

THE HAPPENINGS

A Weekly Publication of Calvin Christian School

Tuesday, January 3, 2012

Issue 17

“We know that the whole creation has been groaning as in the pains of childbirth right up to the present time. Not only so, but we ourselves, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for our adoption to sonship, the redemption of our bodies. For in this hope we were saved.” Romans 8:22 – 24a

1. **Happy New Year!** A new year has begun. We look at the year ahead knowing that it can be filled with many uncertainties. For some of us it will be a year filled with exciting challenges, open doors, and amazing opportunities. For others the year may contain struggles, hardships, and surprising difficulties. God does not guarantee that everything will go the way we plan. However, he does something far more important: God promises His presence throughout the coming year. God assures us that He knows what’s ahead. The entire year is spread out before the Lord. And the same God who knows all about the year ahead promises to go with us every step of the way. He asks us to put our trust in Him. Have a blessed New Year!
Steve Groen, Superintendent

2. **January Theme:** The theme for the 2011/12 school year is “Deeply Rooted – Bearing Fruit.” In order to be deeply rooted, we must know the answers to some basic questions such as “Who am I? Where am I? What am I called to do? During the first three months of this school year, our theme has focused on “Who am I?” This month we continue our focus on “Where am I?” In answering this question, we first proclaim with the Psalmist that “The earth is the Lord’s and everything in it.” The creation certainly displays the handiwork of its Maker and we see evidence of this splendor in so many places. But that is only part of the story. The apostle Paul tells us that creation also groans from the heavy burden of sin weighing it down (Romans 8:19 -23). Our planet is no longer the perfect world that came from the hand of the Creator. Due to the consequences of humanity’s disobedience, our world is disturbed, distorted, and deformed. The strains of natural disasters, environmental pollution, political corruption, and social alienation are evident around us.

But Paul reminds us that there is good news for this groaning world. God’s mission is not just the saving of souls but also the liberation of his whole creation (Rom. 8:21). God is at work in Christ to reconcile people not only to himself but also to each other and to

the natural world. God has called His children to be involved in this transformational process as His “ministers of reconciliation” (2 Corinthians 5:17 – 20). So let’s get busy addressing the groans of creation in the areas of environmental stewardship, health care, economics, politics and all other fields in which the Lord has called us to work. It is also vitally important that we equip future generations for this transformational work. Please pray for staff of Calvin Christian School and all those involved in this important task. *Steve Groen – CCS Superintendent*

3. **Thank You** The faculty and staff at CCS would like to thank all of the families for the wonderful cards and gifts we received at Christmas. We consider it a privilege to serve God here at CCS and work with all of the students and families in this partnership of Christian education.

4. **Welcome** This week we welcome two new families to the Blaine Campus. ZhaoHao Jiang has joined our 8th grade class. Hao is an international student from China that will be living with the Mark and Sheri Westra family. We also welcome Cullen and Maureen Johnson and their children Cal (grade 4) and Gracie (grade 1) to Calvin Christian. Please welcome both families if you have a chance to meet them, and please be in prayer for each student as they transition to CCS.

5. **Ice Skating** During the month of January (beginning on the 3rd; our first day back after Christmas break) the Physical Education classes will be held outside. The students will ice skate on their scheduled PE day. The middle school students have the option to bring skates or to just to wear boots on the ice. Please make sure that skates fit properly. Also, students must come with warm clothing (hats, gloves, warm tall socks, etc.). **Skate guards are required to protect the carpeted floors and the skate blades as students walk to the ice rink.**

6. **No School – January 16 - In Service Day** January 16 (Martin Luther King Day) is a scheduled In-Service Day at CCS. Staff members will be updating progress

reports and setting goals for the second semester. Classes will not be in session on Monday, January 16.

Missy Kamp at mjk934@yahoo.com or 708-703-1138 with any questions.

7. **New Parent Portal** CCS is utilizing a new website for our private parent communication. An email was sent out on Monday with instructions on how to access the site, and we've attached a copy of that email to the *Happenings*. Please note that we will have optional parent trainings on how to use the site at the Blaine campus on Thursday, Jan. 5 at 7pm and Friday, Jan. 6 at 9am. Please contact Jack Shields with any questions.
8. **Ice Skating Party Announcement** Saturday, January 21st is the Calvin Christian School ice skating party. Join us for ice skating at Madsen Park right next to Grace Evangelical Free Church (Calvin's High School location) at 755 73rd Av NE, in Fridley. There will be ice skating, hot chocolate, coffee and cookies. Fun for all! See attachment for more details.
9. **Interest Meeting for Hosting an International Student** For anyone interested in hearing more about hosting an international student, please attend an informational meeting on **Friday, January, 27, at approximately 7:30 p.m. following the basketball games at CCHS**. Hear from former and current host families about their experience in this unique mission. Please join us on the 3rd floor, where pizza and refreshments will be provided. RSVP to Keith TerHaar by e-mail: keith@calvinchristian.org if you plan to attend.
10. **2nd Grade Praises and Prayer Requests** Throughout the year the PTF is highlighting a different grade at Calvin to pray for. Let's begin this New Year by lifting up the 2nd grade class and Ms. Walstra through prayer. Attached to this week's *Happenings* are their prayer requests. We encourage you to print this attachment off and pray together as a family on their behalf.
11. **Fundraiser Profits** Thank you to everyone who participated in the recent PTF fundraisers. We raised over \$2000 through the Poinsettia Plant sale and the Butter Braid sale. This is almost twice as much as last year! All money that was earned is used for the benefit of the teachers and students at the Blaine Campus. Thank you again for supporting Calvin! *The PTF Board*
12. **Wanted: Calvin COMEDY Night Day-of- Event Producer** Seeking a person with producer/production experience to oversee the overall stage show, talent, technical staff, and volunteers of the Calvin Comedy Night! This highly anticipated inaugural event will be held February 11, 2012 at 7:30 pm. Your time commitment is limited to the week before the event and the day of the event only! Please contact Kevin Distad at kevindistad@gmail.com or [763-350-5318](tel:763-350-5318) or
13. **Save The Date!** Funfest is coming Feb. 24 from 6-8pm. New low admission! New Minute To Win It games!! 50 door prizes!!! Win a free Wendy's frosty coupon for every person who preregisters by Feb. 17th. Everyone who preregisters gets entered into the door prize drawing. *We are seeking 1 or 2 junior size golf clubs for the "Hole in One" game.* Don't miss out on fun, fun, fun!! Watch *Happenings* for further details.
14. **Cold Weather Policy** Now that the cold weather season is upon us, please make sure that your children are dressed appropriately for recess. This includes coat, mittens, hat, boots and snow pants. **We strongly encourage all students to go outside for recess every day.**
9. **More Cold Weather Information** At CCS the following guidelines are followed concerning outdoor activity in cold weather: **No outdoor activity will occur during the school day if one of the following is true:*
 - The temperature is 0° or below
 - The windchill is lower than -20°*Outdoor activity will be limited to 10 minute sessions if the temperature is above 0° and the windchill is between -10° and -20°. Temperatures and windchills are determined by information generated from our weather station.*
10. **School Cancellation** When inclement weather makes it impossible to conduct school, an announcement will be made over radio station WCCO (830 AM). Cancellations will also be announced over TV stations KARE-11, WCCO-4, and KSTP-5. The three campuses of Calvin Christian are designated as Calvin Christian-Edina, Calvin Christian-Blaine, and Calvin Christian High School. Because weather conditions can vary throughout the metro area, we will announce cancellations separately for each campus. If it is necessary to cancel school during the day because of a storm, parents will be notified via e-mail and a phone call from the school or from another parent making calls on behalf of the school. If you believe weather conditions make it unsafe or you to take your child to school, please call the office to inform us. Our families come from many different metro areas, and we expect families to use their best judgment.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

January 16	No School-Martin Luther King Jr Day
January 20	Teachers Lunch Together
January 20	End of 2 nd quarter
January 21	Ice Skating Party 1-3pm
January 23	No School – Records Day
January 26	No afternoon SLP bus
January 26	No MV bus
January 27	Chapel

January 27 No SLP bus
January 27 No MV Bus

Hot Lunch Menu

January 4 Grilled Chicken Sandwiches
January 11 Chicken Nuggets
January 18 Teriyaki Chicken
January 25 Tacos

Jazz Band

January 5 Kim Scobbie
January 12 Jill Schmidt
January 19 Nancy Hedberg
January 26 Brenda Burnham

Second Grade Prayer Requests

Ms. Walstra

- Pray that God would continue to teach us how to be rooted in Him so that we can bear good fruit.
- Pray that God would help us to be both good learning and playing friends-- that we would use kind and encouraging words, be inclusive in our friendships, that we would build each other up, use our words to solve problems, and treat each other with Jesus' love.
- Pray that we all would grow as readers and writers this year, and use the gifts that God gave us to the best of our abilities.
- Pray that God would grant me wisdom, grace, insight, patience and love as I teach, interact with, and love on my students.

Class List

Marley Aune	Katrianna Ling
Christopher Berkenpas	Deanna Makori
Laura Boersma	Issac Moin
Daniel Carlson	Martika Richards
Becky Cerezo	Josiah Schaap
Anthony Hector	Natalia Tedlund
Amanda Johnson	Julia Van Geest
Ella Kuipers	Elisa Vander Top
Christian Lief	Ava Westlund

Pray a blessing for each child by name:

So then, (child's name here), just as you received Christ Jesus as Lord continue to live your life in him, rooted and built up in him, strengthened in the faith as you were taught, and overflowing with thankfulness. *Colossians 2:6-7*

Annual CCS Ice Skating Party

CCHS/Grace Evangelical Free Church
Saturday, January 21, 2012
1:00- 3:00pm

Please join your CCS family (Blaine campus and High School), for an afternoon of OUTDOOR skating. It is being held at the Calvin Christian High School campus housed at Grace Evangelical Free Church in Fridley.

CCHS
755 73rd Ave NE
Fridley, MN 55432

DIRECTIONS: From CCS, follow Highway 65 south to 73rd Ave. Turn right. Follow about 2 blocks. Take right and IMMEDIATE left. The church is right there on your right hand side. Enter building at door B. We will be skating OUTDOORS at Madsen Park right next door to the church.

This is a FREE event sponsored by the PTF.
Hot Chocolate, coffee and cookies will be served!

If you have any questions, please contact Michele Schwalbe at 763-757-5972

******Please remember skate guards******

Dear CCS Families;

This year we are transitioning to a new web portal for parents called ParentsWeb. Our hope is that this will be a one-stop website for all of your information needs for CCS. This private portal will allow you to see general school announcements, calendars, school directory, and the Happenings. The portal will also allow you to see specific items related to your child(ren). For example, you will see your child's attendance records, behavior reports, classroom websites, and, in some cases, your child's homework and grades. Our transition to this portal is a work in progress, and our plan is for parents to also eventually be able to register for enrollment and update family information, as well as pay invoices for extended day, band lessons, and hot lunch.

You may try out the parent portal by going to <http://www.renweb.com> and selecting Logins—ParentsWeb from the top menu. The first time you go to the site you will need to create an account, so please select the link "Create a New ParentsWeb Account" from the bottom of the screen. You will then type in the District Code: cc-mn and the email you use to receive the Happenings each week. Then select the "Create Account" button. You will create a password that is specific to your account, and then be able to login to the account from any computer.

Once you are logged in to your account please select the button on the lower left side of the screen titled, "Tour the NEW ParentWeb." This video will explain the details of the private parent portal. This video thoroughly explains how ParentsWeb works and how you can find the information you need. We will be hosting an optional parent training at both the Edina campus and Blaine campus on **Thursday, Jan. 5 at 7pm and Friday, Jan. 6 at 9am**. Feel free to come to these events to ask questions and learn about the capabilities of this parent portal.

If you have any questions regarding the move to ParentsWeb, please contact your building principal. We look forward to utilizing this new communication tool in our partnership with you the parents.

Sincerely,

Jack Shields
Blaine Campus Principal