



The Cord

Calvin Christian School
partnering with
home and church to
educate young people
since 1961

Communicating the Vision and Activities of Calvin Christian School of Escondido

VOLUME IX, No. 1 • FALL 2006

Calvin Goes High-Tech!

One of several technological improvements at Calvin this year is a new web site. If you have not already seen it, you should check it out at www.calvinchristianescondido.org. The site has been redesigned to add appeal to prospective families and to better serve the existing Calvin community through higher quality and more up-to-date information. Another innovation is Calvin's new K12Planet web site, where students and parents can check grades and homework at their convenience using the internet. To top it off, Calvin installed 30 brand new computers in the junior high/elementary school computer lab.

Calvin's new web site features easy access to information about the school for prospective families, a consistently updated calendar, news and sports pages, and access to personal email addresses and web pages for all of Calvin's staff. Visitors to the site can sign up for Calvin's new mailing list so important announcements about Calvin will be delivered to their personal email addresses. The site was designed by Calvin alumnus Aaron Faber, and current high school computer/science teacher Mark Steenstra. Mr. Steenstra has scheduled time each day to maintain and improve the site.

The K12Planet web site benefits both parents and students by giving increased visibility to academic progress. The system allows high school and junior high school students and parents to check grades and homework from any computer connected to the Internet. K12Planet also enhances communication between teachers, students and parents through its messaging system, and includes attendance and



conduct information. Calvin and K12Planet have taken stringent and rigorous precautions to ensure the safety and care of all students using the system. For more information, please visit the web site at www.k12planet.com. Please note this web site is a K12Planet overview and is NOT the same as Calvin's secure version of K12Planet.

We are excited about the technological advancements and grateful to donors, the Crusader Business Boosters who contribute through the gym banners, and to others who made these changes possible. Take a look at all of these great new changes happening around the campus.

SCHOOL THEME: The Way of Wisdom

"Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make your paths straight."

PROV. 3:5&6

*At Calvin Christian,
we believe that every aspect of life,
including education, is directly related
to God our Creator and Redeemer.*

New Website Address:
www.calvinchristianescondido.org

New Teacher

Even though he grew up in Escondido and attended CCS, Jonathan Beutlich has been living in southwest Michigan for the last seven years. He attended Calvin College for four of those years and spent the remaining three years teaching high school at Kalamazoo Christian School. While there, Jonathan taught American Literature, Speech, Popular Culture, and Biology, while also coaching the boys' and girls' soccer teams. Besides working and coaching, Jonathan and his wife Nichole (Kroon '01) were both youth group counselors for their church in Kalamazoo. He enjoys biking, boating, video games, sports, movies, and reading.



Jonathan Beutlich

Summer Construction

Calvin's elementary campus continues to be improved. This past summer's major project was the remodeling of the eaves at the elementary school. For a number of years the eaves on the courtyard have been deteriorating to the point where safety was a concern. Following a master plan approved a few years ago, we replaced the eaves on the north building, the oldest structures on our campus. While doing the construction we were able to create a new look that ties in nicely with the recently remodeled entrance to the elementary campus. The new roof line has blue metal and offers more shade and protection from the weather for the students and classrooms. We were also able to solve most of the courtyard drainage problems.

This project was funded predominantly by last spring's Dutch Festival as well as by gifts from last year's Fall Drive. The construction came in under budget with great work from Pete Vander Woude (Maintenance Supervisor) and his crew.

We also did some sprucing up of the elementary office. New paint, carpet, and a new window, as well as moving a door give the office a warmer and more welcoming atmosphere. This too was funded by the Mothers' Club through the Dutch Festival.

Long-term plans call for matching the new look on the courtyard side of the south elementary building.

God continues to bless Calvin in many ways, and we are grateful for the hard work and giving at the Dutch Festival and the Fall Drive that continue to raise funds to make our campus safe and attractive.



Summer construction project: The remodeled eaves at the elementary school improves appearances and removes a safety concern.



Preschool teachers Jenny Varvel and Michelle VanderPol are both wives of Calvin Christian alumni. Jenny is married to **Luke Varvel** ('98), and Michelle is married to **Mark VanderPol** ('95). They, along with the rest of the staff, are busy teaching 50 preschoolers.

ALUMNI HAPPENINGS

Graduations:

Linsey Bradshaw ('02) graduated from University of California, Davis in June of 2006 with a Bachelor of Science degree in Neurobiology, Physiology and Behaviors. Linsey took the MCAT in August and moved to Los Alamos, New Mexico in late September, where she will substitute teach and seek further employment.

Brandon Spoelstra ('02) graduated from University of California, Irvine in June of 2006 with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Mechanical Engineering. Brandon lives in Irvine and is currently seeking employment in his field.

Steve Hoekstra ('03) completed a 50-week course in August of 2006 in Aviation Mechanics at SMAT, the School of Missionary Aviation Technology in Lowell, Michigan. Steve is now certified in Airframe and Power Plant Mechanics. That same week, he successfully completed the check-ride with an FAA examiner to receive his private pilot's license. He works part-time as a mechanic at the Sioux Center, IA airport and at a local furniture store, while his wife finishes her degree at Dordt College.

Marriages:

Norma Wybenga (8th grade '72) married Stephen Griswold in April of 2006. The newlyweds live in Sierra Madre, CA where Stephen is a manufacturing manager at Xerox in Monrovia, and Norma is VP of Operations at California Medical Business Systems in Arcadia.

Matt Wiers ('95) married Cheryl Vanderkamp in June of 2006. Matt is in his seventh year of teaching 7th and 8th grade social studies at Redlands Christian School, and Cheryl works as a speech therapist in San Bernardino. They live in Calimesa, CA.

Kelly Cook ('96) was united in marriage to Shaun Bright in July of 2006. They met while teaching at Rose Elementary School in Escondido, and both continue to teach kindergarten there. The newlyweds live in Escondido.

Karl Gailey ('96) married Hannah Lamme' in July of 2006. Karl is working in construction building a dairy in Buckeye, AZ. Hannah, who graduated in May of 2006 from Johns Hopkins University with a degree in mathematical engineering, is seeking employment. The couple lives in Buckeye.

Chris Nichols ('98) and Tiffany Mears exchanged marriage vows in June of 2006. Chris is in his fourth year of employment at New Haven in Vista, a school and home for troubled boys. He also attends Bethel Seminary in San Diego, pursuing a master's degree in Biblical Studies. Tiffany works at the Moms In Touch Organization in Rancho Bernardo and coaches girls' club soccer. They live in Rancho Penasquitos.

Matthew Gailey ('ex '98) married Rachel Boschma in September of 2006. The newlyweds live in San Joaquin, CA where Matt manages a heifer ranch. Rachel, a recent graduate of Cal Poly, will seek employment in the field of accounting.

William Van Die ('99) was united in marriage to Crystal Stevens in July in Paso Robles, CA. William manages Cloverdale Dairy in Hanford, CA, and Crystal is hoping to find work as a veterinary technician. The newlyweds live in Hanford.

Desiree Atkins ('01) wed Ryan Vorhees in August of 2006 in Marysville, WA. Desiree works as an event coordinator for the University of Washington in Seattle, and Ryan is employed by Washington Mutual in the banking business. They live in Seattle.

Darin Conner ('02) was united in marriage to Erika Hendricks in July of 2006. Darin teaches vocabulary and P.E. and coaches 8th grade sports

at Grace Lutheran School in Escondido, while beginning a Master's program in marriage and family counseling at University of Phoenix. Darin and Erika, a nanny in Carlsbad, are assistant coaches for Calvin Christian's cross country teams and live in Escondido.

Bobby Klein ('02) married Jennifer Ekblad in July of 2006. Bobby is working at a Nissan dealership in Irvine and plans to go to graduate school in the spring. Jenny recently received a degree in fashion merchandising and manages a boutique in Orange County. They live in Corona Del Mar, CA.

Joshua Marcus ('02) took Mindy Beltman as his bride in July of 2006 in Ocheydan, IA. Josh and Mindy are continuing their education at Dordt College. Josh will soon have a degree in business and Mindy is pursuing a degree in the field of animal science. The newlyweds live in Sioux Center, IA.

John Tiersma ('02) married Kelley Kok ('02) in June of 2006. Johnny and Kelley are both teaching at Bellflower Christian Schools. Johnny teaches 7th grade science, and Kelley teaches 6th grade language arts. They live in Bellflower, CA.

Ken Tucker ('02) was united in marriage to Shaina Giorgi in August of 2006 in Nipomo, CA. They will both be graduating next June from Cal Poly, he in manufacture engineering and she in industrial engineering. Kenny works part-time for Elco Machine Co. in San Luis Obispo, a company that engineers and manufactures machine parts. Shaina works part-time for Rantec Power Systems in Los Osos, a company that manufactures power supplies and circuit boards. The newlyweds live in San Luis Obispo.

Kara Zuidema ('02) married Jeff Schipper in June of 2006. The newlyweds are living in St. Louis, MO where Kara is attending Washington University for her Doctor of Physical Therapy degree, and Jeff is working at Westminster Christian High School.

Brandon Gill ('03) and **Kristin Kroon** ('03) were united in marriage in August of 2006. The newly married couple is finishing their schooling at Azusa Pacific University. Brandon is majoring in music with a minor in business, as well as working at Hillside Community Church on their worship team and leading high school youth worship. Kristin is a nursing major, and she and Brandon live in Alta Loma, CA.

Steve Hoekstra ('03) was wed to Jami Smith in August of 2006 in Carnation, WA. Steve and Jami are living in Sioux Center, IA where Steve is employed at the Sioux center airport as a mechanic at Sioux Center Airport and works at a local furniture store. Jami is a senior at Dordt College, majoring in animal science with a minor in missions. She works part-time at the city library.

New Additions:

Doug ('90) and **Carla Brouwer** welcomed a new son into their home in August of 2006. They named him Caleb Douglas, and he joins brothers Noah, 5, and Micah, 2, in the family's San Marcos home. Doug works for General Atomic Aeronautical Systems in Rancho Bernardo as a project engineer manager, and Carla is a stay-at-home mother.

Jennifer (**De Stigter** '91) and **Glen Van Dam** added a new daughter to their family in July of 2006. Olivia Jennifer was welcomed by brothers Jacob, 6, Lucas, 4, and CalliAnne, 3, in their home in Hemet, CA, where Glen is a dairy farmer. Jennifer is a busy mother at home.

Derrick ('92) and **Marsha** (**Spoelstra** '91) **Cook** announce the birth of twin daughters in June of 2006. Big brothers Aaron, 11, and Trevor, 3, were happy to have Megan Alexandria and Jordan Anastasia join their family in their Colorado Springs, CO home. Derrick is a graphic designer

and owner of Breakthrough Graphics, and Marsha works as a massage therapist.

Heather (**Howerzyl** '92) and **Matt Saffiote** happily welcomed Analisa Cheri into the family in June of 2006. She joins her big brother Cooper, 2, in their Escondido home. Matt is a mechanic for Quality Chevrolet in Escondido, and Heather is a stay-at-home mother.

Rachel (**Boonstra** '94) and **Brian Pikkaart** rejoice in the birth of their first child, Micah Braden, born in June of 2006. The Pikkaarts just moved from Michigan to the Washington D.C. area because of a job change for Brian who works in the field of computer technology. After teaching elementary school for 8 years, Rachel is staying at home with their new son.

Jesse ('94) and **Sue Howerzyl** were blessed with their first child, Erin Nicole, in August of 2006. The family lives in Ontario, CA where Jesse is a machine operator at Response Envelope Company. Sue stays at home for now and hopes to return to her job as a nurse at Salem Christian Homes.

Jim ('96) and **Erika** (**Bradshaw** '98) **Vanderspek** welcomed their first child in May of 2006, a daughter named Kerstin May. Jim is a network administrator for RSM McGladrey, an accounting firm in Mission Valley. Erika works from home as a teaching consultant supporting homeschoolers for California Virtual Academies. The family lives in Rancho Penasquitos.

Kristen (**Petty** '99) and **Adam Wise** rejoice in the birth of their first child, a son born in May of 2006. They named him Logan Trenton. Adam works for KD Stahl Construction Group as a project engineer, and Kristen works part-time for Safeway Electrical Contractors. The Wise family lives in Escondido.

CLASS REUNIONS!!!

**CCHS Classes of '86 & '87
20-YEAR REUNION**

**CCHS Classes of '96 & '97
10-YEAR REUNION**

Attention, alumni of
Calvin Christian!

There are reunions being
planned for
July 2007

*If you are alumni of these classes,
please contact:*

'86 - '87 Reunion:

Elsa (Wilgenburg) Stout
stoutbe@cox.net or 760-747-9527

'96 - '97 Reunion:

Kristin(Verhoeven)Brown
loveshop86@yahoo.com
or 760-740-9715

***We'd like to get your contact
information and keep you
informed!***

Send alumni information to our new alumni e-mail address: alumni@calvinchristianescondido.org



A large crowd of grandparents, parents, and students enjoyed the great food and fellowship at the annual Labor Day Pancake Breakfast.

MEMORIALS

*Calvin Christian School gratefully acknowledges gifts in memory of loved ones who have passed away as well as gifts made to recognize special occasions. Since the last issue of the CORD, Calvin has received memorials in memory of **David Ayala, John De Haan, Cornie Sysma, and Simon & Cora Dekker** (parents of Trena Boonstra). We have also received gifts honoring **Harry & Shirley Houtman's** 60th wedding anniversary. These gifts will be placed in the Endowment Fund.*

CALENDAR

October

- 12 – JH & HS Choir Concert, 7:00 p.m. in the gym
- 14 – Crusader Golf Classic at Twin Oaks Golf Course, 1:30 p.m.
- 20 – NO SCHOOL, Teacher In Service
- 25-28 – HS Play “Arsenic and Old Lace” 7:30 p.m. in the Library

November

- 3 – 11:30 Dismissal, Records’ Day
- 6 – 5th-HS Band Concert, 7:00 p.m. in the gym
- 9 – 11:30 Dismissal, Parent/Teacher Conferences
- 10 – NO SCHOOL, Parent/Teacher Conferences
- 13-15 – Annual Fall Drive
- 14 – Pastors’ Brunch
- 20-24 – NO SCHOOL, Teachers’ Convention, Thanksgiving Break

December

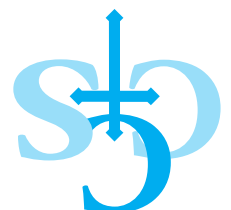
- 11 – Annual Christmas Concert, 6:15 p.m. in the gym

News for alumni, parents, and friends of Calvin Christian School of Escondido

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