

## Rochester Central Lutheran School

# RCLS PAW PRINT

December 18, 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!**

New Scrip Hours!!  
7:15-9 am / 2-3:15 pm

Christmas Break -  
December 22 — Jan. 4

Order Hotel Bethlehem  
DVDs by Friday, Jan. 9

#### **Special points of interest:**

- Mrs. Haas Retirement Luncheon
- Partners in Christ Re-Enrollment Meetings
- HERO T-shirts
- Auction Meeting Date Changed
- Sports Notes
- Grace Lutheran Church Snow Tubing
- Community Open House
- Science Fair
- Science Fair Judges Needed!
- Ski & Snowboard Info
- Change in High School Info
- Roll-Up Sleds Needed
- Items to Collect
- GoodSearch & GoodShop
- Jump Rope for Heart
- Much, much, more!

**MR. PAHLKOTTER'S THOUGHTS...NOTE FROM A PARENT:** I received this e-mail immediately following our Christmas Celebration on December 11. I have removed the individual names for the sake of confidentiality, but the message was so powerful, I felt the need to share it with you. I pray it is a blessing to you as it was to me.

*I know I told you last night how wonderful this year's Christmas program was, but I had to tell you again. Last night was wonderful!*

*During the program I would laugh and then would be close to tears many times, watching and listening to all the children tell the Christmas story with a fun "modern" twist. At one point during the show, when the little ones were signing Away in a Manger, I allowed my eyes to take a full look at the whole stage with all the children, 3-year old to 8 grades. WOW! What a magnificent sight. Please let all the staff know, from a parent, what a wonderful job they all did right down to those little 3-4-year olds signing right along with the older children.*

*I would like to share something. Last night as I was watching the program a comment my son had made to me awhile back surfaced. My son and I were talking about where I went to school (High School) and during our conversation he asked me if I said the Lord's Prayer every morning too when I was in school. When I explained that I went to a public school and we were not allowed to pray to God, he was quiet for a brief moment then with a sad voice told me that was really sad because God is our HERO. Going to a public school and only going to Sunday school I do not believe I ever recited Bible stories and talked about Gods work to my parents. I love picking my sons up from school and listening to what they have learned. And what is amazing is its not how I learned to count to 100 by 10's, but, "mom, did you know that Martin Luther put 95 theses on the door and..." I am blessed I was introduced to RCLS. I walk through the school doors everyday and I feel like I am walking in to a home where there is peace and comfort. Merry Christmas!*

I was so proud of our students at the Christmas Celebration. They did such an outstanding job. The students sang like they never sang before. The actors truly shared their lines as though they came from their hearts. I found myself emotional as well. It is my daily prayer that my efforts and those of the entire RCLS family...including our children...will be a blessing to others and point people to Jesus.

This note is not only encouraging, it is affirmation that God is in this place and the Holy Spirit is growing faith in His people...in our children...and even touching the life of parents as this note points out. Merry Christmas!

Henry G. Pahlkotter, II  
Principal



---

**MERRY CHRISTMAS!** The faculty and staff of RCLS pray that you are blessed richly this Christmas as you celebrate the birth of Christ with your families and friends. May God bless those families who are traveling with safety and bring us all back together in the new year for more ministry and opportunities of academic and spiritual growth. Merry Christmas!



**HAPPY NEW YEAR!** School will not be in session for the Christmas break beginning at the end of the day on Friday, December 19. Students will return to school next year on Monday, January 5, 2009! May God bless your New Years celebrations and bring many opportunities for spiritual growth in the new year.

**RCLS CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION A HUGE SUCCESS!** The 347 students presented the musical drama “Hotel Bethlehem” on Thursday, December 11 at the John Marshall High School Auditorium. Attendance was outstanding as the lower level of the auditorium was filled and overflow spilled up into the balcony seating. Thank you parents, grandparents, families and friends for coming out and supporting “our” kids. We also pray that the message shared by the children had and will continue to have a positive spiritual impact upon the lives of all who heard the Christmas message...the real story.

**HOTEL BETHLEHEM DVD'S FOR SALE:** If you did not have a chance to order your DVD of the “Hotel Bethlehem” Christmas Celebration presented on Thursday, December 11, at the John Marshall High School Auditorium, you have one more chance. Please complete the attached form and return it to the school office by Friday, January 9. We have several DVDs left; however, only a limited number are available. The cost per DVD is \$20

**THANK YOU FAMILY OF CHRIST:** The painted nativity in the lobby near the stairwell was placed there by Family of Christ as their Christmas Card to the RCLS faith family. It was the back drop to their Christmas program presented this past Saturday at Samaritan Bethany Heights nursing home and Sunday at Family of Christ’s worship service.

**OPEN ENROLLMENT AT RCLS BEGINS MONDAY, JANUARY 30!** If you know of a new family that would like an enrollment packet for the 2009-2010 school year, please call the school office at 289-3267 or e-mail Mrs. Finley at [mofinley@rcls.net](mailto:mofinley@rcls.net). We anticipate a great enrollment for the up-coming school year. Anyone desiring a Lutheran Christian education is invited to apply. New families may receive a \$25 credit per child toward their registration/enrollment fee by scheduling and attending an entrance appointment with the school principal. Please have them contact the school office to schedule a date.

**BOX TOPS FOR EDUCATION CONTEST:** Mr. Weinlaeder’s classroom won the Box Tops for Education by hundreds of box tops. See the chart outside the teacher work rooms for more exact figures. Congratulations 6<sup>th</sup> Grade! The SMARTboard had been ordered and will be installed in January. Box Tops for Education will continue to be collected and it is possible that another winner may be declared if enough box tops are collected. Keep those box tops coming in!

Effective the week of December 1 the office established **NEW SCRIP HOURS**. After monitoring for several months it was apparent that the highest Scrip sales occurred during the hours of 7:15-9 am and 2—3:15 pm. These times are currently on a trial basis and if necessary will be adjusted. Thank you for your cooperation.

**PARTNERS IN CHRIST RE-ENROLLMENT MEETINGS** are set for Thursday, January 29, at 12 noon or 6:30 pm. Very important information regarding the 2009-2010 school year will be shared at the meeting designed to last no longer than one hour. The noon meeting will held in the gymnasium and the 6:30 pm meeting will be held in the cafeteria.

-continued-

---

---

**Remember your leaders,  
who spoke the word of God  
to you.**

**Consider the outcome of their  
way of life and imitate  
their faith.**

**PRAYING FOR OUR FAMILIES** The week of January 5, 2009 we will pray for: Glenn & Cynthia Heins (Kate), Ryan & Tara Henrichsen (Ella, Noah), Mary Hepinstall (Zachary), Greg & Jenny Herman (Abby), Tim & Kathryn Heroff (Elizabeth), and Tony & Brenda Heroff (Karli).

The HERO t-shirts arrived yesterday with some on back order! To celebrate we have declared Thursday, January 8 the day to wear your **HERO T-SHIRT!** For those that were not able to order a t-shirt earlier we will send out another order form the first week of January.

---

Parents are asked to bring their re-enrollment forms and the registration fee to the meeting as this is the enrollment date for families re-enrolling their children. Families will receive a \$25 credit per child toward your registration fees as a thank you for attending one of the two Partners in Christ meetings. Registration for Preschool (3 or 4 year old) is \$75 per child (subtract \$25 credit for attending meeting = \$50). Registration for students Kindergarten through Grade 8 is \$125 per child (subtract \$25 credit for attending meeting = \$100). This fee is due at the time of re-enrollment at the Partners in Christ re-enrollment meetings.

Open enrollment begins the very next day on Friday, January 30. Registration rates jump to \$100 per Preschool child and \$150 per Kindergarten through Grade 8 child. Enrolling at one of the Partners in Christ Re-enrollment Meetings saves parents \$50 per child.

**REGISTRATION PACKETS (RE-ENROLLMENT)** will be mailed to families the first week of January. Parents are asked to look for these some time during the week of January 5. Thank you.

**MID-CYCLE REVIEW FOR NATIONAL LUTHERAN SCHOOL ACCREDITATION SAYS RCLS ON TASK!** Late October, a visiting team came and evaluated RCLS's progress on our school improvement goals as directed by our National Lutheran School Accreditation report. The team was pleased by our progress and gave RCLS a thumbs up for our efforts in addressing our school improvement plan. We thank God for His blessings upon our accreditation and the school improvement efforts called "Mapping the Future."

**GRACE YOUTH MINISTRY SNOW TUBING '09** All sixth through twelfth graders are invited to the GYM annual snow tubing event at Ironwood Springs Christian Ranch on Saturday, January 10. We'll meet at Grace at 5:00 pm, tube the hill from 6:00-8:00 pm, and return to Grace about 8:45 pm. The cost is \$15 per person which includes the bus ride, snow tubing, and light snacks/hot chocolate. Participants **MUST** be signed up by January 7 and have a Medical Release Form on file with Grace Youth. The sign-up sheet and Medical Release Forms are available in Miss Schauer's room.

Needed for the K-4 classrooms are new **PLASTIC ROLL-UP SLEDS!** Most of the children in these classes enjoy sledding on our small hill during winter recesses. The sleds we have were donated years ago and are slowly falling apart and being discarded. If you should be out shopping (especially at the after Christmas sales) and might like to purchase some it would be greatly appreciated. You can generally find them at places such as your local hardware stores, Target, Fleet Farm, Shopko, etc. If you are not sure what kind of sled we need, just check out the "Sled Boxes" sitting outside most of the classrooms in the elementary wing. Thank you!

**RCLS AUCTION/COMPUTER TRAINING COMMITTEE MEETING:** The auction committee meeting is scheduled for Thursday, January 15, at 6:30 pm. We need volunteers like you to help us make sure this year's auction is better than ever. RCLS depends upon the profits of the auction to help fund our ministry. Please prayerfully consider attending this important meeting.

---

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 15	-Auction Meeting/Computer Training, 6:30-8 pm
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](http://www.rcls.net) and click on view calendar.

**JUMP ROPE FOR HEART** is coming up in February! Now is the time to start looking for donations! Jump Rope for Heart is a program developed by the **American Heart Association**. Money raised is used for cardiovascular research and educational programs.

Christmas is a great time to get together with family and friends and celebrate the healthy hearts we have, and remember those who don't have the same blessings!

**Sponsor materials for Jump Rope for Heart were distributed last week.** Please use the opportunity of family get-togethers to ask relatives and friends for donations. **Donations can be collected between December 12 and January 12.**

If you have any questions about Jump Rope for Heart, please contact Mr. Nelson (# 289-3267 or [conelson@rcls.net](mailto:conelson@rcls.net)).

### ITEMS THAT YOU CAN COLLECT THAT SUPPORT OUR SCHOOL!

- Box Tops
- Coke Rewards Points
- Milk Moola from Kwik Trip. Each label is worth 5 cents.
- Tyson Project A+. Clip and save labels from participating Tyson Products. Each label is worth 24 cents.
- Kemps "Nickels for Schools" specially marked milk caps. Each cap is worth 5 cents.
- Kemps proof-of-purchase labels located on the side of many Kemps dairy products.
- Land O Lakes "Save Five for Schools" milk caps.
- Campbell's Soup UPC labels.
- Nestle "Pure Life" purified water labels.
- Green School Project. Collect used printer, fax, and copier cartridges and used cell phones.

Encourage your extended family (grandparents, aunts, uncles, etc) and friends to save any or all of the above for RCLS.

What if you could support RCLS just by searching the web or shopping online? That's the idea behind **GoodSearch.com AND GoodShop.com!** Presently 70,000 nonprofit organizations are now on-board! We recently received a check for \$141.08 which represents the funds earned by our supporters who used the sites between October 2007 and September 2008. It equates to nearly 1.3 cents per search on their Yahoo-powered search engine and close to 3% of the purchases made through the 800+ online retail partners—from Amazon to Zappos. Just imagine what this could do with more of us checking out those sites!! As you do your holiday shopping take time to check out GoodShop.com. In addition to donating to RCLS, the retailers are also adding money saving coupons to the site each day! Thank you for your continued support of RCLS!!

**LOOKING FOR A LAST MINUTE CHRISTMAS IDEA?** How about registering a golfer in your life for the RCLS Golf Outing on August 28, 2009? It's a great day of golf, fellowship, and fun - all while supporting RCLS! Registration forms may be picked up from any RCLS Golf Outing Committee Member (Marty Mack, Corey Nelson, Kim Schauer, Marc Woolman).

**RCLS COFFEE AND TOUR:** The first 2009 Coffee and Tour at RCLS will be held on Thursday, January 9, beginning at 7:45 am and last for about an hour. This has been a particularly good time for prospective parents to visit and receive a tour of our school. Please invite your friends to come and check out RCLS. Please have them RSVP to the school office so that we know how many to expect. Thank you.

**RCLS COMMUNITY OPEN HOUSE** is scheduled for Tuesday, January 20, 6:30– 8 pm. Anyone interested in learning more about our school Preschool through Grade 8 is invited to attend. If you would like us to send an enrollment packet prior to the open house to a friend, please contact the school office sometime during the week of January 5. Also, please invite anyone who may be interested to attend. Thank you.

**MRS. PHYLLIS HAAS RETIRES:** Mrs. Haas, our beloved Art teacher, retires effectively at the end of the 1<sup>st</sup> semester. RCLS is planning a Retirement Luncheon to be held on Sunday, January 11, at 12 noon. Please make plans to attend this very important event. Mrs. Haas has been teaching with us for 27 years of her career. We thank God for Mrs. Haas and the many blessings He has given us through her ministry.

The Board of Directors are hosting the luncheon in Mrs. Haas' honor. Please make your reservations today by completing the attached form. We want to make sure we are prepared for everyone who attends. All reservations must be made on or before Thursday, January 8.

Retirement Gift Optional: Families wanting to give toward a combined gift from the school are encouraged to do so. Please send in a gift with this form on or before Thursday, January 8. Your gift will be included in one larger check from RCLS to be given to Mrs. Haas on Sunday, January 11, in appreciation for her many years of service.

If you are unable to attend but would still like to give a monetary gift, you may send this in to the school office on or before Thursday, January 8 as well.

Please make every effort to attend this celebration of ministry!

**-----Please complete, clip and return to RCLS on or before Thursday, January 8-----**

**HAAS RETIREMENT LUNCHEON**  
**Sunday, January 11 (12 noon – 2 p.m.)**

Name of Family: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of High School/Adults \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Children \_\_\_\_\_

Total Tickets \_\_\_\_\_

Retirement Gift (Enclosed)    \$ \_\_\_\_\_

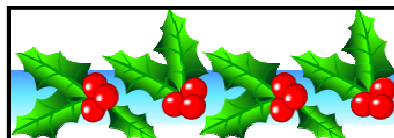
**PARENTS OF STUDENTS IN GRADES 6-8!**

Please check your e-mail for your child's mid-quarter progress report. Please let your child's homeroom teacher aware when you have seen the report. Please contact teachers if you have any concerns or questions. Thank you!

**IN OUR PRAYERS**

...Mr. Nate Johnson's mother, Ms. Mary Ann Johnson, as she faces difficult health issues. Mikaela is her granddaughter.

...Mrs. Marnie Giese (Jon, Kaeli) whose grandmother received her crown of glory December 11, 2008.



## SPORTS NEWS

"Congratulations" to the **7/8 Girl's Basketball team** for taking 2nd place at the New Ulm Tournament this past weekend! The Lady Bobcats won their first game, with some tight competition, with a score of 16-12. The leading scorers of the first tournament game were Megan Muras, Stephanie Murray and Danielle Buettner (each with 4 points). Katrina Wessel was the leading rebounder, with 10 rebounds. The Lady Bobcats then proceeded to the Championship game. Finishing the first half with a 12 point deficit, the Lady Bobcats came back strong in the second half to tie the game at 21-21. In the end, the Lady Bobcats took 2nd place, with a final score of 25-30. What an exciting finish and comeback! The leading scorer for the 2nd game was Megan Muras with 11 points, and the leading rebounders were Megan Muras (11) and Katrina Wessel (9). **GREAT JOB Lady Bobcats!** Our next game is this Friday, December 19, at St. Francis at 4:30 pm.

Last weekend the **7/8 Boy's Basketball team** participated in the New Ulm Tip-Off Tournament in New Ulm, Minnesota. The boys defeated Loyola, Mankato 48-36 in the opening round. John Mattison scored 19 points and added a game high 10 rebounds and 5 assists. Alex Gatzlaff and Lucas Ziemba added 10 and 9 points respectively. The win put the Bobcats in the championship game versus St. Paul- Cathedral. In the Championship game, the Bobcats held a 16-15 lead at half time. The lead did not last however as St. Paul came back to take the lead and finally defeat the Bobcats 42-26. John led the scoring attack with 10 points and Michael Ojeikhodion added 8 points. The loss drops the boys to 4-1 on the season. Their next games will be Friday, December 19 vs. St. Francis at RCLS. Game times are 4:30 and 5:30 pm

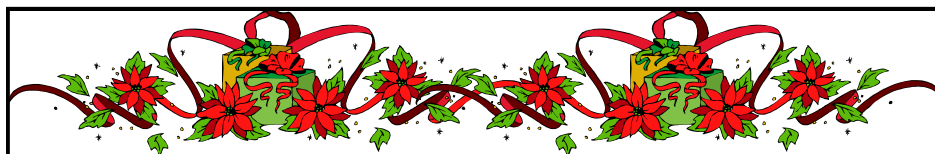
**Concession sign-up sheets are no longer available in the front of the office.** Most spots have been filled. Thank You! The volunteer list of names and game times will be posted on the web for you to reference. Please consider contacting Mr. Rudzinski to sign up for the remaining spots. Remember, we are asking you to sign up for at least 3 spots during the regular season games. Look for a Conference and Invitational Tournament volunteer sign up sheet to be available after Christmas Break! Thanks for all that you do! The Athletic program would not be able to run without your help.

**SCIENCE FAIR!!** The RCLS Science Fair is once again almost upon us. 6<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade students have been working very hard for almost 4 months on their projects and will have them on display for the public to view on Friday, January 9 in the gymnasium. The projects will be judged on Saturday, January 10. We ask that all parents of students getting judged on Saturday to not "hover" over your student as they are getting judged. Please come Friday night to see all of the amazing projects that will be on display!

**SCIENCE FAIR JUDGES** Mr. Rudzinski is looking for any volunteers to help judge in the Science Fair. I am looking for anyone (parent, grandparent, friend, colleague, etc.) who would be interested in judging science fair projects on Saturday, January 10. A strong background in a science related field is preferred as they must be familiar with the scientific method. The judging will take place in the gymnasium from 8 am -10 am. Please contact me by email or by phone if you or someone you know might be interested in helping us this year. Thank you. -Mr. Aaron Rudzinski, Science Fair Director Email- [aarudzinski@rcls.net](mailto:aarudzinski@rcls.net) Phone- 289-3267 ext. 412

**THE TRUTH PROJECT:** Do you really believe that what you believe is really real?

Starting Monday, January 5 at 6:30 pm, Holy Cross will begin hosting Focus on The Family's Truth Project, an in-depth Christian worldview experience. This 12-week course will meet every Monday night from 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm in Parish Hall. There is no cost or materials to purchase, but registration is requested. For further information, please contact Doug or Laurie Happel, your Truth Project leaders, at 288-7467 or e-mail at [lhappel@charter.net](mailto:lhappel@charter.net). You can also check out the Holy Cross Website ([www.holycross-church.org](http://www.holycross-church.org)) for more information including registration. Throughout history, God has called ordinary people to make an eternal difference in our world. Your journey begins here.



## **THE FIRST SKI AND SNOWBOARD TRIPS WILL BE DURING CHRISTMAS BREAK!!**

Ski /snowboard club is open to RCLS 5<sup>th</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup> grade students. Younger children may join with an adult chaperone. An excursion form and emergency information form must be completed before departure. Mr. Schultz can email this to you or you can pick them up in the school office.

**December 29 and January 2 (8AM load/5PM return).** Costs: \$31 lift ticket, \$23 rental, and \$12 bus. Chaperones ride free on the bus, please let Mr. Schultz know if you would like to help in this way. If you are planning to provide your own transportation, please make payment ahead of time prior to the trip. Remember it is highly recommended you have a lesson if you have never skied or snowboarded before. A week's notice is needed if you need a lesson. Lessons for ski or snowboard are \$15 each. If we have 5 or more people per ski or snowboard group, those lessons would be only \$10 each. No combination in lessons. Questions? Contact Randy Schultz at 281-2888 (home), 250-0655 (cell) or rschultz824@yahoo.com. Emails will be sent to those who contact Mr. Schultz confirming dates and times of the trips.

### **CHANGES IN the Century High School REGISTRATION PROCESS for 2009-2010 CLASSES!**

The school district is currently evaluating the district budget and according to the **Budget Reduction Process Guidelines**, the following will occur, "The District will manage the budget reduction process. The Ad Hoc Budget Committee will review the budget and make recommendations to the Superintendent. The Board will approve the final budget reductions. The District will implement immediate cost saving strategies."

This process creates a situation where it is difficult to proceed with registration efforts for the 2009-2010 school year, therefore, until a decision has been made registration events such as feeder school visits, classroom visits, and the registration process itself have been put on hold. As more information is made available, we will restructure our registration plans to accommodate the decisions made by the school board.

Events that WILL still occur as scheduled are: Tours of Century High School, Non-Public Registration Night, and the Post Secondary Enrollment Option (PSEO) Program information night.

- CHS Family Tours for present 8<sup>th</sup> grade families from public or non-public schools Jan. 6, 8, 13, 15, and 17 all at 8:00am Contact Lynda Apel at 328-5150 for reservations
- Jan. 8<sup>th</sup> Non-Public Orientation Meeting for the 2009-2010 School Year 7:00pm at ESC Building

### **CHANGES IN the John Marshall School REGISTRATON PROCESS FOR 2009-2010 classes!**

8<sup>th</sup> Grade Parent Night for JM has now been changed to February 9, 2009 at 6:30 PM in the auditorium. Families coming from Nonpublic Schools are asked to call 328-5340 to set up an appointment with their child's guidance counselor. Appointments will be scheduled for February 17-20.

**FAMILY OF CHRIST raised over \$600 so far making and selling lefse.** As you may recall, Family of Christ began this effort a few weeks ago as a fundraiser for RCLS! They are still making lefse and are very willing to take more orders if you would still like to have some good quality lefse for the holiday season! You may place your order through the school office. After the first of the year we will let you know how much was raised by this effort. **A huge thank you to Dan & Kay Kluge** for undertaking this effort!

Starting now through January RCLS is participating in a **CELL PHONE FUNDRAISER.** There is nothing for you to buy or sell to participate. We simply ask that you donate your extra cell phones to our drive. Most households have 5-6 unused cell phones just sitting in drawers. Please put these phones to good use. They will raise needed funds and 100% of the proceeds will go directly to RCLS. The phones collected will be utilized for 911 purposes in the United States, redeployed nationwide, and used in developing countries to improve quality of life through better communication. Just send the cell phones with their batteries to the school office. No chargers or accessories are needed. Please help make our drive a success. Ask friends, family members, neighbors, and co-workers to donate their used cell phones. Every phone helps!