FALL 2026

PVBI *today*



Homecoming '26

+ *Alumnus of the Year, and more...*

PVBI *today*

Volume 8 | Issue 2

PVBI *today* is a quarterly publication that highlights news and current events of the Academy and College of Penn View Bible Institute.

Penn View Bible Institute's mission is "To prepare Christ-like Servant Leaders through higher education that engages spiritual transformation, academic excellence, social integrity, and practical experience, in the conservative Wesleyan-Arminian tradition to fulfill our Lord's Great Commission."

Penn View Bible Institute does not discriminate on the basis of gender, race, color, age, ethnic origin, or disability in its admission of students or its employment of faculty and staff.

Penn View Bible Institute is recognized by the U.S. and Pennsylvania Department of Education and is nationally accredited by the Association for Biblical Higher Education.

Editor Michelle Durkee

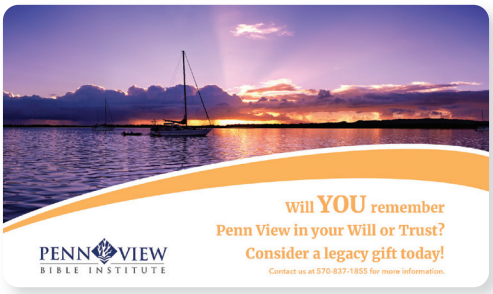
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Printing Country Pines Printing - Shoals, IN

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Giving to PVBI

Alumnus of the Year

ERIC SUSAN



On February 25, 1982, Ed and Mary welcomed a bouncing baby boy into their home. Eric Scott Susan made his entrance into the world, and life has never been quite the same! Two years later, the family grew again with the addition of his sister, Jennifer.

Eric attended Penn View Christian Academy, graduating from high school in May 2000. It was during his school years that Eric met the love of his life, Jillian Scopelliti. In 2001, Eric and Jill were married, and God blessed their union with four children: Eric Jr., Collin, Aliyah, and Blaine.

As the years passed, God began dealing with Eric's heart in a special way. When Eric fully surrendered his life to the Lord, the change was evident. A growing desire to do more for God began tugging at his heart, eventually leading him to enroll in college as an online ministerial studies major. Juggling work, his responsibilities as a husband and father, ministry, and college studies was no small feat. Eric persevered, taking it one class at a time. During this season, he also became the youth pastor at New Columbia God's Missionary Church. Eric's love and devotion to the young people entrusted to his care have been evident throughout his ministry. He has taken his responsibility to heart, striving to be a godly and positive influence in their lives. For many, his encouragement and example have helped point them toward a life of fully serving God. Eric and Jill can often be found encouraging, admonishing, and counseling those who need a listening ear, a caring heart, and Godly direction.

Eric has also served on the boards of Mount of Blessings Camp, Central Pennsylvania Youth Convention and God's Missionary Youth Camp, continuing to invest his time and abilities in ministries that seek to reach others for Christ.

In recent years, the Susan family has had several special occasions to celebrate. Eric Jr., known to most as Ricky, married Melanie Hunter in August 2024, and Collin married Abby Weyandt in March 2026. But few things could compare with the joy that arrived in September 2025, when Eric was blessed with his pride and joy–a grandson, Evan Scott Susan.

This past year also marked the completion of a goal that had required years of determination and perseverance. Eric completed his college career and graduated with a Bachelor of Arts in Ministerial Studies. Then, in July, he had the privilege of being ordained by God's Missionary Church, Inc.

From a student at Penn View Christian Academy to a husband, father, grandfather, youth pastor, college graduate, and ordained minister, Eric's journey reflects a life that has continued to answer God's call and seek opportunities to serve others.

Congratulations, Eric, on being named Penn View Bible Institute's 2026 Alumnus of the Year! We are proud of the work you are doing to further the Kingdom of God and of your commitment to living out Penn View's motto: "Training Christ-like Servant Leaders!"

Around the Campus

This summer found the Penn View campus abuzz with activity as several much-needed improvements and upgrades were completed.

Penn View Drive, which serves the student parking area and faculty housing circle, received a fresh coat of pavement. The drive around the CAC building was also refreshed with new seal coating. Both areas received newly painted lines, giving them a clean, updated appearance. Several upgrades were also completed in faculty housing, while fresh paint brightened the banquet room, café, and offices in the main school building. New lighting was installed, and the Penn View Store found a new home in the main office area.

We are so thankful for each person who gave sacrificially to make these projects possible. Your generosity helps us continue to care for and improve the campus, providing a welcoming and attractive place for our students, faculty, staff, and guests. We are grateful for God's provision through faithful friends of Penn View!





Summer PR Groups

We so appreciate the public relations groups and all they do to support the school and travel in the summer. Thousands of miles were traveled, hundreds of songs were sung, and many lives were touched. We are thankful for safety on the roads and God's presence in all of the services. Thank you Praise Singers, Heritage and Majesty for a job well done!







New Acquisition

The Lord provided a new PR van this summer for us. What a blessing it was in our time of great need. We are so thankful to those who minded God and gave for this purchase.







Summer Missions Work

Penn View Bible Institute found a way to serve this summer by taking compassionate healthcare and the hope of Christ to Cajamarca, Peru, through our Intercultural Healthcare Medical Brigade.

At Penn View, we believe in training students not only for a career, but for a calling – because this is a place "Where the Mission Still Matters." Thanks to those who prayed for our team as they ministered, served, and shared the love of Jesus through medical care and meaningful relationships!

A few of our teachers, also, were able to travel to Mexico and help teach at a summer band camp there, Campamento de Musica Cuautla. Thank you Dr. John Anthony, Mr. Nathan Packer, Mr. Michael Mason, Mrs. Crystal Mason, and Miss Julia Sickler for your musical training to these students!





Classes Begin

On August 20, the Academy officially began classes, followed by the start of College classes on August 25. There was so much excitement in the halls as we began this new school year! We are especially grateful to report that the College has welcomed its highest enrollment in the past 20 years. God has truly blessed us with a wonderful group of students, and we are thankful for each one of them. We pray for a great year filled with growth, learning, and many blessings for all!



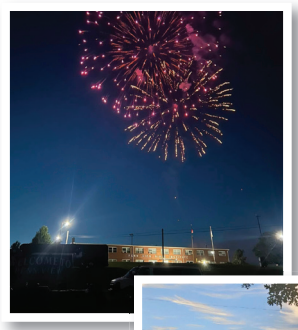






Back-to-School Rally

What an exceptional Back To School Rally we had on the Penn View campus. The crowd was incredible, the food was delicious, the music was fantastic, and the fireworks were spectacular! We were also happy that Snyder county commissioners and our PA State Representative could be in attendance. God is doing amazing things at Penn View. Thank you to the area businesses, churches, and individuals who gave and supported the event to make it possible for our community. Most of all, we want to thank God for His blessings and presence as we continue to invest in the lives of young people to build His Kingdom!!







Central PA IHC

God really helped in the Central Pennsylvania Area IHC. Ministerial students from the school preached, public relation groups sang, and our Ministry to Children and Education Departments took care of the children's services each night. We are glad that our faculty, staff, and students are willing to be used in all types of ministry opportunities. We are grateful to Rev. Hurst, Rev. Whitaker, and the Castles for their fantastic ministry.







9/11 Rememberance

On the 25th anniversary of that very fateful day, some of our students and faculty & staff gathered early in the morning at the base of the outside school stairs to remember those who lost their lives that day. Names of the EMS providers were read aloud, followed by a time of prayer, and then several climbed the stairs, some in full turnout gear. Later during the chapel service, the entire student body had the opportunity to pause, honor, and remember the events of 9/11. We must never forget. May we remember, honor, and pray!









Fall Picnic

The fall school picnic on Durkee Field was a beautiful, refreshing day. Kickball and softball games brought together everyone from elementary, middle school, high school, and college to faculty and staff and even "old codgers" to join in the fun. There was something for everyone, including a bounce house, hayrides, basketball and plenty of food stands. It was perfect temperatures, great fellowship, and lots of smiles, it was a fun-filled day for all!









School Revival

We are so thankful for how God met with us during our Fall School Revival. The ministry of Rev. Frank Heidler was outstanding and exactly what our student body, from K-5 through college, needed. Day after day, the altars were lined with students, faculty, and staff seeking to get right with God, recommit their lives to Him, and draw closer to the Lord.

The singing ministry of Blake & Lauren Cassady was also tremendous and truly Spirit-led, preparing hearts, and adding so much to each service.

God's presence was evident and we are incredibly grateful for all He did in the hearts and lives of our campus family.







Grandparents Day

It was great to have a full house on Grandparents Day. They were representing at least seven states - with the farthest visitors traveling all the way from the state of Washington. The grandparents experienced a day in the life of their grandchild. The special chapel was fantastic as academy bands and choirs sang and Student Council performed a fun skit. Following lunch, the grandparents were able to take their grandchildren home and spend the rest of the day with them. Thanks to all who attended this event!







Constitution Chapel

In this chapel service, our students gathered to celebrate and honor what the constitution means to our country. Pledges to the American flag, Christian flag, and Bible were pledged. Students were given an admonishment to remember, guard, and pass on the heritage we have received as Americans and Christians. May God bless America!!





See You at the Pole

The entire student body, gathered around their respective flag poles to lift up our nation in prayer. It was a special moment as students prayed for specific divisions of government and prayed for our nation. We thank God for all He has done, all He is doing, and all He is going to do!









Teacher's Convention

Our academy teachers were able to attend KCEA Teacher's Convention in Lancaster, PA. What's exciting about this event is that even some of our college Education majors are also able to attend. This allows them to learn alongside experienced educators as they prepare for their own future classrooms. We are thankful that our teachers get these kind of opportunities to be refreshed, encouraged and better equipped for the important job of teaching. Thank you teachers for all you do and for the countless ways that you invest in our students!!







Ministerial Happenings

Once again, Ministerial Division Chairman, Rev. Keith Bunch, and several of our ministerial students had the opportunity to attend the Future Pastors Conference & School of the Prophets in Pell City, AL. This special event provides a valuable time for our students to grow spiritually, professionally, and personally as they prepare for a life of ministry. While traveling, the students also had the opportunity to stop and minister in churches on Sunday. Of course, serving in local churches is nothing new for our ministerial majors. Throughout the school year, they are regularly called upon to fill in, minister, and be a blessing to congregations throughout our area. We are grateful for every church that opens its doors to our students and gives them opportunities to serve, gain valuable experience, and use the gifts God has given them.

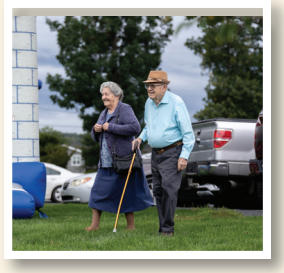


Homecoming

PVBI Homecoming 2026 was a wonderful celebration! It was a joy to welcome back alumni from the classes of 1976,1986,1996, 2001, 2006, & 2016 for a special day of reconnecting, reminiscing, and celebrating all that God has done at PVBI. Alumni and former faculty enjoyed touring the campus, renewing old friendships, attending chapel, and spending time together at the outdoor festival. The day concluded with plenty of fun and fellowship as many gathered for softball under the lights! Congratulations to our 2026 Alumnus of the Year, Rev. Eric Susan! This recognition is well deserved, and we are grateful for his continued faithfulness and dedication as he labors for the Master. Thank you to everyone who helped make Homecoming 2026 such a memorable occasion. Mark your calendars and make plans now to join us for Homecoming 2027. We look forward to welcoming you home again!!







ALUMNI NEWS

Births

Pollyanna Claire born to
Jeremy & Rebekah (Snyder) Reese
May 16, 2026



Safera Zendaya born to
Justin & Brooke Steen
May 25, 2026



Bryce Montgomery born to
Caleb & Marie (Spangler) Black
June 9, 2026



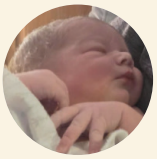
Sutton Mae born to
John & Kayleen (Martzall) Gordon
June 10, 2026



Beckett Tate born to
Craig & MaKayla Davis
June 10, 2026



Curtis Eugene born to
Charles & JoyAnna (Montgomery) Dodd
June 13, 2026



Ember Lou born to
Austin & Luanna Tolley
June 13, 2026



Kent Boone born to
Hunter & Mercy (Barnard) Anderson
June 13, 2026



Navy Amaya born to
Noah & Dena (Ivankina) Erdley
June 20, 2026



Owen Anthony born to
Allen & Brittany (Anderson) Stump
July 13, 2026



Taylee Mae born to
Trenton & Toni (Fultz) Reiff
July 13, 2026



Theodore Reed born to
Davey & Regina (Dicken) Ethell
July 13, 2026



Annistyn Marie born to
Nathanael & McKendra Stoltzfus
July 16, 2026



Elise Colette born to
Tyrel & Holly Wilson
July 17, 2026



Asher Allen born to
Joel & Janessa (Arnold) Kauffman
July 27, 2026



Imena Marianna born to
Erick & Gabriella (Keister) Vazquez
July 28, 2026



Dallas Luke born to
Luke & Serena (Sickler) Yarrison
August 7, 2026



Auria born to
Brenden & Joy (McIntosh) Paulus
August 17, 2026



Diego James born to
Daren & Cristina (Contreras) Fisher
August 24, 2026



Ruby Jane born to
Quint & Hannah (Kline) Shockley
September 2, 2026



Leah Belle born to
Austin & Emily (Edwards) Stump
September 8, 2026



Truman Michael born to
Paul & Meghan Ryan
September 9, 2026



Lamar Alexander born to
Aaron & Mari (Cervantes) Gillett
September 24, 2026

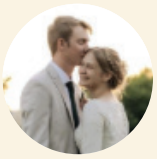


Reed Emerson born to Dominic &
Gabriela (Rodriguez) Gattone
October 1, 2026



Weddings

Desmond & Kristen (Walter) Damon
June 5, 2026



Blake & Lauren (Bender) Cassady
June 13, 2026



Seth & Esther Regan
June 27, 2026



Josiah & Makala (Weaver) Wilson
July 18, 2026



Jeffery & Emmaus (Roberts) Self
August 8, 2026



Jacob & Malachi (Jones) Oare
September 5, 2026



Justin & Kaitlynn Ellison
October 3, 2026



Deaths

Dolly Ann (Wolfgang) Straight
Shamokin, PA
June 4, 2026



Bonnie (Weidman) Schenck
Shamokin Dam, PA
September 10, 2026



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