

NOTES and NEWS

First German Ev. Lutheran School

www.firstgerman.org

January 8, 2010

CPO - STEWARDSHIP!!

For Me to live is Christ!

Have you ever wondered: why am I here? Purpose is something we need as human beings, whether it's at work or on the basketball court or in the home. God gives us a purpose as his blood-bought children. Our focus in Sunday morning worship will explore this purpose and our stewardship of living. Stewardship is how we live and manage what God gives us. We will focus on three aspects of life.

January 10th - Our Tasks

January 17th - Our Relationships

January 24th - Our Resources

The last Sunday of January (January 31st) will be a celebration of the work we do together and a chance for us to present a commitment card to the Lord. We can give personally our promise of support for the coming year. God will bless us as we focus on his Word. See you in worship!

Food for January

10th : Schaller, Lindemann

17th: Schaller, _____

24th : Schaefer, _____

31st : Wendt, Reif

We will pass sign up sheet around again on Sunday, it works best if we can have two families per week. Thanks to all of you who have filled our bellies so far this year.

THRIVENT MATCHING GIFTS

The Thrivent Matching Gifts program has come to an end. Thank you so much for all of the donations that have been given. It is great to see the love of Jesus and Christian Education in your hearts. My understanding is that there is another program in the works that will be similar to the gift matching program, but nothing is concrete yet.

We do ask that, although they won't be matched, you continue to remember our School and its financial needs. The financial gifts are greatly appreciated and help out with so much of what we do. Thanks.



MISSION OFFERING UPDATE - Calvary Academy

We received a wonderful letter from Bob Wesser, the President of Calvary Academy Ministries. I thought it would be great to share with you so you know how meaningful your children's offerings are to Jesus and the ministries we send them to. I will be sharing this letter with the children after next week's Chapel Service. He writes

Dear Students, Staff & Parents:

Please accept our thanks for your gift of love and know that your gift will be helping you people like the young woman who wrote the following.

"When I first came to Calvary Academy, I thought this place was a joke, and I just wanted to lie and avoid my real problems. I wanted to leave Calvary as soon as possible and be reunited with all my old friends. Now my feelings have greatly changed. Calvary has brought me A LOT closer to God. I now think of Him and strive to please Him, not myself. It is just awesome how much we can depend on Him and He helps us out. With Calvary's help, the Holy Spirit has grown inside of me and built a new stronger foundation between my parents and me. Calvary has brought me a lot closer with both Christ and my family, and I am so thankful."

With your support, Calvary Academy Ministries can contribute to reach out to students like this young woman. Therefore, we thank you for your gift. We pray that sharing the love of Jesus with his lost lambs at Calvary has made your Christmas even more meaningful. Please know that your willingness to partner with us in this ministry of hope to hurting families is greatly appreciated today, tomorrow and for eternity.

POM POM CAMP

Letters were sent home on Thursday to all the girls in grades K-8 about the Pom Pom Camp. The kids have had a lot of fun at this camp, and they get to meet a lot of other kids from our local WELS schools. The deadline is January 15th and all the important information is located on that sheet.

LUTHERAN PIONEERS

Sunday, January 17th - Annual Family Bowling & Tournament with chili dump lunch to follow. Whether you bowl for fun (\$2.50 per game, shoes are free) or competition (\$1.00 entry fee for the tournament, which is used for prizes), bring the whole family for an afternoon of great food and fun. Activities will take place at ***Meadow Lanes West*** from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. Each family should bring at least a quart of chili and a dessert or snack.

Monday, January 19th - Regular Meeting. Sunbeams and Buckaroos will create Drug Abuse Prevention posters and Pine Car Derby cars. The Girl Pioneers will be working on invitations and decorations for the family dinner and cutting out their pine cars. The Boy Pioneers will be cutting out and designing their pine cars.

SPELLING BEE

This week we held the preliminary rounds for our spelling bee. All students in grades 4 through 8 took a 50 word test. The top scorers from that test will be in the school spelling bee planned for Wednesday, January 13th, at 1:00 pm. Parents are invited to attend the bee if you wish. It usually takes 20 to 30 minutes. The spelling bee finalists are: Jonathan Menk, Joshua Steckmesser, Elizabeth Bellin, Kaylene Hernandez, Jacob Lindemann, Samuel Martinez, Earl Oswald, Cheyenne Schroeder, Jacob Ungemach, Kevin Lee, Sam Oswald, Jacob Pekarske, Megan Reinhard, Adam Schwede, Alex Strzyzewski, and Brenden Zivko. (I hope I spelled all their names correctly. How embarrassing would *that* be.)

GEOGRAPHY BEE

Next week we will begin the first rounds of the National Geographic Geography Bee. We hope to be able to list the 10 finalists for that competition in next week's Notes and News. The Championship Round of the Geography Bee will, God willing, be held at 1:00 p.m. on January 20th.

BOOK FAIR

Coming in March to First German is the Scholastic Book Fair. I am in need of help with planning, organizing and operating the Fair. If you are interested, contact Mrs. Holschbach in the school library as soon as possible.

BOOKS ARE FUN

There is a display set up in the school entry. Please take the time to look at the items displayed. The display will be available until Tuesday, January 12th.

LABELS FOR EDUCATION

A shipment of labels was sent the end of December for 4,642 points. We also qualified for the bonus labels of 2,500. This brings our point balance to a total of 15,652. These points are redeemed through the merchandise catalog for items not covered through the budget. Thank you to everyone for saving and turning in the Campbell labels. Our next shipment will be made in May. ***Just a reminder, we do need the entire label.***

BOXTOP CONTEST

New game sheets for January have been handed out. If you still have ones from other months, they can still be handed in for a prize. Play all month long. These sheets count towards the ***Principal for a Day*** contest.

A shipment of boxtops was sent out the end of December, which totaled \$760.30. This money is used for items not covered through the budget. Thank you to everyone for saving and turning in the boxtops. Thank you to the students playing the games.

CANTEEN - HALL MONITOR HELP NEEDED

We have added a few more home basketball games to our schedule this year. Please take time to look at the Volunteer sheets posted on the trophy case glass outside Mr. Leckwee's office. The new games are on white paper and the original games are on red paper.

An attached form has the upcoming games and who is already signed up to help out. If there are any open spots please take time to fill in for us.

BASKETBALL SCHEDULE

Friday, January 8th vs. Maribel (home)

Game will begin at 5:00 p.m. (7A boys)

Saturday, January 9th @ Wayside

Games begin at 12:00 p.m. (GB, BB, GA, BA)

C team begins at 10:00 a.m.

Wednesday, January 13th vs. Cabrini (Home)

Games start at 4:30 p.m. (7A boys, 8A boys)

Saturday, January 16th vs. Brillion (HOME)

Games will start at 12:00 p.m. (GB, BB, GA, BA)

C Team starts at 10:00 a.m.

MANITOWOC LUTHERAN HIGH SCHOOL

MLHS Alumni Recognition Night — All Lancer Alum are invited to the Friday, January 15th Boys' Basketball game vs. Wrightstown. At halftime of the varsity game, all alumni will be asked to stand & be recognized. As this is also Lancer-for-a-Day, this is a great opportunity to show the next generation your Lancer Pride!

A CD recording of the 2009 MLHS Christmas Concert is being produced. If you would like to place an order for this CD please visit the MLHS school office or download the order form from www.mlhslancers.com. Orders should be placed no later than Friday, January 29th.

Upcoming Dates to Remember

- Sun., 1/10** -MLHS Winter Band Concert
(2:00 p.m.)
- Fri., 1/15** -7th & 8th Grade Lancer-for-a-Day
-Varsity Basketball Game
-Alumni Recognition at Halftime
- Wed., 1/20** -Parent Student Guidance Night
(6:30 p.m.)
- Sat., 1/23** -Grade School Poms Camp
(8:30 – 11:00 a.m.)
- Sun., 1/24** -MLHS Sunday @ Immanuel, Mtwc
(8:00 & 10:30 a.m.)
- Wed., 1/27** -MLHS Freshman Registration Night
(7:00 p.m.)
- Thur., 1/28** -MLHS Freshman Registration Night
(7:00 p.m.)
- Sat., 1/30** -Grade School HotShot Preliminaries
@ MLHS (8:00 - 11:00 a.m.)
-Lead Delegate Meeting (8:30 a.m.)



CLASSROOM NEWS

Sonshine Preschool Notes from Mrs. Schaller

The children are settling in very well after their Christmas vacation. The Bible Story for January 11th - 15th is "Twelve Year Old Jesus in the Temple." The 3's will continue working on winter related projects. The 4's will finish the letter J and work on the letter K.

Kindergarten Notes from Mrs. Fischer

The children heard the lessons *The Pharisee and the Tax Collector* and *A Father Forgives His Son*. We talked about how all people sin and that we cannot do anything to have our sins forgiven or get to heaven. God has done it all! Each day we should thank God for taking our sins away and for giving us life in heaven with him.

We will be praising God in church on **January 17th during the 8:00 a.m. service**. The children will sing *Jesus, Name Above All Names*. In the three verses, we found 24 names for Jesus! We will **NOT** be singing on **January 24th** because of conflicts with other activities.

The new math concepts are dividing objects in half, problem solving, and ordering objects by weight. The centers are giving the children different ways to practice counting to 100 by 5's.

The children have added another vowel sound to their letter sticks. The short *e* sound is tricky because it is very similar to the short *i* sound. Please give extra attention to these *e* words in their word cases. In the Reading Center, they are reading the book *Green Eggs and Ham* to the adult helper. They are also sorting picture tiles into groups according to the vowel sounds. In the Art Center, they are making elephants. In the Writing Center, they are making a booklet called *What Is Inside the Egg?* To prepare them for this activity, I showed them a video from the Reading Rainbow Series about the book *Chickens Aren't the Only Ones*. It was about animals other than chickens that lay eggs. In the Computer Center they are working with the *en* and *et* families.

Homework this weekend will be to read a book from the Super Book Series. I used these books when I taught first grade. They are old and tattered, but they are phonetically strong and I think the children will enjoy the success of being able to read them. They are numbered 1-40 and they get progressively harder. I will not start everyone on number 1. After they read the book to you (please have them use the reading strategies I sent home), please help them to fill out the report. When you get to the question *What was the book about?* One or two sentences is enough. To begin with, your child could dictate it to you and you can print it, but eventually, your child should be doing the printing. When they bring the book and report back, they put a sticker on a chart for that numbered book. They should do one or two of these books a week. Because I am adding this, I will not be sending home *On Track to First Grade* anymore unless you request it. Thank you.

1st and 2nd Grade Notes from Mrs. Korte

Thank you for all the Christmas greetings and gifts. Those thoughts of kindness have not gone unnoticed. We wish you all a Blessed New Year.

This week I handed out the new "Four Seasons Reading Sheet". Thank you for handing in the December sheets so promptly. Remember that the sheets will be sent home each month through the month of May.

We were scheduled to sing in church on January 17th, and January 24th. We now realized that some of our families will be attending the Brownsville Tournament and will not be here to sing with us. So we will only be singing on Sunday, January 17th as of now. I will let you know if things change.

The Annual Bowl-O-Rama will be held on Sunday, January 17th at **Meadow Lanes West**. It will start at 1:00 p.m. You are asked to bring a quart of chili for the "Chili Dump". It's an afternoon of family fun and fellowship.

We are starting the new year, there still is room in CPO for you. We have lots of great discussions on family issues. Come and see what we have to offer. The more, the merrier!

Upcoming Dates to Remember

Sun., 1/17 -K-2 sing in the 8:00 a.m. service
-Bowl-O-Rama @ **Meadow Lanes West**
(1:00 p.m.)
Sat., 1/23 -Brownsville Tournament
Sun., 1/24 -Brownsville Tournament

3rd and 4th Grade Notes from Miss Wordell



"Love Your Neighbor" was this week's Christ Light Bible lesson theme. We studied the lessons of "The Loving Samaritan" and "The Unforgiving

Servant." To put this theme into real action, the 3rd and 4th graders knotted a fleece blanket that they are going to give to former classmate Yeupheng Kue. He is still struggling with a serious illness at this time. I picked out Spartan colors to remind Yeupheng of his many old friends at First German. Thank you to Mrs. Owen for coming to school and helping out with preparing the fleece and supervising the work groups. It was a fun Wednesday morning! We also wrote note

cards to Yeupheng, and each student included a written prayer for him as well.

We also sent cards of Christian care and encouragement to Mrs. Karen Kehl and to her classroom students. She is the 3rd and 4th grade teacher at Immanuel Lutheran School. She was diagnosed with cancer shortly before the holidays. At this time she is going through treatments and some rehab therapy for back pain. We encouraged Mrs. Kehl and her students to stay connected to Jesus, he is our wonderful friend who is always ready to listen and help in times of troubles. Please keep both Yeupheng and Mrs. Kehl in your family prayers as well. I encourage parents and their children to: ***Keep looking for ways that you can let your Christian love light shine on others be they family, friends, or strangers.***

We are going to begin working on learning the list of Old Testament Bible books. We will be practicing them at school. Our goal is that each child should be able to recite this list from memory by Ash Wednesday, February 17th. There is a list in your Home Study folder. 3rd graders might need to start reviewing them as we get closer to February. 4th grade should have some recollection of learning them last year.

Upcoming Dates to Remember

Mon., 1/11 -Return Reading Log #14
Wed., 1/13 -Science Test
Fri., 1/15 -Spelling Test #14

Mon., 1/18 -Return Reading Log #15
Mon., 1/22 -Spelling Test #15

5th and 6th Grade Notes from Mr. Siegler

I'm pleased to tell you that, after the last chapter of social studies, most of the students in the room actually can tell you when we fought the War of 1812. (We have a few chapters to go before we find out who is buried in Grant's Tomb.)

Tests and quizzes for 1 - 11 to 1 - 15

Mon. Reading test Unit 3
Spelling test Unit 3
Science test Chpt 9
Tue. No tests
Wed. No tests
Thur. Spelling pretest
Fri. Catechism quiz Q 87 - 89
Math test

7th & 8th Grade Notes from Mr. Menk

In **literature** we have started *A Wrinkle in Time*. It is science fiction and sometimes difficult to understand. Reading this book with your child and reviewing the vocabulary list each day will help in understanding.

January **book reports** are due on the 25th. February book reports will be done a bit differently for some of the students. If your child wants to start early, make sure they check with Mr. Menk for details of what to do.

Grades are now being posted online for each child in 7th & 8th grade. This will help you and your child(ren) see how they are doing in each class on each assignment. Progress reports will still be provided as 'hard copy', but regularly checking assignments will help you see how each individual assignment has been completed. Hopefully this will give you a clearer idea of where extra help is needed.

TONECHIME CHOIR

Students in grades 5th and 6th are able to try out for this year's tonechime choir. This choir practices during lunch recesses and plays several times throughout the year. Though it is not required to be in this group, it is a good way for students to prepare for joining handbell choir in 7th and 8th grade. Try-outs will happen next week during lunch recesses

7th & 8th Grade Notes from Mr. Leckwee

We are working on getting our online grading and information program running. Expect an email this upcoming week that will give you your username and password. It will give you access to their current grades, homework, and other classroom information.

Lancer-for-a-day is coming up next Friday, January 15th. We are responsible for getting the students to MLHS by 9:00 a.m. If you can help out with driving, please contact Mr. Leckwee as soon as possible. A schedule of the days events are added to the Notes and News. They will be done at 4:00 p.m. if you don't plan on your student staying for the basketball game.

FORENSIC TEAMS

All students in grades 6th - 8th participate in the Academic Festival on March 27th at Manitowoc Lutheran High School in the forensics competition. This helps each child become more comfortable with public speaking. Forensic pieces will be chosen or assigned next week to every student in grades 6th - 8th. Practices with the forensic coach will also begin on Wednesday and Thursday that week. Practices will continue every week then until the competition. Be sure to listen to your child's speech as often as possible to help him or her succeed. We thank Mr. Schwark for his help in making this program possible

MLHS TEDDY BEAR TOSS

The National Honor Society of Manitowoc Lutheran High School sincerely thanks you for all of your support and generosity in helping with the teddy bear toss. Thank you to all of those who donated a stuffed animal for this event and to all those who helped decorate boxes for the teddy bears. These things really added to the wonderful atmosphere of this occasion. It was truly a blessing to see everyone together in the gym, gathered for such a great cause. There were 430 stuffed animals collected that night, and they will be donated to Aurora, Holy Family, and Children's Hospital in Milwaukee. These children will really appreciate your generosity. All praise be to God!

National Honor Society Students



The third and fourth grade class at our school decorated the teddy bear collection box for First German. Third grader, Abby Liermann, and seventh grader, Jordan Blattler, represented our school in the race to pick up the stuffed animals. They showed a lot of enthusiasm and speed at the event. It was wonderful to see many First German kids at MLHS that evening. It was a great chance to mingle with friends from other area Lutheran grade schools, as well as cheer on the Lancer team. Thank you to the students that donated stuffed animals even though you were unable to attend. Miss Wordell took 3 bags of animals to the game and found willing helpers to toss them onto the floor at half time. Thank you to all for letting your Christian love shine out during this event!

