

CORNERSTONE CHRISTIAN SCHOOL CHRONICLE

Volume 17 Issue 9

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"Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, God making His appeal through us. We implore you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. For our sake He made Him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in Him we might become the righteousness of God." ~ II Corinthians 5:20-21

CCS School Board

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Cornerstone Christian School

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Superintendent

Dr. Teri Lynn Schrag

Principal

Mr. Jon Hood

Administrator's News

By Dr. Teri Lynn Schrag, Superintendent

Then Jesus said to his disciples, *"Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For whoever wants to save their life will lose it, but whoever loses their life for me will find it. What good will it be for someone to gain the whole world, yet forfeit their soul?"* Matthew 16:24-26

If you have had a ten minute conversation with Mr. Hood or a CCS teacher, school board member, or myself, you have heard this phrase at least once, "Cornerstone Christian School is a discipleship Christian school, dedicated to bringing the Lord glory through every aspect of our school." One of the school's trademarks is discipleship. Discipleship is at the very core of who we are. It is a responsibility taken up by teachers in the classroom, students in the hallways, coaches at games and practices, families at special events, and administrators in how the school is managed and operated. Discipleship cannot be separated into an add-on program, because it permeates everything we do. Our purpose is to train students become true disciples of Christ – not just people who have a Christian worldview.

I shared in an email recently that a friend and I were visiting about what it means to be a disciple, and we decided that a good description would be that a disciple is a mentored, taught, and loved apprentice. Now, this is not a dictionary definition or one you would find in a Bible commentary, but it is one that seems to reflect the heart of God.

The word used in the Hebrew texts is talmid and this word emphasizes the relationship between the rabbi, the teacher, and the disciple, the student. A talmid of Jesus' day would give up his entire life in order to be with his teacher and did not only desire to know what the teacher knew, but also wanted to be like the rabbi. It was not enough just to know what the rabbi said, but the goal of any talmid was to become like the rabbi and do what the rabbi did and think as he thought. The disciple would follow his rabbi everywhere, in hopes of becoming just like him. There are even ancient stories that say disciples followed so closely they were covered by the dust of their rabbi's feet.

This is a wonderful description of what I pray is true of each of those in the Cornerstone family, students, teachers, and parents, that we seek to be a reflection of the Rabbi, our teacher, the Lord Jesus Christ, walking so closely that you are covered by the dust of His feet.

With this in mind, Jesus's invitation, *"Come, follow me"* (Mark 1:17) takes back its original meaning. This is your student's potential at Cornerstone Christian School.

And in your journey with our Lord Jesus Christ today, may you follow so closely that you are covered by the dust of the Lord's feet.

Stay connected to your Cornerstone family by following our social media pages:

- [Cornerstone Facebook Page](#) (bi-weekly chapel services Mondays and Thursdays, 10:00 AM)
- [Cherish the Moment](#) (Private Mom's group, request to join)
- [CCS Spring Adventure Kids](#) by Mrs. Clarahan - (Private group for fun activities to do at home during our break, request to join)
- [Cornerstone Instagram Page](#)



Cornerstone Christian School
 classes are on-line until further notice

Office Hours
Monday – Thursday
9:00 - 11:00AM

Events & Info

Children’s Scholarship Fund 2020/2021 –

Children’s Scholarship Fund of Omaha (CSF) believes that all families, regardless of income should be able to choose the best educational setting for their children. The mission of CSF is to provide partial tuition scholarships so children from low-income families can access the private or parochial K-8 education of their choice. By providing scholarship assistance during the time a child’s educational foundation is being established, CSF believes that it is helping prepare children for continued success. Scholarships are awarded based on income and drawn through a lottery system. Families awarded the scholarship for the duration of their student’s educational career. Visit <https://csfomaha.civcore.com/familylogin> to apply for this scholarship. The deadline for completing the ONLINE application is Friday, May 1.



Omaha’s 2020 Choice Awards

Help promote Cornerstone Christian School.
 Vote in the Education category for Cornerstone Christian School in
Omaha World Herald’s Choice Awards.

You can vote up to once per day through April 19.
 Omaha World Herald will announce the winners June 28.
<http://www.Omaha.com/choice>

Ethan Haeder Signs with Dordt University – by Principal Jon Hood



On Wednesday, March 11th, Ethan Haeder signed his Letter of Intent to run XC/Track at Dordt University. Ethan entered high school at CCS only doing cross country because it was something to do. He will graduate having gone to state three times in cross country and the last two years in track. Congratulations Ethan!

Rising to the Challenge



On-line story time with Mrs. Anderson



Kindergarten students aren't learning deprived. They hop to their work when their lessons arrive. Science, then math and sight words - quite a few. Spelling, art work, letter writing too. Between wiggles and giggles these little ones abound They are learning their lessons and you can't keep them down.

My son could not stop smiling after class with you. Thank you for doing it!*

THANK YOU so very much for all that you and all the teachers are doing!*

I miss and love you.*

Thank you for all you do to help my girl grow and feel loved. It means the world to me.*

I love you and I care for you and I miss you and I love that I had you for Kindergarten*

I am so incredibly grateful for the detailed instructions you have sent, as well as all the videos and extra link/review ideas.*

Thanks again for your dedication and time.*

Dear Mrs. Anderson, You are the best teacher and you are awesome. Thank you for sending the video of reading "God's Love in my Heart". I hope you read another book soon.*

Thanks for reading to me!*

*Notes from Kindergarten families.

High School Art History Projects by Janelle Benson

The Art History students created models of building in the Neoclassical architectural style.

Students are implementing what they learn about various artists and their styles and techniques in their own artistic experience. A few of their designs are pictured here.





2020 WAT News –

The last month has gone by in a whirl and the usual Walk-a-thon events have been postponed as we navigate the coming weeks. We will be making decisions as soon as possible about the Walk-a-thon and the specifics of the day. Please be in prayer for the Lord to provide in His way and time as this fundraiser is integral to the financial landscape of the school. As always, if you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact us at jclarahan@ccsnebraska.org and tlschrag@ccsnebraska.org

Second grader, Madison, joins her class on ZOOM



Mrs. Pfortmiller meets with her class from home



Mrs. Pfortmiller’s 2nd grade class is meeting on ZOOM. This modern enterprise video communication platform provides video and audio conferencing. ZOOM allows the students to share with each other about their time away from the school classroom.

They are praying together, telling jokes, and doing math lessons. Mrs. Pfortmiller reads to her students from the book *Growing Up Where Jesus Lives* and then the students participate in a discussion.

Who would have known, a month ago, that we would have been blown into this high tech world so quickly?

Great Job, Mrs. Pfortmiller...and all Cornerstone teachers and families for rising to the challenge!

7th Grade Color Poems – by Mrs. Jenny Cook, Middle School Teacher

Colors are usually used as adjectives but in these poems, students cleverly used a color to describe how to love like a color. What a great way to express their love for someone of great importance to them. (See page 5 for more color poems)

***The Yellowest* –** By Andrew S.

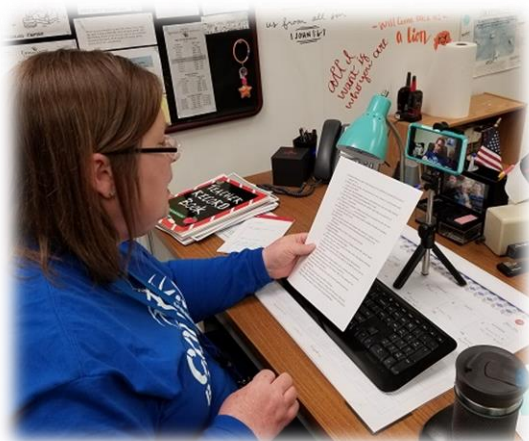
I love you Jesus, the yellowest.
 I love you the color of Sunshine in the morning,
 I love you the color of a Marigold in a pasture.
 I love you the color of sweet lemonade on a summer day.
 I love you the color of heaven when its gates are opened.
 The color of an angel’s trumpet playing for the King of Kings.
 The color of the Lord’s crown.
 The color of a canary that chirps a beautiful song in the morning.
 The color of the strong sunlight in the evening sky.
 The color of the planet Venus as it orbits the sun in the magnificent outer space.
 The color of the triumphant glow as the Lord’s army prepares to fight.
 I love you Jesus, the yellowest.

The Pinkest – By Erin N.

I love you Grace, the pinkest.
 I love you the color of the sky before the sun goes to bed.
 I love you the color of the sky
 when the sun comes up the next day.
 I love you the color of a sweet strawberry.
 I love you the color of a lollipop
 whose flavor dances across your mouth.
 I love you the color of the prettiest, pinkest
 pansy in the entire field.
 I love you the color of the most delicious cupcake
 baked fresh just for you.
 I love you the color of the heart beating inside my chest.
 I love you the color of the biggest flamingo in the world.
 The color of your eyes when you smile
 The color of a donut displayed on the shelf.
 The color of a heart on Valentine’s Day
 that you give to a friend.
 The color of a watermelon when you first cut into it.
 The color of a pig playing in the mud.
 The color of a rose quartz shining in the sun.
 I love you Grace, the pinkest.

I love you the Greenest – By Ashley G.

I love you Rebecca, the color of yellow and blue
 I love you the color of the sweet sunshine that
 splashes over your face
 I love you the color of you smile when you are happy
 I also love you the color of the shining moon
 in a crystal sky
 I love you the color of scorpion grasses
 as they dance in the gentle breeze
 I love you the color of the deep blue sea and its beauty
 I love you the color of fresh, tart blueberry muffins
 in the spring
 I love you the color of happiness when we die of laughter
 I love you the color of my worries as they flee
 from my mind when I am with you
 The color of radiant sapphires, as they hide in the caves
 The color of ice, cold, lemonade in a tall glass
 The color of the dark blue sky on a cold winter’s night
 The color of ripe yellow pineapples
 The color of the bluebird as it sings it’s songs softly
 I love you, Rebecca,
 the greenest.



High School Bible Teacher, Mrs. Amy Kieser, reaches out to her students via ZOOM on her phone and computer to share lessons, do reviews and keep the personal interaction with her students. Thank you, Mrs. Kieser for rising to the challenge!

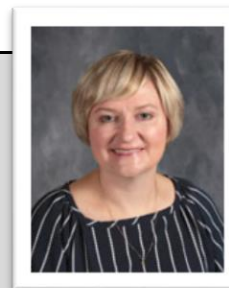


Mr. Hood leads a Facebook chapel twice a week with the technical assistance of Mr. Benson. For this chapel, he was joined by Miss Berg, one of our middle school teachers. Thank you, Principal Hood, for your leadership.





Mrs. Sara Needham



Our staff spotlight for April is Mrs. Sara Needham. Sara grew up in Fremont, NE as the daughter of a college professor (dad) and dental assistant (mom). Sara and her husband have been married for almost 19 years with two boys ages 10 and 13 (both of whom attend Cornerstone).

She graduated from the University of Nebraska - Lincoln with a bachelor's degree in secondary mathematics instruction. She nearly completed the requirements to be a Spanish teacher, too. In her 15 years in the education field, Sara has taught in a wide range of capacities. After tutoring math in college, she taught public school math for 2 years, taught private violin lessons for 7 years, homeschooled her children for 4 years, and has now served as Cornerstone Resource Specialist for 2 years.



As the resource specialist for grades 7-12, Mrs. Needham meets with small groups of students who want additional assistance in one or more subjects. She also writes accommodation plans for those who require modifications to the general curriculum. She says, *"I really enjoy my job because I am able to get to know students at a deeper level through these small groups. My goal is to be a friendly and encouraging face for students who are struggling."*

She marvels at how God prepared her for her role as resource teacher through many life experiences. These include leading teen bible studies, tutoring grammar and writing for homeschool classes, and exposure to special education services.

Sara has a real heart for special education services because she has seen how much it has helped her family through the years. One her sons was born completely deaf so she has seen first-hand the difference that special education teachers and services can make in the lives of students and their entire family.

Thank you, Sara, for serving our Cornerstone students with love.

Fun Tidbit: One of her most interesting jobs was serving as a youth intern at a large church with 250 teens in the youth group. She planned mission trips, led Bible studies, and would even be the referee for sports she wasn't familiar with – all as a college student!

Favorite Scripture: *But he said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness." Therefore, I will boast all the more gladly about my weaknesses, so that Christ's power may rest on me. 2 Cor. 12:9*

Cornerstone Christian School - Educating children to become learners – equipped with Godly character and Biblical Truth.

