



Happy Holidays

Volume 12, Number 3

December 22, 2013

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From The Chairman.....Mr. Cason VanDriel

Greetings, members of the Cornerstone Christian School Community!

At our membership meeting held in November, two new members were elected to the Cornerstone Christian School Board (Kolin Veldman and Cason VanDriel). That same meeting also marked the successful completion of Jim Bareman's term as Chairman of the Board. I have been appointed to fill those shoes in his place and am honored to do so. On behalf of the school society and the board, we would like to take this opportunity to extend our heartfelt thanks to Mr. Bareman for his wise leadership, hard work and diligence over the past three years! We also hope (and expect) that he will enjoy the reduction of workload that this new circumstance affords him! If, as you travel Guide Meridian by Wiser Lake, you look east (2 or 3 houses down or so), and see golf balls flying, horses galloping, or motorboats throwing up waves, you will know that our former chairman has found new ways to occupy his time!

It was good to see the level of attendance and involvement at the aforementioned membership meeting. By the level of attendance, it is evident that there is strong interest in what goes on at CCS at all levels, and we can be thankful that a spirit of harmony and unity prevails at these meetings and in our community. The Lord has truly blessed our society with the people, energy, facilities, and financial resources to allow Cornerstone Christian School to flourish here in Lynden.

Looking at CCS as an incoming board member, one cannot help but take it all in with a new perspective. What an exciting and bustling place!! A walk through the school makes one appreciate just how much work is done at the school on a daily basis, and how many people are involved in the continued operation of this fine institution! From our principal and teachers who work directly in the classrooms and at home in the evenings to the numerous committee members who work behind the scenes..... from the classroom volunteers who mark homework and help with classroom activities to those who keep the grounds and school facilities looking so sharp..... from those who participate in work parties and those involved in fund raising to those who attend to the financial affairs of the school..... it takes untold amounts of work and dedication for a school like ours to keep operating like it does. To all of you: a heartfelt "Thank You!" for all your efforts! Above

all, we thank our Heavenly Father for His great goodness to us and His continued blessing on us at Cornerstone.

By the time this issue is published, staff, students and volunteers will be relishing a much anticipated and well deserved Christmas break. This Friday evening, our school community will also have the opportunity to gather together in the Church for the Christmas program where we will celebrate our Savior's birth and where we will witness musical performances by the lower grade students and preschoolers. We anticipate it will be a wonderful time of fellowship and rejoicing! In advance, we thank the young students from CCS (and of course those singers so young they're not in school yet).

We rejoice and celebrate with our principal and his wife at the new addition to their family! Congratulations Mr. and Mrs. Kleyn (and Kleyn siblings) on the arrival of Chloe Elizabeth Kleyn last week! We understand that Chloe's debut nicely coincided with other obligations a principal has at this time of year, and that Mr. Kleyn scarcely missed a beat at school in all of this!

In this issue of the *Link*, you will also read reports from various committees pertaining to the operation of our school. We are grateful for the work done by these committees, and trust that these reports will keep all of us up to date regarding developments in the school.

We wish students, staff, and school community a safe and enjoyable Christmas holiday, and the Lord's rich blessing in the New Year!



Short Reports of the Board.....

Short Report from November 4, 2013

At the opening, J. Bareman called the meeting to order, read from Psalm 18, and led in prayer. The minutes from the meeting of October 14, 2013 with the principal were approved with two changes. The previous board meeting's matters from the minutes were reviewed and all were noted as completed. The proposed meeting agenda was adopted after adding an item for finalizing nominations for new directors.

D. Kleyn updated the board on recent school items summarized in his report. He touched on STAMP's Reformation Day evening, the Reading Month, and an upcoming change to the report card structure. He also informed the board about late/absent statistics for the school year thus far, and updated the board on visa statuses of staff members.

The board discussed adding surveillance cameras to the mezzanine library in order to have some amount of supervision to an area where teacher presence is not always available. After discussion, the board decided to move forward with the purchase of equipment suggested by T. Faber for around \$200. D. Kleyn updated the board on a new policy for school visitors (e.g. delivery drivers, technicians) to require them to wear a badge identifying themselves to the staff.

B. Lodder reviewed items from the last Education Committee meeting. The Ed Comm is planning on hosting a parent information evening scheduled for Tuesday January 14, 2014.

T. Faber was not present to give a CBM or IT report, but had sent them out previously via email before the meeting began. The board looked over the reports and agreed that everything appeared in good order, and had no items for further discussion.

B. Lodder reported that the first and second-year teacher visits went well. A common theme was appreciation for the support that they receive as teachers from the other staff and parents.

Looking into the future, the board discussed advertising for future high school staffing, and space requirements for 2014/15.

J. Bareman and J. Doornbos updated the board on recent work by the Compensation Committee. The board looked over the current proposed framework grid, and discussed aspects of it.

After discussing action items related to the upcoming annual meeting with the society, the date of Tuesday, November 19th, 2013 was confirmed, and the time set at 8:00 PM in the church building. The next regular meeting of the board was set for Monday, December 2nd, 2013 at 7:30 PM in the school building.

D. Kleyn was thanked for his time and left the meeting at 9:45 PM.

The minutes from the meeting without the principal of October 14, 2013 were approved as-is. Matters from the minutes were reviewed, and the agenda for the second half of the meeting was adopted as written.

The board spent time discussing financial matters. Budget presentation material for the membership meeting was reviewed and finalized. The board revisited setting aside of \$60k for capital projects dealt with in the special resolution passed by the society in November 2012. After reviewing the current financial numbers, the board agreed not to set aside any more money at this point than the previously reserved amount of \$30k.

The board touched on the Endowment Starter Fund that was approved at the membership meeting of 2012. Per the adopted documents, an independent committee of three people, elected by the society, is to be established to oversee the fund. It was agreed to table this for the Spring membership meeting.

Some final items were reviewed in preparation for the membership meeting, and B. Lodder led in prayer to close the meeting.



Short Report from December 2, 2013

The chairman called the meeting to order, read from Psalm 19, and led in prayer. He gave a special welcome to the new members. The minutes from the meeting of November 4, 2013 without the principal were approved after making three small changes. The minutes from the membership meeting with the Society of November 19, 2013 were approved as written. Matters from previous meetings' minutes were reviewed by the board, from which the Endowment Starter Fund and drafting new voting rules for membership meetings were discussed. The board appointed a new committee to draft a proposal for new voting rules, mainly to deal with allowing absentee ballots. As incoming mail, a signed contract was noted, as well as a report from those who reviewed the financial books. The proposed meeting agenda for the portion without the principal was adopted.

The board discussed financial matters. Regarding the remarks of those who reviewed the books, the board took note that all was reported well. However, the board also discussed the post script of the report, i.e. that it would be of benefit to define rules and regulations guiding the reviewing of the books for the future. The board agreed to establish a new subcommittee to establish these practices. The board reviewed the profit & loss statement, tuition and dues status, the property and operating pledge statuses, and the golf tournament results. Also reviewed and approved was the school's IRS Form 990. A short discussion was had on establishing preliminary budget numbers for the upcoming year. Regarding the recent land purchase, it was noted that the next payment is due by the end of the year, and so payment was authorized.

By way of general matters, the board assigned new roles for the board members, and designated new signers. It was suggested that C. VanDriel take up the role of chairman, and this was met with the approval of all members; C. VanDriel was found willing. The board designated the Chairman (C. VanDriel), Vice-Chairman (B. Lodder), and Treasurer (J. Doornbos) as the officers with signing authority.

Since the principal had arrived and the non-principal portion of the meeting had not been concluded, a board-only meeting was scheduled for Monday, December 16, 2013 at 7:30 in the school building to cover the remaining agenda items. [note: meeting since rescheduled to Wednesday the 18th]

D. Kleyn joined the meeting at 9:18 PM and was welcomed by the chairman.

After reviewing the minutes of the meeting with the principal of November 4, 2013, they were approved after making two changes. Matters from the minutes were discussed, including the creation of a new handbook or

reference binder for official school policies, the status of past action items, use for the new land, and the drafting of a video surveillance policy. The agenda for the second half of the meeting with the principal was adopted.

The departing chairman said a few words of appreciation towards the rest of the board and principal, and wished them all the best going forward. The board in turn thanked J. Bareman for his leadership during his tenure, and he departed the meeting.

The principal reviewed his latest report with the rest of the board. He touched on some educational matters, as well as some recent special events. He also updated the board on teacher and staff development, the possibility of obtaining a backup photocopier, and a recent visit by the insurance inspector. He also alerted the board that use of the school has been requested by Head Start for next summer. Pending feedback from the program for questions that the board has regarding their request, the board decided to carry the matter over to a future meeting.

T. Faber updated the board on the most recent building and IT matters, which can be found in their respective reports.

The board discussed general matters for board and principal, including the staffing outlook for 2013-14, 2013 budget guidance, and the schedule for regular board meetings. The board and principal decided to keep the practice of meeting on the second Monday of every month.

The next regular board meeting was scheduled for January 13th, 2014, at 7:30 PM in the school building. E. Brown led in prayer and the meeting was closed.

From the Treasurer.....Mr. John Doornbos

As we approach Christmas and the accompanying winter holiday break we can continue to be thankful for our financial status as well. One of the things that we pay particular attention to is our cash flow – that is, the amount of money that we have in our checking account ready for payroll and bill payment. Our bank account includes a lot of money that we've received for the property purchase so we are always careful to make sure that we're not counting that money as part of our cash flow. Without the property money we have about \$30,000 in our checking account that we can use for day to day bill payment. Based on our monthly obligations this is a healthy amount.

Speaking about the property purchase we have recently made another payment. Our Promissory Note with the prior owners requires that we make four payments; one every December and June. So this payment was the first one (aside from the deposit we made at closing).

As we approach the year-end we often have people keen on making their pledge payments so as to maximize their tax deductions for the current year. This surge in income is always appreciated so please take advantage of it – for our mutual benefit. Any income received on or before December 31st, 2013 can be recognized as being received in 2013.

Although the work done by the Compensation Committee has not been completely formalized by the board you did get to see a very comprehensive update on the work done this past year. We anticipate that the majority of this will be formally approved in the coming months and implemented for the 2014/15 school year. A big thank you to those members who gave of their time and parted with some wisdom in an effort to establish this program!

The finance committee as well as the various event planning committees will have met a couple times since the last meeting. The only notable activity since the last Link was the Cornerstone Christian Classic Basketball Tournament. We are thankful that this event, like the Soccer Festival and the Golf Tournament, was very successful. We had six teams enrolled this first year, a full complement of referees, good fan support, and negative incidents. Having a successful first time event is mostly measured by the aforementioned items but we can also let you know that the event also made a little money! So thank you to all those volunteers who organized and managed this event to a successful conclusion. We have something good to build on.

The next event that we're interested in seeing you support and participate in is the Australian Themed Dinner/Auction. The group organizing this will be sharing more details elsewhere in this publication but based on the visibility that I have had of the event plans to date I think this is definitely not something you want to miss! Not only will there be great items to purchase at auction but there will also be some fantastic food and entertainment that I'm sure will have you laughing all night long. Please plan on joining us and book your seats early as seating is limited!

Finally, as we enter the Christmas break and end the year of the Lord 2013 we cannot help but marvel at all of His goodness. Overall there has been so much basic stuff to be thankful for (health, good finances, faithful dedicated staff and volunteers, diligent students, etc) but we can also be thankful for some special things such as the opportunity and means to purchase the property, excellent new staff, a smooth transition to a new principal,

and above all we can spend time reflecting on the greatest gift of all, that of our Lord and Savior who has come into this world to redeem his children from certain death and has prepared a way for us to life everlasting.



From the Ed Comm.....Mrs. Corrie Klos

Reflections of an Ed Comm Member...

So it's once again time for my Ed Comm submission to the Link. I'm thinking back to when I was first asked if I was willing to serve on the Education Committee and am amazed at how quickly 3 years has passed. When I hesitantly said I would be willing I had no idea what it would involve. When someone asks you "what do you do on the Education Committee?" it's hard to give a concise answer. But I will say that it has been a great experience and it really gives you a better understanding of the work that goes on behind the scenes of classroom teaching and the administration at our school.

Looking back through meeting agendas shows we were busy in some way with the work experience program, updating the parent/teacher handbook, curriculum development, staffing, review of current curriculum, proposed school calendars, possible new course offerings in the high school, Iowa testing results, library subcommittee proposals, changes to report cards and much more. Each meeting we were presented with a Principal's report that highlighted the previous months happenings as well as meeting with the Curriculum Coordinator to hear about the development and organizing of curriculum in all grade levels.

The highlight of each year was the opportunity to sit in on the classrooms with a board member and just enjoy a little glimpse into the students' and teacher's day – something I recommend that everyone experience! Another highlight comes at the end of each year in the form of Senior Project presentations. The Ed Com serves as an audience (as well as parents and mentors) for the senior students who have put so much time into a project they have personally chosen and executed. I was amazed each year by the talent and hard work done by our students.

So if you're approached and asked to serve on the Ed Com and feel hesitant like I did – be assured you will learn much. And even if you can't give a concise answer to the question "what did you do" you will leave with a greater understanding and appreciation for the work done at the school. God has greatly blessed our work over the years and we have much to be thankful for!

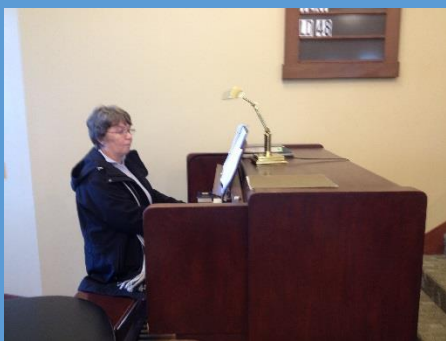
From The CBM.....Mr. Tim Faber

Since our last update the CBM continues to take care of misc. odds and ends. Between the principal and the CBM we have created a document that itemizes all the items the CBM needs to take care of that staff, students or daily cleaners see, that needs to be addressed. The good, we are more organized and can see quite quickly what items need to be taken care of... the bad ... unfortunately the list never seems to stop! It certainly keeps us on our toes!

No real big news to report, other than you may have noticed that there has been a new presentation screen installed in the school entry foyer. This will be used to showcase pictures and other exciting things the students are working on. The Ladies Aid donated the equipment to make this happen. Many thanks to the Ladies Aid! This will no doubt create a better sense of community and comradery amongst the student body, and allow parents to see what the students are up to and see upcoming events.

You may have noticed that the grade 1/2 classroom exterior door is looking a little ragged these days. For some un-explained reason during the cold snap a few weeks ago, a large portion of paint on this door fell off the door into little bits on the ground below. This was noticed on a Monday morning and must have happened over the weekend. It remains a mystery, other than it appears as though perhaps the original primer was not prepped quite right. The unfortunate part is we now have to wait for warmer weather to re-paint this door. An inspection of the remaining doors does not reveal any delamination or blisters, so we are hopeful this was a very isolated event.

For the rest, the building continues to be holding up quite nicely and thanks to the efforts of many the building is being well cared for! Thanks all, and wishing all a blessed Christmas and a Happy New Year!



From Our Principal.....Mr. Darryn Kleyn

Welcome to the December issue of the *Lynden Link*. The first school term has flown by in a whirlwind of activity. I am so grateful for the wonderful work that goes on at the school each day. It's a joy to interact with such a vibrant student body and a privilege to lead a dedicated and enthusiastic teaching and office-support staff. We are all so grateful to the committed volunteers who consistently give their time and energy to help students receive extra attention and support. All of us continue to learn and grow together, making it such a blessing to be involved at Cornerstone Christian School.

On a personal note: As a family, we are delighted and thankful for the gift of a new daughter. Thank you for your well wishes, cards, meals, and home help; we've been overwhelmed with the love you have extended to our family.

Nurturing Children

I recently read an interesting analogy of the family in John Sittema's book, *With a Shepherd's Heart*. It goes like this: "the Christian family is the greenhouse within which is nurtured the tender plant of obedient service to Christ; therefore the church (or read: parents) should keep the glass clean, the temperature warm, and the soil well watered and fertilized."

In other words, parents must nurture their children so they grow to maturity and service. In Deuteronomy, we find a picture of what this looks like. "Talk about them (God's commandments) when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up. Tie them as symbols on your hands and bind them on your foreheads. Write them on the doorframes of your houses and on your gates" (6:7-9). Sittema writes, "Such a home will be a tremendous greenhouse for faith. It involves both parental mouth and modeling alike in nurturing the young plant; it extends to daily work ("hands"), thought processes and decision-making ("foreheads"), and consistency of faith from front-door to back, from living room to bedroom, from kitchen to garage ("doorframes and gates" visibility)."

As parents and as teachers, we have a tremendous task and a glorious opportunity to lead young minds to grow and mature. God has promised his blessing when we, in faithfulness and obedience, follow his lead in instructing and nurturing His covenant children. Let's align our motives, our thoughts, and our actions with our hope in Christ. Our children are watching and learning, and need to see us focusing on what matters for eternity.

Making Melody

By the time this prints, we will be looking forward to the elementary students' performance in the Christmas program. It's been beautiful listening to the students singing praises to their Creator. Heartfelt thanks to Mrs. Schouten for sharing her conducting talents and to Mrs. Davis, Mrs. S. Veldman, Julia Lodder, and Brandon Wielenga, for their accompaniment. We so appreciate your commitment to inspiring the next generation to sing "psalms and spiritual songs." When I observe the enthusiastic singing from the young ones, I begin to dream about a CCS school choir. I'm also challenged by the meditation from Rev. JGR Kroeze (published elsewhere in this edition of the *Link*) to foster a culture of singing in our homes and classrooms. May the Christmas program, our classroom devotions, and our family and corporate worship give expression to the joy and thanksgiving that lives in our hearts.

School Life

The past few months have been a buzz of activity. November was reading month, an initiative that Mrs. J. Faber does a fantastic job of spearheading every year. Students were encouraged to collect the minutes they read each day. Classrooms were decorated to reflect a particular scene from a book, and the younger ones were

invited to “Snuggle-Up-and-Read” event on a Friday evening. We even welcomed a few interesting guest speakers to liven up our school theme.

Report cards have gone out and parent-teacher interviews were conducted with excellent attendance. Board and Education Committee members have come to visit on a few occasions, each time with glowing reports. One of them wondered: “Is there a way for more parents to experience what we’ve just observed?” After further discussion, we decided to offer dads a tour of the classrooms at a convenient time. We’re calling it “Dad’s Day.” Keep an eye out for an email in January inviting dads to visit and receive a principal-led tour of the different classrooms in full swing.

Meditating on God’s Goodness

During this Christmas season, we are reminded that, while we live in a broken world among many who live without hope, we can celebrate the birth of our Savior! It is because the Word became flesh—because Christ humbled himself and took on human form—that we might have a glorious future to look forward to. By God’s grace, we are now his children, bought with the precious blood of His Son, our Lord Jesus Christ. During this time, may we spend time mediating on God’s goodness toward us and speak of it to those that are in need of grace.

As another year draws to a close we can be thankful for God’s gracious care over our lives. While we don’t know what the new year will bring, we can be sure that all our striving will not be in vain if we do our work to His honor and glory. I wish you all a festive Christmas season and God’s blessings in the year of our Lord 2014.



Athletic Report.....Mr. Darryn Kleyn

At our November school-wide assembly, we had the pleasure of listening to a presentation from Carl Nienhuis. Carl challenged us to think biblically about competition, particularly as it relates to sports. He summed it up this way: *competition should be a collaborative, mutual striving together toward excellence. Like iron sharpens iron, opponents should honor each other and cooperate to bring out the very best in one another* (Philippians 2:3-4; Proverbs 27:17).

A secular view of competition proposes that we pursue superiority over others by defeating them—and, more often than not, attempt to win at all costs. As Nienhuis explained, this contrasts starkly with the Christian ethic of servanthood. Jesus Christ was the ultimate example and model of compassion, humility, love, and self-sacrifice. Through our participation in sports we have a golden opportunity to use our gifts and talents as *aesthetic expressions of joy in thankful celebration to God*. In this way, we follow Christ’s example while being a light to the world. May this be at the forefront of our minds during the upcoming sports season and beyond.

Basketball

Basketball season is upon us again. Since mid-November, our basketball players have been busy practicing and refining their skills. We are thankful for coaches who give their time so generously: Janice Dykstra, Bernice Vreugdenhil and Trina Visser (high school girls), Marty Vreugdenhil (Varsity boys), Kyle Lodder (JV boys), Kristina Faber and Kim Sytsma (middle school girls), and Ken & Kyle Bosscher (7/8 boys).

The high school boys enjoyed their involvement in the inaugural Cornerstone Christian Classic, a senior boys basketball tournament we hosted on December 6 and 7. It served as a fundraiser for the school and an opportunity for our varsity squad to get in some excellent game time before their regular season. Thank you to Bernice Vreugdenhil and Nathan & Clarissa Chase for being part of the organizing committee! We are also grateful to the refs and scorers who volunteered for this event.

Two weeks ago, the high school students began their season of league games. The Northwest Youth Basketball League has four teams in the boys A-division, four teams in the B-division and eight teams in the girls division. To catch a game or to keep up with our teams’ progress go to www.nwyouthbb.com.

Allow me to finish with a quote from John Wooden that was shared at our recent assembly: *"When a game is over, and you see somebody that didn't know the outcome, I hope they couldn't tell by your actions whether you outscored an opponent or the opponent outscored you."*



From the Ladies Aid.....Mrs. Janice DeMooy

The end of the year is such a good time to reflect on the past year's successes, challenges, and overwhelming blessings. It is impossible not to acknowledge God's providence and blessing and humbly give thanks to Him as we move forward through another school year. As the Ladies Aid board, we are excited with the success of fundraisers that have happened in the past few months: Veggie packs, Apple pies and Christmas wreaths and swags. There were many who volunteered their time to make the fundraisers successful, and to each of you we offer our heartfelt thanks! We were also happy to fulfill the wish list requests presented to us by Mr. Kleyn on behalf of the staff. We were able to purchase several items including seating in the science lab, some big books for the elementary grades, a projector and some computer hardware as well as an exciting addition to the foyer of the school: a flat screen monitor which is currently displaying pictures in a slideshow, and will also include school and sports announcements, and projects completed by the videography class. In the New Year, we're looking forward to a membership meeting at the end of January where we will discuss upcoming fundraisers - we'd love to see a good turnout! We hope to revisit possible involvement in the NWWash Fair, and also get the ball rolling with the Family Volleyball Tournament, the Plant sale/VanWingerden coupons, and the Garage sale! Ladies Aid has taken on the responsibility of overseeing the concession stand - operating out of the school kitchen during volleyball and basketball season, and we have also 'adopted' the Soccer Carnival, which is a fun addition to our list of fundraisers. There are lots of opportunities to get involved and we look forward to your continued support and participation! And in all we do, we look to our Heavenly Father for His blessings on every endeavor we undertake... to Him be the glory!

Parent Information Evening: Behind the Scenes

When: Tuesday, January 14

Time: 8pm

Where: School building

Cornerstone Christian School offered a new course at the grade 9/10 level this year. The course, Behind the Scenes, seeks to give our students a critical awareness and understanding that:

- everything that communicates a message is called a text
- all texts are crafted
- all texts have a voice, can you hear whose voice it is?
- messages can be very loud or extremely subtle
- there are tools to help us decode and analyze the message conveyed in texts

Mr Houweling, teacher of the course, and br. Jon Dykstra, current EdComm member look forward to giving you a Behind the Scenes look at what our students are being taught from a Christian Worldview. They will give practical examples in an effort to give a good understanding of how the media impacts our minds and the minds of our children.

We'd love to see you there!



From all of the staff here at Cornerstone Christian:
Wishing all our students, parents and extended community
a very Merry Christmas & a Happy New Year.

May the Lord bless us all this holiday season,
See you all in 2014!!

Some excerpts of our first & second grade classroom:

I like to lern abawte the Bible. I like to lerne abawte Jesus Crist the Lorb. I like to lerne was in the Bible.

By: Mikenzie (1st grade)

I like to raed Bibles becus I like to lern abowt them and I like to raed Bibles becus I like the storree abowt Jesuss. How bid on the ckeros for our sins. And I like to sing. I love to sing becus we are singing to God.

By: Ally (1st grade)

I love Bibel storys. In Genesis we learn adout how God Created the erth. Genesis 1, Genesis 44 when 12 brothers sell Joseph and he is a slave of Potavar and Potavars wife lies adout it and he gosse to jail then he tricks his brothers and he pretended to be king and he has supper with them and he gives Benjamin the biggest plate of food to see if thay are still jelliss. The Bidel is the best Book in the world.

By: Ava (2nd grade)

I love to here bible stories in class. I like to here them because bible stories are interesting and I also like them becaus they are about God's generashan.

By: Abby (2nd grade)

I like Bible Stories! I like Bible stories Because you learn more about God and Jesus' birth and learn about God's time and about the sheep.

By: Jada (2nd grade)

I like bible storys because they are interesting and they are the word of God. The bible has the best storys in the world.

By: Taren (2nd grade)

I like Bible! I like bible because there are intresting Stories. I like the bible because it is God's word. I like the bible because we can learen abot the bible. I like the bible so we can worship God.

By: Jaymie (2nd grade)

I like Bible stories because you learn a lot about God and you learn a lot about the Bible and I lean a lot about Joseph.

By: Luke (2nd grade)

I love the Bible because it is God's word. I love Bible storys because they are about people long ago. And I know there is Genisis and other chapters.

By: Joey (2nd grade)

I like the Bible so we do not sin, so we can learn. So we can worship God, so we can go to Heaven.

By: Aleeah (2nd grade)



Reading Month – Book Character Day!

If student "A" reads 20 minutes, five nights a week and student "B" reads only 4 minutes a night...or not all by, by the end of a school year student "A" will have read 3,600 minutes and student "B" will have read 720 minutes. Which student would you expect to read better, know more, write better and be even more successful in school? Each year the staff at Cornerstone Christian School make November Reading month in hopes of awakening the reader in every student and thereby making them lifelong readers.

During Reading Month students are encouraged to read every night and record the number of minutes they have read. By the end of November the students at Cornerstone Christian School read a total of 46,896 minutes. That is approximately 390 minutes per student.

Another aspect of reading month at CCS is having students paired up with an older reading buddy. Twice during November -15 minutes are set aside and the students read together with their buddy. It is an awesome sight to see old and younger students reading together in all corners of the school.

A few years ago we added the Cornerstone Book of the Year contest during November. This year nominated for Picture book of the Year were *Dr. DeSoto* by William Steig, *Just List Mama* by Beverly Lewis and *Man Named All the Animals* by Bob Dylan. "*Dr. DeSoto*" was voted as the 2013 CCS Picture book of the year. *Stuart Little* by E.B.White was chosen as the 2013 CCS novel of the year over, *Frindle* by Andrew Clements and *Love That Dog* by Sharon Creech. The high school art students engraved an emblem to be put on the cover of our library copy of these books.

These are just a few ways the staff are encouraging the students to have a love for reading and develop the desire to be lifelong readers. May this lead our students to be readers of the Good Book.



School Calendar 2013-2014

Aug. 27 – First Day of School
 Sept 2 – Labor Day
 Oct 10– In Service Day
 Oct 11 – Fall Break
 Oct 14 – Columbus Day
 Nov 1 -High School 1st Qtr reports
 Nov 4 & 5 – High School P/T Conferences
 Nov 11 – Veteran's Day
 Nov 27 – Elem Report Cards
 Nov 28 – Thanksgiving Day
 Nov 29 – Thanksgiving Break
 Dec 2, 4 – Elem P/T Conferences
 Dec. 20 – Christmas Program
 Dec 23 – Jan 3 – Christmas Break
 Jan 6 – First day of school 2013
 Jan 20 – Martin Luther King Day
 Jan 24 – High School 2nd Qtr reports
 Jan 27 & 28– HS P/T Conferences
 Jan 31 – Prof. Dev. Day
 Feb 13 & 14 – Mid-winter Break
 Feb 17 – President's Day
 Mar 7 – Elem Report Cards
 Mar 10 & 12 – Elem P/T Conferences
 Mar 28 – High School 3rd Qtr Reports
 Mar 31- Apr 4 – Spring Break
 Apr 18 – Good Friday
 May 2 – Public Speaking Contest
 May 26 – Memorial Day
 June 2 - Quad School Track Meet
 June 6 – Eighth Grade Graduation
 June 13 – Last Day of School /
 Senior Graduation

Board:

Chairman:	Cason VanDriel
Vice-Chairman:	Bob Lodder
Building Liaison:	Tim Faber
Secretary:	Eric Brown
Treasurer:	John Doornbos
Staff & Membership Admin:	Kolin Veldman

Building/Maintenance Committee

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Gr 1/2 History, P.E., Art, Gr. 3 LA	Jenny Tiemeyer
Gr 1/2 LA, Music	Janet Faber
Grade 3-4:	Laetisia Kleyn
Grade 5-6:	Lynette Van Hofwegen
Grade 7-8:	Stephen Houweling
Grade 9-12:	Darryn Kleyn
	Wayne Chase
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Art 7-10	Debbie Faber

Let him sing Psalms

Is anyone among you suffering? Let him pray. Is anyone cheerful? Let him sing psalms. (James 5:13)

Much of life is caught in these two alternatives. Life can be drudgery, but it can also be suffering and happiness. That would mean that we should be spending much time in prayer and in praise. The two are not really different, for prayer can be praise and praise of God is prayer. The Hebrew name for the book of Psalms means prayers, but it is a book of praises. Therefore, we should spend our lives in prayer and praise. However, that is not always the case, and I fear that the problem is increasing among our youth. The songs of Zion are fast disappearing from the repertoire of God's people. There are mp3 players and hard drives full of the songs of Babylon and our youth happily sing along to them, not fully realising what they are singing perhaps, but it usually isn't much good. How often do we hear our children listening to or singing the psalms and hymns we teach them as they grow up. By their teens they are hardly heard anymore except in church. That means that they have lost at least one of our ways of relating to the Lord and that is deeply troubling.

When we are in trouble we often pray. Then we remember our God. We do not like our situation and we pray for relief. That is almost instinctive. We need little encouragement to pray when we are in trouble. Sometimes even then we do not pray, but that reveals a hardness of heart that must be repented of. However, we are often happy. Life is going well and we see God's blessings all around us. Nevertheless we often don't really give heartfelt thanks to God for His many blessings. That is one of the criticisms of Paul of mankind. He doesn't give thanks to God. **Rom 1:21**. He calls us to speak to each other in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, making melody in your heart to the Lord, giving thanks always for all things to God the Father in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ. **Eph 5:19-20**. Those verses seem to have somewhat disappeared from our mental map although we live in a time of the

greatest prosperity mankind has ever known and the greatest freedom to serve the Lord without fear. Why aren't we brimming and our mouth running over with praise and thanksgiving?

The problem partially lies in our prosperity. We no longer ask where our next meal is coming from, but we ask how we can afford the next luxury item. We do not fully realise our daily dependence on our God and so we do not really thank God for His provision. We are so used to the riches of salvation freely given us by God in the Lord Jesus Christ that we forget the great sacrifice God and our Lord made for our salvation. We are so rich and we take it for granted. It is our birthright. It is, but it is by grace and not desert. Even the fact that we have God as our Father by birth into His covenant is grace and not simply an accident. He brought you into being and placed you in the richest place in this world. Grace should bring us all to praise and to thanksgiving and the wonder of that grace should astound us every day again as we realise our total unworthiness. That joy and praise and thanksgiving should find its outlet in the songs of our mouths. Let us foster anew a culture of singing God's praise and let it colour our lives as a thankful people rejoicing in our wonderful and gracious God.

JGR Kroeze

Frist published in "The King's Bridge" 20 March 2012



FEB 21 - 2014

AUSTRALIAN THEMED CHARITY DINNER AUCTION

Dinner Auction Down Under!

Step 1: DONATE AN ITEM OR SERVICE!

We ask for every household of the school society to submit an item or service to be auctioned off at either the live auction or silent auction. Use the donation form on the backside of this handout, submit no later than Feb 1st, 2014. Think about what would bring super value and would be the ideal auction stuffer; ideas are endless but you only need one great one to make this a success!

Drop-off the donation form at the school or via email, or hand it to any of the committee members anytime!

Step 2: GET A TABLE OR A SEAT!

Bless a group with a fine dining and entertainment experience by purchasing a table for eight (\$500) or purchase a seat for \$40. Talk to us or email for priority registration!

Hot news!

We are excited to announce that professional ventriloquist **Justin Verberg** and his "Funny Dummy" show will be the feature entertainment.



Questions?

Feel free to contact anyone of us anytime

Cason, Lydia, Jan, Rick F, Eric, Dave H

CCS Auction Committee

& Cornerstone Finance Committee

auction@cornerstoneschool.us

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telling the generations to come, the praises of the Lord

DINNER AUCTION DONATION FORM

8868 Northwood Rd,
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Phone: (360) 318-0663
www.cornerstoneschool.us

Cornerstone Christian School is a
Registered 501(c) nonprofit organization
Our tax ID number: 91-1285734

For Office Use Only

Procurement #	Catalog #	Tangible Item Y/N
Storage Location	Combine w/:	Gift Certificate Y/N

Donor Information

Donor(s) name	Address		
Business name	City	State	Zip
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CCS Solicitor

Name	Phone no.
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ITEM DONATED _____ VALUE \$ _____
(Donor must fill in value)

ITEM OR SERVICE DESCRIPTION – Print as you wish your donation to appear.

Include quantity, size, color, number of persons, weeks, days/nights.

Please state all restrictions _____

Expiration date _____ ☐ Default expiration – One year from auction date

Check all that apply

<input type="checkbox"/> Tangible item attached	<input type="checkbox"/> Auction Committee to create gift certificate
<input type="checkbox"/> Item to be delivered by donor on _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Tangible item to be picked up by Auction Representative on _____
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☐ Check here if you would like to be added to the mailing list

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROUS PARTICIPATION

Email a copy to auction@cornerstoneschool.us or Drop off at school with this form attached.