



# Fourth Baptist Christian School Warrior Newsletter

Christ-Centered Academic Excellence!

Mission Statement

*Fourth Baptist Christian School, as a ministry of Fourth Baptist Church, is committed to the development of a student's spiritual life in Jesus Christ, while pursuing academic excellence in a manner which honors and glorifies God, based on the only infallible Word, the Bible.*

## MACS Band Festival – Who Received the Blessing?

*by Alan J. Hodak*

This year, the Minnesota Association of Christian Schools hosted its annual music festival (Band concentration) on the 4<sup>th</sup> of November. Next year, we will switch to a choir concentration (2017). The tentative date for next year's festival will be **Friday, November 3** at Fourth Baptist.

Five schools participated this year: Chisago Lakes Baptist, First Baptist of Rosemount, Fourth Baptist, Lake Region, and Woodcrest. Seventy-seven students took part in this year's program directed by Dr. Jerry Luckhardt, Director of Graduate Studies, Associate Director of Bands, and Associate Professor at the University of Minnesota.

Earlier in the year, selected music pieces were given to band directors at our schools for practice and preparation for this day. The day-long exercise was an effort to put everything together for an early evening program presented by all participating students for

*(Continued on page 3)*

### FUNDRAISING NEWS . . . . .

We held our annual Sports Walk on Sept. 19<sup>th</sup> this year, where our students in 6<sup>th</sup> grade through 12<sup>th</sup> grade walked along a 10-mile course around Medicine Lake to raise funds for our athletic programs. We raised **over \$15,000** from this event through generous sponsors this year! Thanks to all who helped! Some of the funds from this year's Sports Walk are being used for the provision of new boys' varsity soccer and boys' JV basketball uniforms, trainers at the varsity games (from the National Dizzy and Balance Center), and the bleacher fund.

Additional money for a second set of gym bleachers was given by generous donors and we are grateful to everyone who helped us with this effort. To date, we have just under

*(Continued on page 4)*





*Trumpet sectional coached by Mr. Jeff Scholl*



*Miss Teresa Herbert coached the Horn masterclass*



*Saxophone masterclass with Mrs. Madeline Elmhirst*



*Clarinet masterclass with Mrs. Julie Serber*



*Trombones and Low Brass sectional led by  
Pastor Loren Paulsen and Dr. Jeremy Kolwinka*





*Mr. Joel Alexander worked with the group of fifteen percussionists on their percussion ensemble number*

*(Blessing, Continued from page 1)*

the public. It was outstanding! The students did a marvelous job and our gratitude is extended to all the coaches and teachers who had a part in the success of the day.

Our guest conductor, Dr. Luckhardt, had some interesting comments about our students. He did not have to, but he had plenty to say. Among his comments:

- “Very disciplined!”
- “Concentrated for many hours.”
- “Not every student has the ability to sit and listen for a long period of time.”
- “This was a skill-set that many people do not have.”
- “An extraordinary group of people behind me!”
- “I would be willing to write a letter of recommendation for each student based on their ability to concentrate, cooperate, follow directions, and lead.”

Who was he talking about? He was talking about our students and that was his take on the seventy-seven participants and the day he spent with

them! Great job, students!

But I wondered if the students realized that their activity had a greater impact than just an evening performance? I wonder if they realized that they were paid the highest of compliments by a director at a major university program who had his first taste of seventy-seven students from five of our MACS’ schools?

I received a blessing that night, but I think someone else did too.

*—Alan J. Hodak, Executive Director, MACS*



*Flute masterclass with Mrs. Abigail Nicholson*

# MACS State Tourney 2nd and 3rd Place Finishes



*Our Varsity Volleyball team capped off their season by making it to the Championship game at our MACS State Tournament. Congratulations on a great finish to your season, ladies!*



***MACS Tournament  
All-Tourney Team:***  
*Claire Peterson*

***MACS All-Conference  
1st Team:***  
*Abbey Kolacz*

***MACS All-Conference  
2nd Team:***  
*Claire Peterson*

***Honorable Mention:***  
*Joelle Webster*

## Varsity Girls Volleyball



This year was an interesting but very successful year! We had many ups and downs. However, throughout the year each girl on the team made specific steps forward and made the team as a whole very successful! We were ranked #5 going into our year end tournament - right where we should be. But the tournament is where our girls shined most! We played hard, we played smart and we played together! Because of our teamwork, we beat the #4 seed and then the #1 seed to progress into the championship match. We didn't win that final match but our girls came out winners for sure! They became mentally tough and even more importantly worked as a team. I'm so proud of the entire team and look forward to what they will bring next year! ~Coach Beth Webster (Webbie)

*(Fundraising, continued from page 1)*

\$30,000 in this fund and hope to have the new set of bleachers installed during Spring Break. If you can help us reach the goal, that would be much appreciated.

We submitted just over \$300 worth of Box Tops in October. This was a bit lower than usual, so please keep clipping those Box Tops. These monies continue to fund our elementary merit trips. We appreciate our families and grandparents who regularly help us. We will do another Box Tops collection drive in December.

We will continue to collect Campbell's UPC labels in as long as they are in circulation. Campbell's has discontinued the program and are no longer printing new labels, but they will allow us to continue to redeem them.

Looking for easy Christmas gifts? Consider purchasing gift cards also through our scrip fundraising program to support the FBCS music program. Consider ordering scrip cards for your Christmas gifts! (Gift Cards also make great teacher gifts). Thanks for your support of FBCS! ☺





*Our Varsity Soccer Team led by nine seniors came in third place at this year's MACS tournament*

## **Varsity Boys Soccer**

The 2016 Warrior Soccer team had a great season! We finished with a record of 13 – 4 – 1 and claimed 2<sup>nd</sup> place at the Paul Bunyan Invitational in September. This year's team had a solid defense and timely offense, featuring 4 all-conference players. We were led by 9 seniors who contributed greatly to our program throughout their entire time at FBCS. While they will be missed, we have many others who are ready to step up and fill their shoes. This year's team learned many important lessons along the way about unity, perseverance, and leadership. When it came State tournament time in October, we had high hopes for another MACS championship. After suffering a difficult loss in the semifinals, the team showed great character and, led by our seniors, rallied to a great 3<sup>rd</sup> game place win. While we will miss those who have completed their run in Warrior soccer, we still look forward to great things ahead! - Coach Jared Page



### **MACS Tournament All-Tourney Team:**

*Ben King  
Vivek Mohinani  
Micah Morrell*

### **MACS All-Conference 1st Team:**

*Ben King  
Noah Kinniburgh*

### **MACS All-Conference 2nd Team:**

*Vivek Mohinani  
Micah Morrell*

### **Honorable Mention:**

*Isaiah Reis*

## **Mrs. Mulnix Baby Shower**



On November 9, we held a drop-in baby shower in the Fellowship Hall for Mrs. Kristen Mulnix, our secondary Science, English & Speech teacher and her expected baby girl. Her baby is due in December. Many of our high school girls and their moms stopped by to be an encouragement to Mrs. Mulnix. We are excited for Mrs. Mulnix and her husband, AJ, as they anticipate her arrival! She will be their firstborn child. ☺







*JV Soccer Team*

### **JV Boys Soccer**

When we convened for Preseason practice in August of this year, we were pleasantly surprised to note that we had almost 30 players who wanted to play Varsity Soccer! While this was exciting, it was also a challenge. What this ultimately allowed us to do this year was to develop a full JV soccer schedule for the first time. This year's JV team played 13 games, finishing with a record of 5-5-3. We also had the opportunity to play in the MACS Tier 2 tournament, where we finished in 3<sup>rd</sup> place. The benefit of having a full JV program was that a lot of guys got to play a lot of soccer! The guys playing JV were younger or were guys who were newer to the game. By playing so much soccer, they were able to significantly improve throughout the season. They also provided a great benefit to the Varsity program by practicing hard against them day in and day out. The JV program this year was a great new venture, and one we hope to be able to continue in the future! ~ Coach Jared Page

### **JH Boys Soccer**

Junior High soccer at Fourth Baptist Christian School is about honoring God, learning the fundamentals of the sport, and developing a love for the game. God blessed a first-time coach this fall with twelve soccer players who developed the character to do those three things. The team was tested early being outscored eleven goals to two in their first two matches. Even in those losses, each player showed resilience and a refusal to get down on his teammates that resulted in a second-half goal in each match. The team continued to improve in important areas such as: breaking down defenses and scoring, the midfield supporting both offense and defense, kicking, and field awareness. By the end of the season, the team was ready to rise to any challenge and each player is ready to move on and have an impact on future Fourth Baptist Christian School soccer teams. ~ Coach Erik Fredericksen



*Junior High Gr. 6-8 Soccer Team*



*JV Volleyball Team*

**JV Volleyball Team**

Our team: 8th grade: Kaylee Carlson, Maddie Hodak, Kaylee Hoffman, Lydia Rieschl; 9th grade: Dana Fredericksen, Amanda Hartzell, Breanna Leith, Juliana Mendoza, Lydia Morrell; 10th grade: Elaine Feng, Summer Feng, Natalie Goblirsch. For the majority of our season, we practiced with the Varsity Volleyball team which made these girls work harder, be challenged and get better. It is always exciting to see athletes grow and improve; all of these girls became stronger and more confident in their skills through the season. We played various MACS schools this season and ended with a 5-6 record. I'm very proud of these girls and look forward to watching them play next season! ~ Coach Sarah Stephens

**JH Volleyball Team BLUE**

Our team: 7th grade: Emily Combs, Lucy Litkey, Gabriela Mendoza, Anna Morrell, Kayla Stephens; 8th grade: Kaylee Carlson, Kaylee Hoffman, Lydia Rieschl. It was a blessing and privilege to coach this team along with Coach Kathryn Combs. As we prayed for God's guidance this season we asked Him to let us play for His honor and glory and that He would use our team to magnify Christ. We participated in the NSPSL this year and also played a couple of MACS schools. We finished our season with a 9-1 record (NSPSL) and were the #1 seed heading into the tournament. God saw fit to allow us to lose our first round game. And while it was certainly a tough loss, the girls handled it well. We won the last two games of our tournament, winning the Consolation Championship game. Congratulations on a great season girls! ~ Coach Sarah Stephens



*JH Volleyball Team BLUE*



**JH Team RED**

Team Red enjoyed a successful season this year, ending our season with a 7-1 record and finishing in 2nd place in the NSPSL tournament! More importantly, we had a great season of improving and expanding our volleyball skills and learning how to communicate with and encourage our teammates on and off the volleyball court. I am so proud of this group of girls! ~ Coach Kathryn (Kat) Combs



*JH Volleyball Team RED*



# National Merit Scholarship Program Awards Commended Student Honors

September 2016

## COMMENDED STUDENT IN THE 2017 NATIONAL MERIT SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM



Mr. Alan J. Hodak, Administrator of Fourth Baptist Christian School, announces that David Murray has been named a Commended Student in the 2017 National Merit Scholarship Program. A Letter of Commendation from the school and National Merit Scholarship Corporation (NMSC), which

conducts the program, will be presented by the administrator to this scholastically talented senior.

About 34,000 Commended Students throughout the nation are being recognized for their exceptional academic promise. Although they will not continue in the 2017 competition for National merit scholarship awards, Commended Students placed among the top five percent of more than 1.6 million students who entered the 2017 competition by taking the 2016 preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT/NMSQT®).

"The young men and women being named Commended Students have demonstrated outstanding potential for academic success," commented a spokesperson for NMSC. "These students represent a valuable national resource; recognizing their accomplishments, as well as the key role their schools play in their academic development, is vital to the advancement of educational excellence in our nation. We hope that this recognition will help broaden their educational opportunities and encourage them as they continue their pursuit of academic success."

We congratulate FBCS Senior, David Murray, and wish him all God's best in his college career in his chosen field of study.♦

## Grandparents' & Parents' Day! . . . . .

We welcomed our biggest group of grandparents and parents yet onto our campus on October 21st. Our guests were treated to coffee and refreshments in the morning, and then spent some time visiting the classrooms before assembling in the auditorium for a special program the students had prepared. Each elementary grade had a part (poem, verses or song) and our secondary added some special music (JH and SH band and choir numbers). Finally, our parents and grandparents were invited to join the students for a turkey sub sack lunch. We appreciate the support from our parents and grandparents and are glad so many were able to come out and join us for this special day!









# DONKEYBALL RETURNS TO FBCS!

Friday night, November 18th was a historic night as Donkeyball returned to FBCS for our Senior Class Family Fundraiser Night. An audience of about 300 gathered to watch the fun and craziness that ensued.

The show is put on by Dairyland Donkey Basketball out of Chippewa Falls, WI. With names that supposedly showcased their personalities (Enforcer, Rigor Mortis, Super Stupid, Earthquake, Rocket Man—to name a few), this group of nine donkeys were “specially chosen” to buck, kick, and generally refuse to do what you want them to do.

It was quite a riot watching our seniors, pastors, teachers and parents attempting to play a form of basketball while riding (or pulling) their stubborn donkeys around the court. Pastor Matt, Pastor Page, Pastor Stephens and Mr. Kolwinka hammed it up really well for the parent/teacher/pastor team, to the delight of the audience. The donkey wrangler who accompanied the donkeys gave an entertaining dead-pan running commentary as the games were going.

A few of the donkeys were more cooperative, and the players actually did a great job riding them and playing the game! Senior Andres Mendoza seemed to bond with his donkey and do especially well. For some, it was an accomplishment just getting on the donkey! (Right, Mrs. Leith?) ☺

Only a couple of the donkeys really bucked and kicked, and seniors Isaiah Reis, Kenny Laine and David Murray had the dubious privilege of trying to ride them. One special donkey was brought out for the Championship game that absolutely did not want to be ridden, and Rajan Mohinani (for the teacher team), and Isaiah Reis (for the senior team) accepted the challenge of riding him. Neither one was able to stay on the donkey more than a few seconds, but they gave a valiant effort!

Personally, I laughed and laughed so hard I could barely see straight at times. The participants all seemed to have a fun time, and the audience enjoyed the comical scene immensely. And it was a blessing that no one was injured in the event.

Between the donkeyball games, the seniors led the donkeys up and down the court giving the elementary students in attendance free donkey rides. Thankfully, the donkeys cooperated very well for the younger kids! No video was allowed, but folks in attendance took some memorable photos of the “ridonkulous” event! -Alison French









# Gorgeous Fall Weather Makes for Great Elementary Outdoor Field Trips!

In early October, the K4 and K5 classes took a field trip to Apple Jack Orchards in Delano, MN. The students enjoyed various activities such as attending “Pumpkin School” and learning about the life cycle and different parts of a pumpkin, decorating a pumpkin, sampling apple cider and apple donuts, and taking a hay ride through the apple orchard.



The students ended the trip by enjoying lunch outside and playing in the play area, as well as visiting animals in the petting zoo. We had a great time at the apple orchard, and are so thankful that the Lord provided beautiful weather for the day! We're also grateful for the many parents who attended the trip with us! - Miss Karis Burggraff & Mrs. Julie Roman

This year, the second grade class took our annual trip to Fort Snelling on a beautiful fall October day (Oct. 13th). We began the morning with a movie about Fort Snelling with another group of students.

We then went up to Historic Fort Snelling to begin our tour of how the soldiers, fur traders, laundresses, cooks and tradesmen lived in the 1820's. Our favorite was the shooting of the musket and watching the blacksmith work, but no tour is complete until we spend some time in the round tower. We

*(Continued on page 13)*



finished the morning with lunch in the picnic area on the bluff overlooking the Minnesota River. The second grade class was commended several times on how well they behaved on this field trip – that always makes a teacher proud of her class but most of all the testimony it leaves with the workers there at Fort Snelling. - Mrs. Diane Davis



On October 26, the sixth grade class went on a field trip to Historic Fort Snelling. It was a cold day, so the field trip began with lunch in the classroom. The tour of the fort included several different stations where the students could learn about the different aspects of living in the 1820s. The class enjoyed seeing things first hand that they have been learning about in their Minnesota History course. The students were very excited to be able to climb the Round Tower at the end of the tour. - Miss Megan Haynes



(Continued on page 14)

The 3<sup>rd</sup> graders visited the Oliver H. Kelley farm on October 31<sup>st</sup>. They got to enjoy working in the garden, baking in the kitchen, feeding the animals, and plowing behind the oxen. They learned how animals were an important part of life back in the 1800s. (pictured at left, the students were digging up potatoes to put in storage for the winter). - Mrs. Julie Bee ☺



**With the Lord**  
**OPAL M. UNDERBAKKE**

February 26, 1925 – October 18, 2016

Opal was a Secondary English & Speech teacher at Fourth Baptist Christian School from 1981—1989. As head of the Language Arts Department, she also taught remedial English. While a teacher at FBCS, she also wrote and directed a play, entitled "Miracles of Love," which she has copyrighted. Miss

Mary Wickham said it was beautifully done and people still talk about it.

As for her legacy as a teacher, many students who had her as a teacher claim that although she was a hard teacher and expected a lot from her students, they learned so much from her that helped them so much in college and in their future careers. A former student wrote this on her Facebook wall on her birthday in 2013, "When I think of you, it is with a heart full of gratitude for all that you taught me!" Another former student wrote, "You are the hardest and best teacher I've ever had...even through college and grad school. I wish my kids could be under your teaching! ...I always think of you fondly and I'm so grateful for your impression on my life." To which Opal replied, "Thank you, Jason, for contacting me. I have a joyful, affectionate memory of each and every student at Fourth. I would appreciate hearing about your vocation and family. Thanks again for taking time to contact me."

Here is a slightly condensed version of her obituary notice:

*Opal Marie Underbakke was born on February 26, 1925 on a farm near Burr Oak, Iowa to Louie and Violet (Wilbur-Ward) Underbakke.*

*She was baptized and confirmed at the Burr Oak United Methodist Church. Opal attended grade school at Pierce-Underbakke School No. 6 and graduated from Canton High School in 1942. After high school, she attended Upper Iowa University in Fayette, IA and graduated with a Bachelor degree in English/Speech Education. She went on to pursue her Master's degree at Luther College in Decorah, IA. Opal married Harold (Bud) E. Smith in 1954, and they raised five children.*


*Opal had a passion for learning and shared her knowledge in the educational field for more than 65 years. She taught in both private and public schools and also tutored many individuals. She developed and implemented a large number of drama and speech programs and was always available to help her students. She was a motivational teacher and inspiration for many of her students who demonstrated success in the fields of education, broadcasting, business, and politics.*

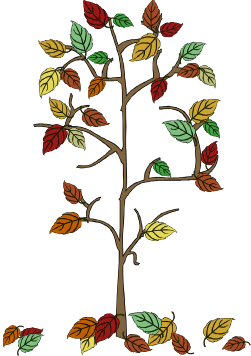


*Opal had a love for reading, traveling, and gardening. In early travels, she explored the United States and later travels included Mexico, Europe, and the Bahamas. She also won awards for her horticultural design and execution. She was very community minded and frequently helped with youth and community projects. Opal had a strong religious faith and enjoyed sharing with others. She was very connected to her church communities and had a deep love for them, including ..... Chisago Lakes Baptist Church (Chisago City, MN), and Fourth Baptist Church (Minneapolis, MN). She was actively involved in church outreach and charitable programs.*

*Opal passed away quietly in her sleep on Tuesday, October 18, 2016. She was deeply loved and will be missed. Opal is survived by her children: Donny (Marcia) Smith of Blooming Prairie, MN, Brenda (Bill) Copp of Belton, MO, Roberta Underbakke of Minneapolis, MN; Klee (Bich Ha) Smith of Owatonna, MN; and Jennie (Lou) Espada of Palm Coast, FL; [and] 12 grandchildren.*

A Celebration of Life Service was held in Burr Oak, Iowa on Monday, November 21, 2016 at the United Methodist Church. Cards/Condolences may be sent to the following address: Opal Underbakke Family, 301 Hillcrest, Belton, MO 64012



FIRST QUARTER 2016-17	"A" HONOR ROLL	A AVERAGE	B AVERAGE
First	Christian Hoffman Michaela Keim Lauren Stephens	Anne Cooley Christian Kolwinska Timothy Petrashov Lukyn Williams	Blake Berger Rebekah Damyan Peyton Grosser
Second  	Gretchen Campbell Josiah Combs John Goshgarian Dominick Grosser Nikita Lipinskiy Joseph Litkey Gracyn Lopez Westley Malone Savannah Martin Jacob Payne Justin Samuel Samuel Wang Asher Zderchuk	Ethan Coulson Caleb Reis	
Third	Joy Cole Anastasia Lipinskiy Easton Martin Megan Page Hannah Reis J. Jaidyn Rennie Lillian Williams	Anja Brombacher Tyler Stephens Matthew Thompson	
Fourth	Gavin Berger Cole Chenoweth Molly Cook Jonathan Kolacz Sophia Morrell Jude Olson Emma Payne Nelly Petrashov Viswas Vallabhaneni Daniel Yarmakovich	Markus Baranyuk Nevaeh Carlson Noah Lease Cody Mercado Joshua Reis Joseph Sundberg Michaela Thompson Allison Tkach Sydney Weisser	Antonio Eppers Abigail Selyukov
Fifth	Josiah Brombacher Nathan French Melissa Kauffman Shaun Larson Reece Martin Trenton Radloff Clara Rieschl Johannah Rieschl Isaiah Roman Alyssa Stephens Grace Wang	Jacob Combs Greta Gustafson Matthew Herrick Ksenia Kachula S. Gresyn Rennie Evelina Sayko Cherubim Toby	Emily Chuprin Henry Litkey Dennis Tkach  
Sixth	Adriel Ng Abbie Page Evelyn Williams	Suzanna Kotelevska Karina Mendoza Niomi Pompana Aidan Radloff	Esther Chepurnaya Kristy Hanson Danielle Komonash Jemima Komonash Andre Samuel

FIRST QUARTER 2016-17	"A" HONOR ROLL	A AVERAGE	B AVERAGE
Seventh 	Isaac Brombacher Emily Combs Stephen French Isabel Guillen Gabriela Mendoza Anna Morrell	Jasmine Cole Jocelyn Devanesan Evelyn Goshgarian Kathryn Kauffman Ruvim Korovin Lucy Litkey Tyler Martin Samuel Roman Kayla Stephens James Webster David Yarmakovich	Conner Chenoweth
Eighth	Kaylee Hoffman Zachary Mace Lydia Rieschl	Kaylee Carlson Jonathan Grosser Madelyn Hodak Caleb Lambrecht Jordan Larson Isabelle Lease David Migalyuk Sophie Muhr Matthew Nyquist Zachary Robinson Julia Tkach	Joshua Weckert 
Ninth	Aaron French Caleb Page	Isaac Grosser Juliana Mendoza Lydia Morrell Joelle Webster	Nathan Brennan Dana Fredericksen Amanda Hartzell Breanna Leith Abigail Roman Joshua Van Luyk Micah Weckert
Tenth	Nicholas Carlson Zixi Elaine Feng Abigail Kolacz	Mark Cooley Joel Larson Micah Morrell Claire Peterson Morgan Stephens	Wanlu Summer Feng
Eleventh	Hannah Berscheid Jason French Madelyn Lease Carissa Leith Martina Muronova Katriel Ng Zuxing John Pan	Benjamin Koestner Jason J. Webster Boersheng Justin Xiao	Jacob Gustafson Marielle Mumford Jonathan Tomsche Isaac Troussov Jessica Wang
Twelfth 	David Murray Johnathan Schocker Greta Smith	Dekang Kevin Chen Nicole Goblirsch Madeline Goshgarian Benjamin King Vivek Mohinani Victoria Robinson	Andres Mendoza Isaiah Reis Paulifred Toby