



June 2, 2009

Dear Parents:

It is 11:30 on Thursday morning the week before school is out. The 8th grade students have just finished participating in their last chapel and they are working on their year-end projects. You would expect to see teachers "holding down the fort" as the students are holding objects in their hands like markers, pens, glue sticks, etc., but that is not the case. Instead, students are quietly reflecting and thinking about the connections they made in their spiritual journey through the past eight years. As I stop and ask some of the students about their projects, they eagerly share with me how they are enjoying this opportunity to connect their spiritual life and experiences while attending Hudsonville Christian School. As a staff, we are excited to see what the Friday presentations will bring.

It is now Friday afternoon and I just walked out of a classroom having watched another one of our 8th grade students present their **Journey** project. It was my privilege to be able to listen to these students openly share their faith and to be able to connect their school experiences. I spoke with several of the middle school staff who were overwhelmed by some of the things they had heard and seen. One commented "Wow! What an amazing teacher experience to be able to walk with my students through this project. I'm overwhelmed with gratefulness for Christian education..." Another teacher shared how she was so moved as one of her students described herself as a broken vessel, but how the Lord was such an important part of being made whole again.

We wish God's blessings to all of our 8th grade students!

To all parents, thank you for sharing your children with us this year and for allowing us the privilege of partnering together with you on their journey. We look forward to seeing them again next fall.

Dan Pott, Middle School Principal

PRAYER CORNER

- Please pray for Rachel Koning as she is battling pneumonia and has just completed difficult radiation and chemotherapy. Rachel will undergo her bone marrow transplant this week Thursday. Please pray that the bone marrow transplant will be a success and that her body will accept the transplant well. Pray also for her sister, Hannah, who will be her donor.
- Please pray for the VanRijs family (Peter, Jane, Micah in 7th grade, Annalise in 4th grade, and Nick in 2nd grade) as they have learned that there has been a reoccurrence of Peter's cancer. We pray that they will feel God's hand guiding them as they determine with doctors what course of action to take.

SCHOOL WIDE NEWS

LAST DAY OF SCHOOL

The last day of school for grades K—7, Thursday, June 4, will be a half day dismissing at 12 noon. Students should bring a snack to school, but not a lunch. Regular bus routes will be running.

ENROLLMENT FOR 2009/2010

1. Mail-in registrations must be received by Monday, June 8.
2. If you are not enrolling by mail, Hudsonville Christian School will be having registration for the school year on Monday, June 8 from 6:30-7:30 p.m. in the library of the Oak Street building. Previous tuition commitments must be paid on or before this time. Your enrollment fee, applicable to the 2009/2010 tuition, is required at this time.
3. The June 8 registration is necessary for classroom assignment, student scheduling, and to complete student enrollment. Registration must be completed by June 8 for your child to be on a class list. These will be mailed to parents during the first week of August.

CENTRAL OFFICE SUMMER HOURS

The central office will be open Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. during the summer.

NEXT SCHOOL YEAR START DATE AND BUSING

Our first day of school will be Tuesday, September 1. Since the public school will be starting after Labor Day, we will be offering limited busing on the first three days of school. Further information on this limited bus schedule will come home in a special Home Communicator in August.

ELEMENTARY & MIDDLE SCHOOL OPEN HOUSE

On Monday, August 31 we will be having an open house for students and parents to check out their classrooms and meet their teachers. The elementary and middle school open houses will be 3:30—5 p.m. Please mark this date on your calendar.

OPENING DAY PRAYER MEETING

We will continue our tradition of having representatives from home, church, and school open the new school year with a prayer meeting for parents, grandparents, preschoolers, and friends. This will take place on the first day of school, Tuesday, September 1, at 8 a.m. in the elementary gym.

RALLY FOR RACHEL AND HANNAH KONING

The Relay for Life Walk is Friday, June 19 and Saturday, June 20 at the Hudsonville Fairgrounds. We are reserving the 6—7 p.m. time slot on Friday evening for all of the 5th through 8th graders to walk for Rachel and Hannah Koning. Just wear any HCS shirt and come out for an hour of fun together to show your support! Relay "Footprints" are also available in the school offices to purchase for \$1 (to stick on your locker) to help raise money for the American Cancer Society, and to show support for Rachel and Hannah.

KONING FAMILY NEEDS OUR HELP

The Koning family is in need of assistance with meals, cleaning (June 11 or 12), and a possible painting job this summer. If you can be of assistance to the family, please contact Sherry VandenBosch, Rachel's aunt, at 875-2133 or email at sherryvb55@hotmail.com.

HCS GOLF OUTING IS COMING!

The Hudsonville Christian School Golf Outing will be held on Monday, August 10 at Railside Golf Club in Byron Center. This golf outing supports our Tuition Assistance program. You are welcome to enter a twosome, a foursome, or you can help by sponsoring this event. Please contact Michelle DeGroot at 896-0228 or the school office at 669-6689 for further sponsorship information. Extra golf sign up/sponsorship forms are available by the school offices.

CONGRATULATIONS, MATH PENTATHLON TEAM!

In our central office window a very impressive 2nd place trophy is displayed. Our Math Pentathlon Team received this high honor for their performance in the Math Pentathlon National Academic Tournament, Midwest Division, held in Elkhart, Indiana, on April 25. We are very proud of our students' competence in the math games, but more important yet is the feedback we receive on their behavior, poise, and graciousness in both losing and winning. We are very grateful for the many parent volunteers who make this excellence a possibility, and are deeply thankful for the leadership of Kim Honore, who heads up the program. We are also delighted to announce that Karen Tucker plans to return next year to work with Division 3, and look forward to another great year in this program that challenges our students in math, strategic thinking, and the social skills of competition.

School Wide News — Continued

MEIJER IS BACK ON TRIP

Meijer will be available to order or purchase at TRIP on Demand beginning June 15. Denominations are \$25 and \$100, 3.5%.

THANK YOU

Thank you for the wonderful response at the Pizza Hut Fund Raiser for Rachel Koning. Pizza Hut was overwhelmed by your great response.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR THE CLAY SHOOT

The HCS Sporting Clay Shoot will be held on Saturday, September 12 at Blendon Pines, starting at 9 a.m. Proceeds from this fun event go to tuition assistance needs at our school. The cost is \$75 for adults, \$50 for children 16 and under accompanied by an adult. Sponsors for this event are needed. Registration forms will be sent out soon, but you can contact Dean Haverdink at 662-4051 or Rick Brinks at 662-0546 for more information about the event or available sponsorships.

VOLUNTEER THANK YOU!

Our entire staff thanks all the moms and dads who volunteered to help out at school this year for many and various outings, teacher aiding, serving hot lunch, selling doughnuts, transportation, room mothers, field trips, *Moms In Touch* prayer support....and we could go on and on! . Thanks to all who gave of their time — your help is truly appreciated!

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL NEWS

LOST AND FOUND

The bins by the elementary gym are full of lost items. Please check out the bins and hanging items to see if they may belong to your child.

ELEMENTARY LIBRARY NEWS

Students must return all books by the end of the year or pay toward the replacement cost in order to receive their report cards.

PLASTIC BAG RECYCLING PROJECT

The results are in! Elementary students collected a total of 28,750 bags — which is over 50 bags per student and the equivalent of 96 giant size trash bags full. Some of these bags went to area food pantries and Love, INC., the rest will be recycled into useful products, and all of them have been spared from clogging up a landfill. Our theme of *Caring for God's World* this year will be a success if our students carry good habits of reducing, reusing, and recycling into their life. We should be honored that God asked us to take care of His world, and we can honor Him back by being thoughtful caretakers of creation.

MIDDLE SCHOOL NEWS

8TH GRADE FINAL WEEK OF SCHOOL

On Wednesday, June 3, an 8th grade "End of Year" Breakfast is being planned for students. This will be followed by graduation practice at Fair Haven. All 8th grade students will be brought back to the middle school after the practice to be picked up by parents at an 11:15 a.m. dismissal time.

8TH GRADE GRADUATION

The graduation ceremony takes place at Fair Haven Ministries on Baldwin and 28th Avenue at 7:30 p.m. on Wednesday evening, June 3. Students should be to the church by 7:00 p.m. Busses will leave for the student graduation celebration at The Visser Family YMCA in Grandville at 10:00 p.m. sharp from the middle school. Parents, please pick your son/daughter up at the middle school parking lot at 12:50 a.m.

8TH GRADE GIRLS ENSEMBLE

Ensemble members will meet at the elementary school on Friday at 8:15 a.m. Parents please plan to pick up your daughter again at 9:00 a.m. Thank you!

LOST AND FOUND TABLES

Tables are piled high with lost items — the items could belong to your son or daughter! Please remind them to browse through the items or, parents, stop by the school to locate any missing items. Items are kept at school for two weeks after the final day school is in session.

Middle School News — Continued

8TH GRADE ART ENVELOPE

Parents, please ask your 8th grader for the white large envelopes they took home recently containing art work from each of their years at Hudsonville Christian.

UNIFORMS/LIBRARY BOOKS

Please check with your son/daughter to be sure they have returned all team uniforms, band shirts, music that belongs to school and any other items due before the end of the year. Please check with your student to be sure all overdue books and/or library fines have been returned and paid to the library.

CARTRIDGES FOR KIDS

The Cartridges for Kids Recycling program continues through the summer months at the middle school. Bring your ink jet or laser cartridges to the collection boxes by the middle school office to be recycled. Proceeds are designated for the library media center.

ORIENTATION NIGHT – SEPTEMBER 17

Mark your calendars for the middle school orientation night on September 17. This night is valuable for parents to receive important middle school information and to meet the staff. Specific information will be given out in the fall. Please plan to join us.

PARENTS' CLUB NEWS

PIG-IN-THE-BLANKETS FOR SALE

Pigs are for sale in the elementary kitchen freezer. Get them before they are gone!

FAIR UPDATE

The fair has been blessed with a great response this year from our parents. Some key positions have been filled, all but 20 of the shifts are full, and all pies are signed up for. We still need a person to join the school kitchen committee (only two year commitment), we need more soups, and we need 1—2 more people to help wrap pig-in-the-blankets on August 24. If you received a form home in the last week please return it as soon as possible as this will save many phone calls. Thank you also for the GFS coupons. Have a great summer and look for your fair reminders in August with the class list envelope.

HUDSONVILLE CHRISTIAN CRAFT FAIR

Mark your calendar for the HCS Craft Fair to be held on Saturday, September 19, at the Hudsonville Fairgrounds. This event was a big success this past September with approximately 150 booths, and we look forward to a great event this year. More info will be available at the start of the new school year including how you can volunteer to assist in this event.

COMMUNITY NEWS

SUMMER READING CLUB AT GARY BYKER LIBRARY

Please come to your local library this summer for "Be Creative at Your Library"! This is a summer reading club that will focus on the arts. There will be programs on drawing, dancing, puppetry, theater, crafts and much more. Earn prizes just by reading! Hope to see you there!

"DANCE FOR HIM" RETURNS

By popular demand, Hope Berghuis will again be offering "Dance for Him", a ballet/dance camp designed for students in grades 1—7 (2009/10). Students will be taught basic ballet technique and how to incorporate dance in worship. Students will also learn original choreography and have the opportunity to perform at Kids' Games 2009. The camp will be held June 15-19 with daily two hour classes (late morning or early afternoon). Cost is \$50. Registration pamphlets are available in the school office. Contact Hope at 669-6694 or email at hopejoy@gmail.com with any questions.

VIOLIN/VIOLA LESSONS

Nate Vruwink is offering violin and viola lessons to beginner through high school students. Cost is \$10 per half hour lesson or \$70 for eight lessons. Call Nate at 669-9397.

COMPUTER REPAIR

Need someone experienced in computer repair, set up, installation, virus removal, and more? Call Nate Vruwink at 669-9397 for more information.

GUITAR LESSONS

Nate Krikke, a Unity graduate, is available for guitar lessons this summer. A half hour lesson is \$12; beginner to advanced students welcome. Call Nate at 889-6240 or 896-8729 for more info.

FLUTE AND VIOLIN LESSONS

Flute lessons are being offered by Meagan Brummel, and violin lessons are being offered by Katelyn Brummel. Cost is \$10 for a half hour lesson. Contact Meagan or Katelyn at 896-0280.

UPCOMING EVENTS AT HUDSONVILLE CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

June 3	8th Grade Graduation at Fair Haven Ministries	August 31	Open House at both schools, 3:30—5 p.m.
June 4	Last Day of School Grades K-7; done at noon	September 1	First Day of School — full day
August 10	HCS Golf Outing	September 1-3	Limited Busing