



Alumni and Friends:

Autumn has officially arrived, filling our campus with vibrant colors and energy as we quickly approach the halfway point of the fall semester. In this month's newsletter, we're excited to share upcoming events, campus highlights, and ways for you to stay connected with Lewis!

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 unique impact of those who have chosen to teach at Lewis University and those who have graduated from Lewis and are using their talents in education (including retired teachers as well). 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 Resort for an open bar, a full dinner with reserved seating, an 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**. There will even be a special gift for each Lasallian educator who attends. Throughout the evening, we will be shining a spotlight on individual educators. If you are an educator and a Lewis alum, and would like to be highlighted on the big screen, please fill out the survey [HERE](#). You can also celebrate an educator who has made a lasting impact on your life by purchasing an **Educator Tribute Ad** in our program booklet. The cost of an ad is \$100 and all proceeds benefit the Mission Fund. To learn more or purchase an ad, click [HERE](#). Don't miss out! [CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#).

UPCOMING EVENTS



College of Aviation, Science, and Technology Guest Lecture: Dr. Venkat Srinivasan - Thursday, October 2, 2025: Lewis University's CoAST welcomes Dr. Venkat Srinivasan of Argonne National Laboratory to campus to discuss recent advances in energy storage technologies. Dr. Srinivasan coordinates energy storage activities at Argonne, and fosters collaborations between National Laboratories, industry, and academia, to translate lab innovations into market impact. To register, please [CLICK HERE](#).



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. To register, please [CLICK HERE](#).



Lewis Crossover – Saturday, October 11, 2025: Calling all Cross Country alumni and Flyer fans! Join us as we cheer on our Cross Country men and women, enjoy refreshments at our alumni tent, and catch up with fellow Flyers. To register, please [CLICK HERE](#).



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. To learn more and register, please [CLICK HERE](#).



Women's Soccer Alumnae Game & Cornerstone Award Presentation – Friday, October 17, 2025: Join us in the alumnae tent with free food and drink as the team takes on Drury! At halftime, we will present the Cornerstone Award. To register, please [CLICK HERE](#).



Men's Soccer Alumnae Game – Sunday, October 19, 2025: Join your fellow Men's Soccer alumni in the alumni tent as you cheer on the Flyers as they take on University of Missouri - St. Louis. To register, please [CLICK HERE](#).



Fall Sczepaniak 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. To register, please [CLICK HERE](#).



Reverend Kevin J. Spiess Endowed Lecture – Thursday, November 6, 2025: Join us for a two-part event that focuses on the ethical challenges of integrating AI and business, **featuring Lewis alumnus and Chief AI Engineer at Pricewaterhouse Coopers (PwC), Scott Likens '96**. Part one will be a lecture and Q & A session at our Romeoville campus. Part two will be a Panel Discussion at our Oak Brook campus. To register, please [CLICK HERE](#).



Women's Volleyball Alumnae Weekend – Friday and Saturday, November 14 & 15, 2025: Join us for a weekend of fun as we cheer on the Flyers on Friday as they take on Drury University and Saturday as they battle Southwest Baptist University! There will be food and drink in the Seiler Room during both games for all alumnae. Come and re-connect with old WVB teammates and make some new friends. To register, please [CLICK HERE](#).

Office of Lasallian Belonging Upcoming Events

The Office of Lasallian Belonging invites you to a powerful series of events this fall and beyond—highlighting stories, scholarship, and social justice. 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](#).



Save the Date:
Tuesday, March 10, 2026

TEDx, the world-renowned platform for sharing ideas worth spreading, is once again coming to Lewis University! We're looking for bold, inspiring, and thought-provoking ideas to feature at this year's event. If you're ready to take the stage and share your vision, we encourage you to apply. Proposals are due by **October 17, 2025**, and will be carefully evaluated using a structured rubric. To submit a proposal, click [HERE](#).

CAMPUS NEWS

Bryan & Mary Durkin Family Finance and Trading Lab Ribbon Cutting

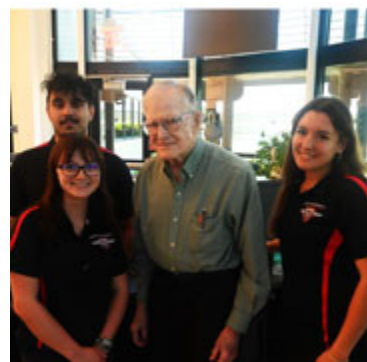
In late September, the College of Business proudly celebrated the official ribbon cutting of Lewis University's **Bryan & Mary Durkin Family Finance and Trading Lab**! This innovative lab will serve as a hub for experiential learning, equipping our students with real-world tools to navigate today's financial markets.

We extend our deepest gratitude to **Bryan '82 '93 and Mary '82 '93 Durkin** for their incredible generosity and commitment to student success. Their support has made this transformational space possible, and it will empower generations of future business leaders.



Brother Neil Kieffe, FSC Aviation Building Renovation

Last month, **Brother Neil Kieffe, FSC** was treated to a tour of the newly renovated **Brother Neil Kieffe, FSC Aviation Building** on Lewis' Romeoville campus. Brother Neil was instrumental in developing Lewis University's aviation program, teaching in the Aviation Department and serving as its director for 18 years. In recognition of his contributions, the University named its aviation building in his honor.



Mass of the Holy Spirit

On Wednesday, September 17, the Lewis University community gathered for the 9th annual Mass of the Holy Spirit during an extended community hour. This Eucharistic Celebration offered time to reflect on God's presence in our lives and to recognize His many blessings at the start of the academic year. The Mass was celebrated by Father Paul Novak, OSM, with Dr. C. Vanessa White serving as Guest Homilist, and all were welcome to attend.

MISSION & MINISTRY

All are welcome to attend Mass, which is celebrated on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays at noon, as well as on Sundays at 7 p.m., in the Sancta Alberta Chapel on the Romeoville campus.

This fall, Lewis Mission & Ministry is offering "Catholicism 101," a series for students wanting to learn more about the Catholic faith or receive the sacraments.

2025 Mission Trip to the Philippines Recap and June 2026 Trip Opportunity

From June 8 to June 22, 2025, with the support of generous donors, five students and five faculty/staff members from Lewis, traveled to Bacolod City, Philippines to build community, serve those in need, and experience a new 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 trip highlight was visiting homes built by Lewis Mission Trip participants over the past 15 years and distributing gifts collected during Mission & Ministry's Christmas Giving Tree. Before returning to the U.S., the group gifted 2000 lbs. of rice to the Gawad Kalinga Village community, enough to feed 102 families for two weeks.

If you are interested in making a gift toward the next Mission Trip to the Philippines, please [**CLICK HERE.**](#)

If you are a Lewis alumnus interested in potentially participating in the annual Mission Trip to the Philippines from June 6 to 21, 2026, please email alumni@lewisu.edu. We are currently exploring the possibility of including a limited number of alumni on this trip.



AUTUMN REFLECTIONS



October is a season of transformation—the air grows crisp, the leaves turn brilliant shades, and we naturally reflect on what matters most. Amid the bustle of mid-semester and the excitement of fall traditions, it's also the perfect moment to take care of your future. In just 20 minutes, you can create your FREE will through FreeWill—a simple, meaningful way to protect the people you love and, if you choose, leave a lasting legacy at Lewis University. Like the falling leaves making way for new growth, planning today ensures peace of mind for tomorrow. Click [**HERE**](#) to learn more.



EXPLORE GRADUATE DEGREES AT LEWIS

Lewis University's **Master's in Project Management** has acquired accreditation from the PMI Global Accreditation Center for Project Management. This honor allows us to provide our graduates with a level of prestige that makes them a preferred candidate in the Project Management industry and sets them up for greater success as the field continues to grow. **Apply now** or contact the Office of Graduate Admission at (815) 836-5610 or grad@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 mcgheeb@lewisu.edu.

ALUMNI NEWS

Congratulations to **Kylen Mills '12, John Castelli '06, and Lindsey Muth '10**, who are all working at the Big 10 Network and getting ready for the fall sports season.

Congratulations to **Larry Wiers**, who was honored with the J.D. Ross Extraordinary Service Award at the 2025 Joliet Junior College Foundation Night of Stars celebration.

FLYER FAVORITES (NEW!)

You spoke, and we've got the results. Thank you to all who participated! Here are the **top 5 summer reads** from our Flyer Faves survey:

- *Super Mentors* by Eric Koester & Adam Saven
- *The Emperor of Gladness* by Ocean Vuong
- *An Introduction to Prayer* by Bishop Robert Barron
- *The First Wave* by Alex Kershaw
- *My Name is Emilia Del Valle* by Isabel Allende

Now that the books are put away, we want to know what you're bingeing! Tell us your favorite shows, movies, or streaming obsessions. Click **HERE** to submit your latest favorites!

FLYERS ATHLETICS



From **October 6–10**, Lewis University will host Athletics Challenge Week—an exciting opportunity for alumni, parents, and friends to rally behind our student-athletes and fuel their success both on and off the field. Thanks to the generous support of our sponsor, Adler Roofing and Sheet Metal, the competition is even more exciting: the teams that place 1st, 2nd, and 3rd each day will earn special rewards. Don't miss your chance to make an impact—click [HERE](#) to participate!



ARTS & IDEAS



[HERE.](#)

Lewis University's Arts & Ideas program returns this fall with an engaging lineup of events you won't want to miss! Our first **theater production** of the academic year, ***Trouble in Mind***, will run October 3–5 & October 9–12, 2025, at the Philip Lynch Theatre. To learn more and discover the full schedule of Arts & Ideas offerings, click

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.



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