

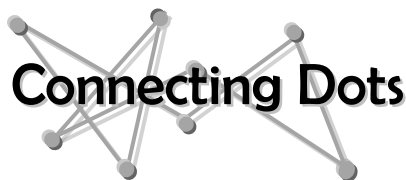


CENTRAL ALBERTA CHRISTIAN HIGH SCHOOL

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NEWSLETTER

October 2013
Vol XXI No II



“There is no pain like the pain of loneliness”

John Ortberg from his book *Everybody's Normal Till You Get To Know Them*

“Loneliness is the leprosy of modern society”

Mother Theresa

Thanksgiving is a special time of the year and as we celebrate the harvest, we are reminded of the many blessings we receive on a continual basis. Too often we focus on the blessing of financial prosperity as it allows us to fill our lives with “stuff” offering a short term feeling of fulfillment and accomplishment. In our hallways at school, we have much to be thankful for and yet I repeatedly encounter “poor” individuals who are lacking the really important things in life. Being socially poor is one of the major failings of our affluent lifestyle. We enter our homes through automatic garage door openers and we insulate ourselves from our neighbors and community. We surround ourselves with family and friends but often deliberately ignore those classmates, church members and neighbors who are lonely and in need.

I received a call a few weeks ago from an extended family member who had recently lost her father to

cancer. Just two years ago, her mother passed away as well from illness. As she deals with the loss of her parents she seeks out new foundations. Fractured sibling relations have placed her in the “poor” category and she cries out for support. She is lonely in the sense of being suddenly without parents. I don't fully understand what I need to do, but I do hear clearly the call. Yes it is coming from her, but it is also coming from our God who created community, who through the Trinity models community which seeks to support, encourage and direct. It's a community which carries each other's burdens, celebrates each other's joy and always seeks to expand. Sometime during your family celebrations, consider opening up your home to new guests and help our children understand that the blessings we have experienced are given to be shared with the “poor”.

For those of us who struggle with loneliness, read Psalm 22 as King David experiences loneliness and in response to finding community with God writes the infamous words of Psalm 23.

Mr. Brandsma

Allergy Alert!!!

Our school is now 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. Please help us with this request. Thank you.

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

September Board Notes

It is hard to believe we are already two months into the school year. It has been a very busy time for the staff and the board as we get settled into our routines. We have welcomed three new board members this year: Herman Verhoef, Dean DenOudsten and Clarence Verveda. We are thankful for their willingness to serve and appreciate their individual gifts and board governance experience they bring with them.

Our annual Harvest Fest will be on November 1 and will be the kick-off of our Fall Drive. Besides paying off our capital debt, we have designated some of the funds to be used in our operational budget to make up for some of the funding reduction in this year's Provincial education budget. We are thankful for our support community and the way they have partnered with us to keep Christian High School education in Central Alberta viable and affordable.

The board participated in the regulatory review of the new Alberta Education Act, due to come in effect on September 1, 2015. This is an opportunity to provide feedback and voice our concerns about some of the issues that affect independent schools in Alberta. We have also talked to our local MLA to make him aware of our situation. As a school society, we believe it is important to make our voice known as it can really shape public policy in the future.

We have a lot to be thankful for at CACHS and thank our Lord for His continuing faithfulness to us.

2013-2014 Board members are:
Chairman – Peter DeWit
Vice-Chair – Dean DenOudsten
Treasurer – Peter Walls
Secretary – Carolyn Vanderhoek
Herman Verhoef
Clarence Verveda
Jane Visser
Anita Zuidhof

In Hi Service
Peter DeWit

Operating Financial Statement for September 2013

Opening balance – September 1	\$ 126,538.60
Receipts – Sept. 1 – 30	+ 295,739.70**
Expenses – Sept 1 – 30	- 79,903.34
Balance as of Sept 30	\$ 342,374.96

** Received 40% of the projected grant money for the 2013/2014 school year. The next installment will be in April 2014.

Reminder to check your student's report cards as there are still have some outstanding book deposit cheques which were attached to the report cards.

Wendy Barnes
Business Administrator

Harvest Fest 2013

Remember to get your Harvest Fest tickets for this year's event.

When: Friday, November 1, 2013
Where: Central Alberta Christian High School
22 Eagle Road, Lacombe
Time: Doors open at 6:30 pm
Tickets: \$35 each

Tickets are available at the school – 403-782-4535.
There will be no tickets sold at the door.

Thank You!!

CACHS would like to thank BDO and Lacombe Signmasters for their generous contributions. Part of their donation was used to purchase a ping pong table that is used by the CACHS students (and staff) during their breaks.

CACHS Family Phone List

Please stop in at the school to update the following numbers on your CACHS Family phone list:
Sterling & Heather Bott
Rod & Laura Duckett

“We believe that our guidance program must honour God and develop the gifts and potential of each student. Therefore we will:

- Encourage students to develop their gifts in service of God and other people;
- Nurture students to exercise their unique gifts and abilities to do God’s work in the world in creative and need-fulfilling ways;
- Rely on God’s Spirit to guide us in all things.”

(From *Educating for Life Today and Tomorrow* – a Christian Schools Canada Publication)

- Thursday, October 31 from noon until 3:30 there will be 13 schools represented at our Post-Secondary Options day. Anyone interested in finding out more about the following schools are invited to attend.

- The King’s University College
- Redeemer
- Canadian Mennonite University
- Trinity Western University
- Columbia Bible College
- Dordt College
- Red Deer College
- Living Faith Bible College
- Vanguard
- Canadian University College
- Prairie Bible College
- Ambrose
- Canadian Southern Baptist Seminary

- Wednesday, November 13 from 6:30 to 8:30 pm at Lacombe Composite High School most of Alberta’s public and private post-secondary institutions will be represented. Everyone is invited to attend.

Veronica Den Oudsten
Career Counselor

Christian Home & School

Christian Schools International is pleased to introduce Christian Home and School magazine’s new digital format! To access the 2013 High School issue, please click the link provided, or copy and paste it into your browser.

<http://www.mydigipub.com/publication?i=177434>

“Give thanks for the Lord is worthy.” We have so much to be thankful for. This morning in our staff devotions we read the “Litany of Thanksgiving”. One thing I noticed missing in the list of things to be thankful for was books: the written word, stories and imagination. What a gift we have in the written language. First and foremost is the Bible with all of its many translations which brings to life the Holy Word.

We have been blessed with a plethora of authors that we can enjoy and learn from. I have picked up a few:

Dee Henderson - **Unspoken**. This is a sequel to **Full Disclosure** where she introduced us to several new characters that are easy to love. Bryce and Charlotte – he deals in rare coins and she has them to sell. She also has some deep scars and even deeper secrets.

Phil Robertson - **Happy, Happy, Happy** Yes the Commander of Duck Dynasty. It is an interesting book to read and to realize that there is a solid Christian family that is willing to allow us to see that they are not perfect yet can work and play together as a family.

Melody Carlson - **A Simple Song** This is the newest novel by a very prolific author. She tells the story of an Amish girl with a beautiful singing voice but within the Old Order Amish, singing for the sheer pleasure of it is sinful. The story continues as she makes her life altering decisions.

These are just a few of the new books that I have added to our collection. Please take a moment and come in and see what we have.

I am also willing to take your lovingly used, age appropriate books off your hands. Keep us in mind when house cleaning. Your donations help stretch a tight budget.

Yvonne Reed
Librarian

Student Council Highlights

Greetings CACHS family and friends!

Student Council is up and running again, excited for the new school year. We'd like to welcome all our new student council members. In the role of President we have Caden Den Oudsten and our Vice-President is Matthew Walls. Our Treasurer this year is Aiden Kooyman and our Secretary is myself, Shae-Lynn Ten Hove. For our grade ten class reps we have Logan Den Oudsten and Charlotte Zuidhof. Grade eleven class reps are Jenna DeGroot and Austin Nolan. And for our grade 12 class reps, we have Shelby DeVet and Mark Den Oudsten.

Our committee is very excited to pool together our creativity to come up with some fun plans for this year, including Spirit Days, school dances, and upcoming hot lunches. Coming up on November 8 we have our first Spirit Day of the year, Jersey Day and on November 20 we will be having our Subway hot lunch.

We have also decided as a council to fundraise for "We Need A Law", an anti-abortion group that spoke at our school earlier this year. We are excited to raise funds for this worthy cause.

Another cause our school will be donating to is "Young Blood for Life", where we will be encouraging our eligible students to give blood to help others. Mr. Hoekstra, a huge supporter of this cause, as well as Caden Den Oudsten and I will be working closely with this group to give the opportunity to CACHS staff and students to donate for this charity.

We look forward to working together to create a fun and memorable year at our school!

Shae-Lynn Ten Hove
Student Council Secretary

CACHS Catering

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

November 1 – Harvest Fest at CACHS

November 22 – De Gier Anniversary at Meridian Beach Hall

November 28 – Peppertree Christmas supper

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

Calendar

November 1 – Harvest Fest at CACHS

November 7 – First report card

November 8 – No Wolf Creek bussing

November 11 – Remembrance Day – no school

November 14 – Regular classes

- Parent/teacher interviews after school & evening

November 15 – Parent/teacher interviews in morning

- No school for students

November 19 – Picture day and class pictures

November 21 – Society Meeting 7:30 at CACHS

December 21 – Alumni volleyball tournament at CACHS

December 21 – January 5 – Christmas break

January 6 – Classes resume