

The Happenings

A Weekly Publication of Calvin Christian High School

September 7, 2011

Issue 1

“So then, just as you received Christ Jesus as Lord, continue to live in him, rooted and build up in him, strengthened in the faith as you were taught, and overflowing with thankfulness.” Colossians 26 - 7

1. Welcome to Calvin Christian 2010-2011 School Year!

Welcome to the new school year at Calvin Christian School! A special welcome to each of the families who have enrolled children at Calvin Christian for the first time. We praise the Lord for an opening day enrollment of 468 students at CCS. This includes 195 students at the Edina campus, 209 students at the Blaine campus, and 64 students enrolled at Calvin High School (Grade 9-12). The task of educating and training the young people God has placed before us is a great responsibility. However, we have a mighty God who promises to guide and equip us as we take up our calling as teachers or parents. It is my prayer that as teachers, parents, and students, we will honor and serve the Lord through the teaching and learning that takes place at CCS this year.

A weekly newsletter called The Happenings will be e-mailed to CCS families each Monday or the first school day of the week. Please read The Happenings carefully so you can remain up-to-date on various school activities and other items of interest. It is important that you pay careful attention to any flyers included with The Happenings. The Happenings can also be found on the CCS website at www.calvinchristian.org. If you have a question or concern, please do not hesitate to call or send a note. The phone number for the High School Campus is 763.531.1732 School office hours are 7:45 a.m.-3:45 p.m.

2. Theme for the 2011-12 School Year

Our school theme for the 2011/12 school year is “Deeply Rooted – Bearing Fruit.” This is also the theme of the CCS 50th Anniversary which we are celebrating this year. Growing up on a farm, I learned the importance of good soil at an early age. On our farm there was a dramatic difference between the corn and bean plants that were planted in the black, rich soil and those that were planted in rocky or sandy soil. The plants in good soil could develop a strong root system. The roots would provide the plant with nutrients from the rich soil and give the plant stability, enabling it to stand strong even in fierce storms. A seed planted in rocky or sandy soil would not develop a strong root system nor would it have access to the nutrients that it would need to grow strong

and healthy and eventually bear fruit. Plants in poor soil would eventually wither from a lack of nutrients or would be flattened by a strong wind.

Metaphorically, we also need to have our foundation in good soil where we can develop roots that are deep and strong. Jesus spoke of this in the parable of the sower (Matthew 13). The apostle Paul says that we must be rooted in Christ (Colossians 2) and in His love (Ephesians 3). It is my prayer that in this school year, Calvin Christian School may be the soil that allows children and young people to develop biblical roots which equips them to bear fruit in service to their Lord and Savior. Throughout the 11/12 school year, our theme will focus on the biblical roots that answer the questions of “Who Am I?”, “Where Am I?” and “What Am I Called to Do?”

Who Am I?

September: An Image-bearer

October: A Broken Vessel

November: A Child of God Living Under Grace

Where Am I?

December: A World Created by God and Dependent on Him

January: A World that is Broken

February: A World that is Redeemed.

What Am I Called to Do?

March: Called to Serve (Submit)

April: Called to Care for and Develop and Unfold God’s Creation

May: Called to Spread God’s Love to Others

- ## 3. Teacher and Student Orientation Schedule
- This week at CCHS looks a bit different for a reason. Prior to starting trimester 1 next week, we use these four days to highlight some characteristics of CCHS that are keys to a quality Christian high school. Teachers present to our entire student body on topics such as worldview, engaged learning, community, our calling as servants, Christians and competition, and a vision for CCHS. These presentations are followed by advisory break-out sessions, where students and advisors unpack what was presented. This foundation will serve as a springboard for the rest of our learning and growth this year. Please

ask your son or daughter what they are learning and why it matters!

4. **Skonewood Retreat** We are looking forward to spending tomorrow and Friday at the Skonewood Christian Retreat Center in Cushing, WI. Since we are staying only one night and our space is limited, students should limit themselves to a small duffel bag, sleeping bag, and pillow. Don't forget to pack a sack lunch for Thursday. Please see the attached letter for important information and a complete packing list. **If your student has prescription medication that needs to be administered, please deliver it to Mrs. DeVries, along with written instructions, tomorrow morning. The medication should be in the original container and clearly labeled.**

5. **Items left at Picnic** Several items were left behind after the high school picnic (large blue bowl, a blue cover, leaf-patterned serving tray, tongs, potholders and a couple of spatulas). Please come to the office to claim your items.

6. **Food Distribution** The monthly food distribution at Grace will take place this Friday, September 9. This is a reminder that there will be many extra people and vehicles around the building and in the parking lot. Please take extra care when dropping off and picking up your student. Students are also reminded not to leave computers, clothing, etc. in the hallways or bathrooms. Also, all lockers should be locked.

7. **Mandatory Orientation Night** All CCHS parents please reserve Monday, September 19 for this orientation. The meeting will begin at 7:00 pm and will take place in Grace's new fellowship hall on the main floor. Please park on the north side of the building and enter through Door D. Parents will learn about and be able to discuss opportunities new to CCHS, including the new partnership with the school in Zondo, Liberia, mandatory parent visit days, building security, and how the week-long orientation for teachers and students impacts your child's learning. This night is designed for parents only.

8. **Congratulations to the following students who received awards at the State Fair:**

Lydia Marcus- (1st) oil pastels
Maddie Vande Kamp- (2nd) color photography and (2nd) digital photography
Nathaniel Koppendrayer- (HM) mixed media drawing, and (2nd) copper tooling
Austin Bartz- (1st) copper tooling
Tyler Fate- (3rd) copper tooling
Marta VanderTop- (HM) tinted b&w photography
Paul Lessner- (2nd) printmaking
Casey Teunissen- (HM) printmaking
Kate Fate- (2nd) 3-D projects
Adam Whitcomb- (3rd) color photography

9. **Yearbooks** There are still a few extra copies of the

2011 Yearbook available for purchase in the office at a cost of \$35. The deadline for purchasing a yearbook is Friday, Sept. 16. After that the yearbooks are slated to be sent back to the publisher.

8. **Wednesday Restaurant Meals will start October 5** Look for the first order form in the Happenings on September 12. For those of you new to CCHS, each Wednesday beginning October 5 we offer an alternative to brown bag lunches. Every 2-3 months an order form is included with the Happenings that list options at a variety of local fast-food restaurants (McDonalds, Pizza Hut, and Taco Bell). Healthy options are offered whenever possible. It is very important that students do not miss the order deadline, as late orders are not accepted. **Wednesday Restaurant Meals will not be available on early release days.** Contact Gail Bonnema (glbonn@comcast.net or 763-785-0491) if you have questions.

10. **It's time to sell Happenings Entertainment Books!** Help us make this fundraiser a success! We need our students and parents to promote and sell these books. So please sell as many as you can. A coupon book and an envelope will be going home with EACH STUDENT on Monday, September 12. The books sell for \$30 and contain coupons for places all over the Twin Cities and more. Check it out! You can keep the book for your family by sending back \$30 in the envelope (checks made out to CCS), sell the book to friends or family, or return the book back to school. There are some fun incentives listed on the letter in the bag with the book. See the flier in this edition of the school newsletter Happenings for more information.

11. **Volunteer Needed** We have three boxes of book that we would like to donate to Books For Africa in St. Paul. We are looking for a volunteer to bring them to the warehouse on Wednesday between the hours of 9:30 Am and 3:00 PM. If you are willing and able to help please contact Mr. Ahrenholz at 763-531-1732 or sahrenholz@calvinchristian.org. Thanks!

12. **Picture Day** Lifetouch will be at CCHS on Friday, September 23, to take individual photos. Mr. Rich Busch will be taking advisory, class and an all school photo. Please be on time as photos will start first thing in the morning. Visit www.lifetouch.com for clothing suggestions, grooming tips, etc. Flyers are being sent home next Monday.

13. **Late Arrivals & Early Dismissal** All students arriving at school after the start of the school day must report to Grace's office staff at Door C and then proceed to the CCHS office for an admissions pass. Students leaving prior to dismissal should notify the teachers of any classes they will miss. The office must receive **written or verbal communication** from parents before a student will be dismissed to meet the parent in the parking lot. Students **must** sign out in the office prior to leaving the building.

14. **The CCS Marathon is Coming!** One of Calvin Christian School's largest fundraisers, the CCS Marathon, is less than a month away. On Saturday, October 1st, CCS families will meet at Minnehaha Park and bike, walk, or jog on a marked mile route along the Mississippi River. Between now and October 1st, CCS students/families should be collecting pledges/donations from individuals. All funds raised will go directly to the Parent Teacher Fellowship (PTF) of Calvin Christian School. The PTF uses these funds to enrich the educational program at Calvin Christian. PTF has also generously offered to help off-set the cost of class trips by sponsoring a scholarship program for students who participate in the upcoming PTF sponsored CCS Marathon. We would like to have 100% participation in this fund raising effort! More information will be sent home with students soon.

15. **The Happenings Newsletter** will arrive in your email inbox every Monday that we have school. Please notify the school office if you cannot receive emails or if you prefer a hard copy of the newsletter sent home with your child.

Upcoming Events

- Sept. 8-9 Retreat at Skonewood
- Sept. 9 Food Distribution @ Grace
- Sept. 12 Beginning of Trimester 1
- Sept. 13 Board Meeting @ CCHS
- Sept. 19 Parent Orientation, Fellowship Hall, 7pm
- Sept. 20 Dordt College rep to visit over lunch
- Sept. 21 Explore Test, 9th Grade
- Sept. 23 Photos by Lifetouch & Mr. Busch
- Sept. 28 9th & 10th Grade Vision Screening
- Sept. 30 Partnership Visit Day

Athletic Events

- Sept. 13 Volleyball vs Hmong Academy
Home JV 5:00, V 6:00
Soccer vs Hmong Academy
Home, 5:00, Field J2
- Sept. 15 Volleyball vs Shattuck-St. Mary
Home, 5:00 JV, 6:00 V
Soccer vs Shattuck-St. Mary
Home, 5:00, field I3
- Sept. 16 Soccer vs St. Croix Prep
Home, 4:30, field J4
- Sept. 20 Volleyball @ Liberty Classical
Away, 5:00
Soccer @ Liberty Classical
Away, 4:30
- Sept. 22 Volleyball @ Great River
Away, 5:00
Soccer @ Great River
Away, 5:00

Advance Notice

- Oct. 1 Marathon for Non-Public Education