

Torch

a publication of the Kalamazoo Christian Schools

Winter 2018



And he who was seated on the throne said, "Behold, I am making all things new."

Revelation 21:5

2121 Stadium Drive, Kalamazoo, MI 49008 • (269)381-2044 • www.kcsa.org

Your
word is a lamp
to my feet and
a light
for my path.
Psalm 119:105

LEADING THE WAY

by BJ Huizenga, Lead Administrator

Dear Friends,

This morning a large group of 8th graders visited the high school. We had a chapel that was fun and inspiring (Thanks Pastor Brian!) And we **sang**. The praise team, made up of high school students, was very impressive. But the Holy Spirit was more impressive.

You stood before my failure

And carried the cross for my shame

My sin weighed upon your shoulders

My soul now to stand

So what can I say?

And what can I do?

But offer this heart, Oh God

Completely to you.

So I'll stand, with arms high and heart abandoned

In awe of the One who gave it all.

I'll stand, my soul Lord to you surrendered,

All I am is yours.

And as we sang, students stood with hands up while the Spirit moved across the room. It was a humbling moment.

These are your children.

After chapel, the athletic director and I huddled in my office to work through a frustrating discipline response to a group of boys that were treating each other in mean and insensitive ways. These are your children.

We serve a God of redemption. He stood before our failure and carried the cross for our shame. Now we can stand...

There is irony in life. There are highs – and lows. One moment a student is a bully, and the next he stands with hands held high. These are your children.

As parents, grandparents, teachers, and friends, we stand as agents of redemption in a fallen world. We see our children as God sees them. HIS. These are HIS children.

So we love, nurture, correct, celebrate, discipline, teach, and STAND – because these are God's children. And we have hope built on God's promises. God is doing a great work in our children and we are faithful.



WELCOME PRINCIPAL DIRK WALHOUT

by BJ Huizenga



We have good news to share with you! Dirk Walhout is coming to Kalamazoo Christian High School as the full-time principal for the 2018-2019 school year. Dirk was the top choice of the search committee made up of parents,

staff, and board members. Marc Verkaik served as committee chair.

Dirk started his career in education at Eastern Christian school in New Jersey. For the last 22 years, Dirk has served in various ways at Northern Michigan Christian School, as teacher in middle and high school and, for the last four years, as Superintendent. Dirk graduated from Calvin College in 1993 and did his graduate work at Grand Valley State (M.Ed.).

After completing this school year at NMCS, Dirk, wife Radeana, and daughter Audrey (grade 5) will

move to Kalamazoo. Please pray for the Walhouts as they finish strong for the school year and transition to a new school and community.

At the end of this school year I will retire as High School principal and Lead Administrator. For 2018-2019, Marc Verkaik will assume the Lead Administrator position along with his P-4 principalship. I will return part-time as an administrative consultant, primarily to support Advancement.

We are excited to add Dirk Walhout to our administrative team!

MAKING ALL THINGS NEW

by Kaitlin Feddema



Dear students, staff, families, friends, and brothers and sisters in Christ, as I look back on my first year serving Kalamazoo Christian Schools, I am simply overwhelmed. I am humbled by your love for our school. I am encouraged by your support of one another. I am inspired by your fearless faith in times of difficulty, and generosity in times of plenty. The Kalamazoo Christian School community is unlike any other I've ever been a part of, and I am honored to be at the forefront of so many exciting opportunities in the life of our school.

So many of you have poured into this place, and into me. Thank you to everyone who stopped by my office to say hello or drop off Sweetwaters for the office. It has been such a joy to serve the community that invested in me as a student, and it is with great joy that I introduce a campaign focused on investing back into Kalamazoo Christian Schools.

Kalamazoo Christian Schools is proud to announce the **Making All Things New** capital campaign. Focused on

debt reduction, addressing capital improvement projects on both campuses, growing endowment, and providing tuition assistance for KCSA families, the comprehensive campaign seeks to celebrate the current state of Kalamazoo Christian Schools and prepare for the next 140 years of Christ-centered education. The campaign focuses on the following objectives:

- Aggressively attacking incurred debt
- Building two additional classrooms on the 12th Street campus
- Building a gymnasium on the 12th Street campus
- Providing a new roof over the 500 wing on the Stadium Drive campus
- Replacing all classroom furniture at the Stadium Drive campus
- Building the 1877 Society of the Kalamazoo Christian School Foundation
- Protecting the schools' annual fund for the next three years

The campaign totals roughly 6 million dollars (according to preliminary cost predictions). To date, we have raised 2.88 million in gifts and commitments - praise God! There is much work ahead, but we know we serve a good Father with immeasurable capabilities. Thank you to all who have helped us get to where we are now, and for the rest of our community, please consider a gift to help us accomplish our goals (269-381-2044 or kfeddema@kcsa.org).

PRESCHOOL HAPPENINGS

by Nell Dykhuis

Father's Night in January enjoyed a sports theme with many activities in the gym, special photos with trophies and sports equipment, our librarian reading sports-related books, and soccer or "skating and skiing" in a preschool classroom.



Information Night to help plan for next year's students was two weeks later and we were blessed with

many interested parents!

The end of January is the halfway mark for our preschool year of 34 weeks and we've learned and developed so much already! In the preschool classes, we have not experienced more sickness than other years!

Parent Helpers are such a blessing to our teachers and our students! We are grateful every day!

Upcoming events include Preschool Chapel on March 16. Come hear us sing praising our loving Heavenly Father.

Class Trips extend our learning and help us experience other parts of our community. We learn about

making pizza and about fish and about plants and trees. Our Creator is amazing!

April 13 is the date of our Kindergarten Orientation. We are looking ahead to more growth at another level for many present preschoolers. This reminds us of the Making All Things New Campaign which each parent is invited to learn about and support.



BASKETBALL BUDDIES

by Kathy Bartels



We held our annual Basketball Buddy event this year on Friday, Jan. 26. All KCSA preschoolers and their families were invited to attend the Comet basketball game, against Saugatuck, free of charge. The preschoolers were given a Basketball Buddy t-shirt, popcorn for the game, a photo op with the Comet cheerleaders, a purple pom pom, and a sports program. The youngsters were escorted

out on the basketball court by the boys' and girls' Comet basketball players while their names were announced over the loudspeaker. They remained on the floor during the singing of the National Anthem. Following the anthem, they were reunited with Mom and Dad to enjoy the games that followed. It must be noted that the Comets were the victors in both the guys' and girls' games - Go Comets!

SPANISH AUTHORS

by Cecilia Sebastiani and Emily VanDis

For the second year in a row, students from Kalamazoo Christian Middle School have been recognized for their writing through the Write Michigan Short Story Contest. The semifinalists from Kalamazoo Christian were 6th graders Samantha Huffstetler, Conley Kakabeeke, and Jacob VanDyk. All three students participate in the Spanish Immersion program and submitted their short stories in the Spanish language category.

In November, students independently submitted short stories and were selected as semifinalists in January. Voting was open to the public for 20 days and the finalists were announced on February 5, 2017. Samantha Huffstetler's short story *El Diario de Valentina Valeria* was selected and recognized as a Published Finalist. The top 5 stories in each category (Adult, Teen, Youth, and Spanish-Language) will be published and available in March 2018.

Samantha Huffstetler's story, *El Diario de Valentina Valeria*, is about



a 13 year old girl that immigrated without her parents to the United States from Guatemala. The young character moves in with a large family and experiences hardships of fitting in and acclimating to a new life in America. The short story is written as diary entries which was inspired from previous books that the young author has enjoyed. At the end of the story the author flashes forward to a later timeline where her daughter finds her diary and reads the entries of her mom at a young age adjusting to life as an immigrant.

Conley Kakabeeke's story, *Adiós Puerto Rico*, is about a young girl forced to leave her home in Puerto Rico due to the devastation of

Hurricane Maria. She travels with a friend and her older brother by boat to Florida and then by train to Michigan. They move in with a family of two Spanish teachers that help her learn English and adjust to their new surroundings.

Jacob VanDyk's story, *Juan de Honduras*, is about a boy who immigrated from Honduras to New York to Detroit. This character goes through many ups and downs in the short story as he deals with leaving his home country, moving away from grandparents, learning a new language, and adjusting to life in a new and foreign country. Eventually the character makes friends in his new home and adjusts to a new life in America.

All three young authors were proud of their short stories and recognition for being selected as semi-finalists in the Spanish language category. Their entries went up against an all ages group of native and non-native speakers. Congratulations to the participants and winner of the 6th Annual Write Michigan Short Story Contest!

WINTER WONDERLAND

by Amy Suloff

Love always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres. Love never fails.

On February 17, Kalamazoo Christian opened its doors for fathers and daughters of girls in grades 3-5 for an evening of fun and memories in Winter Wonderland, a celebration to honor the special relationship between a father and his daughter.



The night began with dads and daughters having their photos taken and then enjoying a delicious dinner under the lights. Next, everyone gathered in a circle on the dance floor where our Middle School math teacher Mr. Kyle Weener shared a beautiful blessing ceremony. The girls and dads pledged support, trust, and unconditional love, just as we



learned from our Bible verse, 1 Corinthians 13:7-8. Each little lady was presented with a beautiful white rose to remind them how delicate and unique they each are in the eyes of their fathers as well as our Heavenly Father.

After hugs were given and even a few tears were wiped away, it was time for some dancing. Special guest dance instructor Shelly Solis lead everyone in a fun choreographed dance. Awards were given for some of the skilled dancers out there and many giggles were heard throughout the room.

The girls and their dads could also be found in the photo booth, making fun poses and happy faces

holding silly props. We concluded the night with more dancing, a tasty s'mores treat and even a fresh blanket of snow to truly cap off the theme of Winter Wonderland. Our guests left with memories in their hearts forever and the promise that love always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres and never fails, just as our Father has taught us.



This event couldn't take place without the support of the KCES community and the many helping hands of our volunteers. Thank you to each of you that donated your time, talents and gifts. Your help and support is GREATLY appreciated.

MAKING MUSIC

by Consuelo Enriquez

The Winter Music Program was held on February 15, 2018. Kalamazoo Christian elementary 2nd - 4th grade students did a wonderful job showing the skills they have learned in music class. Students sang about our theme for the year, One in Christ, and had a wonderful time drumming up the fun! The concert was a success and we are so proud of their ability to show what they have learned.



THE LEGACY CONTINUES: ISRAEL 2019

by Dawn Brown



In 2013, 31 teachers from Kalamazoo Christian Schools traveled to Israel as part of the Legacy trip. Now we are preparing for another trip - The Legacy Continues. In March of 2019, 28 students and 3 teachers will be heading to the Holy Land to walk where Jesus walked. Students will experience the places they've learned about during their years of Christian education, places like Jerusalem, Bethlehem, the Sea of Galilee, Capernaum, Qumran, En Gedi, and the Dead Sea, just to name a few. Standing in these places is a life-changing experience.

We are excited to be able to offer this kind of trip to our students at KCHS. Planning and fundraising for the trip is in full swing. Please watch for more details and ways that you can help

support these students. If you are interested in sponsoring a student prayerfully or financially, please contact Dawn Brown at dbrown@kcsa.org.

Potted Succulents Israel Trip Fundraiser



4" Square in Surf Color
** Succulents will vary **
\$10



6" Round in Stone Color
** Succulents will vary **
\$15



10" Rectangle in Antique White
** Succulents will vary **
\$20

Pick up on Thursday April 12, 2-30:4 p.m.

The Legacy Continues (Student Trip to Israel) is currently selling potted succulents. If you are interested in purchasing these beautiful arrangements, please contact Dawn Brown at dbrown@kcsa.org or any of the the students traveling to Israel. Orders are due by March 26. Plants may be picked up on April 12 from 2:30-4 at the high school.

CSI BIBLE SYMPOSIUM

by Scott VanDyke

On February 15 and 16, 2018, thirty Bible teachers from around the United States and Canada spent two days in Washington DC at Christian Schools International's first Bible teachers symposium. This group of teachers included ten elementary, ten middle, and ten high school teachers. The event was held in Washington in order to take advantage of the opportunity to tour the newly opened Museum of the

Bible, a great venue, full of artifacts and history. We were given a special guided tour of this amazing new facility. In addition, as a part of their two day sessions, several of the Museum

of the Bible's staff members addressed the group, demonstrating the educational opportunities. The symposium was not just focused on the Museum, however. Most of the sessions each day discussed ways of addressing the challenges of teaching Bible in today's Christian schools as well as the joys of continuing to have the privilege of bringing God's Word to the next generation. Being able to spend time with fellow Bible teachers was very informative. We had meaningful discussions learning that the struggles of today's youth are very similar, no matter where you are from. Yet we all serve a Lord and Savior who helps us to overcome these obstacles as we seek to bring the Bible and its gospel of salvation to our students and their families.



HOMECOMING

by Patti Landstra



Homecoming 2018 was a week of fun for students with daily games and class competitions. We had some old classics - like the scavenger hunt - and some newer favorites, like a two-day floor hockey competition where the sophomores beat out the competition to win the tournament. Students worked together to collect several hundred school supply

items for Woods Lake Elementary, where a number of our students are High School Bigs through the Big Brothers/Big Sisters program, and also competed in an Air Jam event, where the seniors won the night with their Pixar-themed performance.

Homecoming was cut short when a snow day was called for Friday, the day of the third annual "Staff vs. Seniors" basketball game. The game was rescheduled for a week later, and while competition was tight, the staff came out victorious for the third straight year.

Because of the snowstorm, the official homecoming games were rescheduled for February 21st. Our host and

hostess, Willis Seifert and Madelyn Batts, welcomed alumni from 1943, 1958, 1968, 1993, and 2008, and student class representatives and honored grandparents were also recognized.

Homecoming 2018, though interrupted by a snowstorm, was still a great celebration of God's faithfulness to Kalamazoo Christian through the years!



NATIONAL MERIT FINALIST

by Patti Landstra



Congratulations to Kristopher Miedema, KCHS senior, who has been named a finalist in the National Merit Scholarship Competition. In the

fall edition of the Torch, we recognized Kris as a semi-finalist. Approximately 1.6 million students take the PSAT, the qualifying exam for

the National Merit Competition; Kris is one of about 15,000 students nationwide who have earned designation as a finalist. Roughly

7,500 Merit Scholarship winners will be selected from this group of finalists. Congratulations, Kris!

EAGLE SCOUT HONORS

by Marla Shires

The Pathfinder District of the Southwest Michigan Council of the Boy Scouts of America and Troop 244 takes great pleasure in announcing that Zachary David Shires earned the rank of Eagle Scout, by the Eagle Board of Review.

To achieve this high honor, Zach has earned 31 merit badges, attended 28 camps and trips and has served his troop in many leadership roles. He currently serves as Webmaster for his troop's www.244doesmore.org website. For his Eagle Scout project, he developed a website for Second Impressions, an Upscale Thrift Store in Kalamazoo. You can view his Eagle project at www.secondimpressionskalamazoo.com. This store is operated by volunteers and the sales



proceeds go toward reducing tuition costs for students at Kalamazoo Christian Schools.

Zach has learned leadership skills, wilderness survival skills, first aid, finance, and many other skills that he can carry into college and adulthood. In addition to his scouting achievements, Zach is a straight A student and attends 10th grade at Kalamazoo Christian High School. He is an extreme snowboarder, plays basketball and soccer for his high school teams and is the starting goalie on his Midwest Regional League travel soccer team. He also referees area soccer tournaments. Zach is planning to go to college to obtain an engineering/business degree and play soccer. He has been a member of Valley Family Church his entire life.

Editors note: Your Kalamazoo Christian family is proud of you and your accomplishments, Zach!

COMET BOOSTER HALL OF FAME

by Jeff Offringa

The Comet Booster Club recently inducted four former athletes from Kalamazoo Christian High School into the Athletic Hall of Fame.



The first inductee, Doug Jager, is a 1976 graduate who earned nine varsity letters in cross country, basketball, and track. Doug was a three time conference champion in

cross country and held the KCHS cross country course record his senior year. After graduating from KCHS, Doug continued his running career at Calvin College, and he coached for 26 years at Grand Rapids Christian High School. In addition, Doug has been a six time recipient of the Michigan Track Coaches Association coach of the year award.



Our second inductee is Jerry Mastenbrook, a 1978 graduate who earned four varsity letters in basketball and baseball. As a senior, Jerry was named all-KVA, all-city and 4th team all-

state in basketball. After graduating from KCHS, Jerry played four years of varsity basketball at Calvin College. After college, Jerry began teaching and coaching at Kalamazoo Christian Middle School where he coached MS basketball for 18 years and HS basketball at Kalamazoo Christian for 17 years. Jerry was named the Michigan

AP coach of the year in after his team won the state championship in 2008.

The next two awards were given posthumously to the families in honor of two of our inductees who have passed away.



Ric Vlietstra was a 1969 graduate of KCHS and in 1968 he scored the first ever goal for a Comet soccer team. After high school he played soccer

at WMU. Beginning in the mid-1970s, Ric served multiple terms on the Comet Booster Club, including a term as president. He also served as chairman for the annual Booster Club golf outing for twenty years. In addition, Ric served as the public address announcer for Kalamazoo Christian men's basketball for forty years. Ric was truly the voice of Comet basketball.



Ken Durian was a 1968 graduate of KCHS. He earned four varsity letters in baseball and basketball and was named all-conference and all-city in baseball. As an alumni,

Ken was a Booster Club member and our basketball and football concessions coordinator for 23 years. He was also a volunteer softball coach from 1995-2004 where he had a significant role in Kalamazoo Christian's six state championship softball teams during that time.

SECOND IMPRESSIONS PARTNERSHIP

by Patty Gruizinga

Every Saturday for more than two years, parents, grandparents and whole families hurry into Second Impressions, eager and excited to volunteer at our school's thrift store. Whether it is to unload donations, put out racks of clothes, or simply greet customers, it only takes three hours a few times a year to make a contribution to operating this big fundraiser for our school.

Everyone benefits from the tuition money that the store raises, but what are the other benefits? People in our community get to know who we are, and our students get to see what its like to go out and serve their community with their families.

Students also learn that donating is an eco-friendly way to throw away less, reduce waste and shop in a more sustainable way.

Many teachers have received items for their classrooms, and we also help keep the costs down for other special events by providing decorations for dances and proms, like the winter decorations for the recent Father-Daughter dance, as well as being a resource for costumes and props for plays and musicals, like the upcoming "Wizard of Oz". Second Impressions also sells nearly 200 Superbooks for the high school Booster Club and hosts their annual Mother's Day flower

sale.

Each day starts with devotions at 2nd Impressions, where our school, our students and our teachers are supported with prayer. Each day you can support the store by donating, volunteering and shopping. It only takes a few minutes to help share the Facebook posts. Help spread the word to your family and friends to ensure continued tuition support and to strengthen the partnership between school and store.



THINK BIG SERIES: GRETCHEN CARLSON

by Mary Denison

When the Think Big Committee considered Gretchen Carlson to be our next speaker, they could not have known how her national influence as a voice for sexual harassment would impact our November 9, 2017 dinner. Less than 48 hours before she arrived in Kalamazoo, they were asked to provide space at the Kalamazoo Country Club for a CNN live broadcast just minutes after she finished speaking. Gretchen was the featured guest on a town hall called Tipping Point: Sexual Harassment in America. Many were talking about how Gretchen had paved the way for women to speak up even after years of silence.

Growing up in Anoka, MN, Gretchen formed her faith from the influence of her grandfather, a Lutheran pastor, and her parents. Discovering a talent for the violin at seven years old, Gretchen's mother advised her "that God gave you many talents and He expects you to make the most of them." And that's what she did. At 13, she performed as a soloist with the Minnesota Symphony, at 15 she traveled to Kalamazoo to compete in the Stulberg Competition, at 17 she graduated as valedictorian of her high school class, and at 22 she was crowned Miss America.

Gretchen's jump from music to broadcasting came about from a practical joke. As the new Miss America, she was invited on a news program to introduce a segment about which she'd received no briefing. It turned out to be a set-up for a prank on TV's Bloopers and Practical Jokes. When the cameras went live, her hosts walked out, forcing her to ad lib for 15 minutes! Her poise earned her calls from agents who saw a natural talent to handle anything on live



TV, and that began her broadcasting career spanning 26 years until leaving Fox News in 2016.

The sexual harassment lawsuit Gretchen filed against Fox News Chairman & CEO Roger Ailes was the most trying and isolating time of her life. For encouragement, she taped verses from Isaiah 41:10 and Psalms 27:1 on the front of her datebook to read each day. Gretchen's latest book, *Be Fierce*, follows her path of faith and what to do when faced with sexual harassment. Her bi-partisan work

appearing before Congress to lobby changes to arbitration clauses has affected real change in the work place.

Local news station Channel 3, interviewed Gretchen and gave Kalamazoo Christian some wonderful local coverage. See that clip at <http://wwmt.com/news/local/former-fox-and-friends-host-gretchen-carlson-visits-kalamazoo>.

The next day, Gretchen spoke to the Kalamazoo Christian high schoolers at chapel where she encouraged them to speak up about their faith. She also spoke about how we all are affected by sexual harassment. "It's not just an issue for girls to know what to do. Men of faith should also be ready to speak up when they witness abuse."

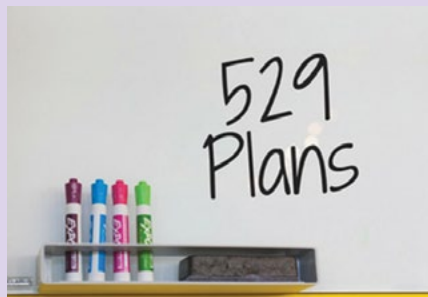
We are very thankful to our faithful donors who helped us raise \$88,000 that will go toward funding the Samaritan Fund for the next two school years which will assist families with emergency needs in meeting their tuition obligations.

2018 TAX LAW CHANGES: 529 PLANS

by Mike Bouma and Dave Cleveland

While all of the changes are still being evaluated, one change to the tax law in 2018 is that 529 Accounts can be used to fund private education (Grades K-12) in addition to college expenses.

What it means to you: 529 account contributions can be funded by parents, grandparents, or anyone else. The after tax contributions can grow tax free over time. Eligible expenses can now be used to fund private



education as well as college education. Michigan state tax law allows up to a \$10,000

deduction for increased 529 investments. Gift taxes may apply. Please see your financial advisor for applications of your specific scenario.

Please also consider reading the following text <https://www.sec.gov/reportspubs/investor-publications/investorpubsintro529htm.html>

THE ALUMNI *connection*

A NOTE FROM CONNIE *alumni director*



Greeting from your KCHS Alumni Director. Homecoming 2018 is in the books. As we take time to reflect on this event and evaluate the best way to honor our alumni, we would welcome your feedback. Snow in Michigan has caused the cancellation of the last two out of three years homecoming nights. We want to connect with you and are looking at options to host alumni events. If you have some good ideas and would like to share, please send an email or give me a call. I would love to hear from you.

-Connie Van Der Slik

UPCOMING EVENTS *kalamazoo christian*

WINTER

MHSAA Winter Sports State Tournaments
(see MHSAA.com for details)

12th Street Pastor's Chapel 03.02

The Big Flip (Second Impressions) 03.19

KCHS Presents *The Wizard of Oz* 03.24-25

SPRING

Quiz Bowl State Tournament 04.20-21

1877 Thank You Luncheon 04.26

K-8 Grandparents Day 05.11

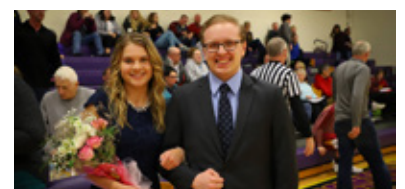
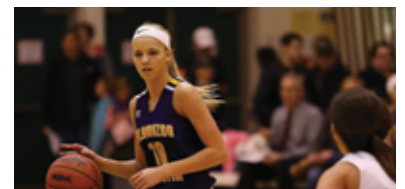
Booster Club Flower Sale 05.12

SUMMER

Alumni Tiger Trip 06.28

Booster Club Golf Outing 08.20

(Fall) Booster Club Clay Shoot 09.08



UPCOMING REUNIONS

Class of 1968 | June 16, 2018 | Contact Sara (Smit) Post at **269-382-3817** or email sarapost@me.com

Class of 1973 | September 22, 2018 | Contact Jill (Tillema) Vroegindewey at dewey75@aol.com or Pat (Triemstra) Huizenga plhuizenga@sbcglobal.net

If you are starting to plan a class reunion, the Alumni department of the Association office can help. Please contact Connie VanDerSlik at **269-381-2044** or cvanderslik@kcsa.org. We can provide you with a class list and a reunion planning guide.

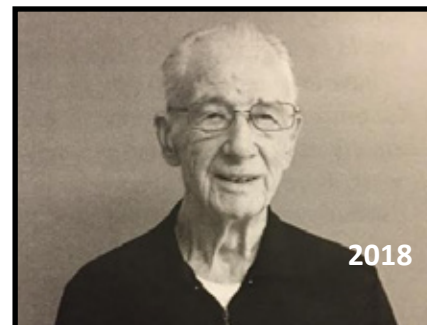
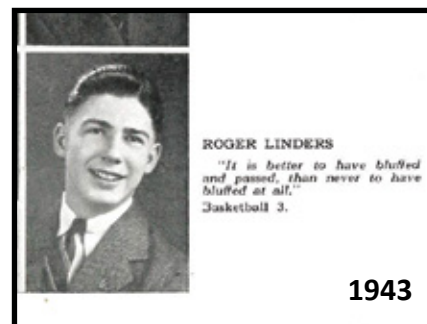
ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT *roger linders*

Kalamazoo Christian is proud to honor KCHS grad, former parent, grandparent, and current great-grandparent Roger Linders.

Roger Linders is a graduate of the class of 1943, one of the classes that was honored during this year's homecoming festivities. Roger has seven great grandchildren at Kalamazoo Christian High School and nine great grandchildren at the middle and elementary schools, totaling sixteen students at Kalamazoo Christian Schools.

Having graduated himself 75 years ago, Roger and his wife Henrietta, who recently passed away, sent three daughters to Kalamazoo Christian. Henrietta safely transported thousands of students to and from school as a bus driver for twenty two years.

Roger and Henrietta supported eleven grandchildren and two great grandsons who are KCHS graduates in addition to the sixteen great grandchildren who are currently enrolled (photo below) . You could call that a legacy, however, Rod would be quick to call Kalamazoo Christian a blessing!



● HOMECOMING *two thousand eighteen*



Homecoming is an exciting week for Kalamazoo Christian High School. Students participate in spirit week, there is anticipation of some exciting basketball games, homecoming court, honoring grandparents and welcoming our alumni. Homecoming was scheduled for Friday, February 9, and then it started snowing... and snowed **and snowed**. A snow day on Friday, February 9, postponed all the Friday events for homecoming. The evening events were rescheduled for Wednesday, February 21. We welcomed a number of our alumni from the class of 1943, 1958, 1968, 1993 and 2008. Those in attendance enjoyed cake, homecoming fun and good basketball.

CALLING ALL ALUMNI!

Calling all future Comets! We love to celebrate future Comets (well, babies in general are fun to celebrate). Please let us know if you have welcomed a new baby recently, Kalamazoo Christian has a special gift for you. Contact Kathy Bartels 269-381-2044 or kbartels@kcsa.org.



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SAVE THE DATE!

THINK BIG SERIES: LEE STROBEL

Fundraising Dinner - Nov 8, 2018 - Kalamazoo Country Club

Main Event - Nov 8, 2018 - Valley Family Church (\$25 tickets on sale in September)

Student Chapel - Nov 9, 2018 - Second Reformed Church

Pastors Brunch - Nov 9, 2018 - Second Reformed Church

For sponsorship opportunities please contact Mary Denison at mary@denisoninc.com.

To be added to the email list for the KCSA main event ticket presale, please email your name to KCSAThinkBig@gmail.com and graduation year.

All proceeds will go towards debt reduction.

Contributing Photographers:

Dan Cooke, Mary DeDoes, Patty Gruizinga, Lauren Manting, David Shires, Cheryl TenBrink, Emily VanDis

Alumni Connection: Kaitlin Feddema, Connie Vanderslik

Submit articles for publication to ctenbrink@kcsa.org