



# Alendale Christian School

Academically Prepared Called to Service Spiritually Equipped

FEBRUARY 1, 2012

2011-2012 Spiritual Theme: *I Am.....*

Theme Verse *Exodus 3:14*

## NEWS AND NOTES

**February Theme: I AM the Resurrection and the Life**  
Jesus said "I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me will have life everlasting." John 11:25

### From Our Principal,

Tomorrow is a holiday of sorts, perhaps you've never heard of it – it's called Candlemas. Candlemas comes forty days after Christmas, marking the half-way point to spring. It was first celebrated by Christians in the fourth century to mark the presentation of Jesus to the Temple. Luke 2 tells us that when Mary and Joseph presented their child, Anna, a very old prophetess told how Jesus would be Israel's redeemer. There is another holiday that is associated with Candlemas, that you have probably heard of – it is Groundhog Day. On this same date, 40 days after Christmas, tradition has it that if the groundhog leaves his burrow and sees his shadow (which could only be seen on a sunny day) he returns to his burrow because there are six more weeks of winter to come. In contrast, if it is a cloudy day and the groundhog doesn't see his shadow, then he will leave his burrow because spring is on its way. While much has been made of Groundhog Day, and celebrations are held all over the United States and Canada, we know that in reality a groundhog cannot predict future weather. The same is true for predicting how long we will live on this earth. While we can make plans about the future, Psalm 139 says, "Your eyes saw my unformed body; all the days ordained for me were written in your book before one of them came to be." What we do know as Christians is that we can look forward to that day when we will see our Maker face to face because of Jesus Christ, the child, Israel's redeemer and the Great **I AM**. As John 11:25, 26 tells us, "I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live, even though they die; and whoever lives by believing in me will never die." For that we are certain!

Alice Spaanstra

### Volunteers are needed!

- ◆ Even though it's cold outside, it's staying hot in the ACS kitchen with **hot lunch!** We would love for more volunteers to join our "hot lunch family"! To volunteer please contact Kelly Van Dyke at 895-6614. Everyone is welcome!
- ◆ We need more **TRIP** helpers to keep things running smoothly. It's fun to do! Please contact Christy Breuker (895-1104) if you are available to help fill our volunteer schedule. Thanks to all those who have already signed up!
- ◆ **ACSO** will need a new Vice President & Secretary in the 2012-2013 school year for a 2-year term. Please prayerfully consider serving on this committee. Contact any ACSO member if you would like to volunteer or if you have any questions.

### Upcoming Middle School Band Dates

On Monday, **February 13 the 7th and 8th grade band** will be participating in a Band Clinic during the day with the other EOCS schools.

The **EOCS Combined Band Concert** will take place on February 14. All 7th and 8th grade band students are required to attend. More information will be coming at a later date.



### FACTS Tuition Assistance

Completion of the FACTS application is a requirement for next year's enrollment if you are expecting a remaining balance at the end of the school year or you will be requesting tuition assistance. All applications should be submitted by March 31, 2012. Information can be found on [www.factsmgmt.com/index.cfm](http://www.factsmgmt.com/index.cfm).

### Middle School MATHCOUNTS Competition

On Friday, February 10, Mrs. Mesbergen will take eight students from our 6th, 7th, and 8th grade to the **MATHCOUNTS** competition at the GVSU Eberhard Center. Since October, students have worked hard preparing for this competition by arriving at school each Thursday morning at 7:45am to study with Mrs. Mesbergen. The **MATHCOUNTS** competition program provides the extra incentive and the perfect atmosphere for students to push themselves to achieve more in mathematics. Consisting of fun and creative problems, the **MATHCOUNTS** competitions have written and oral rounds, as well as individual and team components. Students will leave school at 7:40am and return sometime around 1:30pm.



**There will be no APS busing on February 16!**

### Jet's Pizza Night

Thank you to those who supported this community event! The owner of Jet's Pizza stopped by the office with a check for \$245.00. He was so impressed with the families of ACS! He said "it was a great night, beyond his expectations!" These funds will be used towards the purchase of two laser printers that need to be replaced.

