

## Bridgewater exhibit puts peacemakers' zeal on display



Monique Calelo, mcalelo@newsleader.com 12:03 p.m. EDT October 12, 2016



(Photo: Courtesy of Bridgewater College Special Collections)

BRIDGEWATER – The exhibit “Seek Peace and Pursue It,” showcasing nine noted peacemakers, opens at the Alexander Mack Memorial Library at Bridgewater College on Oct. 22.

The exhibition centers on peacemakers whose papers and artifacts are in the Bridgewater College Special Collections and Reuel B. Pritchett Museum Collection. Bridgewater seniors Charlotte McIntyre and Allegra Morrison and special collections librarian Stephanie S. Gardner curated the exhibition.

“A number of humanitarian agencies sent materials for the exhibition, and we have had excellent collaboration with Bridgewater College faculty and students, who told us what ‘Seek Peace’ means to them,” says Gardner. “In addition to honoring nine inspiring historic peacemakers, we will explore how their legacy is being carried

out in the present day.”



Archive photograph taken in the early 20th century of Church of the Brethren missionary Nettie M. Senger sitting on the steps with children in China. (Photo: Courtesy of Reuel B. Pritchett Museum Collection)

Individuals honored in the exhibit include:

1. Former Bridgewater College president and peace advocate Paul H. Bowman
2. Local Civil War evangelist John Kline
3. Peace Corps volunteer Lula A. Miller
4. Author and teacher Anna B. Mow
5. Founder of the Brethren Alexander Mack Sr.
6. Brethren ambassador W. Harold Row
7. Missionary to China Nettie M. Senger
8. Humanitarian Naomi Miller West
9. Nobel Peace Prize nominee M. Robert Zigler

“The individuals featured in the exhibit all prove that one person can make a big difference in the world,” says Gardner.

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“I feel connected to missionary Nettie M. Senger and Peace Corps volunteer Lula A. Miller because they were hardworking single women who braved new environments to share their gifts and learn from other cultures. Nettie Senger went to China as a young woman and Lula Miller went to Nepal when she was a retiree. Both of these women were talented educators and pioneers in their fields.”

The exhibition features displays of documents and artifacts from the lives of these peacemakers, including materials from Kline, artifacts that Miller collected in Tibet, Senger’s Chinese collection and some of Row’s Russian icons.

*In celebration is not a lonely thing,  
It exists in the lives of those who share,  
Perhaps as a parade.*



Homecoming parade at Bridgewater College, 1972. (Photo: Courtesy of Bridgewater College Special Collections)

"Dr. Paul H. Bowman also inspires me," says Gardner. "He wasn't afraid to speak up for peace and faith in a world that was ready for war. His accomplishments as Bridgewater College president, a church leader, a scholar, a civic leader, a businessman and a farmer are amazing."



Dr. Paul H. Bowman, president of Bridgewater College (1919-1946). (Photo: Courtesy of Bridgewater College Special Collections)

Also central to the exhibit are guest writings by Bridgewater College students, Stephen L. Longenecker, the Edwin L. Turner distinguished professor of history and Dale Ulrich, provost and professor of physics emeritus.

"Although they have all passed on, it has been an honor to get to know them while working with their materials in Bridgewater College Special Collections and the Reuel B. Pritchett Museum Collection," shares Gardner.

#### **IF YOU GO!**

**What** "Seek Peace and Pursue It" exhibition

**When** Oct. 22 through Dec. 9

**Where** Alexander Mack Memorial Library, Bridgewater College, 402 E. College St., Bridgewater

**Cost** Admission is free and open to the public.

**More info** (540) 828-8018

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