

A publication
for friends of
ACS.

Ames
Christian School
Excellence in Education Through Christ

Issue VIII

November 2011

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One Starry Night...

The time has come for Ames Christian School's second annual "One Starry Night" gala and auction. After the success of last year's event, the gala planning committee has been working hard to make this event better than ever.

One Starry Night gala and auction will take place on Saturday, December 3rd in the Great Hall at Iowa State University's Memorial Union. The gala will begin at 6:30 p.m. with social time and a silent auction followed by a three-course meal,

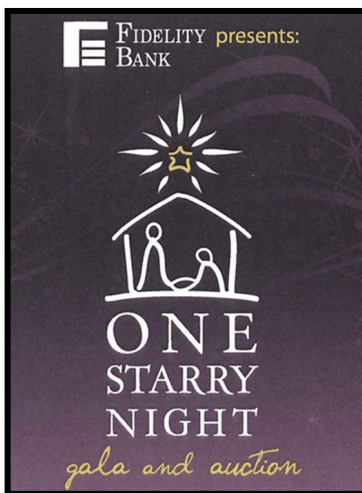
entertainment and a live auction, beginning at 7 p.m.

Entertainment will be provided by contemporary Christian artist Christi Harper, of Houston, Texas, who will be performing Christmas favorites that will celebrate the true meaning of Christmas.

The live and silent auctions will have something for everyone and just in time for Christmas. There will be a 'Downtown Girls Night Out' and pampering packages for women, to

golf, fishing, and car museums for men. Families can look forward to vacations, couple retreats, and specialty summer camp packages. Other items include professional and collegiate sporting events and memorabilia, jewelry, and a Christmas dinner package with food, centerpiece and a design consult for your Christmas decorations.

Tickets for the gala are \$500 for a table of eight, \$150 for couples, and \$100 for individuals and can be purchased by calling Ames Christian School at (515) 232-0772.



Operation Christmas Child

Ames Christian School's preschoolers are learning about giving back this Christmas season through the Samaritan's Purse Operation Christmas Child program. Both three and four-year-old classes were encouraged to go shopping with parents and pick out

small gift items to fill a shoe box that will be donated to a child in another country. Samaritan's Purse also offers a gospel message booklet to every child in their native language.

Mrs. Long said the children particularly enjoy having a

"gift box packing" party at school where they can choose toys to fill up their boxes. This year 23 boxes were filled, the most filled in the four years that Mrs. Long's preschool classes have participated in Operation Christmas Child.



Mrs. Long's 3 year old preschool class with their assembled gift boxes

Grandparents Day



Grandparents were welcomed to ACS on October 28 for our annual Grandparent's Day celebration. All the classes at ACS were excited to show their grandparents the skits, bible memory verses, and songs they had prepared for the day. The event was hosted by 5th and 6th grade teacher, Mrs. Lubinus, who along with her class, led the Grandpa's versus Grandma's Bible Trivia Game Show. For "breaks" in between the show, different classes were able to show their grandparents what they have been working

on in school. The kindergarten class recited the "Bible ABC's," which offered a verse for each letter of the alphabet. The first and second grader's performed the skit "Little Red Riding Hood's Granny" and the third and fourth graders acted out a skit based on the tortoise and the hare story. The fifth and sixth grade class recited the ten commandments for their grandparents.

The grandparents were introduced to a new fundraiser, "The Grandparent's Circle of Blessing." The program offers grandparents a chance to partner in their grandchildren's education by making monthly financial commitments

with different levels of giving to ACS. The program will help support various needs within the school that aren't included in the operations budget. Grandparents were also encouraged to pray, volunteer at the school and be a resource of knowledge to our classrooms. For more information about the Grandparent's Circle of Blessing contact Peggy Smith.



Alexander Spilman, a kindergarten student, made an owl puppet with his grandparents.

Muffins with Mom

The kindergarten through 6th grade students welcomed their moms into their classrooms on Friday, October 21st. The morning began with orange juice and coffee as moms gathered in the hallway. After the bell rang, each mom went to their child's classroom for muffins and special activities.

Mrs. Earnest's third and fourth grade class had some exciting science experiments to do with their moms. They were studying states of matter and how mixtures can be physically separated. To

prove this, Mrs. Earnest dropped Mentos into a 2 liter bottle of pop. The result was a fantastic show! The carbon dioxide was physically separated from the mixture and it shot out the top of the bottle.



Mrs. Earnest's class and their moms watching a science experiment.

The next experiment involved placing baking soda in a balloon and vinegar in a bottle. The balloon was then tipped up allowing the two to mix. The product of the mixture was a gas that caused the balloon to expand.

It was a fun day of learning and fellowship!



Aubrey Schafbuch and her mom Brenda.

Staff Development

In October, the staff of ACS attended the Heartland Christian Educator's Convention at Dordt College in Sioux Center, IA. Former Wheaton College President, Duane Litfin, was the keynote speaker

bringing rich Bible study as seen through the lens of a Christian teacher. Many different sessions were offered for educators on all levels. Everything from science experiments to take-home ideas for

early elementary to communicating with parents were presented on both Friday and Saturday. Our teachers attended sessions that fit their interests and grade levels and were greatly encouraged by both the presenters and the other Christian educators with whom they interacted with. This was the first time in many years that our teachers have been able to attend an event like this. They all stated how much they enjoyed not only attending the convention, but also getting extended time to interact with each other outside the school setting. They would like to thank everyone at ACS for making it possible for them to have this enriching opportunity.



ACS Staff

Pictured L to R: Mrs. Logan (childcare), Mrs. Smith (administrator), Mrs. Sikkema (1st & 2nd), Mrs. Baedke (kindergarten), Mrs. Earnest (3rd & 4th), Mrs. Lubinus (5th & 6th), Mrs. Bradley (preschool), Mrs. Long (preschool)

Matching Funds Campaign Off to a Great Start!

We have been blessed with donations and pledges to begin a matching funds drive for the 2011-2012 school year. The concept of matching funds is really very simple. For each dollar given or pledged to the base, someone else donates a dollar to the match. This turns every dollar you may donate into two dollars for ACS! This type of fundraiser has been successful in the past due to gracious donors. We have been able to offer scholarships as well as fund our school's mission work in our community due to this income.

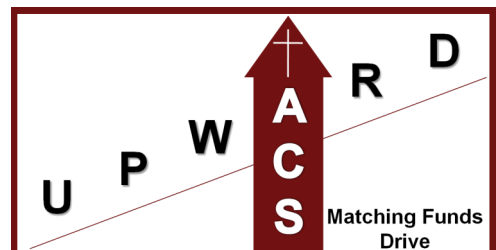
We are calling this drive "Upward ACS" with our goals to balance our

2011-2012 budget as well as be able to provide scholarships for the next school year. Every dollar contributed to this campaign will directly impact our ability to continue providing Personalized Christian Education to students in the Ames area.

We have already been blessed with \$16,000 in base funds which are ready to be matched. If you are interested in making a base donation of \$2,000, \$5,000, \$10,000 or more as a tax deductible gift, please contact our administrator or school board president. Also, we are now accepting matching donations and

you can contribute at all levels through December 31st.

Please consider a donation toward furthering Personalized Christian Education with academic excellence. If you are willing to give, yet not at the amounts above, we and our base donors would still appreciate your matching gift. **Thank you for your faithful support!**





Upcoming Events

December

- 3 Christmas Gala - Great Hall ISU 6:30pm
- 6 School Board meeting 6:30pm
- 15 Christmas Program—Stonebrook 7pm
- 19-31 NO SCHOOL—Christmas Break

January

- 2 Classes resume
- 10 School Board meeting 6:30pm
- 16-21 School Spirit Week

February

- 7 School Board meeting 6:30pm
- 20-24 Book Week

925 S. 16th Street, Ames, IA 50010
 Phone: 515-233-0772
 E-mail: administrator@ameschristianschool.org
 Website: www.ameschristianschool.org

Preschool Donuts with Dad



Barrett Randall and his daughter Abigail.

Mrs. Long's 4 year old preschool classes had a special day on October 12th. It was the day that all dads are invited to come and join their preschool child in the classroom...the much anticipated "Donuts with Dad".

The children enjoyed eating donuts that were generously provided by Angie Gingery and Hy-Vee. The preschoolers were then given the opportunity to share with their dads their favorite area in the classroom.

Miss Linda, a special visitor from Story County Conservation, joined the classroom and

introduced everyone to "The World of Snakes". She read a story and spoke to the children about snakes. The children (and dads) learned why a snake sticks out its tongue, what a snake eats and where its habitat is. At the conclusion, Miss Linda brought out a fox snake for the children to touch. Fox snakes are native to Iowa and are non-venomous much to the relief of the kids (and some dads).



It was a great morning and fun was had by all!

Preschool visits Center Grove Orchard

Enjoying the beauty of God's creation is just one way students at Ames Christian School learn to appreciate the blessings He has given them. Mrs. Long's 4 year old preschool classes did just that on a sunny, warm October day at Center Grove Orchard near Cambridge.



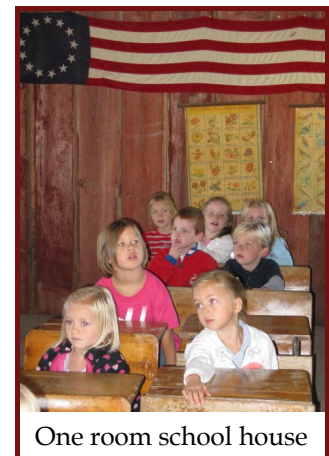
4 year old morning preschool class.



Three little pigs stick house

The kids bounced on the jumping pillow, found their way through the hay maze, and waded through the corn pool. They also visited some farm animals and took a trip to the homes of the Three Little Pigs. A short tour through a one-room school house allowed the children to imagine what school was like 100 years ago.

And of course, a trip to the orchard is never complete without tasting a fresh, juicy apple.



One room school house

The preschoolers left with memories that will warm their hearts every time autumn arrives.