



CENTRAL ALBERTA CHRISTIAN HIGH SCHOOL

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NEWSLETTER

November 2013

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“Take, eat, remember and believe that the body of our Lord Jesus Christ was given for the complete forgiveness of all our sins.”

For many of us the words above remind us of participation in the sacrament of the Lord’s Supper. It’s a solemn time when we realize the severity of our sin and yet a joyous time as we feel the weight of our sin being lifted off our shoulders and placed at the foot of the cross. It is an action in the taking and eating; an acceptance of Christ’s sacrifice, and an active belief in the present power of the cross.

I spoke at Harvest Fest of the role of identity in our lives, how in our first 18 or so years of life this identity is being formed, in our post high school years, it is being molded into a more permanent identity, and how in our later years of life its is being polished as we recognize that our earthly time remaining may be limited. The Lord’s Supper for me is a reminder of my true identity “That I am not my own, but belong with body and soul, both in life and in death, to my faithful Savior Jesus Christ. He has fully paid for all my sins with His precious blood, and has set me free from all the power of the devil. He also preserves me in such a way that without the will of my heavenly Father not a hair can

fall from my head; indeed all things must work together for my salvation Therefore, by His Holy Spirit He also assures me of eternal life and makes me heartily willing and ready from now on to live for Him.”

A couple of weeks ago, we participated in a Remembrance Day ceremony at school, where staff and students were reminded of the sacrifice of many who have given their lives to defend our freedom. We do well to spend time hearing stories of soldiers, their families, and the cost involved. We do well to be inspired and invigorated to continue to protect the rights of the oppressed in our world both in our neighborhoods, and in other parts of the world. As Christians, we as well are reminded of the sacrifice God gave for our freedom; freedom from the slavery of sin. I am proud to be Canadian when I hear of the efforts of Canadian soldiers. I am incredibly proud and humbled to be a Christian when I remember the sacrifice of our Heavenly Father in response to my daily sinfulness. I am thankful for my identity which is not found in self but in the Triune God. “Remember and Believe” that each of us was bought at a tremendous price and therefore we have tremendous worth as well.

Mel Brandsma

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

October Board Notes

And God said "Let there be lights in the expanse of the sky to separate the day from the night, and let them serve as signs to mark seasons and days and years. Genesis 1:14

We have definitely seen Gods mighty power in the changing of the seasons this month as winter hit us full force!

This year's Harvest Fest was again a great success. Our host, Gery Schubert (aka Rene Mauve Toupee), did a great job of entertaining everyone while we enjoyed an amazing meal prepared by CACHS Catering. The theme for the evening was "A Night at the Oscars" and included red carpets, security guards and a group of screaming fans as people entered the gym.

A big thank you to CACHS Catering and the organizing committee for doing such a great job! As always, this event is the kick-off for the Fall Debt Reduction Drive and almost \$20,000 was raised that evening. Our fundraising goal for this year's Debt Reduction Drive is \$100,000 and we thank everyone in advance for their generosity.

Another season that is upon us soon is the Season of Advent which starts December 1st. We pray that you will take time to prepare for and reflect on the wonderful gift that God has given us in the birth of His son; our Saviour!

2013 Board members are:

Chairman – Peter DeWit

Vice-Chair – Dean DenOudsten

Treasurer – Peter Walls

Secretary – Carolyn Vanderhoek

Herman Verhoef

Clarence Verveda

Jane Visser

Anita Zuidhof

Carolyn Vanderhoek

Board Secretary

Operating Financial Statement for November 2013

Opening balance – October 1	\$ 342,374.96
Receipts – November 1 – 30	+ 39,897.80
Expenses – November 1 – 30	- <u>135,787.40</u>
Balance as of November 30	\$ 246,485.36

A reminder that the Fall Debt Reduction Drive for 2013 is running from November 11th to December 16th.

Wendy Barnes

Business Administrator

Building Blocks Thrift Store 10th Anniversary

Over the years we have seen many blessings. We are thankful for all the volunteers that keep the store running each week. There have also been many opportunities to be a witness to the community, and just think how many treasures have been recycled through the store. A total of \$951,000 has been donated to the schools over the past ten years, and we are thankful owners of the building.

We would like to take this time to thank all those who have helped in the past ten years. This has been a group effort and would not have happened without all of your help, support and prayers. It is still a very busy place with lots to do, so if you have a few hours to spare, you're always welcome to stop by and help.

We would like to give God the glory for how He has used the Thrift Store to help further His kingdom work in the schools

Allergy Alert

Our school is a "peanut" free school because of a severe allergy of one of our students. We would ask that NO peanuts, NO peanut butter and NO peanut products be brought into the school. Thank you.

Harvest Fest 2013

What a blessing the night was! As guest came in to walk the red carpet they were met by waiters (students) with glasses of ginger ale and strawberries. Then as the guest made their way into the gym they were met by Rene Mauve Toupee and adoring fans (students) and security (students). The evening started out with a few Cherub Awards and then a wonderful meal by CACHS Catering. The evening progressed with time to bid on the silent auction items, more awards, and stalker fans that needed to be paid to go stalk another celebrity. There were more Cherub Awards and the live auction items, followed by a frozen river dance by members of the audience. When all was said and done lots of fellowship and fun happened. After expenses, \$18,787.91 was raised for the mortgage of the school. What a great way to start off the 2013 Fall Debt Reduction Drive! Words cannot express our thanks to everyone involved!

Thanks to the students for helping out that evening and during the day with setup, the staff for helping where help was needed, CACHS Catering for an excellent meal, to everyone who donated items and to all who came.

Ultimately the success of this evening has to be given to our Heavenly Father who continues to look after us.

Harvest Fest Committee

CACHS Alumni Volleyball Tournament

The 5th annual CACHS alumni Volleyball tournament will be held on Saturday, December 21st. Cost is \$100/team and each team must consist of at least 75% alumni. Deadline to enter your team is December 13th. Please spread the news to those alumni not living locally. For more information or to enter your men's or women's team, please phone Colleen VanderSchee or email schee@albertahighspeed.net If there are alumni who would like to play but don't have a team, please phone or email Colleen.

Library Notes - November 2013

November already!! First Thanksgiving, then Remembrance Day and now the countdown is on to Christmas. I think it's just less than five weeks until Christmas Day. With more than 12 inches of snow it is looking and feeling more and more like Christmas all the time.

The library has been a busy place. The Ethics class has been busy looking up various topics which is always a fun time for me. I have the chance to talk with the students and get to know what they think and where they are coming from. Topics range from Euthanasia to Gun Control and many in between. What safer place can there be to ask those questions and try and find answers. I have been challenged to the greatness of God and His involvement in our everyday lives.

Fiction is another great method to "live" another person's circumstance and see how others handle the situations that come into their lives. Here are a few of the new fiction that I have added to our collection. Allegiant is the third in the Divergent series. This is a story about a group of young people in a dystopian society.

The False Prince and The Runaway King both by Jennifer A. Nielsen are part of the Ascendance trilogy. This series starts off with four orphans, handpicked for training to become the long lost prince.

Lori Copeland's series: Men of the Saddle. Even though this is an older series, there are lawmen and outlaws that can teach us a thing or two.

And finally the second Duck Dynasty book, The Duck Commander Family. It follows the hand of God on this family – from what Phil was to where he is now, and how God is using the family both in the community and beyond.

So sit back and enjoy a good book, a cup of something warm and maybe a cookie.

Yvonne Reed
Librarian

Career Corner

There have been many college representatives coming through the doors of CACHS lately. Our post-secondary fair had 13 schools represented and other schools have come during noon hour to promote their schools. Our students were also invited to Lacombe Composite High School to find out more information about post-secondary options.

I have been trying to talk to all the grade 12 students about what they are doing after high school. The conversations are always interesting but there seems to be a common theme which includes uncertainty about the future. I try to encourage the students to continue to seek out information, and consider the options and opportunities before them. It is wonderful to be able to engage with the students in discussions about realistic goals and dreams.

John Krueger in his book, Discovering your Vocation emphasizes that the way we think determines the choices that we make. As Christians, we need to reflect on our Christian beliefs so that they shape our desires and direct our paths. "Scriptures" he says, "does not give us details for our personal career paths, but it does provide to guide our decisions."

Veronica Den Oudsten
Career Counselor

Harvest Fest 2013

December 6 – Early dismissal
- no Wolf Creek Bussing
December 20 – last day of classes before Christmas break
December 21 – Alumni volleyball tournament at CACHS
December 21 – January 5 – Christmas break
January 6 – Classes resume

CACHS Catering

THANK YOU to all the students who helped at Harvest Fest on November 1st and also at some of our other functions. We really appreciate your help in the kitchen with serving the meal and cleaning up afterwards. Many hands make light work! It is nice to see the sports team members show their appreciation for the new uniforms that CACHS Catering pays for, by helping out in the kitchen at CACHS Catering functions. At the end of the day we are tired and you come in with lots of energy and enthusiasm. The kitchen transforms into a noisy, laughing, energized place. We hope you will continue this service of helping us. We all benefit, THANK YOU!

CACHS Catering is beginning to receive numerous requests for bookings for next summer. 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.

Our upcoming events for which we are looking for help are:

November 28 – Peppertree Christmas supper
December 17 – Seniors Christmas banquet at Bethel (luncheon)

If you are able to help serve and/or clean up at any of the CACHS Catering functions, please contact Ann Siebenga. Please consider volunteering a couple hours of your time to help at one of our functions. The school and ALL the students benefit from the funds raised. Please call Emma Den Oudsten if you wish to book CACHS Catering services.

Members of CACHS Catering are:
Emma Den Oudsten
Clase van Iperen
Rosemary Vander Ploeg
Ester Verhoef

Emma Den Oudsten
CACHS Catering

Student Council Highlights

The big Christmas countdown has begun for CACHS students and staff, but our Student Council has worked hard to make sure the weeks leading up to Christmas Break are also awesome! Student Council is excited to take advantage of the students' and staff members' holiday cheer, and create some fund days for our students. Heading into December we are bringing in the holiday spirit! On December 6th student council is encouraging everyone to bring out their festive knits for Ugly Sweater Day. Also coming up for CACHS students is the Prom/Formal Dance on December 13 which will be held at the school. On our last day before Christmas break, we will be having Christmas Spirit Day where our students will be able to dress up in their most festive Christmas attire and get some sweet yearbook photos!

Student Council also managed to cook up a fun contest for the students: our Crazy Christmas Door Decorating Contest. From December 16th – 20th, students will be allowed to decorate the door of their first period class with holiday spirit! Decorations will not be provided so students must be creative and come up with their own decorations. We're excited to see everyone work together to earn a delicious prize for their classmates!

Though Christmas brings out so many fun activities, it's also important to remember the reason for the season. CACHS is starting up its Christmas fundraiser, World Vision for Philippines Relief. We can't even imagine the kind of devastation going on in the Philippines right now, and our school wants to do anything we can to help. In each classroom we will have jars where students can give money to the cause. We will be wrapping up this fundraiser on December 6th. Any donations made before December 8th will be doubled by the government so we would like to raise as much money as possible to make as much of a difference as we can.

CACHS is working with Young Blood for Life as well in hopes of creating some lifelong giving in our community. Though not all of our students are old enough to participate, we encourage the CACHS family, friends, staff and members of the community to donate to this cause. By scanning

the QR code in this newsletter, you can register under CACHS and you can help us to fundraise to our goal this year. Mr. Hoekstra, Caden Den Oudsten and I continue to work with the organization to bring information to the students and help encourage everyone to participate.

We are excited for another fun month at CACHS and look forward to all the great activities we have coming up!

Shae-Lynn Ten Hove
Secretary – Student Council

Grad Committee

It's crazy to think that in our class's graduating year we have gotten to the end of November so quickly. But that time has come and we are excited to present our 2013/14 Grade Committee. Our President is Kescia Den Oudsten and our Vice President is Erin Vandeborn. In the role of secretary we have myself, Shae-Lynn Ten Hove, and our Trip Coordinators are Katie Tilbury and Diana Hoekstra. Our General Adjunct is Jocelyn Hulsman, our parent representative is Tracey Den Oudsten and our staff member is Mr. Hoekstra.

We have a great committee of dedicated students put together to represent our graduating class and plan a fun and memorable graduation for everyone. We are beyond excited to get working on this exciting year end ahead of us.

Grad Committee is also excited to present our chosen graduation verse for the year from which we will work on picking a theme. Our verse is Colossians 1:10-12: "So that you may live a life worthy of the Lord and please Him in every way: bearing fruit in every good work, growing in the knowledge of God, being strengthened with all power according to His glorious might so that you may have great endurance and patience, and giving joyful thanks to the Father, who has qualified you to share in the inheritance of His holy people in the kingdom of light"

We appreciate the message of this passage and believe it will guide our classmates as they graduate from CACHS and enter the adult world guiding them through their faith based decision making and helping them look to the Lord for guidance in these exciting new adventures.

One of the most important parts of our Grade Twelve year is the fundraising the students must do to raise money to fund our trip, banquet and ceremony. The students have started off by selling poinsettias, which was finished with on November 18th. We have also begun to sell Purdy's Chocolates for Christmas as they make fantastic stocking stuffers! All orders for chocolates must be in by December 3, 2013. Our fundraisers for the year are not over though as we will begin selling our famous CACHS sub sandwiches in January and once again in May. If you would like to order, any please contact any graduating CACHS student or the school office (403-782-4535) for more information.

We appreciate CACHS family, friends and community as we work through our fundraising goals for the year. Thank you!

Shae-Lynn Ten Hove
Grad Committee Secretary

Drop In Badminton

CACHS students and/or their parents are invited to drop-in badminton at Lacombe Christian School every Monday night from 7 – 9 pm. Please bring inside shoes, racquets and birdies. If you have any questions, please call Colleen VanderSchee.

CACHS Family Phone List

Please phone the school if you would like the new number for Cal & Carrie Vaartstra.