

A publication
for friends of
ACS.

Ames Christian School

Excellence in Education Through Christ

Issue XI

November 2012

Inside this issue:

| | |
|---------------------|------|
| Christmas Gala | Pg 1 |
| New Teacher | Pg 1 |
| First Day of School | Pg 2 |
| Fire Station | Pg 2 |
| Staff Development | Pg 3 |
| Matching Funds | Pg 3 |
| Events | Pg 4 |

3rd Annual Christmas Gala

Mark your calendars and join Ames Christian School for the 3rd Annual One Starry Night Gala and Auction presented by Fidelity Bank. You will not want to miss this elegant semi-formal event on Saturday, December 1, 2012 at the Iowa State Union Durham Great Hall. The gala will begin at 6:30 pm with a social time and silent auction followed by a three course meal, entertainment by the Ames Jazz Quartet, and live auction beginning at 7 pm. This one of a kind event is unique in that it brings together families and friends of Ames Christian School as well as businesses and individuals from the community to celebrate the true meaning of Christmas while enjoying a wonderful evening out.

Make Christmas shopping easy and your husband, wife, or children smile with gifts for everyone; The Golfer, The Disney Lover, The Baker, The Girly Girl, The Sports Fanatic, The New or Expecting Mom, The Art Collector, The Toddler, The Scrapbooker, or The Dessert Lover! Truly a gift for everyone you love all while supporting a wonderful school.

This year's live and silent auction will have something for EVERYONE and just in time for Christmas!

Do you have an Iowa State Cyclone football fan in your family? Bid on an ISU football helmet autographed by Paul Rhoads, 2013 football tickets, parking pass, and tailgate package! A Hawkeye fan? We have tickets and items for you too.

Are you a quilt collector? A beautiful handmade quilt made by an ACS grandmother has become a highly desired and big ticket item!

Tickets for the 3rd Annual One Starry Night Gala and Auction presented by Fidelity Bank can be purchased by calling ACS at (515)233-0772. Tables are \$500, couples/\$150 and individuals \$100. All proceeds benefit Ames Christian School general and scholarship funds.

Are you a quilt collector? A beautiful handmade quilt made by an ACS grandmother has become a highly desired and big ticket item!



Welcome Our New First and Second Grade Teacher

We would like to introduce Mrs. Julie Skaar who now serves as our new 1st/2nd grade classroom teacher. Mrs. Skaar received her BS degree in

Elementary Education from Iowa State University and has taught Kindergarten through third grade classes in Lake Mills, Jewell, and Story City. She also holds a Title 1 Reading endorsement and continuing education credits from Drake University and the AEA professional development program. She most

recently has worked as the home school assistance coordinator for the Roland-Story school system, and privately taught pre-school age students before accepting the teaching position with ACS. She has also led several Christian education efforts for her local church and currently serves on the Board of Education.

Mrs. Skaar and her husband Brad live in Story City. They have three sons, Garrett, Ryan and Samuel.



Starting the School Year Right

Ames Christian School began the 2012-13 school year on August 23rd with its highest enrollment in more than six years. The school tradition continued with students, parents, and faculty gathering around the flagpole to say the pledges and begin the school year with prayer.



Excited students arrived with their parents to drop off their supplies in the classroom. Then the students, parents, and faculty gathered around the flagpole. Together, they pledged allegiance to the American flag, the Christian flag, and the Bible. They asked God to continue to bless the school, guide the teachers as they mentor and equip the children with knowledge framed around a Biblical Worldview, open the hearts and minds of the students to absorb the knowledge and instruction, and build a strong school community of families.

Following the prayer, the student's re-entered the building



with their teachers for their first day of school. As the students were busily putting away new school supplies, parents joined Administrator, Peggy Smith, for a silent prayer walk throughout the school. While the students began to adjust to their classrooms, prayers were being lifted up for each student, family, and faculty member in the hallways.

A Trip to the Fire Station by Accalia Acevedo

On Tuesday, October 2nd, the kindergarten class of ACS took their first field trip to Fire Station #3. As parents, myself included, we have heard many times, the dreams of our children's hearts when they talk about what they want to be when they grow up. "I want to be a teacher, a pastor, a fire fighter, a mommy, a doctor, and so on." As you can imagine the class was very excited to go and see the fire station, home to some of the children's dream job, and for the others, it was a great chance to see how some everyday heroes live and work.

The students, teachers, and parents were given a tour of the living quarters. They were able to ask the firefighters some questions and the BIG excitement of the day was walking through and on the actual fire truck. They saw the large water

hoses that they used to put out fires and they saw the gear they put on when called on to get ready to go out and put their lives on the line.

I asked my son Tobias what he felt when he was there. He said he felt, "happy." When I asked him why, he said it was because "they knew how to put out fires."

"Putting out fires" is something I can relate to as a parent. When our children are in our care as parents and teachers, that is our job. To ensure our children's safety and assist them when trials arise. We do this in many different ways, with



love, and Godly counsel. Tobias felt happy to know that he lived in a town where fire fighters would take care of him if a fire broke out. As a parent, I too am thankful for their service.

Summit Ministries Conference

Administrator, Peggy Smith, and the ACS elementary educators Carol Baedke, Julie Skaar, Faith Earnest, Darlene Lubinus, and Lori Adams, attended the Summit Ministries 2012 Adult/Educators' Conference at Bryan College in Dayton, Tennessee this July. The staff traveled together over fourteen hours to attend this one-of-a-kind conference and participate with other Christian educators in "Understanding the Times" Biblical Worldview study presented by Summit Ministries.

The ACS staff had the great privilege of meeting and having dinner with Dr. Del Tackett, author and teacher of The Truth Project, after they had gone through and completed The Truth Project as part of staff development during the 2011-2012 school year. They were also blessed when the President of

Summit Ministries, Dr. Jeff Myers, praying for the staff and Ames Christian School before the staff returned home to Ames.



Pictured l to r: Carol Baedke, Julie Skaar, Peggy Smith, Darlene Lubinus, and Faith Earnest

Summit Ministries was established in 1962 and exists to train Christian leaders to understand our times and to know what it means to think Christianly in every aspect of our life. Summit Ministries recently released a new Bible curriculum *Building on the Rock* which Ames Christian School has adopted as for their students. The goals for

Building on the Rock, according to Summit Ministries, are based on the understanding that no worldview curriculum can or should provide

an exact model for Christian thinking and action. Rather, a worldview curriculum must present a framework of biblical truth and value, encourage students to reflect upon it, and provide various formats for them to apply what they learned. The goal is to help young students begin to develop a cohesive Christian worldview through which they can interpret the world

around them and respond biblically to it in their thinking and doing.

The Ames Christian School staff is committed to developing Christian leaders for tomorrow by equipping them with biblical truth so together they can create a culture in which we are not complacent about what they know but a culture in which Christ is seen.

Matching Funds Campaign Off to a Great Start!

We have been blessed with donations and pledges to begin a matching funds drive for the 2012-2013 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

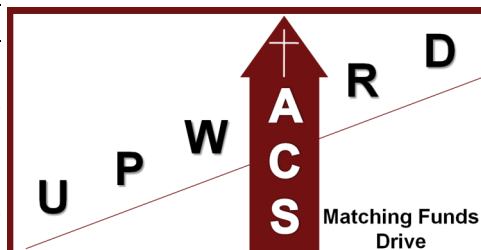
income. We are calling this drive "Upward ACS" with our goals to balance our current year budget as well as be able to provide scholarships for the next school year. Every dollar contributed to this campaign will directly impact our

ability to continue providing Personalized Christian Education to students in the Ames area.

We have already been blessed with \$20,500 in base funds which are ready to be matched. 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.

Thank you for your faithful support!





Upcoming Events

December

- 1 Christmas Gala - Great Hall ISU 6:30pm
- 4 School Board meeting 6:30pm
- 13 Christmas Program—Stonebrook 7pm
- 21-31 NO SCHOOL—Christmas Break

January

- 1-2 NO SCHOOL—Christmas Break
- 3 Classes resume
- 8 School Board meeting 6:30pm
- 21-25 School Spirit Week

February

- 12 School Board meeting 6:30pm
- 18-22 Book Week
- 28 Kindergarten Roundup

925 S. 16th Street, Ames, IA 50010

Phone: 515-233-0772

E-mail: administrator@ameschristianschool.org

Website: www.ameschristianschool.org

Grandparent's Day



- On October 24, Grandparents arrived at Ames Christian School for a special morning. The program began with the pledges to the American flag, Christian flag, and the Bible followed with Mrs. Smith saying a prayer. The Kindergarten started the student program with reciting the Bible ABC'S. They recited a Bible verse for each letter of the alphabet and sang "Trust and Obey".
- The theme of the First and Second grade was "That is our America and that is our flag". A program about subjects they have been discussing in class; founding fathers, our flag and freedom, patriotic holidays, and authors of the Declaration of Independence. They sang "You're a Grand Ole Flag", "My Country Tis of Thee", "Yankee Doodle", "I'm Betsy Ross", "My Hat it has Three Corners".
- Third and fourth grade performed the skit "If You Give a Grandchild a Cookie" based on the book If You Give a Mouse a Cookie.
- Fifth and sixth grade described parts of the House of Truth which goes with the new Bible curriculum Building on the Rock. They described that Christ and His Word are the Rock the Foundation of Wisdom is knowing, loving and obeying God, the walls of the house are built on Biblical Truth. The four walls that the students build through their years in elementary are: The Wall of Stewardship, The Wall of Servant Hood, The Wall of Image-Bearing, and The Wall of Fellowship. The Roof of Character is made up of the thoughts, words, and actions of Jesus. The Cross of Christ is the centerpiece of the House. All truth comes from Christ and our relationship with Him. Hailey Yoder read a poem about veterans that served our country and the students saluted the veteran grandparents. The Grandparents sang two other hymns between each class performance, "Stand Up, Stand Up for Jesus and To God be the Glory." The program ended with the children leading their grandparents in an Interlude dance they learned in P.E. which gave glory to the Lord.

The grandparents joined their grandchildren in their classrooms for an hour to interact and observe personalized Christian education in action. The morning concluded with the Grandparents joining their grandchildren for a pizza lunch.

Tailgate Party at ACS

What a better way to kick off the beginning of a great school year than with a Back to School Tailgate? On Friday, August 24th, the Ames Christian School family met at ACS to grill, and have fun with games and fellowship. With the largest K-6 enrollment in over six years, the evening provided new and returning families the opportunity to meet one another or catch up after summer break.

There was fun for all ages. preschool/childcare and kindergarten through sixth grade had a blast playing tailgating games, flag football, face painting, and playing gaga



ball in the new gaga ball pit made by Mike Loew and donated by Zach Bass. ISU students, the ISU Chi Omega Sorority and ISU Athletes, Anna Prins and Dalyn Varela added to the excitement with enthusiasm and spirit as they assisted with the evening.

The beautiful weather created a perfect backdrop for parents and

staff to enjoy good food and fellowship with one another. Ames Christian School continues to offer these types of events throughout the year to ensure our school is not simply a place to learn, but a place to feel included, loved, and to build friendships.

