

# The Lynden LINK

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Cornerstone Christian School  
~~ Lynden, WA ~~

## Chairman's Report

### The Value of Christian Education

When we reflect upon the value of something, one of the first things that comes to mind is – what is the cost? This is what value is often associated with. In the dictionary, value is defined as “estimated worth” and worth is defined as “importance, value, or merit”. Who places a value on Christian education and how is that determined? Many parents spend a lot of money to send their children to Christian school. The question is why?

When asking questions it is often good to review the background – What is its origin? Why do we do what we do? Where did it start?

We are told from the Bible that we are to raise our children in the fear of the Lord. This is to be taught from generation to generation as part of the covenant. Deut 6:5-8 says, “Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength. These commandments that I give you today are to be upon your hearts. Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up.” As parents, we also promised to “instruct our children as soon as they are able to understand and to have them instructed to the utmost of our power.”

Fast forward to the start of the Canadian Reformed Church denomination. Early on, the church forefathers recognized the importance and need for Reformed Education. In the book *Inheritance Preserved*, W.W.J. VanOene wrote, “...what is common conviction among the members of the Canadian Reformed Churches is this: that the parents are not permitted to tolerate it that what is built up at home and in the church is broken down in the school.” And further, “The point ‘schools’ could not be dealt with at the first Classis Canada because it was too wide a topic for time available. The second Classis Canada discussed an overture by the church at Neerlandia to appoint a committee to study the possibility of achieving Christian education, such in connection with

Article 21 C.O. – All are totally convinced of the necessity of Reformed education; however, Classis considers it to be the only correct course that Reformed Schools are established – by the members of the churches. Classis gave the advice, as a first step in that direction, to establish Reformed school societies; the consistories were exhorted to activate the congregations that this might be achieved.” It can be seen in this that the Canadian Reformed Church put a high value on reformed education.

As you move on in time to the establishment of Cornerstone Christian School - you can see that Reformed Education was again shown to have high value. That is evident in one of the founding documents; the Mission and Purpose outlined in our Parent Handbook.

Mission – to assist parents in educating the children of the covenant as part of their preparation for a life of Christ centered service and stewardship in the kingdom and Church of God.

Purpose – the purpose of the school is to assist the parents in their calling to educate their children. Proceeding from our basis, deriving its authority from the parents, and recognizing that the fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom, the school endeavors to equip the children with further knowledge and skills in specific subject areas so that they may learn how to be faithful stewards and so glorify the name of the Lord in all of life.

When looking at the value of reformed education we can see what was the original thinking when establishing schools – the what's, why's, and where's.

In a recent article in the Christian Renewal (Feb 8, 2017) Rev. Chris Gordon writes, “When our schools were formed, it was understood that it was important for our children to be taught in the light of what we believed and confess. This was the philosophy that was embraced when our schools were formed. Our Reformed Christian theology drove what was practiced in the Christian school.... We

The Fruit is:  
Diligence

understood that if these were set aside, our children's schooling would work against the church itself in the areas of Christian worship and practice, and lead them from clear direction to confusion in all aspects of life.... The covenant responsibility to provide our children a Christian education is more than writing a tuition check each month. Parents should have a vested interest in the leadership of the Christian school and whether the administration is honoring the theological basis the school agreed to when it was founded."

As we move forward we need to remember the value of Christian education. We need to remember why it is important. We need to be reminded why we do what we do. We also need to remind our children of this and the importance of teaching the Lord's ways to the next generation and maintaining our covenant relationship with God. As we move through the years we must show those who are the future of the school why it is there and why it is important. As the next generation moves forward they must understand its importance so that they can take responsibility for the continuation of the school and its teachings.

We all know that there is a cost related to Christian education but this should not be the focus. The focus should be on the value of this education in this life now, generationally, and in preparation for the life to come.

As to the current status of activities at Cornerstone Christian school: on behalf of the board I would like to welcome Nathan and Clarissa Chase as members of our school society. We thank you for your support and look forward to your involvement with covenant education in our community!

I would also like to take this opportunity to welcome some new committee members. Dave Kruyswijk has recently joined the IT Committee and Christine Hofford has agreed to serve on the Education Committee. Thank you very much for joining these committees! I have no doubt that your talents will be put to good work!

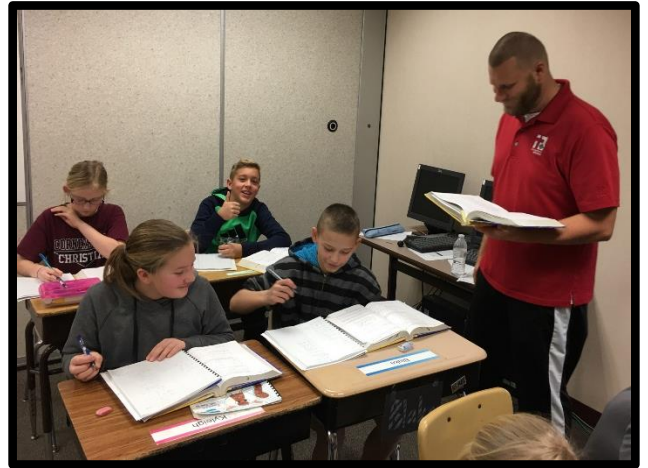
The school also appreciates the continued efforts of Faith VanDriel. For some time, she has been taking some of our "outdated" text books that are stored in the attic and putting them up for sale on-line. This effort has proven to be fruitful and greatly appreciated!

The Fruit is:  
Wisdom

We would also like to thank those involved with the Keystone home building project. We have recently received a check for \$10,000! This money is much needed and much appreciated. As representative of the school society I would like to thank you for all of your efforts! (I know it is a lot of work 😊)

As you may know from previous e-mail communication Edmund Nederveen is planning on teaching in Alberta next year. We wish him the Lord's continued blessings as he completes his work at Cornerstone and looks to take up his new teaching assignment in Neerlandia.

With Edmund leaving there was a teaching position to be filled at the High School level. We are very excited



to announce that this position has already been filled! We congratulate Janita Willis on her future role as High School teacher at Cornerstone! The Lord has graciously provided for our school in this way and we are very thankful! We wish you His strength and guidance as you prepare to take up your task as teacher!

As board, we have also recently met with the teachers for their annual review. We are very thankful for all their work and effort in teaching our children. It seems clear that we have good staff interaction and an excellent school culture.

Thanks once again to all the volunteers who continue to help and support our school. You are much appreciated!

As we reflect on all these blessings – we can see the Lord's goodness! There is a lot to be thankful for!

On behalf of the Board,  
Darren Leyenhorst

# Short Reports of the Board

## Short Report, Cornerstone Christian School Board

January 2, 2017

After a reading of Proverbs 1 and prayer, the chairman opened the meeting. The minutes from Part I of the previous meeting were approved with no changes. The agenda was adopted with no changes.

There was no incoming mail.

Darryn Kleyn shared his latest Principal's Report. Items of focus included: a review of teachers' sick pay allowance; responsibilities for costs incurred from elective classes (Home Economics, TTC, etc.); and revenue generated by trading in old text books.

R. DeMooy reported on the work of the SMA, highlighting: questions recently forwarded to Robert Foley regarding our visa renewal processes and requirements; the ongoing pursuit of information regarding potential disability benefit offerings for staff; and the good news that Nathan and Clarissa Chase have become new members of the school society.

R. Faber provided an update on the current work items of the CBM. He also reported that Dave Kruyswijk has accepted his appointment to the IT Committee.

H. Klos reported that Christine Hofford accepted her appointment to the Education Committee.

D. Kleyn reported on behalf of the Strategic Planning Committee. With the recent success of the surveys and other opportunities for people to give information to the committee, no further public forums are planned. A draft Strategic Plan is being formulated for presentation to the Board.

Under General Matters, the Board reviewed its annual calendar and noted that things are on schedule.

A decision was made that material submissions for Board meetings are due 72 hours prior to the meeting. An additional decision was made that future elective course costs will be borne by the students.

Action items were reviewed and the next regular meeting was set for February 6 at 7:30pm.

The principal was thanked for his work and left the meeting.

After a short break, Part II of the meeting was opened. Minutes from the previous month's meeting were approved with no changes. The agenda was adopted.

Incoming mail was reviewed and saved for later discussion.

S. Hofford shared the latest Treasurer's report. Main items of focus included: a review of financial reports; an additional contribution of \$10,000 by the Keystone Project (which was earmarked for the immediate deficit on this year's budget); plans for the creation of budget report templates to ensure consistent, future reporting of financial data to the membership. A letter from the membership was discussed.

Under General Matters, a resolution was approved to authorize the shredding of files that exceed the required I-9 retention period after termination.

Action items were reviewed.

R. DeMooy closed the meeting with prayer.



## Short Report, Cornerstone Christian School Board

February 6, 2017

After a reading of Proverbs 2 and prayer, the chairman opened the meeting. The agenda was adopted with significant changes due to inclement weather. Items removed from the agenda will receive attention at the next regularly scheduled meeting.

Darryn Kleyn shared his latest Principal's Report, highlighting budget planning items for next school year and the proposed school calendar for 2017/18.

Under General Matters, the Board reviewed its annual calendar. Things remain on schedule as budget planning begins in earnest. Elsewhere, feedback is received from the Interview Committee regarding a recent interview conducted in regard to next year's open teaching position. Advice is sought and given.

Action items were reviewed and the next regular meeting was set for March 6 at 7:30pm.

The principal left the meeting.

Part II of the meeting was opened. The agenda was adopted with changes due to inclement weather.

S. Hofford shared the latest Treasurer's report. Main items of focus included a tuition/dues-owing report; recommendations for a replacement member of the Finance Committee; suggested additional

The Fruit is:  
Gratefulness



responsibilities for the Finance Committee; and budget planning items.

R. DeMooy briefly reported on the work of the Staff and Membership Administration. The report covered a variety of immigration-related updates, teacher contract reviews, and staff salary reviews.

Under General Matters, a resolution was adopted to authorize the destruction (shredding) of

immigration files exceeding the I-9 holding period as suggested by our immigration attorney, Robert Foley.

Action items were reviewed.

R. Faber closed the meeting with prayer.



## Treasurer Report

Things are going along well for the 2016/17 fiscal year. We are thankful for the timely payment of tuition, dues, and operating pledges, and for the donations we regularly receive.

We are currently preparing the 2017/18 budget to be presented at the spring membership meeting. This is the time when we can look at our income and expenses over the first half of the year, then seek to make a realistic plan for the next fiscal year.

With regard to expenses, the board recently decided to have the Finance Committee regularly review the school's operating expenses. The goal is to provide increased visibility of how financial

resources are used, and it may reveal opportunities for savings that have previously not been realized. The finance committee has reviewed the 2016 fundraisers, and we are thankful for the income that has been generated from these efforts. The golf tournament, the run, and the sandwich fundraiser were all considered successful (from an effort vs. profit perspective), and we are planning to do them again in 2017.

From the Treasurer,  
Steve Hofford

## Education Committee Report

Over the last few months, we have been busy with the curriculum review of the history/geography program across the grades at Cornerstone. It's interesting to see how curriculum is adopted for a grade, and then how those grades try to build on each other as the student's transition from grade 1 through grade 12. Add to the mix the Christian's worldview, and hopefully we are blessed with students who graduate with an excellent understanding of how God is busy at work within the world He created, and how he calls us to be light and salt.

We are looking forward to the next Parent Information Evening which is planned for March 14<sup>th</sup> at the Technic Training Center at Lynden Door. What a great opportunity to see what our

students are able to do in this program. It's also a great way to preview what upcoming students will be able to sign up for down the road – so be sure to attend and show your interest and support! Details will become available as the evening draws closer.

The Library continues to be a valuable resource at Cornerstone and we are pleased to hear updates at our committee about their work. We are thankful for all those who serve on this committee and assist the teachers with aspects of their reading program. The newly installed software will make using the library even easier for staff and students alike! When you visit the school and see someone



working in the library, be sure to encourage and thank them for volunteering and continue to encourage them in their work.

After looking at our school's vision and educational goals again, I wanted to share this highlight from our Handbook which is an elaboration of one of the purposes of our school that speaks to the ongoing evaluation work with the school's curriculum:

"Teach all subjects in the curriculum as parts of an integrated whole, in a thoroughly Scriptural framework."

Reformed education seeks to view all academic disciplines through the eyes of faith. Since every truth is understood in the light of a particular worldview, it is essential that the education received in our school successfully passes on a Biblical worldview to our students. Christian education is more than "secular cake" decorated with "Christian icing". All subjects must be taught in the light of God's existence and the revelation of His Son Jesus Christ. Because the Scriptures have the crucial role in teaching us about this revelation, God's Word must also occupy a central role in our school. Knowing the mighty works of God in creation and recreation, our students need to learn that all of reality in the particular subject areas is coherent and is worth knowing."

For the Education Committee,  
Henry Klos

## Principal Report

*"For as the rain and the snow  
come down from heaven,  
And do not return there  
without watering the earth  
And making it bear and sprout,  
And furnishing seed to the sower  
and bread to the eater;  
So will My word be which  
goes forth from My mouth;  
It will not return to Me empty,  
Without accomplishing what I desire,  
And without succeeding in the matter  
for which I sent it. (Isaiah 55:10-11)*

I have been spending some time lately, meditating on God's truths in Isaiah 55. It's a wonderfully comforting passage – especially as we are involved in raising our children in the day to day struggles of life. First of all, we may know and confess that we have a glorious, sovereign, all-powerful God – who sits on his throne. For the Lord says: "My ways [are] higher than your ways, and My thoughts [are] higher than your thoughts". Second, the "waters" of salvation are a free gift to all those who come with empty, outstretched hands. Third, when God's Word goes out it does not return empty; it accomplishes what God desires. Fourth, God's Word renders an amazing heart change in his children.

The Fruit is:  
Courage

### Lots of Little Moments....

I appreciate many of the images that Isaiah 55 conjures up. As parents and teachers, we have opportunities every day to "rain" the truths of Scripture on the hearts of our children. We are not looking for 4 or 5 big moments in the lives of our children that would radically change their hearts. God has decreed that it doesn't 'work' like that. As Deuteronomy 6 makes clear, we are expected to speak the truths of scripture to the hearts of our children every day through lots of little moments. Raising our children is actually a collection of hundreds and thousands of moments. As parents we seek to do that during the driving-moments, the sports-moments, the party-moments, the bedtime-moments, the illness-moments, the disobedience-moments and the list goes on. As teachers we seek to assist you in this task by sharing the truths of Scripture during the subject instructional-moments, the discussion-moments, the playground-moments, the social-moments, the assembly-moments, the hallway-moments and so on.

And why so often? Because we want our children's hearts to be drenched with the "rain" of God's word. That it would live in them; that it would come out of their pores and their pens – so to speak! These are not just passing thoughts or insights that we lean on when we really need them, when we might be struggling with things. These truths should be our



living hope that we speak about whenever we can. This must also come out in our children's education at school. As our Handbook puts it: "Christian education is more than "secular cake" decorated with "Christian icing". All subjects must be



taught in the light of God's existence and the revelation of His Son Jesus Christ. Because the Scriptures have the crucial role in teaching us about this revelation, God's Word must also occupy a central role in our school. Knowing the mighty works of God in creation and recreation, our students need to learn that all of reality in the particular subject areas is coherent and is worth knowing."

### Touching the Heart

To touch the heart, our children need to know that their hearts are in desperate need of saving. They need to understand that their hearts are naturally prone to selfishness and idolatry. Their hearts are cramped with their own wants and desires. Do we help our children see the root cause when they misbehave? Do we help them see that the biggest problems in life are not outside of themselves – situation, location, relationship, and experience – but that their actions all stem from the heart? Do we point them to Christ as the only hope for a real and long lasting heart change? The amazing reality is that the Holy Spirit will work in the hearts of our children, using our humble efforts to "rain" His truth. Further, God promises in Isaiah 55 that His Word "will not return to me empty, without accomplishing what I desire." That's a terrific comfort and promise!

### Upcoming Events

Our biennial Fine Arts Evening is just around the corner – scheduled for Friday, March 10 in the school gym. There will be a mix of fine arts projects on display, two drama productions and some choral and instrumental music. Our teachers are working hard to pull it all together – and its shaping up to be one of our best yet! You're encouraged to attend and

also to participate in the photo contest. See elsewhere for further details.

The Technic Training Center directors, together with the Education Committee, will host a Parent Information Evening on March 14. Attendees will receive a tour of the facility, an introduction to the technology on the shop floor and an overview of the program that some of our high school students are involved in. We would encourage our entire school community to attend including students from grades 7-11 that may have an interest in joining this program in the future.

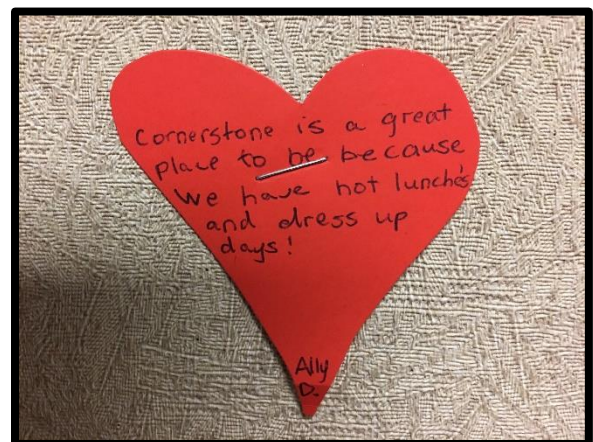
Another big event in the works is our Easter program slated for April 13. Everyone is invited to join the students in singing praise to our Father in Heaven for his great gift of salvation through Jesus Christ's death and resurrection.

### Change of Seasons

Our basketball season is winding down. I am very grateful for the dedication and leadership shown by our coaches. It is such a blessing to have our children instructed by a wide range of God-fearing leaders both within the school and in the broader community. Thank-you, coaches for your time and effort!

Volleyball season is just about to begin. We have one boys team and enough girls to form two teams. We're thankful for the willingness of Mr. Kam Veldman and Mrs. Karla Leyenhorst to take the coaching reins.

As you have heard already, Edmund Nederveen will 'play' for another 'team' next season. We will miss him on our staff team; he has brought many strengths and ideas to the wide variety of tasks he has in his portfolio. He continues to play a vital role in the school and we wish him strength to finish his tasks with energy and enthusiasm.



While a teacher leaving always creates a sense of apprehension - the Lord has brought us a well-qualified replacement in quick time. A young lady in our community is ready to begin a new season of life by becoming a full time teacher. We are delighted that Janita Willis has accepted a job at Cornerstone

for next year. Congratulations, Janita – on the completion of your studies and your new appointment for next year!

That is all for this time. May we continue to contribute to - and be thankful for - the gifts we receive in and through Cornerstone Christian School.

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## Ladies Aid Report

Just a quick update from the Ladies Aid:

Our spring membership meeting has been scheduled for March 28th, so please mark your calendars! This will be a combined meeting with the ARC Ladies Circle.

Our next fundraiser is the Coupon Books, which will be available in early March. The coupons will run from March-March. Please contact Alyssa Brown if you have any questions.

Dish brushes have been restocked-pick one up to replace your old dish brush or to give as a gift...just \$10! Also, microfiber dish cloths are still available for purchase at \$1.50 ea.

On behalf of the Ladies Aid,  
Rianne Kruyswijk

## Parent Information Evening

### At the Technic Training Center - March 14

Please mark this date on your calendar and plan to attend.

We look forward to introducing you to:

- John Slagle and Ron Visser
- the TTC program of studies
- the projects the students have been working on
- the machinery and technology our students get to learn about and use

## From the 5/6 Classroom:

### Love



Fifth and sixth grade students were asked about what they love about their families and school. They were also asked about how to show love and what it means to be a Christian. After they wrote their responses, they were asked which ones they would like to share with others. Here are their responses.

#### Family



These are the reasons I love my family: my mom and dad love and comfort me. They protect me. My brothers play and teach me how to play basketball better. I love my Opa and Oma because they are kind and they care for me. They have us over for lunch on Sunday and they help celebrate Thanksgiving and Christmas with us.

*-Abby Bareman*

Moms are awesome because they help you with homework. Dads are awesome because they take you out fishing with friends. Siblings are awesome because they are part of the family. Uncles go fishing with you and aunts spoil you.

*-Reade Postmus*

I love my dad because he loves me and he plays out in the snow with me. I love my mom because she loves me. She makes me food and helps me with my homework. When I am sick, she comforts me. I love my grandparents because they love me. They take care

of me when my parents are gone. I love my aunty because she loves me and she gives us lots of presents for Christmas. That is why I love my family!

*-Megan Vreugdenhil*

I love my grandparents because they spoil us a lot and let us do a lot of things, like play computer games. Sometimes at lunch they take me out to go to Mc Donald's or other restaurants. They always let me go to their house for a sleepover or tea. I love my grandparents!

*-Seth Kleyn*

My mom wakes me up in the morning and drives me to school. She takes care of me, making sure I have everything I need. She also cooks and goes shopping for the family. My dad takes us on cool vacations during the summer. He gives me and my siblings thoughtful presents on our birthdays and Christmas; he also works. Sometimes he helps me with math. My siblings will sometimes help me with things. They can be fun to play with and talk to, but they can be annoying too. My grandparents give my family presents and money for Christmas and on birthdays. Sometimes, they come out from Michigan to visit us. When they are here, they watch us or drive us to school every once in a while. My cousins are fun to do things with and they can be funny and nice. My favorite cousin is Annica. She is really nice and fun to hang out with. My aunts and uncles give us things and do fun things with us.

*-Courtney Kuiper*

#### School/Classroom



I love our classroom because Mrs. Van sometimes lets us get off topic and talk about random things. I also love how we get to socialize during art with our friends. And how organized Mrs. Van's plans are when we do cool science experiments. For example, we learned about cells when we used the static machine. One time we used it by getting into a circle and we all got shocked when one person touched the doorknob. I love how our classroom is caring when someone doesn't have a lunch. That is what I love about our classroom!

*-Rachel Veldman*

I love my class because we all care for each other, we can have fun and we talk together. We have friends who stand up for each other when someone gets bullied. My class also gives me funny memories like when Mrs. Van poured water on the floor and Mr. Kleyn came in and almost slipped.

*-Luke Hofford*

Our classroom is very helpful because when I don't get a question, someone in our class will explain the question to me. At recess, if someone is alone, someone from our class will invite them to play a game with them. If someone is sad or gets hurt we can call at teacher or help them feel better. That is how our classroom is helpful.

*-Zander Veldman*

I love my class because we all know how to laugh at our own mistakes and we all know how to have lots of fun. We all know how to be attentive and listen when we need to.

*-Jaymie Veldman*



I like it that Mrs. Van is kind to us and we can laugh and joke around sometimes. We have a big class so we can play with a lot of people. If someone is hurt, we help them. If someone forgets their lunch, we give them some of ours. Funny things happen, like messing up.

*-Aleeah Brown*

I like to go to school to see my friends and joke about stuff. Like Ethan and I have a thing on the color red. It is a long story, but it is funny how it started and came out. I love to joke around.

*-Joey Brown*

I love our class because we joke and laugh about things. We have a big class so there are a lot of people to play with.

Our class creates memories like when Mrs. Van poured water on the floor for science and then Mr. Kleyn walked in.

*-Mica Lodder*

I like being in a classroom where people care for each other. Being a friend to other people is fun because I can be involved in fun activities. Lending some food or receiving food from other people make me feel happy. We have a big classroom that is full of desks and posters on the walls. We have great teachers that teach us things and help us when we are stuck.

*-Blake DeMooy*

I like my class because we have a big class and we care about each other. A few upsides of having a big class is if we are lonely, someone will come and play with us. Because we have a big class there are a lot of people to play with. If we make silly mistakes we can all laugh together about it. Since we have a big class, when we get a desk change, we can sit by somebody that we might not play with but then you turn out to be great friends.

*-Lincoln Van Diest*



I love my class because they show respect, kindness, generosity and love to one another. Just like when people forget their lunch, people are always there to help and share. Also, I love my class because I have funny memories, like when Mrs. Van poured water on the floor and then Mr. Kleyn walked in and almost slipped. That is why I love my class!

*-Chloe Pelleboer*

Jackie, Rachel and Megan are my best friends. I love them very much! I like it when we have long talks together and when they play games with me. They always make me laugh and smile! They are the best friends ever!

*-Katelyn Veldman*

### **How to show love**

Ways we can show love is to invite people that are alone to come play games with us. Help them when they are hurt or injured. Be a good friend to each other and don't hurt people's feelings. We can have a friend that says bad things about God and we can just tell them not to do it and same goes for you.

*-Levi Buitenbos*

My favorite subjects at school are P.E., art and writing. I like P.E. because I love playing sports and getting active. I like art because I love to get creative and make cool things. My last subject is writing. I like writing because I love to write and I am learning how to write better.

*-Jackie Brown*

Love is all around us. Every day we use it at home, school, and our jobs. Some people thrive on love and others don't. Love is especially in God's word, the Bible. Christians need to read the Bible regularly for help and guidance. This way it helps us from saying bad words and by not wanting to hear them. Christian perspectives help us in many ways, some people don't know about. Psalm 119:105 says, "Your word is a lamp to my feet

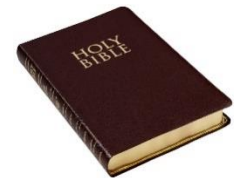
and a light to my path." I hope love and the Word is a light to your path!

*-Christina Johnson*

I like using the gifts God gave through all things. I especially enjoy using them in art. I can show how God gives me the gifts of being able to do the things I can. I like art because I like crafting and drawing. I get the love from it from God.

*-Jill Leyenhorst*

### **What it means to be a Christian**



Being a Christian, means to respect your parents, love the Lord your God with all your heart, soul and mind. Being a Christian means that we should help others in need and be respectful to them. It also means to spread the word to those who haven't heard the good news and tell them of God's grace.

*-Braden Kuik*

A Christian has to be a light to the world by going to non-Christians and telling them about the Bible and how Christ died on the cross for all our sins.

*-Sean DeBoer*

We live in a Christian town and community with Christian people. With mostly Christians, it is easier to encourage others to be Christians and go to church. We can pray freely and have devotions. Also, we are allowed to talk about Christ in our Christian school and our minister preaches to us. My mom grew up as a Christian. I love being a Christian!

*-Joanna Johnson*

Christians should be a light to the world. This means that we should spread the gospel to those who don't know about God. We can do this in many ways such as giving away Bibles, bringing un-believing friends

to church, and giving homeless people hope by reading the Bible to them. As Jesus said in Matt. 5:14-15, "You are the light of the world. A city on a hill cannot be hidden; nor does anyone light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on the lampstand and it gives light to all who are in the house." We should be the lights of the world!

*-Jessica Postmus*

We should have Christian friends so that we can have good examples to look up to or for them to look up to us. When we have Christian friends, we can pray before meals if we go to their house. If we don't have Christian friends, they might do bad stuff or watch bad shows and it's not a good example. God wants us to have Christian friends but also if we have friends that are not Christian, we can spread the word to them and maybe they could become a believer.

*-Tyler Van Driel*

Being a Christian means loving others, loving God with all your heart, soul and mind. Also, spreading the word, going to church and believing in the Trinity.

*-Ava Veldman*



Our Christianity has been passed on by our parents so our whole family believes in God. We go to a Christian school and we can talk freely about God in front of our friends. The people in our church all believe in God and we know that Jesus died on the cross for our sins.

*-Jada Systma*

As a Christian, I think people should read the Bible. They should read the Bible because it tells the truth and you learn a lot about our God and Jesus. You also learn how to repent and believe. I also think people should pray. If you are sad or have something guilty on your conscience you can tell God and He will comfort and forgive you.

*-Taren Kottlenberg*

How do we Christians act to others?

This is a real good question to ask.

We Christians need to act kindly and friendly even to our enemies. In the Bible, Jesus said we need to spread the Word of God to others who don't know the way. We should also go to a Christian school to learn about Him more. Our actions should show we are a Christian as we walk and do errands. On the streets, we can also give food or clothing to the homeless. In our community, we also provide gifts and food for missions. In church, we need to pray and praise the I Am. We could also talk to each other about sermons and God's creation. God didn't say to hide our shining lights under a basket, but show everyone that we can trust in Him. Our lights are shining brightly so act kind and shine your light to others who are astray.

*-Kyleigh DeMooy*

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**Come on out and join us on for our**

# **Fine Arts Evening**

**March 10, 2017 7:00pm**

## **Featuring**

- Recorder
- Girl's Chorus
- Drama:
  - The Greek Gods (Grade 3/4)
  - The Three Piggy Opera (Grade 1/2)
- Visual Arts
- Crafts

We also welcome contributions from the community.  
Students may enter one art item from home.

We are looking for art of all sorts: quilting, handiwork, or visual art  
that has been done in the past 2 years.

**All entries must be submitted to the school or Debbie Faber by:  
March 3, 2017 with name and grade, if you are a student.**

## **Also Featuring:**

### **A Photography Contest**

Age categories:

Grades 1-6

Grades 7-12

Amateur Adult Photographers

Details:

Photos should be 5x7 inches or larger, and be submitted  
to the CCS front desk with a name and age.

Prizes will be awarded at the Fine Arts Evening on March 10, 2017.

Submit photos by March 7<sup>th</sup>

Photos can range from architecture to landscapes to portraits.



*Are you a Cornerstone senior or alumni with plans to become a teacher?*

**We invite you to apply for Cornerstone Christian School's second annual**

**Education Scholarship!**

**Eligible applicants will:**

- Be a CCS senior or alumni.
- Maintain a GPA of 2.5 or higher.
- Be accepted to, or be currently enrolled in, a post-secondary institution.
- Be pursuing a course of study with the goal of a career in Christian education, e.g. be enrolled in an education department, or specialized course areas.

**Applications should:**

- Include a one page essay articulating the applicant's view of Christian education and why they are a good candidate to receive the funds.
- Provide a letter of recommendation.
- Include a general budget demonstrating financial need.
- Be submitted to the CCS Principal by March 31, 2017.

**The Education Scholarship Award will:**

- Promote careers in the teaching profession among our graduates and alumni, with a long-term view of ensuring staff for Cornerstone Christian School.
- Be awarded to applicant(s) based on demonstrated commitment to Reformed education, scholastic achievement and financial need.
- Be determined by June 1, 2017 as applicants and funds allow.
- Be dispersed in September directly to the successful applicant(s)' institution upon proof of enrollment.
- Be funded largely by donors in our community, on a year to year basis.
- Be administered by the CCS Education Scholarship Fund Committee.

For more information, please contact any of the following Education Scholarship Fund Committee members. We look forward to hearing from you!

John DeBoer (jdeboer\_01@hotmail.com)  
Stephanie Bareman (j-sbareman@comcast.net)  
Melanie Kottelenberg (janandmelanie@aol.com)

A stylized illustration of a quill pen resting in a dark inkwell. A scroll is partially unrolled, showing some text. The quill is dark with a lighter, feathery texture. The inkwell is a simple, dark shape. The scroll is light gray with some darker gray lines representing text.

## News Bulletin from Covenant Canadian Reformed Teachers College

On January 9, 2017, students, staff, and faculty returned refreshed after the Christmas break, all ready to begin the Winter Semester. At the start of a new calendar year, we remind ourselves that as we 'tell the next generation', we are completely dependent on the blessing of our Covenant God: "May the favour of the LORD our God rest upon us; establish the work of our hands for us – yes, establish the work of our hands." (Ps. 90:17).

Covenant continues to be a hive of activity. For 5 students, this semester will mark the final semester in their Diploma of Teaching program. It also means that in addition to their regular studies, they will soon be engaged in extra-curricular activities such as preparing and submitting applications, and attending interviews. All the students are looking forward to the February/March practicum session. In addition to placements in the schools in Ontario, some students will also be travelling to Manitoba. We thank the schools for their willingness to host our students.

The beginning of the second semester not only implies teaching new courses, but also is characterized by the ramping-up of the accreditation process. The faculty continues its work in lining up course contents to illustrate how we seek to meet or exceed Ministry requirements. At the same time, we are looking ahead at next year when the second year of the restructured 2 year Diploma of Education program will be implemented.

During the past semester, the work of preparing the accreditation application has progressed steadily. We give thanks to our heavenly Father for providing health, strength, and stamina to walk this process one step at a time. With the strong support and excellent services of Pathway Group, the focus has been on working with our member school societies to introduce ourselves to our elected representatives, to give them an opportunity to learn about who we are, and ask them to endorse the application.

With respect to the accreditation process, CCRTC is encouraged by the tremendous and enthusiastic support it is receiving from the member school communities. We hope that this also translates into a successful fundraising drive to cover the costs that are incurred. In all this we walk in faith, working and praying that the work of preparing future teachers to tell the next generation about God's mighty works may also receive the recognition of accreditation.

PR Committee, CCRTC

# 2016 – 2017 School Calendar

Aug. 30 – First Day of School  
 Sept. 5 – Labor Day  
 Oct. 6 – In-Service Day  
 Oct. 7 – Fall Break  
 Oct. 10 – Columbus Day  
 Oct. 13 – PSAT Test Date  
 Oct. 28 – HS First Qtr Reports  
 Oct.31/Nov. 1– HS P/T Conferences  
 Nov. 11- Veteran's Day  
 Nov. 23 – Elem First Term Reports  
 Nov. 24 – Thanksgiving Day  
 Nov. 25 – Thanksgiving Break  
 Nov. 28 – Early Release 11:55am  
 Nov. 28,30 – Elem P/T Conferences  
 Dec 16- Last Day of School 2016  
 Dec 19 – Jan 2 - Christmas Break  
 Jan 3 - Return to School 2017  
 Jan 16 - Martin Luther King Day

Jan 20- HS Second Quarter Reports  
 Jan 23,24 - HS P/T Conferences  
 Feb 10 – PD Day  
 Feb 16,17 - Mid-Winter Break  
 Feb 20 – President's Day  
 Mar 3 - Elementary Report Cards - Term 2  
 Mar 6 – Early Release – 11:55am  
 Mar 6,8 - Elementary P/T Conferences  
 Mar 24 - High School Third Quarter Reports  
 Apr 3-7- Spring Break  
 Apr 13 – Easter Concert  
 April 14 – Good Friday  
 May 5 – Public Speaking Contest  
 May 25 – Ascension Day  
 May 29 - Memorial Day  
 June 2 – Sports Day  
 June 5 - Quad School Track Meet  
 June 9 – Eighth Grade Graduation  
 June 16 - Last Day of School / Senior Graduation

## Board:

Chairman:	Darren Leyenhorst
Vice-Chairman:	Henry Klos
Building Liaison:	Ron Faber
Secretary:	Jeff Brown
Treasurer:	Steve Hofford
Staff & Membership Admin	Rick DeMooy

## Building/Maintenance Committee

Dave Burger	John DeBoer
Ron Faber	Jon Kruyswijk
Kam Veldman	

## Education Committee

Jon Dykstra	Christine Hofford
Darryn Kleyn	Henry Klos
Rianne Kruyswijk	Bernice Vreugdenhil

## IT Committee

Ray Buitenbos	Ron Faber
Dave Kruyswijk	Jack Marissen

## Finance Committee

Janice DeMooy	Brian Hendricks
Dave Hofford	Steve Hofford
Jan Kottelenberg	Kim Sytsma

## Library Committee

Ellen Davis	Shona Doornbos
Debbie Johnson	

## Ladies Aid Committee

Alyssa Brown	Ranelle Faber
Rianne Kruyswijk	Kim Sytsma

## Administration Staff

Darryn Kleyn	Principal
Karla Leyenhorst	Bookkeeper
Kari VanDiest	Secretary

## Teaching Staff

### Grade 1/2:

Shari Kruyswijk	Bible, Math History, Art
Janet Faber	LA, Music, Science
Darryn Kleyn	PE

### Grade 3/4:

Debbie Johnson	Bible, Math, LA3, Science
Ellen Davis	L.A 4, Music, History
Darryn Kleyn	PE
Karen DeMooy	Art

### Grade 5/6:

Lynette Van Hofwegen	
Ellen Davis	Music
Edmund Nederveen	PE, Math 6
Stephen Houweling	Writing 5,6

### Grade 7/8:

Stephen Houweling	
Edmund Nederveen	History, PE
Debbie Faber	Art
Jack Marissen	Science

## High School:

Wayne Chase	Bible/History/English/Math
Debbie Faber	Art
Stephen Houweling	Behind The Scenes
Darryn Kleyn	PE, Personal Finance
Edmund Nederveen	English, History
Jack Marissen	Science, Math
Darlene VanStaalduinen	Spanish
Irene Hicks	Life Skills - Cooking
Karen DeMooy	Life Skills – Sewing