

CHRIST LUTHERAN ALUMNI NEWS



CHRIST LUTHERAN SCHOOL

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OVER 50 Years of “Connecting People to Jesus”

Colossians 2:6-7

Therefore, as you received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in him, rooted and built up in him and established in the faith, just as you were taught, abounding in Thanksgiving.

From the Principal

I am so honored to be a part of the excellent staff and parents of Christ Lutheran School. As an alum of Christ Lutheran you have the ability to look back at your years here and appreciate the impact that Christ Lutheran made on your life. In my five plus years I have had opportunities to work with past students. Many have children in our school now. Some serve on our Board of Education and on the Board of Directors. The common theme that they share with me is that those years at Christ Lutheran set a firm foundation not only spiritually, but set them on a successful academic course in future endeavors.

Another common theme from our conversations is the desire to help. Some of those requests to help are asking where we could use funds for our accreditation goals, and others ask how they could offer their talents. I thought I

would list areas that we have identified as needs that can use third source funds, or even perhaps expertise to help in our decision making.

We are developing a spiritual rubric to help parents identify the stages of spiritual development from Preschool through grade eight. Parents and staff will keep a portfolio of each child as they show evidence of their own spiritual growth. We would love your thoughts and ideas on this.

Our staff is in training this year as we prepare for each child in grades 3-8 to have a hand held device for classroom instruction. The parents will be responsible for purchasing those in most grades. However, we will most likely be purchasing approximately twenty as school property.

The cost will be \$450 per device. One alumni suggested to challenge all alumni to come up with the \$10,000 needed for those 20 Chromebooks.

Another need that exists every year is the need for financial aid. We still have faithful families who have lost jobs, or have been hired for a much lower salary and need additional help.

CLS has over 600 alumni. Our goal is that if each alumni would donate \$20, we could cover the hand-held devices and financial aid for 1 child.

Please use the enclosed card and envelope for the \$20 challenge. There are additional opportunities if the Spirit moves you do to more than \$20. If you wish to donate for the scholarship fund that can be done on the school website. We will post updates on the website and Facebook on the huge impact the alumni are making. A small donation by many will create incredible benefits for today's CLS students.

Did any of these events take place when you were in school? Upcoming Events...

- Nov. 04 - Music Recitals
- Nov. 09 - PTL Skate Night
- Nov. 30 - Preschool advent program
- Dec. 07 - K-5 advent program
- Dec. 14 - Middle School choir concert
- Dec. 20 - Staff sings to families before school—Christmas break

We love to have our alumni come back and join us.

Blessings,
Richard Nordmeyer, Principal

Inside this issue:

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Save the Date — Christ Lutheran's Third Annual Gala Is Saturday, March 17th!! Don't forget to mark your calendar! That's right, on **March 17, 2012**, Christ Lutheran School will host its third Gala Event. Our last event was held at the Costa Mesa Country Club. The theme of the night was based on John 4:14. We enjoyed a sit down dinner, silent auction, live auction, music, fun and fellowship.

The biggest part of the event will be to raise funds to meet student scholarship needs and to upgrade our student technology, which will greatly impact our student learning and help us meet our WASC accreditation technology goals.

Our goal last year was to raise \$6000 after the expenses of the Gala. We actually cleared \$20,000 after the costs of putting the event on! God truly blessed this event and we thank everyone for their contributions.

We look forward to you joining us at this coming year's Gala, but if you cannot make it and you would like to donate to this worthy cause, you can do so through our website: www.christcm.com; click on the word "school," scroll down and click on the words "scholarship fund" or "technology fund," from there you will be taken to pay pal. Cash donations are also welcomed.

Be on the lookout for more information to come on this exciting event. Let's match or beat last year's total!

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District Wide Service Project

On November 16, 2011, Christ Lutheran School will be involved with other Lutheran school's within the Pacific Southwest District who will be performing local community service projects. Last year in grades k-8, our students came together and constructed hygiene kits for the Mercy House which is an organization that helps people who are in crisis of becoming homeless. Our project this year is "Toys for Tots". The students preschool through eighth grade will be collecting toys for children less fortunate. The students are excited for this project and serving their community!

Admission Counselor Update

Greetings CLS Alumni!

As we enter into the 2011/12 school year, things just don't slow down. We've already zipped through our Fall Giftwrap fundraiser, Drive-In-Movie Night, Dad's And Donuts, and Preschool Grandparents Day! Do you remember all of the fun activities? Especially the Fall Festival on 10-15-11.

What a special time for everyone to come together for a day of laughter and fun. We had game booths, a General Store where homemade jams and crafts were sold, potluck foods, a bounce house, rock wall, a rocking pirate ship and more! We wish all of you could have been here.

Our WASC accreditation was approved! We have been certified through 2016. The CLS staff and teachers are to be commended for their hard work and efforts put into the preparation of the WASC Committee visit.

As indicated in the Save-the-Date section of this newsletter, our Gala this past April was a great success. Our goal was to clear \$6,000 after expenses and we actually hit \$20,000! Praise God for His faithfulness! Thank you to the guests that came and supported this event, but also you, the alumni, who participated through cheerful giving. What a great way to be able to give back to your school and help provide an education and memories for children of today, what you experienced in your childhood.

We are already getting calls for tours for the 2012/13 school year. Please keep CLS in your prayers. As our school grows, we are able to hopefully connect children to Jesus! Last year, 22 of our students were baptized. Wow! How cool is that. Keep updated with current happening's on our Facebook educational page at Christ Lutheran School, Costa Mesa. If you "Like" us, you will receive the updates on your wall.

Blessings to you and your family!

Lisa Olson, Admission Counselor

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Exciting New Staff and Changes Here at CLS!

This school year we have three new full time teacher's and one part-time. We are so blessed to have the individual gifts and talents each one brings to Christ Lutheran School. Allie Heideman in our kindergarten, Natalie Lisk in first grade, Alyssa Membrilla in third grade, and Kirsten Bauren in middle school. The four of them come to us with wonderful new skills, experience and ideas. They have been welcomed with open arms by our families and students. Our part-time teacher is an alumni you may know! It's Kirsten Bauern, formerly DeGree, who returns to CLS teaching science in the middle school. We are blessed to have her and the other new staff members with us.

Linda Gardiner, our first grade teacher of 50 years, retired last year. We will miss her in the classroom, the reading igloo, her Arctic Animal reports and her apple projects, but we are so fortunate to keep Mrs. Gardiner as our part-time Student Support Specialist. With her experience, knowledge and additional training she is receiving, our students will benefit from early intervention.

With these changes, it allows our principal, Mr. Nordmeyer, to be full-time principal this year and not teaching third grade part-time. Thank you God for the blessings we have this year with staffing!