The Lynden LINK

April 24, 2022 Volume 20, Issue 5

Cornerstone Christian School

~ Chairman Report ~

Spring Fever is here! I hope you all enjoyed a wonderful Spring break and were able to get in some good family time whether that meant a staycation or perhaps traveling. Hope everyone had a wonderful Good Friday & Easter celebration as we could commemorate the death and resurrection of our Lord and Savior.

The halls of the school were definitely decked out for spirit week to welcome everyone back from spring break. Well done Stamp team!! This is the time of year when many start to think of the end of the school year. Summer is so close they can almost taste it. High school seniors aren't the only ones who experience the symptoms of senioritis, but so do most teachers, students and parents as things can get busy and sometimes overwhelming. Everyone's todo list seems a mile long. Spring sports, grad presentation, speech contest, Grandparents Day, Sports Day, field trips to list a few. There are final tests and essays to be prepared, grades and evaluations to be made. This is the time of year when many students may want to shut down and dial back their efforts. Teachers and parents can get overwhelmed, tired and begin counting the days toward Summer break. I encourage you all to help our students finish the year strong and make the best of these last 7 weeks. Let's raise responsible learners who don't quit despite distractions. How can we do that as parents and teachers?

I've often heard people refer to someone as "their rock" who was always there. That person shows up for them! They are there for the difficult and sad times, but also in times of joy and celebration. They can count on them. How much more is the Lord our rock! Not only does he do all those things, but he is our salvation. Christ came and hung on the cross and died, and rose again so that we might live! If he has conguered death on our behalf, we can rest assured that He will always be there to walk alongside us through the trials and joys of our lives. So during this season of Spring I encourage you all to renew your walk with Christ and draw closer to Him. Spending time in God's word and also in prayer allows us to align our hearts with His and live in a way that is honorable to Him. What a blessing to be able to foster these God centered activities and thinking within our curriculum and daily activities to our covenant youth in their daily instruction in a distinctively Reformed school.

The board is busy with staffing for next year. We are thankful that most of the staff will be returning for the next school year with the exception of Mackenzie Kanis and Sarah Beintema. Both ladies hope to spend more time with family next school year. Thankfully Jolene Kingma is willing to stay on next school year and take over Mackenzie's role. We are still in the recruitment phase for Sarah's Paraeducator position. The biggest uncertainty at this time is the Visa process for Nathan Kok. The wheels of government agencies continue at a snail's pace. This is very frustrating as tasks that are needed to actually file for the PERM visa are still not complete. We are waiting on our wage determination from the Department of Labor. We are currently running ads in the local paper, concurrently with the wage determination, in hopes of gaining back some valuable time. We hope once these two items are complete we can actually file for the PERM visa. We have



Inside this issue

Chairman Report	1
Ed Comm Report	2
IT Report	2
Principal Report	.3
Ladies Aid Report	.5
From the Classroom	.6
Calendar	.8
Directory	.8

Upcoming Dates

May 5—Public Speaking Contest
May 12— Grandparents Day
May 13—PD Day
May 26—Ascension Day
May 27—Sports Day
May 30—Memorial Day
June 3—8th Grade Grad
June 10—Sr. Graduation

filed a second time for the H1B lottery visa. We hope to hear more in the coming weeks if Nathan is selected via this process. We ask that you keep the visa process in your prayers. We ask that the Lord would provide a successful path for Nathan and his family to come to Lynden. The board would like to thank the principal and staff for their dedication and hard work. We wish you much strength and wisdom in the remaining 7 weeks of school.

Our principal and Board have been anxiously keeping an eye on the state Board of Health. They met recently to make a decision on whether to include the Covid19 Vaccine as mandatory for students. Thankfully, they did not make this mandatory. We are also thankful that for the most part the mandates have been lifted, and staff and students in our state can once again enjoy life as usual.

CCS will once again be hosting the Inspire Group

this summer. We are thankful for the opportunity for our building to be utilized for this service to the community. We thank the building committee and the cleaning crews for taking good care of our facilities.

We look forward to seeing you all at the annual spring membership meeting to be held on May 3rd at 8:00 pm in the ARC building. The board is proposing a special resolution and approval of the 21/22 budget so we will be required to have a quorum. You should be receiving the meeting packets in your mailboxes at the same time as this Link.

A big thank you to all our volunteers and parents working in the classrooms, on committees or behind the scenes. The board is very thankful for all your help! May God bless Cornerstone Christian School!

~ Education Committee Report ~

This time of year is very exciting for the Ed Com. It's presentations projects and in their relationships with their mentors and the community. These students show evidence of their personal growth in knowledge, confidence and skills. We look forward to watching the final six For the Ed Comm, Debby Lodder

in the coming time for Senior Projects to be presented, and they The Ed Com is busy with other items as well. We're have been great! We have had three evenings of wrapping up our Curriculum Review of the Math propresentations with two more evenings to follow, gram. We've looked at the 2022/2023 school calen-What a blessing to see these graduating students dar, and next we'll be reviewing report cards to see if use their talents completing projects ranging from any changes should be made. Monthly classroom volunteer firefighting to job shadowing a CNA to visits are ongoing together with members of the building out an engine and so much more. They ar- School Board, and again we see the blessings of our ticulate their Christian worldview well through their dedicated and energetic staff and volunteers.

> Much to be thankful for as we head into the last weeks of the school year!

~ It Report ~

through, the installation process will be a significant requests for IT support. task; so far two cameras are up with an additional 10 slated for installation over the next few months.

The IT Committee continues to be active in making These cameras will monitor the outside premises of the school a better place to work and learn. In the fall the campus along with the interior of the gym. Rethe membership approved the use of a video surveil- cently, we've also improved internet access for the lance system around the premises. Smile for the exterior of the building at the request of the Plant freshly-installed camera that greets you by the front Sale team, installed improved hardware on a number entrance! With cable to run and attics to crawl of staff computers, and of course followed up on staff

> On behalf of the committee, Stephen Chase

~ Principal Report ~

As I have written the previous articles for the Link this school year, I have been allocating a bit of space to the Educational Goals our school has identified. As part of the school's vision and purpose there are certain things we have set as main priorities of purpose. The third point in this list of aims is that Cornerstone will "teach discernment between good and evil in every aspect of education". This is also further developed in the Parent handbook to say that this is done in both an implicit and explicit way in the children's education. What is the framework in which this is done? The handbook notes this, a quote from Vantil's writing "Essays in Christian Education" that "Nothing in the universe can be known except when placed into its relationship to God". So, whether we are teaching Math concepts, or helping students develop writing skills, or learning discernment and critiquing a novel, or receiving discipline, this is how it must be approached. How do our decisions look "when placed into its relationship to God"? When a child needs to be confronted about their behavior they need to understand that how they behave has an impact on their relationship to God. When we study a different country and/or learn about another religion, and how that impacts the lives of the citizens, we have discussions based on what we know about God and learn from His Word.

One area that our students, and maybe all of us, should give some thought and reflection to is our What comes out of our mouths matspeech. ters. It's not okay to say whatever and then tag on that it was just a joke. "I didn't mean it" doesn't excuse a person to say all sorts of things. Sexual innuendo has no place anywhere in our speaking. Not at school. Not anywhere. Rude comments that put others down aren't okay just because we say them with a smile on our face, or if the receiver of the comment laughs it off. Scripture teaches that we must guard our tongue. Psalm 15 speaks of who may dwell with Him. It is the one who "does not slander with his tongue". Certainly we don't forget the strong words of James telling us "the tongue is a fire, the very world of iniquity". (James 3: 6) The way we use our tongue "sets on fire the course of our life." This is important and needs to be addressed.

Cornerstone is a Christian school. We need to know and speak about the difference between right and wrong. The antithesis is real, at school, too. It affects what we use in our learning process and it affects our relationships with one another. Thanks be to God that He has made Himself known to us. Thanks be to God that salvation is given freely to us. This issue of the Link goes out during the time of year when greater focus is given to the death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. Celebrating Resurrection Day gives meaning to what we do at Cornerstone. He died for us! Let us strive to live a life of thankfulness as we continue our working and learning in the environment of a Christian school.

School Life

School life thankfully is going well. In recent weeks our hard-working STAMP team brought new excitement to the school with dynamic paintings of the carnival, games and activities along with the big top made with streamers regaling the hallways. Dress up days, that weren't too strenuous on parents (we hope) added to the enthusiasm. Kudos to those involved in decorating, leading elementary games, organizing and making sure things went according to plan. They really did an amazing job! School spirit definitely increased during the week. Even our senior students got into the hunt of finding hidden popsicle sticks. What a sense of accomplishment to find the most important one!

Before we headed to spring break the high school teachers shared an update on student progress. While no interview schedule is designated, we do encourage parents to communicate thoughts or concerns to the teachers, whenever the need arises. All sections of the school are energized to complete the school year. We look forward to several highlights yet to come.

By the time you read this article, our first in-person concert since Christmas 2018 hopefully has been performed. It is always such a blessing to share our joy through singing the praises of our God and King. With a focus on our God as creator, the springtime timing of this concert highlights the beauty of His creative hand.

Upcoming Events

Still coming this year are a few contests with the Speech contest being held on May 5th, and a Spelling Contest a few weeks later on May 18th (gr.5-8) & May 20th (gr.1-4). All students don't always appreciate all of these events, but the variety that is available throughout the course of the year is an attempt to reach a wide-variety of interests. For those of a more athletic nature, we also have our sports contest at the end of May. Sports Day is set for May 27th.

Sports take up attention in various ways at this time of year. A brief cross-country season for grade 7/8 popped up in April, with several Cornerstone students placing well. One 5th grader joined for fun and took home a third place win as well!

The volleyball league really took off this year, with over 20 teams participating in three different levels. And now, with Track and Field gearing up, those practices keep the students, teachers and volunteers busy as well.

At a less competitive level, but perhaps even more exciting, will be a return of the grandparent generation to school for Grandparents' Day. If you fit into

the Grandparent generation, but don't necessarily have grandchildren attending Cornerstone, please also join us on May 12th. We would love to welcome you, and some students don't necessarily have a special visitor arranged, so it would be good if you could give them some of your attention as well.

All this being said, it is clear that there is much to keep our attention the rest of the year. There is so much for which we can be thankful. A lot of learning is taking place in an active and exciting environment. May God continue to bless our efforts.







Legacy Project

For our legacy project this year the horticulture students have chosen to build a composting system. This system would benefit both the horticulture class and the plant sale. If our plant and soil waste can be recycled we can save money on the inputs needed for the plant sale.

We are looking for the following items. We hope to plan a work party during our class towards the end of the year to complete the construction. Heather Johnson's husband has volunteered to bring his tools and provide construction guidance. If the community could provide the following through item or cash donations it would be greatly appreciated. Please reach out to Debbie Johnson if you are able to assist with a donation.

- Chicken wire (36X3= 1roll) need about 40 feet
- 4 metal fence postswith screw holes (4 feet long)
- 1 box 2.5 inch wood screws (\$10)
- 1 box 2 inch wood screws (\$10)
- 6 hinges (\$24)
- Staples (\$10)
- 2X6X10 (\$24.98 each) 2
- 2X6X12 (\$30.78 each) 2
- 2X4X12 (\$21.18 each) 2
- 1X6X10 (\$14.25 each) 9
- 1X2X10 (\$14.58 each) 2
- Rippleboard 12'X4' (\$38.98 each) 2
- Metal box (mailbox?
- Directions for an information sheet (laminated)
- Large watering can: 2-gal plastic (\$5)
- Pruners large capacity—\$30

~ Ladies Aid Report ~

Here is an update on our current and upcoming fundraisers:

Coupon books: By now you should have received your packet of coupon books and are well on your way to selling a minimum of 5 books:). As has been mentioned before, we have lots of coupon books (462) left to sell. We listened to your suggestions and have labelled each coupon book indicating that Cornerstone owns the book and additional books can be purchased at either the school or Green Barn.

We are still offering the prize of an Edaleen gift card to the value of \$25 but the minimum book sales to be eligible, needs to be 20. The family that sells the most will be awarded the prize!

A challenge for sure, but one we can do! Send the kids around the neighborhood, check in with family and friends! This fundraiser will end on May 6th.

Plant Sale: It's almost plant sale time! The plants are looking great, and we have plenty of them! We will have a pre-sale for the CCS community on Thursday, April 28 from 12:00-3:30pm. Please don't come to purchase in the morning of that day, as we will be using that time to get set up. We are still in need of 3 people to help with set-up on that morning. Please contact Ranelle (360) 927-1334 if you can help out with that.

Thanks to the many people that have already signed up to help at the sale. We are still in need of help. As I type this notice, there are still 23 open time-slots. Please check the online sign-up sheet or let Ranelle know of your availability, and she'll sign you up. I have changed the slot for "plant guru" to "plant enthusiast" in the hopes of sounding less scary and hopefully getting more of that particular slot filled up. Don't be shy! The link for the sign-up sheet is: https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/

d/1B5uTWR1u9N fWYEJVP3dMBtGQmBWbpcnGk XU5G oA U/edit?usp=sharing

Our plant sale will be on April 29-30, May 6-7, and May 13-14. Friday hours are 9-3, and Saturday hours are 9-1. Check out the website to see what will be available for purchase: www.ccsplantsale.com

Your plant sale committee: Bernice V, Christine H, Evelien K, Hannah B, Helena V, Janet B, Joyce H, Leshia K, Malorie B, Ranelle F

Cornerstone Cafe: We are very excited that Cornerstone Cafe is back for another year at the Northwest Washington Fair! We are really looking forward to this huge fundraiser and community-building event, taking place August 11 - 20, 2022.

Due to immediate and upcoming retirement of two Café Committee members, there are a few committee positions that we need to fill:

Booth Readiness/Decoration Coordinator, Food Manager Assistant and Booth Shift Supervisors.

All committee positions come with lots of instructions and tips, training, and the support of an experienced committee. Please consider if you are able to give of your time and talents on this committee. These positions must be filled in order to run a successful fundraiser this year... we appreciate your help!

If you have questions about any of the positions, or if you are able to volunteer, please contact Janice DeMooy as soon as possible (rickjandemooy@gmail.com, or call/text 360-988-1133).

Pumpkin patch: this committee has been getting things started, forward motion is happening - although it is in the background, the organizing kind of action. The committee will send messages out if help is needed, keep your eyes open:)

Grandparents Day!

Please Join Us For Grandparents Day at Cornerstone Christian School On May 12th Coffee will be ready at 10:00am.

See you there!

~ From our 7th & 8th Grade Class ~

Mary did it, and it's something we all need to do frequently: meditate. It helps realign ourselves with the core purpose of our existence. I've often said that the answer to every "why?" is ultimately "because the Lord orchestrated it that way." We see life through the eyes of faith. God's Word is our spectacles in which we view all things. What are you seeing?

Recently we gave some careful thought to the use and meaning of the word Easter. We soon found that this term is not synonymous with the resurrection of Jesus at all. Meditating helps us to see life the way God sees it. Therefore, when speaking of the resurrection of Jesus, let's not live by lies, but rather speak and uphold the truth of the Gospel.

Recently we spent some time reflecting on what the death and resurrection of our Lord and Savior means for us personally. Enjoy reading the 7/8 reflections below.

Death and resurrection reflection

Christ died for men of sin Such as me my friends and our kin We thank him for this day today As many times a day, we pray

Our praises to him we bring With our shouts of joy we sing Not only had he died for our sins But the battle over the devil he wins

He was in the grave for 3 days
In the grave for our sins he pays
After 3 days he resurrected
And from people threats were directed

Yet Jesus through it all stood strong
Yet for heaven, our Lord Jesus did long
And later our Lord did raise
Into heaven after 40 days
By Noah Pelleboer

It is the time of year to celebrate the death and resurrection of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. As Jesus was on the cross, experiencing the agonizing curse from His Father, He looked down at His mother and observed the anguish on her face. (John 19:25-27) Instead of forgetting about her and focusing on His own torment and pain, He gives Mary a new son. He thinks of others even in His most incredible pain, this comforts me to know that He is always thinking and caring for me.

When Jesus said to Mary, "Woman behold your son," He was not saying, "Woman look at

me! Look how I am being tortured for you!" Instead, He took the focus off Himself and cared for His mother by giving one of His disciples to His mother as a son. Even in His dying breaths, Jesus watches out for His people and never puts himself first, what a comfort to know this.

The debt I owe God for my sin is a debt that is infinite. There is no possible way that I could have paid this debt on my own. Jesus knows we are debtors, but we are debtors who cannot even pay our own debt by any of our means. The cross is all about repaying the debt I could never pay back on my own, because He loved me so much He gave up His life and Spirit for me. I respond in complete thankfulness for what He has done, and that is why I celebrate Good Friday and the resurrection of my dear Savior, Jesus.

By Hadley Lodder

What does Christ's death and resurrection mean to me:

Christ's death and resurrection are two of the most important events for my life. Without Jesus, we would all be going to hell. God sent His only Son to earth to save all of us sinners from our sin. This shows just how merciful and gracious our God is. God cares about us and provides for us in whatever we do. Jesus broke the bond of death and defeated our greatest enemy. We can be ever thankful to our God and Savior that He will always be on our side. With God on my side, who can stand against me? - Romans 8: 31

By Philip Hofford

Christ's resurrection means a lot to me. On Friday is when He was buried in the grave, and on Sunday he rose from the dead. This is a very exciting and joyful thing that happened to Christ. For us we can sing praises about this big day of Christ and His resurrection. Christ did this for us because He loves us, and so he died on the cross so we wouldn't need to suffer the agony and pain ourselves. Jesus' pain on the cross was far more worse than any other pain we have on this earth. He is the Christ who made everything, and so we should thank him for all he had done for us and everyone.

By Ashtyn VanDelft

"Death and Resurrection Day"

"Easter" is the day
To "celebrate" with eggs and a chocolate bunny,
At least that's what they all say.
Is it a day of the Lord, or is it just about spending your
money?

Jesus died on the cross, buried, and descended into hell. Did any of the Jews feel remorse? On the third day the mothers went to say farewell, But Christ was not there. For he fulfilled the prophecy, Rising from the grave, aware of the world's despair. Who would believe? Not a pharisee, Not even Thomas until he saw the proof, Christ saddened, but giving in, Showed his hands and side, revealing the truth, "Blessed are they who did not see, and yet believe." The truth of these seventy two hours, Is what our Lord Jesus achieved. With His everlasting love and almighty powers, He conquered sin and Satan. Giving us our eternal life, So we could spend our days with dedication, to Him alone without strife. Easter should be renamed. Instead of a worldly remembrance,

proclaim,
Not Easter; that doesn't preach repentance.
So, when you celebrate,
remember the victory: death has no sting.

By Shantel Houweling

"Death and Resurrection Day" should be what we

What being a Christian means to me

What being a Christian means to me is that when Jesus died on the cross, which He did not deserve to do, He died for me, and that I am very thankful for that. We deserved to die, but Jesus was our substitute. He died for our sins. It also means that we have eternal life, and heaven, but instead we should suffer the consequence of our fall, in hell. We are different from the world because we have been redeemed; for that we need to be grateful for. We need to treat others the way we want to be treated because Christ was kind to people who even persecuted Him. We need to love Jesus with our whole heart, soul and mind. Christ is the one we must love the most because He loved us so much that he died on the cross for our sins. He strengthens me through hard times, like if I am worrying, or am worrying about someone. But I know that He will always love and forgive me in whatever I do. Jesus has answered my prayers, and is always with me and he is everything to me.

By Mya Kruyswijk

What Christ's death and resurrection means to me, and all of us, is a mixture of sadness and joy. Sadness that Christ had to die for us because of what we had done, but then joy because we know that He did it for us. If he didn't, none of us would go to heaven. What we have to do is respond and teach people about His resurrection and death. He knew our sins so well, and when He died. He went to hell. That was when He paid for them. Then His resurrection was relieved of our sins, for they were all burned away. He is waiting for us to come to Him. Even though it is taking a while for us, it has taken no time for God. So we must be ready, for no one knows the day or moment when the bridegroom shall appear for His bride, the Church.

By Allison Davis

What does being a Christian mean to me?

Being a Christian means that you give your life to Jesus, this means sacrificing yourself to Him. I love my Savior for what He did for me; and, the comfort that God is always with me. Being a Christian also means to read the bible, pray, and show that you are a Chritian through your words and actions. To believe in the resurrection means to believe in the resurrection of Jesus, to believe that He arose from the dead, that He died on the cross for our sins. To believe that Jesus really has those holes in his hands, feet, and side from the nails that pierced His hands to the cross, even today up in heaven. He still has those scars because it is proof of what He did for us. That is why I cherish the blessed memory of our savior dieing on the cross for our sins. His death is very important to me, but His resurrection is even more important to me. That is the key to our glorious resurrection.

By Jessie Veldman



2021/2022 School Calendar

August

31 - First Day Of School

September

6 - Labor Day

October

Mission Month

8 - In Service Day

11 - Columbus Day

12 - College & Careers Evening

November

5 - HS 1st Qtr Reports

8,9 - HS P/T Conferences

11 - Veteran's Day (no school)

12 - InspirED PD Day

19 - Elem Term 1 Reports

22 - Early Release (11:55am)

22, 23 - Elem P/T Conferences

25 - Thanksgiving Day

26 - Thanksgiving Break (no school)

December

17 - Last Day 2021

20 - 31 - Christmas Break

January

3 - First Day of 2022

17 - Martin Luther King Day

21 - HS 2nd Qtr Reports

24.25 - HS P/T Conferences

February

17—Science Fair

18 - Prof Learning Day

23 - Elem Term 2 Reports

24,25,28 - Mid-Winter Break

28 - Elem P/T Conferences

March

2 - Elem P/T Conferences

10 - Science Fair

11 - Professional Learning Day

April

1 - HS 3rd Qtr Reports

4-8 - Spring Break

15 - Good Friday

22- Easter Program

May

5 - Public Speaking Contest

13 - Professional Learning Day

26 - Ascension Day

27 - Sports Day

30 - Memorial Day

June

3 - Eighth Grade Graduation

6 - Quad School Track Meet

9 - Last Day of School for Students

10 - Senior Graduation

Board

Chairman: Tim Faber
Vice-Chairman: Ray Buitenbos
Secretary: Ray Buitenbos
Treasurer: Kolin Veldman
Ed Comm Liaison: Eric Brown
Staff & Membership Admin Clarence Kobes
Building Liaison: Dave Hofford
Bookkeeper Karla Leyenhorst

Building/Maintenance Committee

Jeremy Bouwman Nathan Burger Nathan Chase Dave Hofford

Terry VanDiest

Education Committee

Stephanie Bareman
Debbie Johnson
Lisa Pelleboer
Eric Brown
Debby Lodder
Sharon Veldman

IT Committee

Eric Brown Stephen Chase Ian Davis Matt Hoefakker

Finance Committee

Janice DeMooy Brian Hendricks Harvey Pelleboer Kolin Veldman

Gavin Willis

Library Committee

Stephanie Bareman
Fiona Houweling
Helena VanDriel
Sharon Veldman

Janice Dykstra
Debbie Johnson
Michelle VanDriel
Bernice Vreugdenhil

Ladies Aid Committee

Pres - Janice DeMooy VP - Michelle Veldman Sec - Ang Davis Treas - Kelli Kobes

Staff

Office Administration:

Debbie Johnson - Principal Gavin Willis - Athletic Director Kari VanDiest- Secretary

Full Time:

Debbie Johnson - Geo, Music 3/4, Web De. 9/10, Art 7-10

Jeanette Janssen - Science 7-12, Math 9-12

John-Mark Stromberg - PE 5-8, His. 7/8, Eng,& His. 9-12

Lynette Van Hofwegen - Gr. 5/6 Stephen Houweling - Math 4, Gr.7/8

Wayne Chase - HS: Bible, Math, English, History

Part Time:

Christine Hofford- Ed Support

Darlene VanStaalduinen - Spanish 11/12 Heather Johnson - Horticulture 11/12

Janet Faber - L.A. 1/2

Janice Dykstra - Ed Support Coor.

Jolene Kingma - L.A.4, Bible, His 3/4., PE & Sc.1-4

Jolene Vreugdenhil - Culinary Arts 11/12

Karen DeMooy - Art 3/4 Kristina Wendt - PE HS Mackenzie Kanis - Math 3, LA 3

Melanie Kottelenberg - Music 5/6

Mikayla Willis- Ed Support SarahBeintema- Ed Support

Shari Kruyswijk - Gr.1/2 Bible, Math, Music, Art

Sharon Veldman - Culinary Arts 11/12