



# Dakota Christian School Newsletter

January  
2012

Dakota Christian School, 37614 SD Hwy 44, Corsica, SD 57328  
Telephone: (605) 243-2211 Fax: (605) 243-2379  
Website: [www.dchs.net](http://www.dchs.net)

## Got Prayer?

Many of the DCS constituents have discovered that their new principal likes to ride his bicycle. Over this summer and fall many of you have seen me as I ride the roads and highways of Douglas County. I have answered many questions about my riding, but I was asked one very interesting question, "What do you do as you are riding? After all, you can only look at the corn and soybeans so long." My answer was "I pray." I greatly appreciate my time on the bicycle not only for the physical exercise, but also as a time to be away from all distractions enabling me to have a prolonged prayer time. With prayer so important, God has provided a special time to talk to Him.

Our Savior gave us examples of prayer in the Lord's Prayer. Before He was betrayed and crucified, He prayed to His Father for help through the trials to come. Christians are also called to pray to our Father in heaven. Therefore, because prayer is so important to the Christian and to DCS, the teachers have divided the entire student body among themselves and are praying for a group of students daily. James tells us that the prayers of a righteous man avails much. With the prayers of the teachers for the students, I know that each student is covered with prayer each day. When I pray for "my" group of students each day, I feel a special responsibility for them. I wonder more about how they are doing, their hopes, their struggles, their joys. When I observe classes, I am more cognizant of "my" students. Prayer brings me closer to God and to the people for whom I am praying.

Our verse for January is "Pray for one another so that you might be healed. The prayer of a godly person is powerful." (James 5:16) Praying for people by name or need increases our love and concern for them. As teachers and staff we earnestly thank you for your prayers. We whole-heartedly need and want your prayers. As we begin this calendar year, continue to pray for our staff and students, making your requests known to Him, as together we work in the service of our Lord and King. Always

remember, at DCS we not only teach your children Christianly, we pray for them.

Dr. Gary Cookson



## Tour of Tables/ Fellowship Supper Combine

The DCS Fellowship has combined two previous fundraisers into one. The Fellowship Supper and the Tour of Tables have joined together in one special event on Friday, March 9, 2012 at DCS. The evening will include encouraging FELLOWSHIP, a tasty SUPPER, and an opportunity to TOUR decorated TABLES. This event is open to men and women of all ages. We encourage people to host a table and invite their friends to join them. Couples are welcome to share the hosting and invite other friends, who could also be couples, to join them.



Our speaker, Kitty Werthmann, has traveled all over the United States sharing what it was like to grow up in occupied Austria during World War II. You will want to be there and your friends with you!!

If you are interested in hosting a table and would like more details please contact: Camielle (946-5139) [veenstra@siouxvalley.net](mailto:veenstra@siouxvalley.net) or Bonnie (946-5409) [vanderley@siouxvalley.net](mailto:vanderley@siouxvalley.net). The date for our event is March 9. We would like to have an idea of those willing to be hostesses by February 10.

## DCS Science Fair

The annual Dakota Christian School Science Fair will take place Thursday, February 23, 2012, at 7:00 PM. Students in grades 7 – 10 have been working for months on their projects and are very anxious for them to be completed and displayed to the public.

Judges will come from Sioux Center, Iowa in the morning, and the awards will be handed out at 8:00 PM. Feel free to ask the students questions about their projects and perhaps even demonstrate what they have built. They would love to talk about and show you their experiments. Also on display this night will be the fifth and sixth grade research projects on different states.



Please come out and see the amazing talents with which God has blessed all these students.

The DCS 2011-2012 Theme is "Got Love?"

"A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another." John 13:34

## A Broken Finger

In 7th/8th grade physical education class last week one of our students dislocated and fractured his index finger. Ouch! Immediately the game stopped and there was complete silence. All eyes were on the crooked finger and painful expression of their fellow classmate. There were looks of shock mixed with disbelief and concern. This was not supposed to happen. It was a fluke accident and as we all know, accidents do happen. They are rarely planned and often occur at the most inconvenient times. The all important game seconds earlier now seemed quite meaningless.

This whole experience reminded me of two significant truths. The first truth is that we are all broken due to sin.



Our sinfulness causes fractured and broken relationships. This is so evident in our community just as the broken finger was so vivid and clear to everyone in the P.E. class. The second truth is just how important community is. It was encouraging

to see young Christian students deeply care and want to help the student who was hurting. Within our large gymnasium we had a caring community wanting to lift up one of their own.

The definition of a Christian community is this: a group of people committed to Christ and to each other, working together to share Christ in the world, by spreading God's love, forgiveness, and encouragement to others. I Peter 4:8 says *"Above all, love each other deeply, because love covers over a multitude of sins."*

I am thankful for the seventh and eighth graders who so clearly demonstrated "community". More importantly, I am thankful for this Christian community . . . a community that belongs to God and to each other. Together we can make a difference in a broken and hurting world.

Mr. Barry Miedema  
Physical Education

## K-4 Music Noise!

Having said good-bye to 2011, Uncle Yule, and *It All Happened in the Country*, the kindergarten through fourth grade students have moved on to new (and louder) things for 2012! Psalm 100:1 says, "Make a joyful noise unto the LORD!"

The kindergarten students have started their bell unit in music class. They have fun trying to guess the new songs, watching the "music", and making bell "noise"! Speaking of noise, the first and second graders have begun playing rhythm instruments! If you aren't easily "head-ached", stop in and share their love for rhythm and noise!

While we're on the subject of "noise", I'll just mention the third and fourth graders' unit on recorders! (Imagine fourteen of them all practicing different songs in our classroom at the same time!) Recorder Karate is in full swing as these young people work at earning their black belts. Plans are also being made for our third and fourth graders to make their annual trip to the symphony at The Washington Pavilion in February.



Our K-12 spring concert is slated for April 26th, so mark your calendars! "Y'all come back now, ya hear!?"

Mrs. Rachel Faller, K-4 Music

## Pizza Ranch Coupon Books To be sold for Bible Bee

Pizza Ranch coupon booklets will be sold as a fundraiser for the Bible Bee. Each booklet will cost \$15 and will have 20 coupons, including 1 for a FREE large pizza and many other great deals! Orders must be turned in by January 27, and the booklets will be delivered on February 10. These would make great gifts for Valentine's Day. Call Carolyn Wolbrink (680-4832), Renae Timmermans (946-5141), or stop in the office to place your order. Thank you for helping support the Bible Bee at Dakota Christian School!

FYI: Kari Erickson from Dell Rapids, SD was the Sr. Division winner at the 2011 National Bible Bee that was held in Nashville, TN. She received \$100,000 in reward money. Kari and her sister Kayla participated in the Bible Bee competition that was held at DCS on August 27, 2011.

## Preschool Report...

The preschool room is a place filled with fun, action, and (occasionally) a quiet moment! Thirteen little people make this place their "homeroom" at DCS during the week. They have a love for life, learning, and (usually) each other. In addition to reading, writing, and 'rithmetic (preschool-style), these students learn life skills including table manners, sharing, and working out problems. I am most blessed when our discussions and lessons center around God's love for us in His Son, Jesus!

A "typical" Tuesday/Thursday preschool day might look like this (The Monday/Wednesday class is similar, but not quite as structured):

8:30ish—school starts. Some of us aren't used to getting up early, so we need a little time. Others of us, well, we're ready to go!

8:30—free play time. We work on sharing, verbal skills, and lots of other things we learn during our "play".

9:00—clean up time. Just like at my house, some days cleaning goes quickly and other days it takes longer!

9:15—circle time. We say the pledge to the flag, count the days on the calendar, sing the days of the week, laugh at Mrs. Faller singing Spanish, have show and tell, let "Mr. Munch" eat our show and tell, and learn about today's work.

9:45—work time. (See notes concerning cleaning...)

10:15—snack time. Today's snack helper shares a treat. We also "wash" hands, sing a prayer, and drink milk.

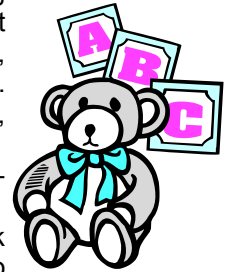
10:30—recess. Yep, just like when you were a kid, this is still a great part of the day!

10:45—circle time (again). We read/discuss/act out a Bible story, sing some songs, play games, and/or read books before getting ready to go home.

11:30—dismissal. Although winter coats (among many other variables) add to our tardiness in this area!

Stop in and visit us if you'd like to learn more! Praying that all of us will have "childlike faith" in the year to come!

Mrs. Rachel Faller, Pre School



# Honor Roll Listings

## **2nd Nine Weeks "A" Honor Roll**

### Seniors

Michael Buitenbos  
Sara DeWaard  
Danica Dykstra  
Abby Overweg  
Amy Overweg  
Lexy Overweg  
Christin Vander Pol  
Kim Veurink  
Laurel Zomer

### Juniors

Camden Veurink

### Sophomores

Aaron De Haai  
Seth Vander Ley

### Freshmen

Micah DeWaard  
Carter Dykstra  
Alexis Lane  
Brooklyn Vander Pol  
Erika Veenstra

## **"B" Honor Roll**

### Seniors

Vanessa Rodriguez

### Juniors

Amber Baan Hofman  
Jessica Kaemingk  
Emily Maas  
Taryn Van Der Pol

### Sophomores

Ashley Hansum  
Rheanna Pheifer

## **1st Semester "A" Honor Roll**

### Seniors

Michael Buitenbos  
Danica Dykstra  
Abby Overweg  
Amy Overweg  
Lexy Overweg  
Christin Vander Pol  
Kim Veurink  
Laurel Zomer

### Juniors

Emily Maas  
Camden Veurink

### Sophomores

Seth Vander Ley

### Freshman

Alexis Lane  
Brooklyn Vander Pol  
Erika Veenstra

## **"B" Honor Roll**

### Seniors

Sara De Waard

### Juniors

Jessica Kaemingk

### Sophomores

Aaron De Haai  
Ashley Hansum  
Rheanna Pheifer

### Freshmen

Micah DeWaard  
Carter Dykstra

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## **Notes From the Music Room**

Our holiday concerts may be done, but that doesn't mean it's quiet in the DCS music room! The high school chorus immediately turned the page to music for their day at Dordt College in April. The 5<sup>th</sup>/6<sup>th</sup> music class is learning music to share with friends in Michigan. Scattered among those musical offerings are the sounds of small groups, duets and soloists practicing for high school vocal contest and elementary honors choir.

The high school chorus will represent DC at Dordt on April 13. They are learning 5 mass choir pieces, as well as 2 that they will perform alone for critique. The range of difficulty in the 7 pieces is broad and an excellent goal for which to strive. In the meantime 6 performances will be judged at the vocal contest in Kimball on February 8.

The 5<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> vocal contest in Armour is held at the end of March, giving our classes plenty of time to discover other aspects of music. The 5<sup>th</sup>/6<sup>th</sup> grade is taking on a musical service project for the next 2 months. They will be creating music videos for use in Ada, Michigan, at a Friendship Club. Mrs. Z used to be the worship music leader for the club of about 30 mentally challenged adults, as well



as 30 mentors. They requested some help with music leadership by way of videos, and the 5<sup>th</sup>/6<sup>th</sup> graders love the new challenge! The students will learn a variety of songs, add sign language and actions and maybe even choreography, video themselves, and send them electronically to the friends in Michigan. They might even get a video back! Who knows what God will do with this long-distance friendship?!

Praise God for the opportunities He gives us to share His story through music both near and far!

Mrs. Zomer

"Confidence comes  
not from always being right  
but not fearing to  
be wrong"

## Parent/Teacher Conferences

Parent/Teacher Conferences will be held Thursday, Jan. 26th from 2:00 – 6:00 p.m. To accommodate these conferences, school will be dismissed at 1:45 p.m.. January conferences are by request only, therefore parents are asked to fill out and return the form that was emailed to them or call the office to schedule an appointment.

## Basketball Schedule Addition

There is a home boys basketball game vs. Freeman on Jan. 26th. The junior varsity game will begin at 6:15 p.m. and will be followed by the varsity game.

## Thank you!

Thank you to everyone who saved the Sunny D labels. Our school received 140 free books for the K-8th grade classrooms.

## Target “Take Charge of Education” Program

Dakota Christian School recently received a check for \$412.43 on behalf of the Target “Take Charge of Education” program. Target donates up to 1% of purchases made using the Red-card to eligible K-12 schools designated by our guests. Thanks to all who helped raise these funds!

To learn more about how to designate DCS as a recipient of these funds, visit [www.Target.com/tcoe](http://www.Target.com/tcoe).

The DCS Fellowship will be serving



**Roast Beef Sandwiches  
on January 23 at the  
boys basketball game vs. Gregory,**

**On January 30 they will serve  
roast beef and pork loin sandwiches  
at the doubleheader vs. Andes Central.**



Meal deals include a sandwich, chips  
And a pop for \$5.00.

## Calling ALL Volunteers

The concession stand is in need of adult helpers! If you would be willing to help in the concession stand at one of our remaining home basketball games, please contact Donna Veurink or Jacque Boyle. Thanks!

## Details, Details...

From the time I arrive in the morning, until going home at the end of the day, there's a wide variety of details that cross my desk. Let me share just a few here:

- ♦ As a **Christmas giving project**, the DCS student body raised money for the Abbott House in Mitchell. Approximately \$1300 was raised, along with some gifts donated. On Dec. 22, three Student Council representatives, three elementary students, Mrs. Veurink, and Sam Mudder, head room mother, travelled to the Abbott House to present these items. This visit included an interesting tour of the Abbott House facility. God's blessings on the girls and staff of the Abbott House!
- ♦ It's **financial aid** application time for high school seniors! To apply for federal financial aid (loans, grants, work study) go to [www.fafsa.ed.gov](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov). You will need a PIN; instructions to complete this can be found at the website. Best advice is get your taxes done early this year; the numbers will be needed to complete the FAFSA. DCS will not be having a financial aid meeting this year, so if you have questions, please call Mrs. Veurink.
- ♦ It's not too late to have your subscription to the **South Dakota Magazine** benefit DCS! Simply subscribe by calling 1-800-456-5117, and mention DCS. The school will get 40% commission. This fundraising opportunity for DCS ends April 30.
- ♦ **Birthday Calendars** have arrived! The junior class has been working on delivering your calendars to you...so hopefully you already have it! At any rate, the juniors worked hard at putting together the calendar this year, and have moved on to planning their upcoming Junior/Senior Banquet.
- ♦ **www.ReplayIt.com**: The yearbook staff needs YOU to help gather pictures! If you have team or individual pictures, candid or fun shots, please upload them to the ReplayIt site. By doing this, the pictures become accessible for making yearbook pages. There is a link to this website at the DCS site under “Resources”. Help us out! (See related ad below)
- ♦ And every day there's **classes** to teach! Seniors in Philosophy have been studying the Naturalist Worldview with group projects and notes. Juniors have been discovering how the interests and abilities given to them by God can be used to project a possible career. For the sophomores in Music Appreciation, it's all about family...instrument families!



Never a dull moment!

Mrs. Donna Veurink



Create the story of your year.  
Together.

**ReplayIt**   
by Jostens

## DCS Financial Report

### General Fund Checking Acct Report for December:

Balance 12/1/11		\$ 6,025.96
Deposits	\$ 67,757.78	
Withdrawals	\$ 72,230.85	
Closing Balance 12/31/11		\$ 1,552.89

### Monthly Church Ministry Offerings

Funds received in December	\$ 14,092.00
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### Budget Goal for Church Ministry Offerings

Yearly Budget Goal	\$ 150,000.00
Funds received as of 12/30/11	\$ 74,059.28
Balance needed by 7/31/12	\$ 75,940.72

## 7th Annual K-6th Girls' Cheer Camp to be held

Cheer camp will be held during the week of February 13-17 and is available for any kindergartener through sixth grade girl. Instruction will include basic arm motions, jumps, chants, a dance routine, and stunts. Campers will be performing during half-time of the DCS vs. Colome boys' basketball game on February 17. More details regarding camp, along with a sign-up sheet, will be sent home on January 24. If you have any questions before then, contact Jenna Masur.



## Golf Coach Needed



Dakota Christian School is looking for a golf coach for the upcoming season.

If you are interested, or have any questions regarding this position, contact Dr. Cookson (243-2211).

## Brrr . . .

As the snow is FINALLY starting to fall, it's definitely time to hang up the "light" jackets and pull out the winter gear. The cheerleaders still have extra "DCS" stocking caps in both gray and pink colors. Caps include an embroidered "DCS" logo. The cost is \$8 for one cap or if you buy two, you can get the second 1/2 price.



If you are interested, please contact Jenna Masur either at school or by email, [Jenna.Durrin@k12.sd.us](mailto:Jenna.Durrin@k12.sd.us).

*DCS does not discriminate in its employment policies and practices, or in its educational program on the basis of race, color, age, sex, handicap, national origin or ancestry.*

Need a Valentine Gift  
For that special person in  
your life?



**Rada Cutlery, dishcloths,  
and Dutch peppermints**

Make great gift ideas!

To place orders contact: Sam Mudder (207-3936)  
or Tiffany Sybesma (337-2519)

## DCS January Board Activity

1. Keith Vanden Hoek opened with reading from Isaiah 53:1-5 and prayer.
2. Roll Call showed Dr. Cookson, Marlin Maas, Paul Baas, Keith Vanden Hoek, Corey Vander Pol, Steve Vander Pol, Dan Niewenhuis and Doug Kaemingk present.
3. Minutes of the December 12<sup>th</sup> meeting were approved as presented.
4. Agenda was updated and approved.
5. Several "thank-you's" were read from the staff for the Christmas money they received.
6. Finance: the board approved the list of families submitted to them from the Finance Committee for matching tuition funds. Motion was made to pay substitute teachers more/day if their teaching days get extended. Bills were approved to be paid and treasurer's report was reviewed.
7. Building and Grounds: Discussion was held to replace the burnt out bulbs on the outside of the school, also the light pole that fell over has been fixed.
8. Principal's Report: Dr. Cookson reported on the progress of the plans for the senior class trip. He also informed the board of a new time schedule that will be used during exams. Second semester parent/teacher conferences will be optional.
9. Old Business: Work continues of the Debt Reduction Drive with funds continuing to come in, we praise God for the support for Dakota Christian School.
10. New Business: It was decided to have the Athletic Director to try not to schedule games the week of exams. Dr. Cookson's name will be added to the Capital Campaign list so that he will be able to sign off checks. The Finance Committee will do a salary study and report back with their findings.
11. Doug Kaemingk closed in prayer.

*The mission of DCS is to assist parents by providing education based on a biblical worldview, thereby enabling their children to grow in Christian wisdom, to nurture godly character, and to serve Christ as Lord.*