



Rochester Central Lutheran School

RCLS PAW PRINT

December 4, 2008

Preparing for tomorrow with a Christ-centered education today!

RCLS is a ministry of Family of Christ, Grace, Holy Cross and Trinity Lutheran churches.

DON'T FORGET!

Friday, December 12—
Parents transport TO
school!

Dec. 11—Christmas Ce-
lebration, 6:30 pm, John
Marshall High School
Auditorium

Permission forms on
pages 2 & 3 to return!

MR. PAHLKOTTER'S THOUGHTS:

“Go Tell It On The Mountain” was a song I think I sang every year in my Christ-
mas program as a child. It often came toward the end of the program after the story
of Luke 2 was shared. It was a calling to go out into the world and share the loving
and saving message of Jesus. It was a calling to fulfill Christ’s command found in
Matthew 28 to “go and tell” others about Him and His plan for our salvation.

On Thursday, December 11, the entire student body of RCLS (approximately 350
students) will witness their faith and share the message of the Christ child at the
Christmas Celebration to be held at 6:30 pm at the John Marshall High School Audi-
torium. Admission is free.

Invite grandparents, relatives, friends, co-workers and neighbors to come as your
guests. What better way is there for us to get the good news of Jesus Christ out? All
you need to do is to invite. We want to fill the auditorium this year so that as many
people as possible can be encouraged in their faith during this Advent time.



The title of this year’s program is *Hotel Bethlehem*.
Come and hear how God has a vacancy prepared for you
in eternity.

A free will offering will be taken to cover expenses for
the use of the high school.

In the name of the ultimate HERO, Jesus,
Mr. Henry G. Pahlkotter, II

Special points of interest:

- *Barnes & Noble Holiday Book Fair—December 6*
- *Christmas Celebration Notes!*
- *High School Registration Info*
- *Sports Notes*
- *Art Department Needs a Volunteer*
- *National Merit Scholarship semi-finalists announced!*
- *Much, much, more!*

ADVENT MUSIC CONCERT THURSDAY NIGHT: Everyone is invited to attend
the Advent Music Concert at RCLS at 6:30 pm in the gymnasium tonight, December
4. Come and prepare for the coming of the baby Jesus as you listen to our students
present their musical gifts. Oh come let us adore Him, Christ the Lord! All are in-
vited.

CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION NOTES!!

PRESCHOOLERS AT THE CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION: All preschool students will be singing a very special number and presenting a finger play in the *Hotel Bethlehem* Christmas Celebration to be presented on Thursday, December 11, at 6:30 pm. All preschoolers are asked to sit with their parents in the audience until they are called forward for their portion of the program. We ask that students in Mrs. Wetzel's preschool classes sit on the left side of the auditorium when facing the stage. Mrs. Mack's and Mrs. Henning's students are asked to sit on the right side of the auditorium. We will reserve rows in the side sections for preschool families until 6:25 pm near the front. When they are called forward, their teacher will be standing at the top of the steps to the stage nearest their side of the auditorium. The doors to the auditorium will open promptly at 6:00 pm. We ask that all preschoolers be seated by 6:15 pm to listen to the pre-service music. Please do not forget to bring your child's halo as they will wear it as they present their song and finger play. Thank you.

NEED FEATHER PEN FOR CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION: If you have a feather pen we can use for the Christmas Celebration next week, please contact the school office. Thank you.

CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION STUDENT DRESS FOR THE EVENING: All students Preschool through Grade 8 not dressing specifically for a drama part are asked to wear their Christmas best for the program. We want our students to dress up for this event. Girls wearing dresses should note that their skirts must be dress code length for modesty and that they will be sitting on a stage either on the floor or risers. Boys are asked to wear dress pants and a nice shirt. Jeans are discouraged. Thank you.

CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION ARRIVAL TIMES: The doors of the auditorium will open at 6 pm on Thursday, December 11. Students are asked to arrive promptly at 6:15 pm and to report to their designated spot within the lobby and adjacent halls. Students with drama parts are asked to report at 6 pm to dress and then report to their designated meeting spot. Please make plans to arrive in plenty of time for the program. Students will then process to the stage at 6:30 pm sharp. We anticipate the program taking less than an hour. The afterglow will immediately follow the program in the auditorium lobby.

CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION DRESS REHEARSAL: Kindergarten through Grade 8 will be bused to the John Marshall High School Auditorium on Wednesday, December 10 around 9 am and will return to RCLS around 11:45 am. Half-Day Kindergarten students will also attend. Parents of half-day kindergarten students are asked to arrange for pick up at 12 noon. All students eating lunch will do so when we return to the building. The lower elementary classrooms will eat in the cafeteria and the upper grades will eat in their classrooms.

We always want to make sure that parents are aware when students are out of the building and being transported. Please complete the section below giving your child permission to participate in the dress rehearsal for the Christmas Celebration *Hotel Bethlehem* to be presented Thursday evening, December 11 at 6:30 pm in the John Marshall High School Auditorium.

-----Please complete, clip and return to your child's teacher on or before Monday, December 8 -----

Hotel Bethlehem Dress Rehearsal Permission Slip

My child(ren) _____ have permission to participate in the Hotel Bethlehem Dress Rehearsal scheduled for Wednesday, December 10, at John Marshall High School in the auditorium. I understand that they will be bused using the district's busing company to and from John Marshall High School.

Parent Signature: _____ Date: _____

**Remember your leaders,
who spoke the word of God
to you.
Consider the outcome of their
way of life and imitate
their faith.
Hebrews 13:7**

PRAYING FOR OUR FAMILIES The week of December 8 we will pray for: James & Sheila Gregoire (Rosemarie), Brian & Karen Grogg (Benjamin, Tyler), Gary & Beth Hach (Benjamin & Lydia), John & Julianne Hagan (Mary), Brian & Andrea Hanson (Elizabeth & Joshua), Jeffery & Shawna Hanson (Madelyn & Teddy).

FRIDAY, DEC. 12 is a Parent-Transportation day coming to school only as the Rochester Public Schools have a late start day.

CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION COOKIES, COOKIES, COOKIES: All families are asked to bring two (2) dozen cookies on a disposable Christmas plate for the afterglow reception immediately following the Christmas Celebration on Thursday evening, December 11. Please bring your cookies and place them on one of the six (6) reception tables in the lobby before taking a seat in the auditorium for the 6:30 pm presentation of *Hotel Bethlehem*. Any extra cookies will be donated to the Ronald McDonald House and the Dorothy Day House on behalf of the students of RCLS.

AFTERGLOW VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: In order to handle the crowd, we are looking for 18 volunteers to assist at the six (6) cookie and punch tables immediately following the program in the John Marshall High School lobby outside the auditorium.

We are also in need of a few volunteers to help receive the cookies as they come in and place them nicely on the reception tables as well as prepare the punch for serving immediately following the program. Finally, we need a few individuals to assist with monitoring the refreshments as they become a temptation for the high school students that remain in the building during the program.

If you would be willing to help serve, please contact Mrs. Dori Robbins or Mrs. Debbie Pahlkotter at your earliest convenience or simply complete the attached form and return it to the school office on or before Monday, Dec. 8.

----Please complete, clip and return to the school office on or before Monday, December 8.----

CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION *Hotel Bethlehem* VOLUNTEER SIGN UP SHEET

Please print.

Name _____ Phone _____

Students in Grades: (Circle) PS K 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8

I am able to assist in the following area(s):

- _____ Serving for Afterglow (need 18)
- _____ Receiving Cookies/Set Up (need 6)
- _____ Monitoring Refreshments During Program (need 3)

Thank you!!

- December 8 -Technology, 7 pm
- December 9 -Health Team, 7:50 am
-Personnel, 5 pm
-Finance, 6 pm
-Executive, 7 pm
- December 10 -Academics & Curriculum, 3:30 pm
-Trustees, 6:15 pm
- December 11 -Coffee & Tour, 7:45 am
-All School Christmas Celebration,
6:30 pm at John Marshall High
School
- December 12 -Parent Transportation Day –
morning only!
-Mid Quarter
- December 15 -Board of Directors, 6:15 pm
- December 16 -Marketing Committee, 3 pm
- December 17 -All choirs to sing at Chapel
- December 18 -Mid Quarter Reports Available
- December 19 -Christmas Classroom Parties
- Dec 22—Jan.2 -No School—Christmas Break
- January 5 -School resumes, normal hours
- January 7 -Concert Choir to sing at Chapel
- January 8 -Coffee & Tour, 7:45 am
-Gr. 4 to Samaritan Heights
- January 9-11 -Science Fair
- January 14 -Grade 3 to sing at Chapel
- January 16 -Parent Transport, afternoon only!
- Jan 16-18 -Faribault BB Tournament
- January 19 -No School/Martin Luther King Day
- January 20 -Community Open House, 6:30-8 pm
- January 21 -Grade 5 to sing at Chapel
- January 22 -End of 2nd Quarter, 39 days
- January 23 -No School/Teachers Work Day
- January 26 -Board of Directors, 6:15 pm
- January 28 -Kindergarten to sing at Chapel
- January 29 -Partners in Christ Re-enrollment
Meeting for Parents, noon or 6:30 pm
-Report Cards sent home
- January 30 -Family Dance Night, 6:30-7:30 pm
- January 31 -Winona Mustang Classic (BB)

**View the RCLS calendar at www.rcls.net and click on view calendar.

Thank you to everyone who sent in milk jugs for Mrs. Woolman's classroom project. We are happy to report they have enough! In a future edition of the Paw Print we will have a picture of the finished project!

SPORTS UPDATE

"Congratulations" to the 7/8 Girl's Basketball team for kicking off the basketball season on November 25, with a win over the Homeschool, with RLCS winning with a score of 22 to 18. With a very close game the entire time, the girls were successful in holding on to their lead! The top scorers of the game were: Megan Muras and Danielle Buettner, with 6 points each; Stephanie Murray and Jarika Tuohimaa with 4 points each; and Katie Piens with 2 points. The top rebounders were Katrina Wessel, Jarika Tuohimaa, and Megan Muras. Our next game is this Saturday, December 6, as we travel to Cannon Falls for our first tournament of the season.

"Congratulations" to the 7/8 Boy's Basketball team as they defeated the Homeschool Defenders last week 58-48 in our season opener. Matthew Buettner led the scoring attack with 14 points. Alex Gatzlaff added 12 points and 5 assists while Michael Ojeikhodion and Michael Carl each contributed 10 points. The win brings the boys' record to 1-0 on the year. Their next game will be Friday at RCLS vs. Holy Spirit. The 7th grade boys will play at 4:30 with the 8th grade to follow at 5:30.

Recently the **2008-2009 NATIONAL MERIT SCHOLARSHIP (NMS)** semi-finalists were announced. Former RCLS students **Ehren Wessel and Joshua Wold** were among them! These students began competition in October 2007 when they took the PSAT test with well over one and one-half million other high school juniors from across the US. These NMS semi-finalists, now seniors, were identified as having PSAT scores which were in the top half of the top percent of all juniors in Minnesota. These seniors will go through a lengthy application process as part of the competition to become NMS finalists, and possibly earn prestigious scholarships.

In addition to the semi-finalists listed above, other seniors have been identified by The National Merit Scholarship Corporation as Commended students. **Michaeline Buettner & Kari VanGrinsven** were identified by their exceptional high scores on the October 2007 PSAT. They will not continue in National Merit Scholarship competition.

Congratulations Ehren, Joshua, Michaeline, and Kari!

We're proud of you!



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7/8 BASKETBALL & CHEER PARENTS!!! Concession volunteer sign ups are posted in front of the main office. Please sign up for three spots for the regular season games. Note the changes in schedule from the beginning of the season. Updated basketball schedules were sent home. Note the game and practice changes in **BOLD**.

Also, **RCLS will host Hope Lutheran vs. Cannon Valley Lutheran** in a high school basketball game on December 16 at 6 and 7 pm. This will take place after the 7th boys host Abdulle Academy at 4:30 pm. Please consider helping out with concessions or taking money at the gate. These profits will all go to Athletics.

It's time to start thinking about **CHRISTMAS SHOPPING!** How about shopping at the **Barnes and Noble Holiday Book Fair?** This book fair will take place at the Barnes and Noble Apache Mall Store on **Saturday, December 6**. So, please do your Christmas book shopping that day with the voucher attached to this Paw Print, and a portion of your purchase will go directly to RCLS!

ART DEPARTMENT NEEDS a volunteer to help put up and take down student artwork in the hallways. A small amount of time, 30-60 minutes, is needed each week. Thank you! - Mrs. Haas

IN OUR THOUGHTS & PRAYERS

...Mr. Colin Aldis (grandfather to Audrey & Marissa Alkhamis) whose mother received her crown of glory this past weekend.

...Former family Mrs. Julie (Jay) Yost-Minnich and son Ethan as they celebrate the birth of Ethan's little sister Ella Marie.

...Mr. & Mrs. Brian Poch (Abigail & Amelia) as they celebrate the birth of Andrew.

MID-QUARTER is Friday, December 12. Mid-quarter reports will go home on Thursday, December 18. 5th – 8th grade parents are reminded to check grades on RenWeb.

JUMP ROPE FOR HEART is coming in February! Check out next week's Paw Print for more information on this activity!

HIGH SCHOOL REGISTRATION INFORMATION

Thursday January 8, 2009: At 7:00 pm the Rochester Public Schools will host a Nonpublic Parent Night in the seminar room at the educational service center (ESC). The ESC building is located at 334 16 Street SE (enter door #1) This meeting is for all parents of 8th graders currently attending nonpublic schools who are interested in attending one of the three public high schools for 2009/2010 school year. Representatives from the Rochester Public schools will facilitate a presentation about general high school information, high school graduation requirements, and tips on making the transition to high school easier. Parents will receive a packet from Registration and Records, as well as a Course Registration Guide. Representatives from each public high school will be available to answer questions.

For more information contact our counselor Mrs. Jennifer Finch-Mitchell (jefinch-mitc@rochester.k12.mn.us)

Century High School

- You may set up a tour of Century High School by calling Lynda Apel at 328-5150. Tours are December 16 and 18, January 6, 8, 13, 15 and 17 all at 8 am.
- **Monday January 12** is the parent night and orientation from 5:30-7:30 pm (Panther Pride Night)
Tuesday January 20 students need to go to Century and turn in their registration forms between 4-8 pm

John Marshall High School

Monday January 12 is the parent night. It will be 6:30 pm in the auditorium
January 21-23 nonpublic registrations are due at John Marshall

Mayo High School

Monday January 12 is Spartan Night (parent and student information night)
5:30-6:30 clubs/activities
6:30-7:00 performance groups
7:00-8:00 8th-9th grade information
8:00 questions and answers

Registrations may be turned in any day after January 12 at Mayo

Lourdes High School

December 3, Parent night 7 pm in the auditorium if you have questions please contact Sarah Groven at 289-3991 ext. 128

