Allendale Christian School

Academically Prepared Called to Service Spiritually Equipped

APRIL 25, 2012

2011-2012 Spiritual Theme: *I Am……*
Theme Verse Exodus 3:14

NEWS AND NOTES

April Theme: I Am the True Vine John 15:1 "I am the true vine, and my Father is the gardener."

There are still a few families who have not turned in their Family Intention Forms and/or their ACSO Selection Forms. Please be sure to drop them off in the office by Friday!

From Our Principal,

The words were out of your mouth before you even thought about them – but they weren't your words, they were the words of your parents. They are words like "Just because I said so", or "If you can't say something nice, just don't say it". They're the words or expressions they used that you said you'd never say.

We all learn through imitation. Among the "members" of my household is a small Senegal parrot named Moses. Although he cannot speak as well as an African Gray parrot or a MaCaw, he is able to imitate several sounds. They include the beeps on the microwave and thermostat, as well as the meow of a cat. In addition to a mean growl (usually saved for me) and wicked little laugh, he can also call out a few words such as the name of "Maggie" our dog. But unlike our parents' words, Moses' words make no sense at all.

Whether we plan to or not, our children imitate parents' and teachers' words too. (If you don't believe me just listen to a kindergartener or first grade play "school".) Our words, expressions and actions, however, are important and they serve as models. In our school, Christianity is not just taught in a Bible class or exercised in a chapel, instead it is a way of life. We talk about how the world is controlled by God rather than Mother Nature. We talk about our gifts and how they can be used for God's glory rather than just for success. We model behavior because we want to be Christ-like rather than just good citizens with "values". As we live together we are molding a future generation. What could be more important?

Psalm 78 says, *We will tell the next generation the praiseworthy deeds of the Lord, his power, and the wonders he has done. . .so the next generation would know them, even the children yet to be born, and they in turn would tell their children.* As we celebrate Christian Education Week this week, take a moment to thank God for dedicated parents, teachers, and loyal supporters who continue keep Christian education strong in our Allendale Community from one generation to the next.

Mrs. Alice Spaanstra

Support our 2012 Loyalty Drive!

Thank you to those who have **generously donated** to the 2012 Loyalty Drive. We would like to encourage each one of you to please prayerfully consider a donation to this year's drive— even a small amount — it all adds up! For more information on this drive, please contact ACS at 895-5108.

Annual Society Meeting

Plan on attending our Annual Society Meeting on Monday, May 7 at 7:00 pm in our school gym. This is a very important meeting for parents to attend. Find out what is going on behind the scenes at ACS and meet Mr. Brian Koetje, who will be Mrs. Spaanstra's replacement beginning early this summer. A packet with committee updates, board nominees, and an absentee ballot will be sent home next week.

Scholastic Book Fair

All are invited! The fair will be held **Wednesday, April 25 through Friday, April 27** in the ACS library. Hours will be: **Thursday, 8:15 AM until 4:00 PM Friday, 8:15 AM until 7 PM.** Thursday and Friday we will be having our **'Loose Change Challenge'**. Students can drop their loose change in their class's jar in the library. Those dollars will be matched by Scholastic and used to buy books for a charitable organization. (More information on this program is available on Mrs. DeYoung's blog.) Proceeds from the sale help our school purchase library books.

Middle School Math Competition

Twelve of our middle schoolers will attend a math competition on Thursday, April 26. This event will be held at Grand Rapids Christian Middle School and is sponsored by Trinity Christian College. Students will have the opportunity to join other schools for math challenges, math relay games, math baseball and much more.

Yearbook Order

A yearbook order envelope is being sent home today. Thanks to many generous advertisers, the yearbook cost is only $4 per book. At that price, you can order one for each of your children! Orders are due no later than May 11.

Golf Outing

Come out and play some golf at the **The ACS Golf Classic** on Saturday, May 19 at the Meadows at GVSU. Tee off is at 1:30 PM followed by dinner and prizes. Registration forms are available on our website or in our school office. Funds from this event will be used towards our 2012 Loyalty Drive. Please call Doug Banka with any questions at 837-4504.

Baked Good Sale

The ACS *Girls on the Run* team will be holding a baked-good sale next Thursday, May 1, at the Family Fare in Allendale from 3:45-4:30pm. Please be sure to stop by and show your support!

UPCOMING EVENTS

April

Greenhouse Gift Card Sale runs through May 14

23-27 Christian Education Week
25-27 Scholastic Book Fair
27 Chicken BBQ

May

4&5 Paper Drive
7 Annual Society Meeting
10 4th—8th Grade Spring Music Concert
14 Greenhouse Gift Card sale ends
18 Elementary Field Day—Volunteers are needed!
18 Middle School Class Trips
19 Golf Classic
24 Middle School Track Meet at Unity Christian High School

Paper Drive

It's time to get rid of those newspapers and old phone books! Allendale Christian School is holding a paper drive in the school's front parking lot May 4 & 5. Thank you for your continued support of Christian education.

Summer Music Opportunities

Knollcrest Music Camp and Blue Lake Fine Arts Camp are accepting applications for summer music camp. Grades 6-12 can attend. Unity Christian has scholarships available for incoming 9th graders. These are great camps and lots of fun. If you are interested, please contact Mrs. VanRijs for more information! (jvanrijs@allendalechristian.com)

Be sure to attend the Chicken BBQ this Friday from 5-7pm in our school gym. Take-out begins at 4:45pm.

Thank you so much to all those who have already signed up to donated items for the Chicken BBQ! Please be sure to have all donated items to the school kitchen Friday morning.

⇒ **ITEMS STILL NEEDED—25 PIES**

Please contact Gwyn Ellens at 892-7444 or kgellens@gmail.com if you are able TO DONATE A COUPLE OF PIES—or 25!

Our 6th Annual Greenhouse Gift Card Sale is going on NOW through May 14. Be sure to purchase your greenhouse gift cards in the SCHOOL LOBBY between 3:15-3:45pm Monday -Friday or during TRIP times before heading out to your favorite local greenhouses. All participating greenhouses are donating 30% back to the school for each of their gift cards sold. Gift cards will also be available this Friday during the CHICKEN BBQ. Gift cards may also be purchased at RALPH MEYERS TRUCKING Monday-Friday (7am-7pm) & Saturday (7am-3pm). Questions? Contact Lisa Kuyers @ 892-9477.

INSTANT TRIP Thank you to those who responded already to our call for help but we still have more spots to fill! We still need a driver for May 1 & 2 and a helper for May 8 & 9. Please call Christy Breuker (895-1104) today to get signed up.

May 1 & 2
Driver: _____
Tues., 7-7:30pm: Laura VanderWaal, Shelley Bosch, Bonnie Baar
Wed., 8:30-9am: Margie Punter, Jodi Oosterheert

May 8 & 9
Driver: Sue Borst
Tues., 7-7:30: _____, Shelley Bosch, Tami Nysse
Wed., 8:30-9am: Tara Bosch, Kelly Baker

REQUESTED ANNOUNCEMENTS

GREAT PRICES and LOTS of stuff! That is what church and school garage sales produce! For us, we are looking forward to the funds they raise to help us with our mission trips and functions of our school. THREE sales in ONE day! The Hudsonville Fairgrounds will be hosting 2 sales, one for Beaverdam Christian School and the other for Georgetown CRC. This sale will only run on Saturday, May 5 from 8am-3pm, with a half price sale from 1pm-3pm. The other sale will be that of Messiah CRC Church, which is located just south of the Family Fare on Port Sheldon in Hudsonville (2900 Springdale). They will be open on Friday, May 4, from noon to 6pm, and on Saturday, May 5 from 9am-1pm (with half price sale starting at noon). Need help finding us? Call Robin ((616) 218-2967) with Beaverdam, or Eric ((616) 218-7456 with Georgetown CRC or Kristin (896-3148) with Messiah CRC.

Unity Christian High School will be presenting *Arsenic and Old Lace*, one of the funniest plays written for the live stage. Two aunts who have lived next to the church their entire lives have taken on a special charity. When their nephew finds out about this charity, he has to think fast to keep his dear aunts out of jail! Performances are May 3 and 4 at Beaverdam Reformed Church. This production is appropriate for children aged middle school and up. General seating tickets go on sale Monday, April 16, for $5.00 each. There will be a dessert by donation during intermission.