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NEWSLETTER

December 2017
Vol XXV No IV

Ponderings 4

I'm a bit of a movie buff, and many years ago I came across a title in the Lethbridge Public Library in the video section that caught my eye. Those were the days of VHS vs. Beta, expensive machines and high rental fees. To save money my wife and I would borrow them from the library. Seeing *It's a Wonderful Life* on the shelf and having read and heard that it was a Christmas season must-see, we took it home and watched it. I quickly realized why it has retained its popularity for so many decades, in spite of the fact that it was not particularly impressive in its box office debut.

If you are unacquainted with this perennial Christmas favorite, it is - SPOILER ALERT - the story of a good and decent man who toils in the service of his town's citizens to set up a local credit union. His reputation for honesty, good sense and compassion soon make the bank a resounding success, and his community thrives as they pool their resources and reap the benefits. It all seems too good to be true, and of course, it is. A plot twist sees the bank pushed to the brink of collapse amid wrongful allegations of corruption. The hero is plunged into despair. Convinced of the futility of what he has attempted to accomplish, he considers taking his own life. An angel intervenes and enables him to see the history of the town as it would have unfolded if he had never been born. He is then able to see that his life has been meaningful and beneficial – a blessing to all.

Some criticize this movie for its sentimentality, but I

think there is a reason for its enduring popularity, especially at Christmas. The Christmas season, at its best, leads us to examine our purpose, relationships, obligations and responsibilities in the light of Christ's coming some two thousand years ago. It's probably good to think about how I have affected the lives of those around me in the year gone by. Have I made a positive difference? And will I be motivated to do so in the year ahead? But far more importantly, how has the gift of Jesus transformed me and this school?

Finally, I will conclude by asking myself, and sharing with you this question. What would the world be like if God had not sent Christ as his sacrificial gift to us? I cannot imagine it, and for that alone I am thankful. I am also thankful to be involved in a school where we can teach that the Truth is that Person.

On behalf of Central Alberta Christian High School, I wish you a blessed and restful Christmas and a vital, Spirit-filled New Year, with angels and ministers of grace attendant.

Pete Hoekstra
Principal

Do not let anyone look down on you because you are young, but set an example for the believers in speech, in life, in love, in faith and in purity. 1Timothy 4:12

Board Notes

The Board would like to take this time to draw attention to CACHS Catering. We are so thankful for their outstanding service and generosity. This group faithfully serves and enriches the CACHS community on many levels. CACHS Catering could always use more volunteers and needs your help. If you are looking for a place to serve in the New Year, please consider giving a few hours of your time to CACHS Catering. Please contact the office for more information.

The Board would also like to wish all CACHS families and staff a very restful and joy filled Christmas. We are so blessed to have this season to reflect, rejoice and worship our King Jesus. May He always remain the center of every facet of our lives throughout this season and into the New Year. For faith in Him – brings true joy! Romans 5:11 – Merry Christmas!

Your sister in Christ
Kandice Heltman
Board Secretary

Bill 24

As noted in the October newsletter, the recent passage of Bill 24 through the Alberta legislature poses a significant challenge to the notion of the primacy of parental rights with respect to the education of their children. This ought to draw the attention and concern of all parents, including those who choose to have their children educated in Christian schools. Please pray for all educational stakeholders and the leaders of area Christian schools as they address the issues arising from compliance requirements. If you require further information, feel free to contact the CACHS office.

AERR/Three Year Education Plan

The Annual Education Results Report for the 2016/2017 school year and the Education Plan for the three years commencing September 1, 2017 for Central Alberta Christian High School Society is a document prepared under the direction of the Board

in accordance with the responsibilities under the *Private Schools Regulation* and the *Education Grants Regulation*. This document has been developed in the context of the provincial government's business and fiscal plans. The Board has used the results reported in the document, to the best of its abilities, to develop the Education Plan and is committed to implementing the strategies contained within the Education Plan to improve student learning and results.

The Board approved this combined annual Education Results Report for the 2016/2017 school year and the Three Year Education Plan for 2017/2020 on November 27th, 2017.

Parents and society members are invited to pick up the report in the school office or access the report at our web site www.cachs.ca

Doffing our Caps

We recently made the decision to rock our students' world by amending our dress code by prohibiting the wearing of hats inside the school. This code applies to all visitors as well. We feel that it is appropriate to adhere to a widely accepted practice of removing hats indoors as a sign of respect for the institution, and realigns the school to support the policies of feeder and area schools. If you have any questions about this decision, please contact Mr. Pete Hoekstra at the school, at your convenience.

Reminder

If you have not yet completed and returned the Off-Site Activity Consent form that is required for this school year, please do so as soon as possible. A digital copy was sent out again on December 12th to those families who had not yet completed and returned the form. **Please complete and return the form to school as soon as possible. Thank you.**

Financial Update for December 2017

Our annual Fall Drive along with this year's Capital Campaign is well underway. Our goal was set at \$600,000. The first \$100,000 will be designated towards the Fall Drive and any other designated causes requested. The rest of the funds will be applied to the Capital Campaign for the Industrial Arts Building.

We would like to thank the people who already donated to the drive. To date we have received \$68,998.50. Prayerfully consider to what extent you can support CACHS through this year's drives. Donations can be given to a canvasser or mailed directly to the school – CACHS, 22 Eagle Road, Lacombe, AB T4L 1G7 - Attention Wendy Barnes. To receive a donation receipt for 2017, please have your donation to the school by 11:00 am on Friday, December 29th, 2017 so I can make a bank deposit at noon that day. There is an outside mail box at the front doors if you would like to drop off a donation. You can also call me at 403-885-5187 if you would like to meet at the school during the Christmas break.

If you haven't sent in your tuition cheques this year, statements will be coming out in January.

May you have a wonderful Christmas season with family and friends as you celebrate the birth of our Savior.

Yours in Christ
Wendy Barnes
Business Administrator

Save the Date!!



Library News

It's difficult to comprehend that it is December. We are presently experiencing unseasonal warmth but I'm not complaining! The colder weather does help to bring about the Christmas spirit, the desire to bake family favorites and curl up with a good book.

Christmas for me, tends to be a pivot point. I can look back at the many blessings that I have experienced and then look forward and dream of the future. The future can be concerning and at times scary but we have a promise.

"My peace I leave you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid." John 14:27

Take time to relax and make a memory.

Yvonne Reed
Librarian

Career Corner

"Each person is given something to do that shows who God is." 1 Cor. 12:7 MSG

So much for the excuse "I don't have anything to offer." Did the apostle Paul say, "the Spirit has given *some* of us..."? or "the Spirit has given a *few* of us..."? No, "The Spirit has given *each of us* a special way of serving others." Cure for the Common Life by Max Lucado

Post secondary institutions will continue to have open houses and 'student for a day' opportunities for the first four months of 2018. If anyone is interested in attending a college or a university in the coming year, it is recommended that you go and check it out. Some schools' deadlines for applying are coming soon.

I wish everyone a joyous Christmas and a blessed new year!

Veronica DenOudsten
Career Counselor

CACHS Catering

CACHS Catering upcoming events:

March 1 – “Swing into Spring” at CACHS

March 15 – Provincial B’ball banquet at LMC

We are very thankful to the seniors/grandparents who faithfully come and help us at every major event. Their willingness to roll meatballs, peel potatoes and prepare salads and fruit platters lightens our work load immensely and we have a lot of fun while working together.

CACHS Catering strives for a high quality meal for a very reasonable price. If you would like to have us cater for an upcoming function, please feel to phone Emma for information. Have a look at the menu options and keep in mind that you will support the school by letting us cater your special function! We are only able to do one banquet on a weekend and only two functions a month so if you would like to book us, please call as soon as possible as we work on a first come first serve basis.

If you are able to help serve and/or clean up at any of our functions, please contact Anne Siebenga at 403-782-3554. Please consider volunteering a couple hours of your time to help at one of our functions.

CACHS Catering:

Emma Den Oudsten – 403-782-2657

Jennette Oosterink – 780-372-2130

Clase van Iperen – 403-396-3708

Rosemary Vander Ploeg – 403-783-5217

Israel Trip Update

We have an excited group of twelve committed to travelling the Holy Lands in March 2019! If you are interested in joining our group yet please talk with Mr. Eggink. A small change has been made to shift the trip back one day to March 18-30. This coming January Mrs. Den Oudsten will go to Israel and preview a portion of our trip with Christian Journeys. Feel free to talk with her before and especially afterwards if you have any questions about travelling in the Holy Lands. We are looking forward to the trip!

Industrial Arts Facility Update

With the exciting news of our CACHS Society approving and moving forward with the building of a new Industrial Arts facility, the Industrial Arts Committee is looking for qualified trades people to sub-contract from Eagle Builders in concrete finishing, plumbing, electrical and commercial heating. **If you are interested in any of these sub-trades, please contact Dennis Haan at 403-357-9543 by January 31, 2018.**

The Industrial Arts committee is also moving forward with outfitting the interior of our new shop facility! We are making up our tool shopping lists, but are also open to tool donations. Please contact one of the committee members list below, or the school office if you have tools available.

Industrial Arts Committee members are:

Darrell & Sue Stang – dsta@telus.net

Darrell – Phone - 403-391-3190

Sue – Phone - 403-391-0444

Nick Den Oudsten – vnoudsten@gmail.com

- Phone - 403-318-9948

Lennard VanderSchee – lc.schee@gmail.com

- Phone – 403-885-4388

Sean Folkerts - sbfolkerts@yahoo.ca

- Phone - 403-302-9502

Travis Eggink – teggink@cachs.ca

- Phone – 403-352-0111



LACOMBE Soccer Club

2018 Outdoor Soccer Registration
& AGM

Wednesday, February 7
7:00 PM to 9:00 PM

For registration forms:
www.lacombeminorsoccer.weebly.com
Facebook

Grad Update

The Grad committee is currently making tentative plans for the Grad trip that will happen at the end of May. We will need confirmation from all the grade 12 students before Christmas that they plan to attend the trip.

We have done two fundraisers so far – poinsettias/chocolates, and a babysitting event at Woodynook. Keep listening for another fundraiser happening after the Christmas break!

We are also looking into grad hoodies this year and should have more details on ordering, styles and sizes in the next few weeks.

Please note that the date of Grad has changed from Friday, June 29th to Thursday, June 28th, 2018.

1A Basketball Provincials - March 14-17, 2018

We have been very blessed with the community's amazing financial support for the tournament and we have surpassed our goal of \$15,000.00!

We have set up our various committees and have people in charge of each aspect of the tournament. We are now looking for general volunteers who can help out with tasks that include concession, gate, score keeping, announcing, set-up, clean-up, etc. Please contact the office and we will include you on our volunteer lists. We will have a general meeting for all volunteers in the new year. Basketball season has just begun and we are pumped about the year ahead!

2018 Provincial Basketball Coordinators –
Travis Eggink – teggink@cachs.ca
Veronica Den Oudsten – vdenoudsten@cachs.ca
Cindy Ekkel – cekkel@cachs.ca
Terry & Donna Vandeborn – sales@signmasters.ca
or call 403-896-7446

Alumni Basketball Tournament

The CACHS Alumni Basketball tournament will be held on Saturday, January 6, 2018. To register, please email Mrs. Den Oudsten at vdenoudsten@cachs.ca or arrive at CACHS at 9 a.m. on January 6th if you would like to play. We will be organizing men's and women's teams Saturday morning. Games will start at 9:30 a.m. and run through the afternoon. We look forward to a great day of basketball and community!

Calendar

December 22 – January 7 – Christmas break

January 11 – English 30-1 & 30-2 diploma
Part A – a.m.

January 23 – English 30-1 & 30-2 diploma
Part B – a.m.

January 24 – 30 – First term exams for
Grades 10 & 11

January 25 – Math 30-1 & 30-2 diploma – a.m.

January 30 – Physics 30 diploma – a.m.

January 30 – Science 30 diploma – p.m.

January 31 – Semester Break – ski trip

February 1 – Second semester begins

March 1 – “Swing into Spring” fundraiser

March 15, 16, & 17 – Provincial boys and girls
basketball hosted by CACHS

June 28 – Grade 12 graduation –

Please note the change of date for graduation

Sports Notes/Calendar

Follow us on:

Facebook: Central Alberta Christian High School

Instagram: cacksknights

Twitter @CACHS-Knights

Athletics Calendar:

Drop-in badminton Tuesday 7:30 – 9:30 pm

Dec. 15/16 – Girls and Boys B'ball Games at
CACHS and LCHS

Dec. 22-23 – Alumni Volleyball Tournament

Jan. 6 – Alumni Basketball Tournament

Jan. 12-13 – CACHS Invitational Tournament –
Boys and Girls basketball

March 14-17 – Boys & Girls Provincial 1A

Basketball Championships hosted by CACHS

Please support our Sponsors

If you would like to place your business ad in our monthly newsletter, please contact Ann at the school at 403-782-4535.

Cost is \$10/month.



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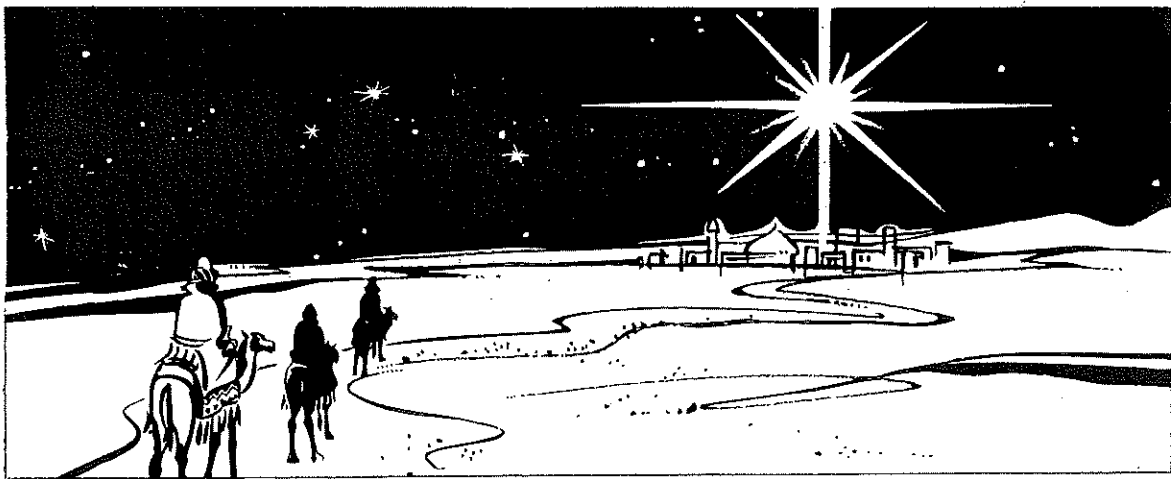


**May you have the spirit of
Christmas which is Peace**

**The gladness of Christmas
which is Hope**

**The heart of Christmas
which is Love**

**May the blessings of
Christmas be yours now and
throughout the new year.**



**Merry Christmas from the Staff
and students of Central Alberta
Christian High School**