

February 2012

Christ Community Lutheran School

the CCLS School Messenger

IT WAS A GOD THING

By Wendy Daggett, mom to Corrin Daggett, 8th grade

I got a little teary thinking that Cori's journey at CCLS is almost complete. It was a God thing that led us here to CCLS.

Our family moved to the WME school district from Mound where Cori had gone to kindergarten. I felt good about Hilltop Elementary, so we were considering just keeping her there. However, Peter, my husband, felt strongly about going to school and church in our community so I visited Watertown elementary and we considered that too.

We had been attending Wooddale Church in Eden Prairie, which I loved and was involved in before Peter and I were married, but Peter's strong feeling about community weighed heavy and he asked me to try the church he grew-up in which is Watertown Evangelical Free. Trusting God and believing that my husband is the spiritual leader of our family, I agreed.

On our first Sunday at WEFC, we signed up for a Bible study at Ted and Terese Salonek's (parents of Eli grade 4 & Millie grade 1). I shared my apprehension about choosing a school for Cori and they were adamant about us visiting and considering CCLS. They could not say enough great things about this school.

Continued on page 2...

Mark Your Calendar

2.22

Ash Wednesday

3.4

Kids sing St. Peter

3.5—3.9

**National Lutheran
School Week**

3.6

**GRACE/PTO
Meeting 7pm**

3.11

**Kids sing St.
Paul's 10:30am**

Article Continued ...

When we visited, I just had a feeling of comfort. I liked size of the school, the fewer number of children per class. I felt Cori would not be lost a crowd, and that the spiritual leading she would be receiving everyday, well that meant more than anything.

If you ask Cori, she can't imagine going to any other school. This is her family. She loves her teachers. She loves the staff. She loves the chapel families. It hit home to me recently, when Peter and I were discussing a story from the Bible and Cori knew more about it than I did!

Cori said to me, once after I had stopped into the school for fees and forms at the end of a summer break, that just being in the CCLS school building made her want to read the Bible. She has been learning God's word since she was little, everyday. She has a foundation to stand on that will carry her through for the rest of her life. She knows that Jesus loves her.

I will be forever grateful for this school and what my child has learned from CCLS.

LOVE kept us here...

BY TERI DRESSEL

It was 15 years ago when our family first considered Christian education for our children. We chose St Pauls - St Peters Lutheran school (now CCLS) for many reasons, but none of them are the reasons that we stayed.

We chose CCLS because of tradition (Tim, my husband, attended this same school as a child); church ties and the low cost of tuition. It is obvious, now, as I think things through before writing this, that while God used logic to lead us to CCLS, He used love to keep us there.

While tradition now seems less important, our church ties have changed and tuition costs have risen, the love of Christ present in the hallways and classrooms at CCLS remains constant and unchanged. Our entire family has been touched by our time at CCLS. We are better Christians, with a stronger faith and a support network of fellow believers that will be with us always.

As always, I am excited for Nathan to move on with life, this time moving on to high school. But it is with a touch of sadness that I contemplate my last child graduating from CCLS.

Our time at CCLS has been a blessing for which we will always be thankful.

Teri Dressel—mom of 3 boys,; Andy, Dan & Nathan pictured right



“It is such a blessing to have CCLS in Watertown!”

...now that we have switched all 3 of our kids to CCLS (K,2nd & 4th grade) my kids are so excited to go to school!

April Engen, mother of 4

Why we love CCLS...

I am so thankful that prayer in the classroom is encouraged and the love of Jesus is taught. Walking through the school a person can't help but feel the warmth and welcoming atmosphere.

Thank you for the wonderful environment for my children to learn in.

April Engen

Pictured here from left: Tori, Hannah & Brady Engen



The Charlie Menke Story// as told by his mother Jennie Menke



Charlie was an energetic, question-producing, not-kindergarten-ready, 4 year old when I decided to give CCLS a try.

While I would like to tell you that CCLS's wonderful school and staff had something to do with this decision, the truth is I can't. We chose CCLS back in 2002 because they offered an everyday preschool option that mirrored the half day Kindergarten program that I would not be sending Charlie off to come fall due to his previous preschool's teacher's advice that we wait another year before sending him to the big leagues. *sigh*

By age four, Charlie needed to go to school every day. Or I needed him to go. I'm not sure which. CCLS was the only school in Watertown at the time to offer that type of preschool, so we signed him up.

Coming from a more understated Catholic background I was a little concerned about the overt Christian tone of the school, but I figured it was only for a year, and Jesus songs were cute.

That was ten years ago (!) and it pains me to look back on my initial reasons for choosing CCLS and for staying at CCLS (duh, all day Kindergarten when WME didn't offer that...). I now fully understand the concept of CCLS as a ministry for the churches of St. Paul's and St. Peter's because it certainly worked that way in our family. I met the most amazing parents, staff and friends. Charlie blossomed. And slowly but surely the 'Christian tone' I was so concerned about in the beginning became the main reason for staying.

I simply cannot overstate the impact that CCLS has made on our family. Yes, it's a great school with outstanding academics and a ridiculously committed staff. But it's also a gentle ministry for Christ that is changing lives. The Menke's being just one example.

Keep up the good work CCLS!

MN TAX RELIEF BY MINNESOTA INDEPENDENT SCHOOL FORUM

The Minnesota Independent School Forum would like to share some valuable tax information specifically for families with students in private/nonpublic K-12 schools. Check out their website at www.misf.org to see if you qualify for TAX CREDITS or TAX DEDUCTIONS for money spent on education!

Forms can be downloaded from this site as well

Reminder:

Registration for next year is now open. Referral bonuses are available for families that refer their friends and neighbors to our school. Reserve your spot today. Registration fees goes up after April 15th for all existing families.

CCLS built a foundation of faith

By Lisa Ramacher, CCLS parent

I can't believe how fast these past 18 years have flown by! All 3 of our children have attended CCLS from preschool through 8th grade. Now our youngest child, Laura will be graduating from 8th grade this spring!

Phil and I decided when Andrew (our oldest) was 3 years old that we desired to send our children to a Christian school. We wanted a school that would teach and reinforce our Christian values and encourage them in their walk with Jesus Christ. We are blessed to have CCLS as an alternative to the public schools. CCLS is blessed to have dedicated, caring teachers and staff. We are blessed to have small class sizes for increased one on one teaching and interaction. We are thankful for teachers and staff who are available to discuss concerns and issues one on one. We appreciate that CCLS has always had an open door policy that encourages parents and students to discuss issues and concerns face to face.

CCLS has helped us build in our children a foundation of faith in Jesus Christ that prepares them for high school and post-secondary education. It has required a commitment from us as parents through these past 18 years to stay on course and complete our commitment to our children. God has been faithful in enabling us to see this commitment to completion. The path has not been without bumps and potholes, but HE has enabled us to go around or over these obstacles.

We are thankful for the care and concern the CCLS staff have for each student and parent. CCLS tries to facilitate whatever needs a child may have if at all possible. We will continue to pray for the ministry at CCLS.

There will always be a special place in our hearts for CCLS. Enjoy EVERY DAY that God gives you with your children.

YOUR PARTNER IN EDUCATION

JEFF BOEHLKE

CCLS PRINCIPAL

12 YEARS AT CCLS



What made you want to work at CCLS?

When I came in 1999, I was a new school administrator. I saw St. Paul-St. Peter Lutheran School as a place that provided me with an opportunity to make an impact for Christ right away. They had not had a principal for a few years and people were looking for leadership. They also had a desire to build something new, and rejuvenate a ministry that was doing many things well. I was eager to be a part of that process.

What in your work gives you the most satisfaction?

Seeing real life heart change in kids is a powerful thing. It grips you by the heart strings. It is very emotional. I think its a God thing. When we see kids make decisions that are right and pleasing to God, when we see their potential academically, spiritually and emotionally come together, that is fun. I love to see them grow up and mature. There is tremendous positive change that happens by the time kids are graduating from 8th grade.

What makes you want to continue to work for CCLS?

The good people who love this place encourage me in my ministry. There is always work to be done for the Lord and I want to be a part of making our school a special place for kids in



End on Trimester/Parent Teacher Conferences

The end of the 2nd Trimester is February 24th. There is no need to schedule a conference. Parents simply drop in and write their names on the sign-up sheet for each teacher they want to see. Conferences take place in order of the sign-up and availability after that.

We look forward to meeting with you and talking about your child's growth and achievement as we move forward through this year!

*Report Cards out
February 29th.
Conferences
Thurs., March 1st*

WASHINGTON D.C. EDUCATIONAL TOUR MARCH 14- MARCH 20

Every other year, CCLS participates in an educational tour of our Nation's Capital. This trip is just another great example of our commitment to our children's education.

This is our year for the 7th and 8th grade class along with many parents and chaperones to go to Washington D.C. The students will be touring many very important historical sites. This class trip is an excellent experience for our students, enriching their understanding of our country's history and helping them appreciate their role and responsibilities as citizens.

Please pray for a safe, positive, fun trip for all of the participants.

The Groovy Gala// is coming soon to a school near you... Saturday, April 21st

Get your groove on!

The annual CCLS Spring Event, complete with dinner, and an entire silent and live auction is a full evening event. This year, CCLS is going to do a *flashback* to the 60's & 70's for an *overflowing* night of Peace, Joy & Hope.

Each family will be receiving an information packet in the next several weeks that spells out all the specifics of this event. If you're just so excited that you just can't hide it, check out our website for more event information and check out our wishlist of items we are currently on the hunt for.

If you know of anyone, business or individual, who would be willing to donate towards this event, have them get in touch with us.

We can't wait to celebrate with you! It's a night that showcases all that is so wonderful about our school. So start telling your friends, neighbors, grandparents and all other relatives. Have them save the date and bring them with you. Let's show them how *Groovy* CCLS is!

Here's our wish list of items we're looking for to add to our auction. If there's something you're hoping to see, contact us. We'd love to know what it is!

We are currently looking for:

- Real apple trees
- KitchenAid Mixers
- BBQ Smokers
- Patio furniture sets
- Packages to the day spa
- Fitness training
- Sporting Event Tickets
- Bikes
- Waterpark Passes
- Housekeeper
- MACBOOK
- iPad
- Vitamix blender
- Maui Jim or other cool aviator sunglasses
- 9 x 6 low sided trailer for hauling a big mower
- Reclaimed wood coffee or side table or accent piece.
- Oak firewood
- Snow plowing.
- Cabin Rentals
- Hotel Packages
- Margartaville Mixer
- Chartered fishing trip
- Unique home décor
- Puppies/kittens for adoption
- Kitchen cookware

National Lutheran Schools Week March 4– 11th.

This is a whole week of fun at CCLS when our entire school celebrates. Here are what's being planned:

Monday: Pajama Day—students are encouraged to wear their pajamas & bring a box of cereal for the Watertown Food Shelf.

Tuesday is “Groovy Day” - dress up like they did in the 60's & 70's.

Wednesday is Character Day – dress up like your favorite story-book character

Thursday is School Spirit Day— Show your school spirit! Wear your Spirit Wear or CCLS colors

Friday is Sports Day
Wear your favorite team jerseys or