



THUNDER BAY CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER

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Theme:

**"WE ARE SECOND TO
THE ONE"**

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Our Mission:

To serve God and assist Christian families *by*:

- providing a quality, Christ-centered education within a loving environment,
- exploring and evaluating all of life under God,
- nurturing students in the development of their abilities,
- encouraging a personal relationship with Jesus Christ.

Staff Article

"But the angel said to them, 'Do not be afraid. I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is Christ the Lord.'" (Luke 2: 10-11)

How many times have you read these verses? I think they're a staple at every Christian church during the Christmas season. It's one of the first stories we teach our children. You've probably heard or read them a hundred times in your life, maybe more. But have you ever stopped to think about what they mean, and maybe more importantly, what you should do about them?

The shepherds were out in the fields, minding their own business, taking care of their sheep. It was a day like any other, we can imagine. Then, out of nowhere, an army of angels fills the sky and says God has come to dwell with His people. Talk about shaking up a routine!

But what is more interesting is the shepherds' reactions once the angels left them and went into heaven. They didn't stand around for a while, discussing what had

just happened. They didn't argue about what to do next. They didn't say, "Wow, great news, now somebody go get us something to eat." Luke 2:15-16 says "When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, 'Let's go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has told us about.' So they *hurried off* and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby, who was lying in the manger."

They listened to the news from God, did not think twice, and followed His directions. They *hurried*. Seems like the only thing we *hurry* for now is making it to hockey practice or a Christmas party on time. They didn't think about if travelling to Bethlehem would be an easy journey, if they could afford to take the trip, if they had time in their busy shepherd schedules to make the trek...they just went. God gave them a message, they listened and went to see.

Can you imagine if we had the faith of the shepherds? If we heard God's message to us through His word, and just had faith and

followed it? If we didn't let our sinful nature get in the way and tell us that other things are more important? Can you imagine?!

After they had seen the Christ for themselves, "The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things they had heard and seen, which were just as they had been told." (Luke 2:20) What if, after hearing God's good news for us, we returned to our everyday lives praising God like the shepherds? Their lives had been transformed by the good news of Jesus' birth, and 2000 years later, we should be saying the same thing. Although we may not have an army of angels giving us the good news, we do have a book full of God's word that tells the same story.

So this Christmas season, will you act like a shepherd? Will you hear God's word and have faith in His plans? Will you *hurry* off to follow His commands? Will you come back to your everyday lives giving God the glory and telling people about what He has done? Emmanuel, God with us. It's too good NOT to share.

Carolyn Mol

Leader of Principal Duties

On behalf of the staff at Thunder Bay Christian School, I would like to wish everyone in the Thunder Bay Christian School community a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. As believers, the Christmas season is such a blessing for us as we thank our Lord for the great gift we received that first Christmas. May this Christmas time together be safe, joyous and reflective as you prepare for Christmas and all the festivities with your family and friends. May God truly bless you and your family with love, grace, and peace. We look forward to how God will work in and bless the T.B.C.S. community in the coming year! Thank you to everyone for your continued support, prayers, and involvement in all the different events at the school. We wouldn't be able to do the things we do without your help.

Peter Himanen

Christmas Concert



Thunder Bay Christian School recently held its annual Christmas program at Hope Christian Reformed Church. The students shared with the community the different gifts that we receive, and we are to share with others, during the Christmas season. It was a great evening of sharing and celebrating the Christmas story, and it was wonderful to see the students share their skills and talents which were very evident in their performance. Thank you to everyone who had a role in this evening of the whole community gathering together to celebrate the birth of our Saviour, Jesus.



Victorian Tea

The students in grade 5/6 enjoyed hosting their recent Victorian Tea. Parents, grandparents, and special friends were invited to enjoy cider, coffee, tea and dainties in the classroom. The students dressed up in Victorian costumes in order to serve their guests. The students completed a special booklet in which they learned about how the Victorians in the 1800's joined together many traditions to make December 25th a special day for rich and poor alike. It was the Victorians who made Christmas an official day of rest in 1871.



Solving Problems for the Gingerbread Man



As part of the STEM challenge (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) in the kindergarten class this month, the students worked to solve a problem for the Gingerbread Man. After reading a number of stories, it was noticed that the Gingerbread Man often got eaten by the fox. The students brainstormed what might be a better solution for him to cross the river. The students then got to work and built their ideas. Finally, the students tested their thinking in the classroom river.



Roman Empire: Council of Nicea

The grade 7-8 class put their learning into practice as they performed a short skit for the younger grades that told the story of the events of the Council of Nicea. This came from the students' study of the Roman Empire.



The purpose of this council was to define the nature of God and eliminate arguments within the church. The Council of Nicea affirmed the deity and eternity of Jesus Christ, and it also affirmed the Trinity—the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

Career Day

One of our special days this fall term was Career Day where the students were able to dress up in the vocation, or job, they might sometime in the future aspire to be employed in. There were some great costumes, and even the staff got dressed up in the jobs they really wish they had. Just kidding!!



Remembrance Day Posters

Our grades 7 – 10 classes once again entered the annual Royal Canadian Legion poster and writing contest, and we were fortunate to have a number of successful entries in the poster category. Each of the winning students was presented with a cash prize for producing the winning posters in their age category. Congratulations to Joanna Haveman, Ian Mol, Elise Bakker, Chloe Gysen, and Hope Brown on their successful entries. Great job!



Grade 3-6 Active U

The grade 3-6 classes enjoyed a great day at the Fieldhouse and the Hanger of Lakehead University participating in a program of physical activity and learning. The students were taught the skills of a number of different sports, and they were able to practise them under the direction of some excellent instructors. The students were very tired at the end of the day, but they all had a lot of fun and they learned a lot.



Jungle Book

The students of Thunder Bay Christian School recently had the opportunity to visit the Community Auditorium and enjoy a production of the Rudyard Kipling play, *The Jungle Book*. The production was put on by the Eleanor Drury Children's Theatre Group. The play was adapted to fit the animals that are found in our area of northwestern Ontario. The students really enjoyed the play and were fascinated by all the neat costumes.



Jasper Place

The grades 5-8 classes recently spent part of the afternoon at Jasper Place to play guitar and sing some Christmas carols for the residents there. The students had a great experience demonstrating their new guitar playing skills and using their voices to share the good news of Christmas. The residents at Jasper Place enjoyed the event, and it was great that they were able to participate in the singing. After playing, the students were able to meet and talk with the residents and share some Christmas cheer. Some of the students were even able to say hello to their grandparents.



Pancake Breakfast 2016

The annual Pancake Breakfast was once again a great success. This year, the breakfast was a joint venture between the grade 8 and high school students who all worked hard hosting the event. It was a great morning of food and fellowship. Thank you to everyone for their support of the senior classes as they plan and look forward to their school trips during this year. The money raised at the breakfast will go a long way in helping to finance the different trips. Congratulations to the posters winners who were Ian Mol (Slate River Dairy), Jori Bakker (Thirty-One), Joanna Haveman (Haveman Bros.), and Rachel Janssens (My Blooming Business).



Bazaar and Auction 2016

The annual Thunder Bay Christian School bazaar was not without some excitement this year. The bazaar started very successfully on Thursday evening, but was stopped very suddenly on Friday evening when the power in the school was knocked out due to the some severe weather earlier that day. The auction was re-scheduled to the following Friday, but that did not stop this year's bazaar from being a resounding success. The bazaar was able to raise a record amount this year. Thank you very much to the bazaar committee for all their hard work under the difficult circumstances, and to everyone for coming out and supporting the school in such a great way. Thanks, of course, to our Lord for all His blessings!



Thunder Bay Christian School

REGISTRATION/OPEN HOUSE

for new students in JK - 10 will be held on
Tuesday, February 7, 2017 - 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.
7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.
Wednesday, February 8, 2017 - 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Come visit the classrooms, take a tour of our school,
enjoy some refreshments and see what T.B.C.S. can offer your children!

**Please bring copy of child(ren)'s proof of identification
(eg. birth certificate)*



Team Leader of Principal Duties: Mr. Peter Himanen
Administrative Assistant: Mrs. Grace Boyes

TBCS ADMINISTRATION

Board Rep.: Mr. Bram Drost

Team Leader of Learning: Miss Sandra de Haan
Board Rep.: Mrs. Jolene Makkinga