



*Congrats,
Graduates!*

Class of 2020



Andrew London will be graduating from HB Woodlawn. Andrew has had a great experience at HB, and was captain of the varsity ultimate frisbee team, a member of the National Honor Society, and an actor in the school's musicals, starring as Danny Zuko in *Grease*. He has also been extremely active in the music department playing the trombone in the concert and jazz band, as well as singing as a member of HB Woodlawn's Chamber Singers. Outside of the choral department at school Andrew has been a member of the All-Virginia Choir and All-Virginia Senior Honor Choir, as well as multiple All-District choirs. Andrew would like to thank the children's music programs at CUMC for developing his passion for music at a young age. He has been singing under the direction of Lisa Gibbs-Smith since he was 3 years old, and cannot thank her enough for her

endless support. In the fall Andrew will be attending the University of Virginia, currently undecided on a field of study.

Audrey Smith is graduating from H-B Woodlawn Secondary Program and will be attending Indiana University Jacobs School of Music in the fall. She was active in her school's chorus, band, and visual arts programs, and will miss making music and art with her friends and classmates. Outside of school, Audrey played french horn in various youth orchestras and chamber ensembles, like the American Youth Philharmonic and Brass of Peace, and had the honor of participating in the All-Virginia Concert and Symphonic Bands. She's been part of CUMC's community her whole life, singing and ringing for about fifteen years. While she is a bit sad about the unconventional nature of graduation, prom, and other senior traditions, Audrey is thankful for all of the people who helped get her where she is now, and is hopeful and excited for the future.



Austin Bannach will be graduating from Washington Liberty High School and will be attending Northern Virginia Community College in the fall. He was on the diving team for 4 years at W-L. He has been a member of CUMC his entire life and joined the choir when he was four years old. He has enjoyed CUMC's youth group throughout his time at church and was the youth representative on church council for a year. He has been on mission trips to Ohio, Southern Virginia and most recently Honduras. He would like to thank Ms. Lisa for teaching him more about music each week of choir and Denny for helping guide him through his Christian ministry. He also would like to thank his grandmother, Mary Dodson and his honorary grandmother, Jean Cook for shaping him into who he is today.

Bree Meyer is part of the inaugural class of Arlington Tech high school. She played varsity field hockey and threw shot-put for winter and spring track for Washington-Liberty high school. Throughout her high school career she was the founder of the Arlington Tech student government and Garden Club, in addition she participated in the first National Honor Society chapter at the Career Center. Since sophomore year she has worked at Bakeshop in Clarendon. Her favorite church memories include going on the confirmation retreat, running in the Bunny Hop, and crocheting in the pews. In the fall Bree will be attending Clemson University where she plans to study engineering.



Dorothy Grotos is graduating from Washington-Liberty High School this year. Throughout high school, she was involved in a variety of activities: field hockey, ultimate frisbee, rec soccer, DECA, Native American Outreach Club, Action Team, Best Buddies, Key Club, and Younglife. Dorothy also played violin in the school orchestra for three years and has been taking piano lessons for nine years. She will miss being a part of both the Youth Choir and Wesley Ringers and is very thankful for all of the rehearsals, performances, and people that she has been able to meet and grow with. Dorothy will be attending James Madison University next year and plans on majoring in Health Sciences and participating in the Pre-Pharmacy program. As Dorothy moves onto her next journey in life, attending James Madison University, she knows that she will always have her relationship with God, love for music, and countless memories from childhood.

Emma Watson will be graduating from Yorktown High School. During her time at Yorktown Emma acted in three Main Stage productions and various in class shows. At the end of her junior year she accumulated enough show hours and was inducted into the International Thespian Society. Emma was baptized and confirmed at CUMC. Emma has been an active member in the CUMC youth group and joined the youth choir her senior year. While at CUMC Emma went on various mission trips with the youth group, including the recent trip to Honduras. In the fall Emma will be attending the University of Mary Washington in pursuit of a degree in elementary education.





Kalki Ausink is graduating from Washington-Liberty High school as a valedictorian. She completed the full International Baccalaureate (IB) program and will be attending the University of Virginia in the fall, with plans to major in Psychology on a pre-law track. Kalki has been a soccer goalie since elementary school and hopes to play club at UVA.

Rajan Dudani will be graduating from Wakefield High School and will be attending Pennsylvania State University for a Bachelor's in Nuclear Engineering. At Wakefield, he participated in NHS, was on the Robotics team, and tutored many students in writing. He practiced and taught members of his athletics club, Nova Fencing, in Fencing and earned his Eagle Scout from the BSA. Rajan has been on many mission trips through CUMC, from helping locally to assisting people far away. Though he joined CUMC in his third grade, he has loved his time in this community and is grateful to everyone around him. He would like to thank Denny for teaching him how to not only be a good Christian, but also how to be a good man. He also thanks Pastor Tracy, for her sermons, advice, and personality in the youth group. Finally, he thanks all of the youth group leaders, such as Ms. Lisa and Nilse, for taking him on wonderful adventures and showing him that church isn't just about God and the Bible, but also the wonderful and supportive community that is there for him and his family whenever needed.



Rebecca Stewart is graduating from Washington-Liberty High School and will be attending The University of Chicago next year to study biology/neuroscience and run track. She was a member of the varsity field hockey, track, and lacrosse teams throughout high school. At WL, she also participated in the Best Buddies Club, Connect Mentoring program, and National Honor Society. Rebecca was baptized and confirmed at CUMC and is a member of the bell choir and youth group. During her time at the church, she has had the opportunity to participate in local and international missions, including traveling to Honduras with the youth group. Rebecca is very grateful to the CUMC community and especially Ms. Lisa for helping shape her faith.

“My name is **Tarikua Lunger**. I came to America when I was 7 years old, and this year I will graduate from Yorktown High School. Some things about me. I am Ethiopian. I love friends, art, photography, music (I play drums in my school band), dance, make up and biking. During high school, I played varsity volleyball and basketball for Virginia School for the Deaf and Blind. At Yorktown High School, I participated in Sister Circle, Best Buddies, Unified Basketball and Unified Sound. I attended Young Life Capernaum and Keen Zumba. I have attended Camp Highroad in the general camp and choral camp for the last several summers. Next year I will continue my education as a post-graduate student in the PEP Program at Arlington Career Center. As a Person of Color and a student with a disability, I believe in equal rights for all people. This Spring I was interviewed by Good Morning America as part of the Yorktown Class of 2020:Not Forgotten photo project by photographer Matt Mendelson. I was photographed in my Best Buddies “Inclusion” t-shirt, and enjoyed sharing my belief that given opportunities and the right accommodations, everyone is equal.”

