



NEWS AND NOTES

*January Theme: I am the good shepherd—John 10: 11 & 14
 I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life
 for the sheep.*

From Our Principal,

Does your family ever recite a favorite Bible memory verse together for your devotions? For many of our families, Psalm 23 is a favorite.

There is a story that has been told about a great orator (which is another name for a great speaker) who was giving a performance to a packed house in Washington D.C. When the orator came out to present his first reading, the audience erupted in cheers. Throughout the night the orator did various excerpts from speeches, plays and literature. For the final selection of his performance, the orator liked to finish with a selection from the Bible. So, he stood on the stage alone and waited for complete silence. His assistant brought out large gold trimmed Bible and the orator opened it to Psalm 23. In a loud resonant voice he began, "The Lord is my Shepherd . . ." As he continued the crowd sat at the edges of their seats, focused on every word. As the orator finished, "I will dwell in the house of my Lord forever", the crowd burst into a standing ovation.

As the orator was taking his final bows, a young man entered the stage. As the young man took a small Bible from his pocket, the orator gestured for him to stand by the microphone. The young man opened his Bible to Psalm 23 and in a soft, timid voice, he began to read "The Lord in my Shepherd, there is nothing I want . . . when I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall fear no evil . . ." After the young man finished there was silence in the theater. Some members of the crowd were crying; others were silent. The orator approached the young man. He said that he had spoken throughout the world, but had never heard the psalm presented that way. The young man replied, "Sir you know all the words and how to put them together to make a powerful speech, but I know the author behind the words."

This month as a school we have learned a lot about how I AM is our shepherd. We have learned that He guides, protects and helps us. If you have an opportunity to sit down with for meal with you family this week, take the time to recite Psalm 23 together. I think you will find it to be very meaningful, because you too know the author!

Alice Spaanstra

No APS Busing
There will be no APS busing on
January 30 or February 16!

Upcoming 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. We are going to need **two parent helpers** for that day. Please contact Mrs. Van Rijs if you are available—jvanrijs@allendalechristian.com or call the school office at 895-5108.

- 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.



Teacher Evaluation

Each year a selection of teachers receive a 3-year evaluation. These evaluations both affirm the excellent work they do as well as help them grow professionally. A parent questionnaire was mailed home to some of our parents as part of this evaluation. If you received a questionnaire please take time to complete it and return it to school by the date listed on the letter.

Volunteers are needed!

- ◆ ACSO will need a new Vice President & Secretary in the 2012-2013 school year for a 2 year term. Please prayerfully consider if you would like to serve on this important committee. Contact any ACSO member if you would like to volunteer or if you have any questions.
- ◆ 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 already signed up!

FACTS Tuition Assistance

Completion of the FACTS application is a requirement for next year's enrollment if:

1. you are expecting a remaining balance at the end of the school year or
2. you will be requesting tuition assistance

Applications should be submitted by March 31, 2012.

Information can be found on www.factsmgmt.com/index.cfm

<p>Instant TRIP</p> <p>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 already signed up!</p>	<p>January 31 & February 1 Driver: Sue Borst Tues., 7-7:30pm: _____, _____, _____, Rebecca Bruggink Wed., 8:30-9am: Tara Bosch, Kelly Baker, Christy Breuker</p> <p>February 7 & 8 Driver: _____ Tues., 7-7:30pm: _____, Laura Vander Waal, Bonny Baar, Rebecca Bruggink Wed., 8:30-9am: _____, Margie Punter, Christy Breuker</p>
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Revive

All men's and women's bulk-priced clothing will be 50% off at Revive next week, January 30 - February 4.

Moms in Touch has changed their name to Moms in Prayer

We are a community prayer group of Moms who meet once a week for one hour to pray for our children, our teachers and our school. We meet every Thursday from 8:45-9:45am in the Art Room. Questions? Call Cindy at 895-1223 or check out their video at <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Bvd-kcDek6w>.

Requested Announcements

Unity Christian High School will be sponsoring:

- Saturday morning basketball program for girls in 5th and 6th grades. This will be held on February 4 and 11. Deadline to enroll is January 30.
- Flag Football League for boys in grades 2 through 7. This will be held for one hour on four Saturdays—February 4, 11, 18, and 25. Deadline to enroll is Monday, January 30.

The Lakeshore Pregnancy Center is offering a training session for anyone interested in becoming a volunteer peer counselor. This is a tremendous volunteer opportunity, one which daily impacts the lives of women in our communities. We have centers in Allegan, Allendale, Grand Haven & Holland. The classes will be held at our Holland center February 27, 29, and March 2, 5, 7, & 9 from 9:30am-2:30pm This is a 30 hour training and all classes are required. If interested please call Sherry at 616-396-5840 ext. 25. Our hours are Monday 9am-7pm, Tuesday-Thursday 9am-5pm. You can also visit our website, www.lpcenters.com, and follow the link under "Get Involved." There are many different ways to volunteer to be a part of this ministry. If these dates don't work well, please consider volunteering as a receptionist until our next training in the Summer.