73 '83, Lindsey Minas '25, and Henry**

Gilson '26 presented, "Local History in the National Context, a free event that was part of the William Storie and Family Endowed Lecture Series.

"This is an excellent chance to hear active research. Joyce will present on the history of nearby Coal City. Minas has worked in the field of 'freedom seekers' and the Underground Railroad in Lockport. Gilson will examine the Historic Preservation movement, using Lockport as a case study. All of these are local themes, but have implications for the nation," said Dr. Dennis H. Cremin, History Department Chair.



The event also celebrated alumnus, **Bill Storie '69 (pictured above)**, who passed away on June 26, 2026. Bill's passion for history partially lives on through the William Storie ('69) and Family Endowed Lecture Series.

Flyer Men's Volleyball alumnus, **David Kelnhofer '09 '10** hosted ten fellow MVB alumni (pictured below) at his home in Wisconsin on August 22 for a day on the lake and to watch some volleyball.



Congratulations to alumna, **Hayley Boyd**

'22 (pictured at right), who was recently married to David Kapusciarz. Many fellow WLRA alumni were in attendance, including former General Managers, **Ashley Bihun '19** and **Mary Golden '21**.

Alumnus, **Adam Parker '16** was invited to sing the National Anthem at a September White Sox game! To see video of Adam's singing, please [CLICK HERE](#).

Congratulations to **Aaron Allred '25** who was married recently. Aaron's Lewis Biology friends, including **Alyssa Mansur**, **Brianna Calvillo**, **John Zakhari**, **Allysa Rull**, and **Ana Botros** (all pictured below) were in attendance to celebrate.

Congratulations to **Kandace Garcia '24** who recently was engaged to be married! Kandace attended the recent Open Mic Night at Embers.



An art exhibit, "My Town, My Country," by alumnus, **Bill Bartelt '70** is currently on display at the Wadsworth Family Gallery on Lewis' Romeoville campus until October 22. Bill Bartelt grew up in Joliet, the son of a farm dealer, in the days when it was still both a "cow town" and a "railroad town." The fascination for both has never left him. During a Chicago career in show business, Bill painted the rails, bridges, and water tanks that he first loved as a kid. Travels around the countryside kept him close to his rural roots, and the hills, forests and rivers have kept him sustained and inspired. One of his pieces is pictured below.



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.

FreeWill—Peace of Mind Begins with a Plan



With **FreeWill**, you can create your will in just minutes—at no cost—and gain peace of mind knowing your wishes are clearly in place. It's simple, secure, and one more way to care for the people and causes you love, like Lewis University.

This fall, take a moment to plan ahead and cross this "to do" off the list. Because a little planning today can provide a lot of peace tomorrow. [CLICK HERE](#) to learn more.

Flyers
ANNUAL FUND

HAVE YOU HEARD ABOUT THE FLYERS ANNUAL FUND?

Every student success story at Lewis begins with a community that believes in their future. Support of the **Flyers Annual Fund** strengthens scholarships, academic excellence, and hands-on learning experiences that help students thrive. Together, we continue a tradition of generosity that changes lives and advances the Lewis Mission for generations to come.

If you're deciding to give to Lewis for the first time, we ask you to consider the Flyers Annual Fund as a way of directing your generosity toward the Lewis student or program with the highest priority need. If you have a specific Lewis area you traditionally support annually, maybe you'd consider giving a portion of your total gift to the Flyers Annual Fund.

No matter how you give to Lewis University, our students are the direct beneficiaries of your generosity, and we **THANK YOU**.

Learn more about the Flyers Annual Fund by [CLICKING HERE](#).

Questions? Contact Megan Lewis at 815-836-5244 or mlewis12@lewisu.edu.

Support the Flyers Annual Fund

Questions about anything you read in this month's *Jet-setter*?
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