

KOINONIA



Connection



Who We are...

Koinonia Connection is a bi-monthly newsletter published by the Koinonia Christian Education Society (KCES) to keep teachers, parents, students, staff & friends of our system informed & connected.

Our 9 Koinonia Schools:

Airdrie KCS

Cherry Coulee
Christian Academy

Cornerstone Christian School

High Level Christian Academy

Living Truth Christian School

Newell Christian School

KCS—Red Deer

Slave Lake KCS

Yellowhead KCS



KCES website:
www.koinoniaschools.com

Living Truth Christian School Lends Mittened Hands of Help...

by April Barton

Imagine this! A blizzard blows through town, there's a knock on your door and you open it and find a team of shovel-toting stu-



dents, teachers and parents looking to spread some good cheer! That was the scene in Sedgewick on January 10 after Mother Nature covered the area in white stuff. "It seemed like we had two feet of snow!" remarked school secretary Pat Anderson, and our students and families went out to help. "People in Sedgewick were very grateful," and as a result Living Truth received many thank you cards in the mail. A big pat on the back also goes to students and staff who gave up their "snow day" from school to lend a neighborly hand during the troublesome weather.

If laughter is indeed the best medicine, then attending the monthly fundraiser for Living Truth Christian

School is just what the doctor ordered to beat the winter blues! Panic Squad, an improvisational comedy team from British Columbia, will be highlighting the school's mid-February fundraiser at the CRE in Camrose. Tickets are available (\$15 for adults, \$10 for youth under 16) at the Wiseman's Way in Camrose.



Early in the New Year, LTCS held a bottle drive...again in the snow...but raised about \$1600 for their door-to-door efforts in Killam, Sedgewick and Forestburg.

Looking ahead, Compassion Canada will be the guest speaker at an upcoming spring chapel. LTCS sponsors an elementary child from Bolivia and students and staff will hear first-hand how their financial support assists the young boy.

LTCS is still looking at the possibility of moving to a different location in the fall. According to Mrs. Anderson, renting or purchasing a building is being

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(Living Truth continued.....)

considered in the hopes of drawing more interest in the school from surrounding communities. It is definitely a worthwhile prayer item!



Spring Break comes to Living Truth Christian School the last week of March. Staff, students and families are hopeful they won't have to spend it digging out from yet another snowstorm! ☺

Airdrie Koinonia "Stuffs The Bus" This Spring ...

by April Barton

When it comes to collecting newsletter information from Airdrie Koinonia Christian School, an important pre-requisite is the ability to write shorthand! This is one happenin' place!!



March brings with it the "Stuff the Bus" food drive. The second food drive of the year, this one will support the local Airdrie Food Bank.

Going back, back in time to last fall . . . Airdrie kicked off the season with their 2nd annual Back to School BBQ September 2nd. "It was the most beautiful day ...a real gift from God," reports Shari Scott, AKCS Director of Development. More than 400 alumni, students, parents and grandparents attended the BBQ and it was a great start to the new school year.



Back-to-School BBQ

Airdrie junior and senior high students set off on retreats September 15-17th. Junior high ventured out to the Circle Square Ranch north-west of Medicine Hat, while the senior highs headed north and west to Nordegg. Shari reports it was a "wonderful time for teachers to interact with students to interact with each other."



Jr. High Retreat

AKCS' annual Celebration Banquet was "very well attended" October 30th, with 200 people enjoying the event held locally at the Town and Country Centre. Guest speaker was Gordon Elhard, a founding member of Calgary's Centre Street Church and a former teacher, principal and superintendent of the Calgary Board of Education. About \$28,000 was raised and gratefully received at the fund-raiser.

Elementary students interacted with seniors in December during their annual caroling trips to seniors' homes in Airdrie. "It was a great time for the seniors and for the kids," reported Shari.

Grades 7-8 students celebrated the end of the first semester/second quarter with a Ski Day to Nakiska January 28th. Grades 9-12 students are also highly

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(Airdrie Koinonia continued....)

anticipating the thrill of the down-hill ski trip to Lake Louise this month. Safety is always a prayer priority! Another upcoming event very much anticipated is the school's annual Winter Break. School will be closed February 19-27th.



'Under God's Sea in 3D' is the title of the March 30th Spring Musical. Grades 1-6 will be featured. Further details have yet to be announced, but be sure to mark your calendars now!



AKCS' first-ever Grandparents Day has been planned for Friday, April 15th. Grandparents are invited to join their grandchildren in the classrooms in the morning and enjoy a special sack lunch prepared with them in mind.

The school's Easter Chapel will be held in the afternoon and all are invited to attend.

A K-12 Open House was held recently at Faith Community Baptist Church. Another open house is scheduled for May 2nd. According to Shari, the event is set up like a trade show where everyone can mingle and get a good idea of what Airdrie Koinonia is all about.

May 13th will be 'Kindergarten Practice Day' where wee ones are invited to go to school for the day. "This is always a lot of fun," says Shari. "It is a great opportunity for teachers to get to know the kids and for the kids to meet each other as well."

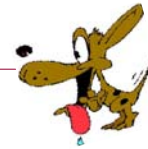
A major praise item is the selling of the 20 acres AKCS purchased in 2004 before land prices skyrocketed. "God has blessed it and the sale is final," rejoiced Shari. The original plan for the land was for it to become the new AKCS site, however installing services to the site proved to be cost-prohibitive. Now with the sale of the land, finances have made it possible to purchase a smaller parcel of land. According to Shari, about 4.5 acres of serviced land has been conditionally purchased at the north end of Airdrie.



Last but not least, an alumni reunion and High School Graduation will round out the school year at AKCS this summer. Details will be announced later. 😊



Happy Valentines !!



Recruit more families?!

Fund-raise more effectively?! ...



Come & Learn

@ Koinonia Schools Development Seminar

- When:** March 18 & 19, 2011
The seminar will be begin at 10:30 am on Friday, March 18 and will draw to a close by about 2:30 pm on Saturday, March 19.
- Where:** Didsbury, Zion Evangelical Missionary Church
- Trainer:** Ms. Jan Stump
Jan is a development director with ACSI from Colorado Springs, CO. and has many years of experience in helping schools like ours to become more effective at raising funds and recruiting students.
- For Who?** Delegates could be your board members, administrators and other key school personnel. Contact your school principal or board chair to see if you might be involved.
- Cost:**
Motel Room: KCES will pay for 2 delegates per room for the night of March 18th. Motel rooms have been reserved in Carstairs, Didsbury, & Olds at special group rates. Schools will be informed of details.
Gas: On the basis of 4 delegates to a vehicle, each school pays the gas for the 1st vehicle. KCES will pay the gas for additional vehicles (@ 4 delegates per vehicle).
Meals: KCES will provide all meals during the Seminar/AGM. Delegates will supply their own meals during travel.
- Double Blessing:** Each year, KCES holds their Annual General Meeting to do business on behalf of the Society. Each school sends delegates to this meeting to represent the school. This year, the development seminar will be held in conjunction with the AGM and schools are encouraged to send not just 2 or 3 delegates but their entire board along with any other key school personnel whom they think would benefit from the training that will be offered.
- Contact info:** Contact your school principal or board chair to see if you might be involved.
- To register:** Email your name & your school name to garryka@gmail.com

Deadline to register: March 1st

Several of our schools are struggling at this time. Low enrolment and tight budgets are causing concern for us all. We are requesting the prayers of the entire Koinonia family that this event will be a real benefit to our schools.