



# Christian Academy Schools Eagle Vision

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Our Mission is to  
“Equip and Inspire Students to be a  
New Generation of Christ-Centered Leaders”

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## From the Desk of Head of School Dick Dray

Hi Folks!

December is upon us now and students, staff and our families are squarely focused upon our great celebration of Christmas. During these three editions of our newsletter leading up to our Christmas break I will be taking time to focus upon the three gifts that were brought to Jesus after his birth.

Matthew 2:1 shares that Magi from the east came to Jerusalem and asked, “Where is the one who has been born king of the Jews?”. The Magi were a distinguished group of astrologers who would have served the Persian king. Though we do not know exactly how many of these star gazers there were travelling in that notable caravan it has been assumed that possibly three as that is the number of unique gifts that were brought.

The gifts were not by chance but rather divinely chosen by God to give insights into this child that was born. Gold was, and is, a costly gift fit for the one whom they addressed as the king of the Jews. Gold represented deity, royalty and purity. He was the One who came for his own but his own received him not. He was the pure child born of a virgin. Jesus was the focus even as He was acknowledged first when there was the mention of the child and His mother. Though Jesus came the first time as an innocent baby we know that when he comes again and ultimately as recorded in Revelation 21, He will be ruling and seated on the throne.



## Canned Food Drive a Huge Success

The CAS student council sponsored a food drive before Thanksgiving to support local food pantries. We received a total of 1,400 cans. The 4th grade class collected the most cans collecting 475. They will enjoy an ice cream party. All the items collected will go to the First Presbyterian church and will be distributed throughout Shelby County. Congratulations CAS students and staff for doing such a great job!

## Voices Eternal to Sing Christmas Carols

Voices Eternal will be caroling in downtown Piqua **TONIGHT, December 6<sup>th</sup>** between **6:45 p.m.-7:45 p.m.** They will also be performing at the Piqua Mall on the stage in the Food Court on **Thursday, December 19<sup>th</sup>** at **2:30 p.m.** The CAS Voices Eternal participants are: Emma Abbott, Alex Brunswick, Melody Joines, Emma Michael, Alayna Milks, Zach Baughman, Jeffrey Blackford, Laurel Chalfant, Brooke Fishback, Cassidy Rhoades, Karli Hiler, Faith Lord, and led by Mrs. Maureen Joines. Christian Academy Schools is VERY proud of our show choir.

## Little Shepherd's Shoppe Buying Gifts for Others on Thursday, December 12<sup>th</sup> & Friday, December 13<sup>th</sup> for Themselves

Parents once again it is that time of year where we have an opportunity to teach children the joy of giving. Just like God gave us eternal life through the Christmas gift of Jesus Christ, your kids can give during this season as well. In the past on the first day of the Shepherd's Shoppe we have allowed students to buy for themselves and for others. What we have decided to do for many reasons is to have your student **buy only for others on Thursday.**

If you would like for your child to buy for themselves, they can **only** do that on **Friday, December 13<sup>th</sup>** and will have a limited amount of time. Many students only buy for others and that can continue but if they do have any extra money left, they may be able to buy for themselves if that is your wish.

Please help us to help your child not to save as much money as possible on Thursday so they can buy lots of things for themselves on Friday. Since giving is very difficult for many younger children it is important that we as adults help to guide them that it is indeed better to give than to receive.

## ~~Middle & High School Christmas Celebration~~ Friday, December 20<sup>th</sup>

Christian Academy's Christmas Celebration is scheduled for December 20<sup>th</sup>. Things are a little different this year. First big change – we **do not** have an early dismissal that day. The first half of the day will be our normal classes but shortened in length. Our special Christmas activities will begin at lunch. We will still have an ugly sweater contest, Christmas caroling, a "white elephant" gift exchange and our classic pizza fest. Please find details for each below.

### Ugly Sweater Contest

**All middle and high school students can wear an ugly Christmas sweater for our ugly sweater contest.** If students do not wish to participate in the ugly sweater contest, they should wear a CAS shirt.

### Outreach & Caroling

All 6<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> grade students will be involved in some sort of outreach activity. This might be caroling, passing out hot chocolate, visiting with elderly at local assisted living facilities by playing games and having a "sing-along," and/or handing out candy canes with the gospel message in the downtown Sidney. We will also deliver baked cookies to the local Sheriff & Police Departments. (The cookies will be made by students earlier in the week during selected classes.)

### “White Elephant” Gift Exchange

Everyone is to bring a wrapped gift. **Do NOT spend more than \$5.** “Gift” can be new or gently used. Be creative!!!

### Christmas Celebration Meal

We are asking students to bring in \$4 each to cover a special meal of pizza, veggies, desserts, & pop. We will have gluten free options for those who need them. **Please pay Mrs. Miller by Wednesday, December 18<sup>th</sup>.**

Spanish IV student Emma Michael has a new role at CAS. On Tuesday mornings, Emma visits the first-grade class and leads them in Circle Time in Spanish. Emma is pictured with the students counting, stating the date, and discussing the weather in Spanish.



## CAS Holiday Celebration Policy

Christian Academy School treats the Christmas holiday as a joyous time of the year to celebrate and emphasize the birth of Jesus Christ. Activities and symbols that complement this emphasis is prominent in our classrooms. Myths and symbols, such as Santa Claus, elves, etc. which compete with these are de-emphasized. In the lower elementary grades, especially, Santa Claus will not be discussed so as not to interfere with your family traditions.



### Are your Children Missing Coats, Sweatshirts, Pants, Lunch Boxes?

A table of Lost and Found items was placed on a table at the Christmas Concert for parents to go through. Guess what? We still have three lost and found boxes full of clothing, drink bottles, lunch boxes, and a back pack.

If your student(s) is missing anything, please stop by before Christmas break. Items not claimed will be then be taken to Goodwill or Fish. Please make sure you or your student stops by Mrs. McPheron's (Purple's) office to check the lost and found.

## College Credit Plus for College Level Classes

College Credit Plus meeting will be **Thursday, January 9<sup>th</sup>** at **6 p.m.** to hear how students in *upcoming grades 7-12<sup>th</sup>* might be able to take college level courses. If you are interested in attending the meeting, please let Mrs. Baughman know so she can plan accordingly with the appropriate colleges. Contact Kristina at [kristina.baughman@caseagles.org](mailto:kristina.baughman@caseagles.org) with questions or interest.

## Volunteers Needed for Middle School/High School Homecoming

Are you creative? Energetic? Love homecoming activities? Well, this is your chance to volunteer! Homecoming week is **Tuesday, January 21<sup>st</sup>** and ending on **Saturday, January 25<sup>th</sup>** with a fun and exciting evening. If you are interested in using your creative talents, ideas, etc. contact Mrs. McPheron at 492-7556 or email [denise.mcpheron@caseagles.org](mailto:denise.mcpheron@caseagles.org).

## Walk for the King

Do you smell the fresh, clean air with a cool feeling of humidity? We have arrived at Cedar Falls in Hocking County. This fall features a large area of sandstone starting 50 feet above. From that height, the water flows down, then splits in the middle of the fall and reconnects before plummeting into a small pool of refreshing water. We are standing on a rocky beach at the bottom of the falls, enjoying the seclusion provided by the surrounding steep rock walls, hemlock trees and caves. Cedar Falls is the halfway point for the annual Hocking Hills Winter Hike that's held every January. Organizers provide hot navy bean soup, cornbread, and hot chocolate (for a donation). Park naturalists are available to answer questions, and there is usually music, and a festive environment, [trekohio.com](http://trekohio.com) Other nearby waterfalls can be found at Ash Cave and Old Man's Cave.

## Need Christmas Gifts? – Try Scrip “Gift Cards”

Do you need gift cards for Christmas? Then, **Wednesday, December 11<sup>th</sup>** is your last chance to order scrip (gift cards) before Christmas. Remember, a percentage of your gift card orders goes towards your tuition and this is a good time to order. The gift cards can also be used for birthdays anniversary's, and much more! Order forms can be obtained in the informational rack. Contact Mrs. Miller if you have questions about scrip

## Verse of the Week

*"While they were there, the time came for the baby to be born, and she gave birth to her firstborn, a son. She wrapped Him in strips of cloth and placed Him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn."* Luke 2: 6-7.

**Thought:** Christmas has taken on so many other things over the years. We have the story of Santa. We have the gift giving. These things aren't bad in themselves, as the gift giving started with the Wise Men. But it can take away from the real meaning of Christmas. Jesus, the Savior of the world, was born. He came as a baby, then grew to be a man that gave His life for you and me, so we could live with Him forever when we die. We celebrate His birth because of our faith in Him, and His birth was the beginning of a life-changing event - the cross. So, let us celebrate Jesus birthday together, and remember why He came.

## Sports News

### Come & Cheer for Our Basketball Teams!

Saturday, December 7	JH Boys vs. Dominion (away) Varsity Boys vs. Dominion <i>200 Homewood, Dayton</i>	2 p.m. (bus leaves @ 12:30 p.m.) 3:15 p.m.
Monday, December 9	JH Girls vs. Spring Valley (home) JH Boys vs. Spring Valley	5:30 p.m. 6:30 p.m.
Tuesday, December 10	Varsity Girls vs. Spring Valley (away) Varsity Boys vs. Spring Valley <i>1461 E. Spring Valley Pike, Dayton</i>	5:30 p.m. (bus leaves @ 3:45 p.m.) 6:45 p.m.
Thursday, December 12	JH Boys vs. Mars Hill (away) Varsity Boys vs. Mars Hill <i>4230 Aero Dr. Mason</i>	5:30 p.m. (bus leaves @ 3 p.m.) 6:30 p.m.
Saturday, December 14	JH Girls vs. Grand Lake (home) Varsity Girls vs. Grand Lake JH Boys vs. Immaculate Conception (home) Varsity Girls vs. Immaculate Conception Varsity Boys vs. Immaculate Conception	5:30 p.m. 6:30 p.m. 12 p.m. 1:15 p.m. 2:30 p.m.



### Help Needed for Concession Stands & Ticket Area

Help needed! Parents we need your help in working the concession stands for the home basketball games. If each player's family works, there would be one or two games for each family. What do you get in return? Free admission to the game, a great view of the game, and volunteer hours. There is also an opportunity to earn volunteer hours and get free admission to the game with a great view while taking tickets for each game. Mrs. Inman has a sign-up sheet available at her desk if you can volunteer.

### Scoreboard Operator Needed at Home Games

Help needed! A Scoreboard Operator is needed for the CAS basketball home games. If interested in getting volunteer hours, this is a great opportunity. Contact Chad Inman @ [chad@sidneyfaith.org](mailto:chad@sidneyfaith.org), or Ronda Inman at [ronda.inman@caseagles.org](mailto:ronda.inman@caseagles.org).

### CAS Track Coach Needed!

Christian Academy School is looking for a High School Track Coach. This person needs to have some knowledge of all the different aspects of track. They need to have a personal relationship with Christ and agree to the statement of faith at Christian Academy School. They need to have a desire to not only teach all the aspects of track but more importantly invest in the building of the athlete's spiritual relationship with Christ. The track season will start in March and end in May. This position will be paid \$900 at the end of the season. If you are interested, please contact Chad Inman at 937-638-0411 or at [chad@sidneyfaith.org](mailto:chad@sidneyfaith.org)



### Kindergarten and First Grade Thanksgiving Celebration

The kindergarten and first grade classes learned about the Pilgrims and the Indians. They reenacted the first Thanksgiving with costumes and props. The kindergarteners played the part of the Pilgrims and the first graders played the Indians. They ended the reenactment with a Thanksgiving feast with turkey, mashed potatoes, green beans, corn, cornbread, pumpkin pie with whipped cream. Parents made all the food. The classes also made butter using whipping cream. Mrs. Dray and Mrs. Wiltheiss would like to thank all the parents and volunteers for their help in making the annual Thanksgiving Feast a success.