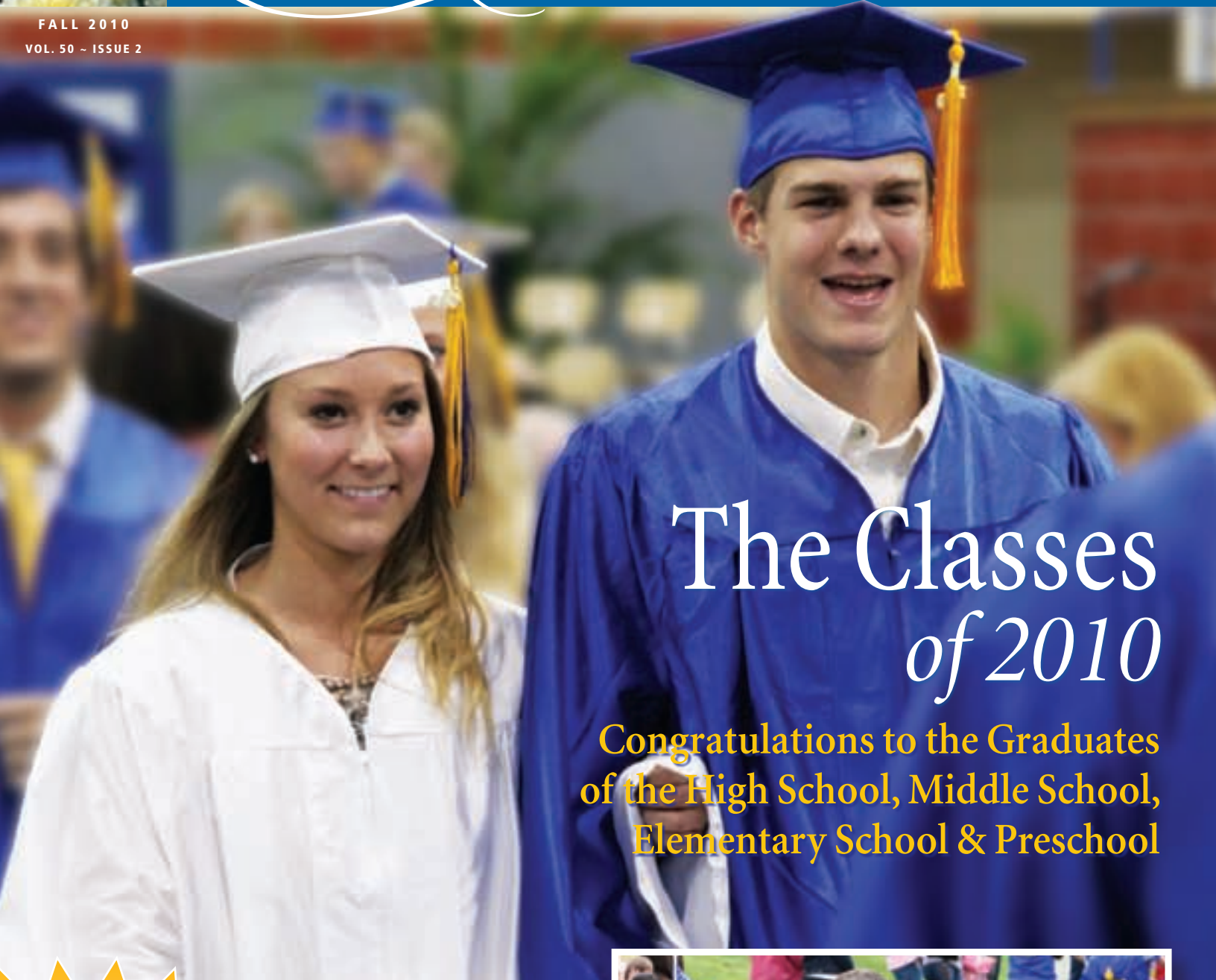




THE *Herald*

A PUBLICATION OF EASTERN CHRISTIAN SCHOOL ASSOCIATION

FALL 2010
VOL. 50 - ISSUE 2



The Classes *of 2010*

**Congratulations to the Graduates
of the High School, Middle School,
Elementary School & Preschool**

ALSO INSIDE:

**2010-2011
ANNUAL
SCHOLARSHIP
FUND APPEAL**
see page 20

- Eagle Town USA
- The Latest Alumni News
- EC Earns Reaccreditation





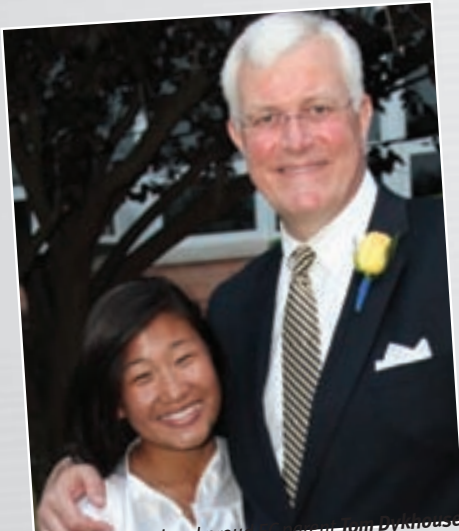
FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S DESK

Eastern Christian School recently formed two businesses to support the long term sustainability of the school and the affordability of Christian education for Eastern Christian families. **ditto** of North Jersey LLC and Eagle Solar LLC were formed during this past spring through the efforts of numerous supporting businesses, professionals, dedicated volunteers and staff members, and by way of important generous investments by Eastern Christian's Endowment Fund. The two businesses have the potential to add \$300,000 each year to the school's net income.

ditto will operate an 11,000 square foot, "upscale resale" store located in North Haledon. The store, operating under the auspices of the Foundation for Eastern Christian School, offers a wide assortment of high quality, gently used merchandise ranging from clothing to furniture, appliances to sporting goods. **ditto's** Management Board estimates that the store will generate approximately \$75,000 in its first year of operation, providing much needed financial support to the school, a great opportunity for members of our school community to enjoy fellowship while supporting Eastern Christian, and a valuable service to our neighbors in the surrounding community.

Eagle Solar was formed to operate a solar electric generating system that will be installed on the roofs of Eastern Christian's school buildings and provide 90-95% of the school's electricity needs. The installation of the solar generating equipment, scheduled to begin in October, will save the school approximately \$80,000 in electricity costs in the first year, generate significant investment gains to our Endowment Fund, and qualify Eastern Christian to receive a grant of approximately \$1 million from the federal government.

In addition to providing a significant financial benefit to Eastern Christian and the families that it serves, **ditto** and Eagle Solar provide excellent models of Christian stewardship for Eastern Christian's students and our community, as we model the responsible use of the natural resources, financial resources, and personal goods that have been entrusted to us by our God. (See articles on pages 22 and 23 for additional



Head of School and proud EC parent Tom Dykhous '76 with his youngest daughter Kim Dykhous '10 at the 2010 EC High School graduation. The 2010 graduation ceremonies marked a milestone for Tom Dykhous. It was his 3rd and last time attending an EC High School graduation as the parent of a graduate!

information about these initiatives.)

Above all, the manner in which these supporting businesses have been formed is further evidence of the Lord's provision for Eastern Christian today and for years to come. "The Lord is good and... his faithfulness continues through all generations!" (Ps 100:5. NIV)

Thomas G. Dykhous ('76)
Executive Director & Head of School



THE Herald

FALL 2010
VOLUME 50 ISSUE 2

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Don't Miss the
2010-2011
ANNUAL SCHOLARSHIP
FUND BROCHURE
in the center of this issue!

ABOUT THE COVER

Rachel Soodsma and Andrew Vriesema during the recession of the 2010 High School Commencement.

Inset: 4th graders **Brandon Sanders, Cassidy Martin, and Anthony Avila** in a patriotic parade celebration at the Elementary School.

The Herald is the magazine for alumni, parents, and friends of Eastern Christian School published twice a year. It is a publication of the Eastern Christian School Association's Foundation Board. Letters, articles, artwork and photography are welcome for possible inclusion in The Herald. Art and photos will be returned when a SASE is included. Send all correspondence regarding feedback and publication to the address above. E-mail is welcomed and encouraged. Eastern Christian School is accredited by the Middle States Association of Colleges & Schools and is a member of Christian Schools International.

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Middle School Principal & Curriculum Coordinator
High School Principal*

*Thomas G. Dykhouse
Sandra Bottge
Richard Van Yperen
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CAMPUS NEWS



High School students sing "How He Loves" during the yearbook dedication.

EC Community Mourns Two Beloved Teachers

In all my years in education, I've never lost one colleague. To lose two is inconceivable," said **Principal Jan Lucas**. This year, two High School teachers died during the school year, leaving our entire school community grieving, yet pulling together to support each other.

Mr. Tom Noyes, 54, history teacher and father of senior **Chelsea**, died of a heart attack on February 11. **Ms. Christine White**, a teacher in the resource room, died in her sleep on March 10, her 29th birthday, from an epileptic seizure.

During memorial services, students were able to tell many meaningful stories of the impact these teachers had on their lives. Mr. Noyes was remembered as a caring man who excelled at finding and using his students' strengths in the classroom, as well as for his easy-going nature and

laugh. Ms. White was a prayer warrior, who was dedicated and energized to teach her students the joy of a relationship with Christ in all its fullness.

At the end of the school year, the yearbook dedication ceremony on June 7 was one more opportunity to remember these beloved teachers. The yearbook this year was dedicated to Mr. Noyes, Ms. White, and **Elise Gorter**, a former classmate of this year's graduating class who was killed by a speeding car during the summer before her 6th grade year. In the moving ceremony, yearbook staff read dedications to all three people. Elise's parents spoke to the school, as did Mrs. Sue Noyes, Tom's wife, and Mr. Walter Wilsey White, Christine's father.

In the front of the school, next to the faculty parking lot, two trees were planted in memory of Mr. Noyes and Ms. White.

Honduras Trip

BY SARAH SESSA, SENIOR

From April 22 to May 1, a group of 13 EC High School students and three leaders had the opportunity to serve at Casa Cielo Orphanage in La Ceiba, Honduras. The trip was organized and planned by Experiencing Missions teacher **Ms. Debbie Ayars** and Touch the World Ministries.

The Honduras team was lead by teachers **Ms. Ayars**, **Ms. Julie Brink**, and **Mr. Jesse Wright**. The students were **Tania Avila**, **Morgan De Marco**, **Austin Doehler**, **Jessica Hoogerhyde**, **Jenny Jo**, **Alyssa Kuiken**, **Kristen Lindsay**, **Josh Mas**, **Cleveland McDaniel**, **Jamie Van Buiten**, **Sara Schoenig**, **Sarah Sessa**, and **Michelle Van Dyke**.

While in Honduras, the team worked with ROC Ministry (Revival Outreach Center). The team helped “Mama” and “Papa” Jones, the directors of the orphanage, take care of 18 children, all under the age of six. Team members served meals to the orphans, showered and dressed them, and played with them. Also, the orphanage made full use of the extra help and had the team take the kids to the beach. This was a special treat as there are not enough chaperones ordinarily available to ensure that the kids are safe.

Throughout the week these children stole the hearts of every team member as close personal relationships were formed. Sophomore Tania Avila said, “The kids were so different than I had expected them to be! They were so full of joy and happiness, and they were so open.”

The team also performed many work projects around the orphanage. For example, the artistic talents of freshman Michelle Van Dyke, sophomore Jenny Jo, and teacher Jesse Wright were put to good use as they, with the help of the other team members, decorated the children’s bedrooms. They transformed the girls’ room into a princess fairytale, and made the boys’ room into a jungle. Michelle said, “I was so excited to have



The Honduras Mission Trip team with the children from Casa Cielo Orphanage.

this opportunity because pictures can tell a story, and I was able to create a picture that the kids will continue to create with their imaginations.”

In addition to painting the rooms, the team worked together to repaint the entire outside of the orphanage. After two days of paint brushes, rollers, and mango paint, the task was completed. Kristen Lindsey said, “I loved being able to see the final product, and knowing that we helped them do something that they would never have been able to do on their own.”

One of the more challenging tasks that the team had was to treat the village children’s heads for lice. The team had been able to form relationships with these children the day before through a Vacation Bible School program. The team came back to play soccer with the children and to de-lice their hair. Sophomore Morgan DeMarco said, “It was really challenging, and I was a little bit nervous at first; but throughout the whole process the kids were overwhelmed with joy for what we were able to help them with.”

This trip left a lasting impact on every person who went. The image of joy seen on all of the children’s faces is one that will never be forgotten.

Full Accreditation Recommended for EC

“Receiving accreditation through the Middle States Association is a really important element for making Eastern Christian a competitive school in North Jersey,” said **Mrs. Marla Stout**, the internal coordinator for Eastern Christian’s accreditation planning. “After all, people wouldn’t choose to see a doctor who wasn’t licensed or go to a hospital that had not met expected standards, so they might be hesitant to send their children to a school that hadn’t also had expected standards confirmed,” she went on to say.

Most people who have been affiliated with Eastern Christian know it to have a caring environment and a competitive academic program, but approval from an outside source reinforces positive public impressions of the school. Because of that, Eastern Christian has completed a two-year-evaluative process with the intent of extending its accreditation beyond the high school, to include the full Preschool through 12 institution.

At the completion of the on-site review by a team of educators from

schools throughout the mid-Atlantic states, one team member indicated his attempt to not covet what he saw, and another voiced her awe at the cooperative and calm spirit. Those comments were reinforced by the public team comments at the end of the April visit. “Absolutely, the team is recommending to the Middle States Association that Eastern Christian Schools receive full accreditation,” said Mrs. Stout.

What will accreditation mean for us? It will mean that the broader public will be assured that our program is educationally sound and forward-thinking, that our graduates will have authority behind their diplomas, that our elementary and middle schools will meet the same standards as the aggressive public schools in our areas and can be regarded as equally desirable. It will also mean that we will spend the next seven years diligently focused on the objectives that we have established during the past two years. For Eastern Christian, receiving Preschool through 12 accreditation is an affirmation and a method for strategic focus.

Children Grow A Garden



Middle School students gathered at the flag pole during lunch on May 6. May 6 was the 2010 National Day of Prayer, and Eastern Christian had many student-led prayers throughout the day. Bible teacher *Mrs. Betsy Tyvoll* said that it was students, led by 5th grader *Scott Steenstra*, who initiated and organized the prayer event at the Middle School. She said, "Scott directed all the students, with representatives from all 4 grades, to stand in a circle, and to go around in prayer. This young man showed so much leadership and initiative."



Planting beans in the garden.

BY TJ WESTRA '10

This spring, the kindergarteners and 1st graders of Eastern Christian Elementary School planted a new vegetable garden located near the playground at the Elementary School.

The kindergarteners grew sugar snap pea plants in their classrooms in the early spring. Then they planted the peas in the garden on April 28. By the end of the school year tomatoes, peppers, beans, zucchini, cucumber, and squash were all planted. The 1st graders are in charge of tending the garden, helping to water, weed and plant.

Bill Systma Landscaping provided help by overturning the soil and securing fencing. They will also provide guidance in the growing of the garden.

According to EC parent **Stephanie (Van Haste) Steen '91**, who is organizing the project, the purpose of the garden is to educate the students about the miracle of how vegetables grow and to have a love for the amazing Earth that God has given us. They are also going to learn how to take care of the Earth and learn how to recycle and compost through this project.

Food that is grown will be donated to the food bank at New Hope Community Ministries in Haledon. It will give families a chance to have some fresh produce that food banks do not ordinarily provide.

The project was awarded a \$900 Environmental Awareness Challenge Grant from the Bergen County Utilities Authority, which will keep the garden project growing. Future projects include installing a rain barrel and compost bin, constructing trellises and building cold frames for cool-weather crops.

Principal **Sandra Bottge** said, "This will be a great leadership project for our 1st grade students next year as well as a great outreach opportunity."

Boiler Room to Classroom

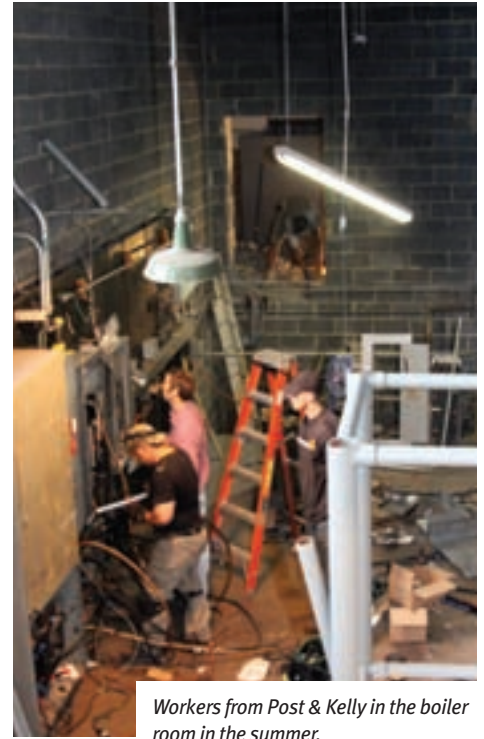
This fall, the EC High School opens a brand-new high-tech classroom inside the school, where there was once a two-story boiler room. Last summer, the boilers were replaced with smaller models, opening up space to divide the area top-to-bottom and add a classroom above the many wires and pipes below.

The new classroom will be modeled after “21st century learning spaces,” with technology (such as wireless Internet access, laptop computers, and mounted HDTV) pervasive but unobtrusive. The space will be designed to be flexible, to incorporate many teaching and learning styles.

The new classroom is the most recent example of EC’s commitment to both cost-effectiveness and excellence in education. The cost of the classroom renovation, including furniture and technology, is about \$100,000, according to **Director of Operations John Belanus**. Mr. Belanus said that this cost was reduced from an original budget of \$125,000 due to generous donations of materials and time from the many construction companies working on the project. The majority of the cost of the project is being covered by a generous grant from the Frank X. and Mary Ethel Weny Charitable Trust, William C. Hanse and Rodger Ludwig, Trustees.

In addition, the added space inside the school will allow the High School to remove the two trailer classrooms in the back of the school, saving money and adding security. According to Mr. Belanus, the trailers cost \$15,000 in annual utility bills and maintenance, and were badly in need of costly repair.

Other renovations that took place this summer in the High School were replacing the Media Center doors, refreshing the music and art rooms, and replacing the entire main electrical breaker panel, which has been in place since the 1950s.



Workers from Post & Kelly in the boiler room in the summer.

Kindergartners Share Their Hearts



The all-day Kindergarten class displays their ice wall.

BY NICOLE CHAUX, SENIOR

Throughout last year, the all-day kindergarten children shared their love of Jesus with the homeless men that visit Covenant Christian Reformed Church in North Haledon. In December, the children made beaded candy canes and gift bags filled with school baked Christmas cookies that were delivered to the men. They also sang “Away in the Manger,” and recited John 3:16 for the men. During the second week of February, the children made Valentine’s Day gift bags and baked brownies that were once again delivered to the men at Covenant Church.

Kindergarten teacher **Mrs. Donna Holly** said, “The projects were well worth the effort. I observed many heart-felt smiles as the children put the gift bags together and again as the men received the bags. My young students experienced that doing for others, as Jesus did, is a joyful experience for both the giver and the receiver.”

Back in January, when the children were learning about God’s dependable world and the winter season, Mrs. Holly read a *Time for Kids* magazine article titled “Winter Around the World,” which featured a picture of a festival in China where artists carve ice castles. Impressed with the picture, the children innocently asked their teacher, “Mrs. Holly, can we do that?”

Although they could not build a giant ice castle, they did find a way to build a wall made of blocks of ice that shared the message of God’s love. Once the wall was built, Mrs. Holly read 2 Chronicles 6:8. “Because it was in your heart to build a temple for my Name, you did well to have this in your heart.” Although it may have been cold building their ice wall in the middle of winter, all of their hard work definitely paid off; the kindergartners were full of joy and pride as they shared their creation with family and friends.

Learning After School



2nd graders *Kiandra Dussard* and *Brianna Poliandro*.

Hands On Science

By *Jennifer Pellegrino '10*

The Elementary School After School program included a new six-week science club for 2nd - 4th graders in March and April. It was such a big hit that organizers **Mrs. Denise Post** and **Mrs. Wendy Post** decided to run the club again for kindergarteners and 1st graders for four weeks.

The session for older students was titled, "Why Does It Do That?" It involved exploring how science helps people every day, such as how batteries and light bulbs work. They tested the pH balance of household items and made their own flashlights out of recycled toilet paper tubes and cereal boxes. Their last session was building an infamous baking-soda rocket.

"I was amazed at how much of the information the kids remembered from week to week and how much they were able to learn. When learning is fun, it's easy!" said Mrs. Denise Post, the Science Club's Head Scientist.

In the second session, the younger students worked on the five senses. The first was smell. As Denise expected, the scents of strawberry and banana were the most popular, sending up a cacophony of shouts and adorations from the youngsters. "I love strawberry yogurt! It's my favorite!" and "This is definitely banana!"

"Denise has done an outstanding job of planning and implementing the inquiry-based hands-on Science Club," said After-School Program Coordinator Wendy Post.



Middle School students *Jayna Van Buiten, Milena Pietras, Jenna Struyk, Calvin Bushman, Holly Tanis, and Caleb Becker* roll out sugar cookies.

BY KATIE STREELMAN, SENIOR

Where does cooking, knitting, sports, and acting happen all in one building every week? The After School program combines all of these. Held at the Elementary School from 3 – 6pm, the program is for students from preschool through 6th grade. Middle School students take a shuttle bus to the Elementary School to participate. Students have the option to be tutored on Tuesdays and Thursdays for an hour, or take piano or guitar lessons. On Wednesdays, students can participate in special clubs. This year there were four clubs: sports, cooking, knitting, and drama.

Ms. Yvonne Vitale, an EC parent and professional actress, ran the drama club, while Middle School Athletic Director **Mrs. Mary Faber** ran the sports club.

Another Middle School teacher, **Mrs. Pamela Kosten**, ran the knitting/crocheting club. Mrs. Kosten said, "The 5th and 6th grade students learned the basics of knitting and crocheting – they enjoyed starting a scarf or afghan. We had a great time learning and did quite a bit of laughing."

Middle School teachers **Mrs. Courtney Dyksen**, **Mrs. Cindy Flim**, and **Mrs. Betsey Tyvoll** ran the cooking club. In the cooking club, 5th and 6th graders met on Mondays. A special session for 7th and 8th graders met on Wednesdays. There were about 25 students in the club and each week they would learn a different cooking skill such as peeling, shredding, or whisking.

Mrs. Dyksen said, "The first week we made a complete breakfast consisting of scrambled eggs, bacon, pancakes, and freshly squeezed orange juice. During other classes we made sugar cookies, apple crisp, stuffed shells, and homemade pizza. Students said that they often took the recipes they learned and cooked for their families. It was a great experience for everyone involved!"

Students Spend Day in Service

BY JENNIFER PELLEGRINO '10

On May 21, the Eastern Christian High School held a Service Project Day. Working at 15 different worksites over the course of the school day instead of attending classes, the students were able to put in a total of over 1,000 hours of work into the school and community. Some students, remaining on campus, cleaned the High School's gym storage, prop room, and greenhouse, while others went to homeless shelters, nursing homes, food banks, and local schools.

At the end of the school day, everyone gathered in the auditorium for a chapel where they worshiped and had a time of "show and tell." A representative of each group shared what their group had done that day with a slideshow of pictures playing behind them.

Freshman **Sarah Post**, part of the High Mountain Trail cleanup, commented afterwards, "It was a lot of fun to clean up the trail and really shocking to see how much glass people have left up there."

At the end, **Principal Jan Lucas** told the students how proud he was of the work done. He said that he "tagged along" with students working at the Christian Health Care Center and that he was thoroughly impressed



Jacob Shotmeyer, Luke Everson, and Parker Tubman work at the Christian Health Care Center.

by the group he worked with.

"It was a good opportunity to build relationships between us and the Middle School and Elementary School students," said **Miss Heather Barr**, who participated with the group that helped tutor Middle School students.

Student government and the administration hope to make this service project day an annual event at the High School.

Sports League Shifting

Eastern Christian's sports schedules will look different this year as New Jersey's high school sports realignment takes place. The Bergen/Passaic Scholastic League (BPSL), which EC has been a member of since the early 1980s, no longer exists. EC is now a member of the "New Jersey Interscholastic League Division 1 Group B." (A new official name will be announced this fall.)

Joining EC in Group B, and our new chief rivals, are Hawthorne, Manchester, Pompton Lakes and Mary Help of Christians Academy. According to **Athletic Director Steve King**, EC will often play these teams twice in a typical season, and play the teams in Division 1 Group A once. Group A teams are Garfield, Lodi, Pascack Hills, Glen Rock, Rutherford and Elmwood Park. Other open spots in the schedule could be filled with

teams from the other divisions, such as traditional opponents Midland Park, Waldwick, and Hawthorne Christian, which are now in Division 3.

While Mr. King welcomes the new challenges, he also said he will miss the closeness of the old BPSL. "The BPSL has been a great league for the past many years. Sportsmanship has been a high priority of the league and this can be seen in the many awards received not only by EC, but also many of the schools in the league."

EC won the Sportsmanship Award in the final year of the BPSL Carpenter Division, and EC is determined to carry on its tradition of sportsmanship no matter who the competitors, according to Mr. King. EC remains the only co-ed school in the state of New Jersey to be disqualification-free since 1991, when this record began to be tracked.

FACING PROBLEMS E



4th-graders Cole Boonstra, Noah Hagedoorn, and Nicholas Kinahan

It was an exciting morning on March 4 when EC Elementary School students arrived in school to find the entire building transformed into a new environment. A sign at the entrance proclaimed, “Welcome to Eagle Town.” Chapel that day introduced students to their new town, but it wasn’t a perfect place. There were problems in Eagle Town – litter, bullying, and more – and **Mayor Bottge** was hoping that the students could help solve the problems.

Welcome to problem-based learning. By presenting the students with real problems to solve, they become more engaged in their learning. Eagle Town was definitely a big hit with the students. With carefully crafted problems built around each class’s curriculum and grade-appropriate standards, Horizon teacher **Mrs. Holly Turner** oversaw an exciting two-month process that

kept the students laughing, brainstorming, and learning. The project came to a close on May 11 with another special chapel where students presented their solutions to the problems, and had a special patriotic parade and picnic put on by the 4th graders.

Problem-based learning is also the driving force behind the Middle School’s annual Make A Difference (MAD) projects. In these projects, small groups of students choose real world problems like poverty and environmental stewardship and learn about the issue. They then choose a way to actually make an impact on their problem with service-project based activities. Again, the students find that they remain engaged in their learning as they strive for real, practical solutions to solving global problems in a local project.

On these pages, you will find more information from students about the problems they faced and the solutions they came up with.



Eagle Town Problems

Kindergarten: *Litter.* The students were asked to think about the responsibility of caring for God’s Earth and how they can participate in community recycling and collecting of litter.

1st: *Flower Shop.* The flower storeowners are worried because Mother’s Day is just around the corner and there are no fresh flowers to sell.

2nd: *Bullying.* Eagle Town Police see bullying on the playground, in the stores, at schools and many other places throughout the town. They are concerned that if this continues there will be no order in the town and people might start getting hurt.

3rd: *Town Museum.* The Museum curators want to understand the family history of the citizens that live in Eagle Town and want to know how they can learn about each family in order to make a display in the museum.

4th: *Partiotism.* New citizens in Eagle Town found that the town took their country and their freedoms for granted and were not very patriotic. How can students lead their town and its citizens to become more patriotic?

ENHANCES LEARNING

Middle School MAD Projects:

5th grade: Community Care – groups worked with the Christian HealthCare Center, Children's Aid and Family Services, Ready To Learn Daycare Center and a group delivered flowers to our school's immediate neighbors.

6th grade: Homelessness – Good Shepherd Homeless Sheltering Program at Faith and Cedar Hill Churches; lots of guest speakers including D.A.R.E., men from the Bowery and Pastor Wes Van Dyk.

7th grade: Environment – Audubon Society (Lorimer Sanctuary), Sandy Hook beach clean-up; flowers and birdhouses at the Holland Home

8th grade: Poverty – working with New Hope Community Ministries.

A SELECTION OF A 5TH GRADE ESSAY ON M.A.D. by Scott Steenstra

I made a difference for the Ready to Learn Daycare Center by helping the kids in a Godly way. Step One in our process to success in our M.A.D. project was to actually help the daycare by going, but first we had to prepare. What we prepared was phenomenal! First we prepared to do some toddler Olympics and a movie for the kids, but when we got it all together, it started going downhill. The toddler Olympics went fine but when we tried to project the movie, there was too much light coming from the infant section so we had to go with plan B, which was reading. We were all relieved that the girls' puppets worked out fine. Step two in the process was made as we went along: to go back to the daycare. The preparation that came around the second time was much easier because we had a lot of experience.

I helped out a lot when I went to the daycare and learned about the world and myself. I also learned that nothing really goes as planned (unless you are very lucky). I think I did amazing on my part, but I could have known the plan, my plan, a bit better. Our theme verse was Mark 10:14 and we connected it to our actions in this way: We, as a group believe that we are following the point of Mark 10:14 (He said to them "Let the little children come to me, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these.") by bringing the kids at Ready to Learn Daycare closer to God by our actions and activities. I think it was a very good plan to go out and help kids grow, and I am glad it went well.

First Grade Reactions

"We made signs to advertise the sale, we set prices for flowers and we decided it would be a service project by choosing to give our profits to the High School Mission Fund."

-Mrs. Ellen Ritsma

"My favorite part of the flower shop was being the seller. I liked it because I got to ask what they wanted."

-Karalyn Hoiser

"My favorite part of the flower shop was the cashier. I liked it because we got to give change."

-Thomas De Block

"I liked selling the flowers. I liked it so much because the shoppers encouraged me very much! They were kind to me. This made me learn about flowers and it made me learn more about Jesus."

-Elizabeth Botbyl

Mackenzie Wieggers and Nate Kuiphoff present their 6th grade MAD Project



A SELECTION OF A 5TH GRADE ESSAY ON M.A.D.

By Abi Johnson

Our group went to Ready-to-Learn Daycare Center in Paterson, New Jersey and helped the kids for our M.A.D. (make a difference) project. We taught them about God's love, since most of them aren't Christians. Going there and seeing those eager, smiling little faces was an amazing experience and I loved it. It gave me a chance to "shine" with God's love and practice taking care of kids. I am so ecstatic to have made a difference in the daycare community by learning a lot and helping the kids.

Probably the biggest way we helped the kids there was teaching them and playing with them. First, we researched fun activities for toddlers. Next, we divided into boys and girls and began to discuss what activities we would do with the children. Our group changed plans about one hundred gazillion times. We finally decided to make paper bag animal puppets and set to work making dog, cat, bear, fox, and other creature ears out of construction paper. Everything went great, unless you count the fact that some puppets had five ears and one eye.

It was so much fun that when we left, we began planning to go again. YAY! Since the next time that we were going was Earth Day, the girls decided to go outside and draw with chalk with the Pre-K, while the boys would make pet rocks with the toddlers. When we went, it was another great trip. Since we didn't want to spend the whole time playing with chalk, we make puppets first and then went outside. All of the kids loved making puppets and doodling on the blacktop. I almost cried when we had to leave. We wrapped the whole project up by giving a presentation, and I hope we really showed what it means to make a difference.

I made a difference for the daycare community by having fun with the kids. As you can see, service isn't just a boring assignment that a teacher makes you do. It's an amazing experience. It makes you feel warm and happy to make a difference by helping people. I hope everyone who reads this will want to make a difference like I did. I also hope I have made a difference in your life by showing you what it means to make a difference. I pray that God will speak to you through this essay!

Fourth Grade Reactions

"We decided that loving and honoring God includes loving and honoring our country. We then worked in small groups to gather examples of how we have seen patriotism in action, and we brainstormed what we could do to show patriotism in Eagle Town. One idea we all liked to was to hold a parade! We divided into 13 groups, and researched and created floats for our parade. At noon on May 11, our parade was held!"

-Mrs. Carol Byma and Mrs. Donna Hoogerhyde

"I like when the whole parade came together and everyone's project looked great! I also liked how a lot of parents came and we could show the whole school."

-a 4th grade student

"I learned that patriotism is the love of one's country. I also learned how to work together as a team. I learned how to be patriotic and how to show patriotism. I learned how to share ideas with other people."

-a 4th grade student



4th grader Rebecca Parker



6th graders Anita Karr and Emily Mulcock

HIGH SCHOOL



Grant Butler awarded his diploma by Board President Nick Kuiken and Vice President James Van Schepen.

A Ceremony of Reflection and of Hope

Under the threat of rain, 92 seniors graduated from Eastern Christian High School in the school gymnasium on June 16. In a moving ceremony that often reflected on the losses that the senior class had experienced during the year and in the past, including the deaths of two teachers and a father, the celebration remained upbeat and hopeful. Showing their playful joy, a class known for pranks threw bouncing balls into the crowd after they had received their diplomas and been officially presented as the Class of 2010.

Both Valedictorian **Rachel Greenfield** and Dean **Ruth Kuder** addressed the graduates and community on the meaning of loss and brokenness in a Christian's life.



Valedictorian Rachel Greenfield

Rachel said that talking about this topic was not an opportunity for more mourning, but rather a chance to see the truly important truths of life. She said that only after a heart is broken can it be truly, authentically shared. Mrs. Kuder agreed with Rachel in her Commencement Address. Mrs. Kuder spoke of carrying the light of Christ inside us.



Dean Ruth Kuder gives the Commencement Address.

She said it was only when we are broken, and put back together, that the light can shine through the cracks.

The school and this senior class did truly struggle with grief and worry throughout the year, and again at the graduation ceremony. During the ceremony the graduates' thoughts and prayers were with fellow graduate **Sam Martino** and Pam Abma, mother of graduate **Joy Abma**, who were in hospitals unable to attend the ceremony.

Still, it was hope, not sadness, that marked the Class of 2010 and their

continued on page 12

continued from page 11

graduation. Their class song, "God of the City," poignantly reflected this hope, as the class sang "Better things are yet to come and better things are still to be done."

As seniors reflected on their year and their upcoming plans, it was hope and optimism that they focused on. **Sara Schipper** said, "I plan on making the most of this summer and hanging out with friends and people whom I might not get the chance to see again. I'll enjoy my time in New Jersey before I leave for Michigan in the fall."



Kerith Sunden, Ben Melendez and Jordan Paulino



Angelica Vega and Alberto Ferreira



Joy Abma

the
Class
of 2010



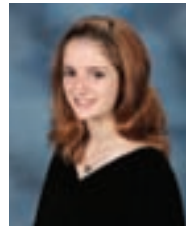
Joy Christine Abma
Ramapo College
of New Jersey



Isabella Carina Aguilera
Rutgers, The State University
of New Jersey



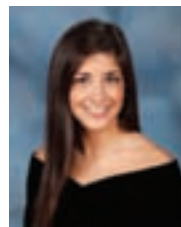
James Kenneth Ainsworth
University of Rhode Island



Victoria Emma Anderson
Montclair State University
(NJ)



So-Yeun Baik
School of Art Institute in
Chicago (IL)



Chelsea Marie Baratta
Nova Southeastern
University (FL)



Alex William Bertsch
University of the Sciences in
Philadelphia (PA)



Scott Russell Bouwense
George Mason University
(DC)

H I G H S C H O O L



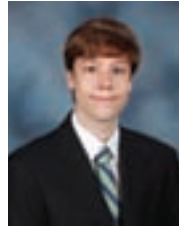
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Northeastern University (MA)



Emily Joy Bruins
Calvin College (MI)



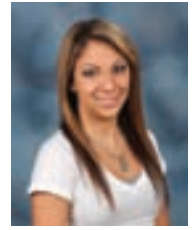
Sarah Elizabeth Bushman
Colorado Mountain College



Grant Jeffrey Butler
New Jersey Institute of
Technology



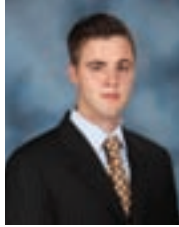
Timothy Adam Byrd
Bergen Community College
(NJ)



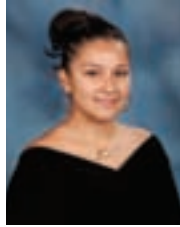
Francesca Cacciola
Bergen Community College
(NJ)



Carolina Candamil
Liberty University (VA)



Devin Foster Caro
William Paterson University
(NJ)



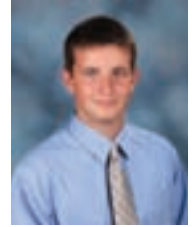
Jhoselin Bernarda Catalan
Passaic County Community
College (NJ)



Alyssa Marie Cestaro
Belmont University (TN)



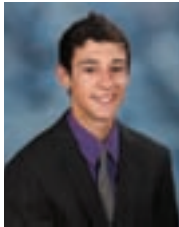
Mu Keun Cho
Borough of Manhattan
Community College (NY)



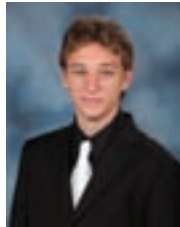
Justin Michael Chrinian
Eastern University (PA)



Olivia Chelsea Coscia
Laboratory Institute of
Merchandising (NY)



Taylor Jacob Crawley
University of Rhode Island



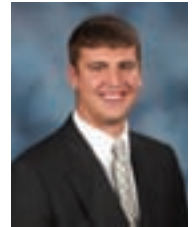
John Vincent DeBlasio II
Bergen Community College
(NJ)



Danielle Nicole De Block
Laboratory Institute of
Merchandising (NY)



Kathryn Ashley De Vos
William Paterson University
(NJ)



Benjamin H. de Waal
Malefyt
Eastern University (PA)



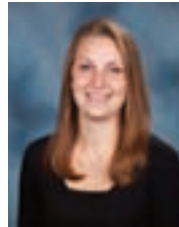
Tanya Gabrielle Diaz
Bergen Community College
(NJ)



Joseph Anthony Di Giorgio
William Paterson University
(NJ)



**Kimberly Michelle
Dykhouse**
Ramapo College of
New Jersey



Allison Joy Dykstra
Eastern University (PA)



Ryan James Dykstra
Eastern University (PA)



Brittany Noelle Faber
Ramapo College of New
Jersey



Rachel Alexandra Faber
Messiah College (PA)



Daniel Lima Faria
United States Marine Corps



Felipe Lima Faria
United States Marine Corps



Alberto Jose Ferreira
Berkeley College (NJ)



Michael Robert Flim
Messiah College (PA)



James Edward Fylstra
St. John's University (NY)

H I G H S C H O O L



Kate Ana Garcia
Rowan University (NJ)



Rachel June Greenfield
Belmont University (TN)



Brian Connor Gregson
Bergen Community College
(NJ)



Ji Ny Ha
Boston University (MA)



Jafet Eliab Hernandez
Bergen Community College
(NJ)



Megan Elise Hutton
Palm Beach Atlantic
University (FL)



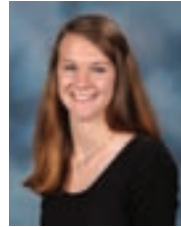
Jin Hwa Hyun
Syracuse University (NY)



Eun Gyl Jung
Drexel University (PA)



Bonwoo Ku
Indiana University at
Bloomington (IN)



Alyssa Denna Kuiken
Bergen Community College
(NJ)



Dana Marie Kukol
YMCA Counselor (NJ)



Yeji Kwon
Boston University (MA)



Joseph Ian Lang
Passaic County Community
College (NJ)



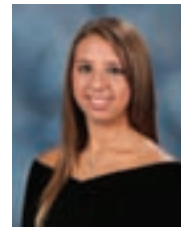
Ha Eun Lee
Bergen Community College
(NJ)



Juliana Min Jung Lee
Fashion Institute of
Technology (NY)



Jun Yeoun Lee
New York University



**Victoria Elizabeth
Leonardo**
Bergen Community College
(NJ)



**Michelle Nancy
MacWilliam**
Bergen Community College
(NJ)



Jenna Joan Maffei
Nyack College (NY)



Eric Daniel Malnati
Liberty University (VA)



Samuel James Martino
Fordham University (NY)



Kaitlyn Joy McHugh
Drexel University (PA)



Jaclyn Marie McNeill
Ocean County College (NJ)



**Benjamin Michael
Melendez**
Eastern University (PA)



**Jaquelyn Suzanne
Mendez**
The College of Saint Rose
(NY)



Chelsea Elizabeth Noyes
Peace College (NC)



Matthew James O'Donnell
Fairleigh Dickinson University
(NJ)



Hyun Jin Pak
Fairleigh Dickinson University
at Madison (NJ)



Jordan Anthony Paulino
Miami University in Ohio



Jennifer Leigh Pellegrino
Liberty University (VA)

H I G H S C H O O L



Megan Leigh Polulak
Eastern University (PA)



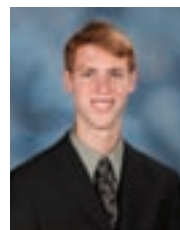
David Matthew Rainville
William Paterson University
(NJ)



Amy Joanne Rice
Northeastern University (MA)



Sara Joy Schipper
Calvin College (MI)



Tyler Wayne Schipper
Eastern University (PA)



Sara Mirela Schoenig
Passaic County Community
College (NJ)



Eun Hee Shim
University of Illinois at
Urbana Champaign



Rachel Jean Soodsma
University of Rhode Island



**Kaitlynn Elizabeth
Spagnolo**
William Paterson University
(NJ)



Kelsey Joyce Spoelstra
Eastern University (PA)



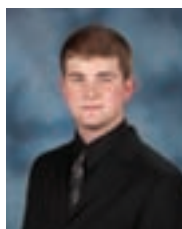
Jessica Lynn Stiles
Duke University (NC)



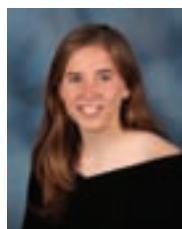
Kerith Elise Sunden
Cedarville University (OH)



Mark Tironola
Bergen Community College
(NJ)



Jesse David Vallaro
Bergen Community College
(NJ)



Jamie Lynn Van Buiten
Calvin College (MI)



Megan Leigh Vandenberg
Felician College (NJ)



Benjamin James Van Eck
Bergen Community College
(NJ)



Angelica Marie Vega
Berdan Institute (NJ)



Danielle Leigh Versnel
Bergen Community College
(NJ)



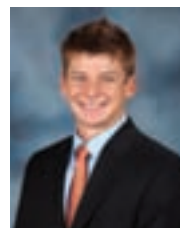
Andrew Richard Vriesema
Calvin College (MI)



Justin Samuel Westra
United States Army



Timothy James Westra
State University of New York
– Delhi



Tyler Robert Westra
Palm Beach Atlantic
University (FL)



Jessica Christine Wilhoit
Rhodes College (TN)

EASTERN CHRISTIAN awards

The following scholarships were awarded by Eastern Christian High School to the graduating class. It does not include awards from other sources. In total, the Class of 2010 was awarded over \$2,000,000 in scholarship money.

**“Arion Award”
(Concert Band)**
Grant Butler

Art Department Award
Danielle De Block

Bible and Life Award
Ryan Dykstra

**Brett Zuidema Endowed
Nursing Scholarship**
Kerith Sunden

Choral Award
Victoria Anderson

Excellence in Writing Award
Ryan Dykstra

French Language Award
Jessica Wilhoit

**The Harold Phillips
Vocational Scholarship**
Angelica Vega

**The Henriette & Kathryn
Houseward Scholarship**
Rachel Faber &
Rachel Greenfield

High School Faculty Award
Ben de Waal Malefyt &
Kerith Sunden

**Hoitsma-Jeffers Scholarship
Award**
Ben de Waal Malefyt

**Homer S. Pace Award
(Business)**
Jordan Paulino

**Jeanette Crozier
Scholarship (Music)**
Ha-Eun Lee

**John Philip Sousa Award
(Band)**
Jamie Van Buiten

Lakeland Bank Scholarship
Rachel Greenfield

Latin Language Award
James Fylstra

Mathematics Award
Jeremy Lee

Orchestra Award
Victoria Anderson

**Richard J. Vander Plaats
Service Award**
Ji Ny Ha

**Sam Braen Memorial
Scholarship**
Chelsea Noyes

Scholastic Writing Award
Rachel Greenfield

Spanish Language Award
Rachel Greenfield &
Alyssa Kuiken

**Stringer Nursing
Scholarships:**
Joy Abma, Kim Dykhouse &
Kerith Sunden

Valedictorian
Rachel Greenfield

MIDDLE SCHOOL



Bottom Row (L-R): Robert Marsanico, Hannah Flim, Michael Sessa, Alyssa Veenstra, Justin Miller, Bethany Kuiken, Oksana Shevchuk, Michelly Queiroz, Valentina Orostizaga, Krista Everson, Seon Jae Cho, Danielleardini, Jesse Ojeda, Kayla Van Lenten, Jeremiah Castro, Sarah Mulcock, Douglas Davis, Milena Pietras Middle Row: Liam Westra, Michele Suh, Johnathan Grant, Priscilla Winston-Laryea, Jonathan Boonstra, Cheryl Steenstra, Matthew Clark, Jessica Park, Kendra Visbeen, David Foley, Jennifer Tartini, Joshua Ashkinazi, Jamie Hinson, Nick Steinginga, Carolyn Kosten, Paul Lee, Sarah Gorter, Calvin Bushman, Angela Varney Top Row: Jennifer Streeleman, Matthew Van Eck, Rebecca Wieggers, Brian Orozco, Jason Kim, Holly Tanis, Christopher Coles, Tara Kleinmanns, Mark Sanders, Kathryn Mae Post, Daniel De Jong, Brittney Van Boerum, Robert Peretti, Jenna Struyk, James Choi, Alyssa Shurminsky, Connor Milkamp, Abigail Kuder, Richard Van Harken.



Valedictorian Kathryn Mae Post

Principal Richard Van Yperen took a cell phone call at the beginning of his Address to the Graduates at the EC Middle School 8th grade graduation on June 17. After the humorous exchange, Principal Van Yperen asked the 58 departing 8th graders to consider how many messages they receive every day. The graduation ceremony that night was focused on messages of congratulations, but also on hearing God's message throughout life.

Principal Van Yperen asked, "How do you sort through [all these messages] and discern what is important and meaningful? Does any of this

make it easier or harder to know God's will and live by the Truth?" He told the students to at least pay attention to one last message, spoken over the public address system, from Romans 15:13: "May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in Him, so that you overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit." Mr. Van Yperen said, "The world will throw

challenges at you that can rob you of hope and without hope you will not overflow with joy and peace. Notice the relationship between hope and trust. God will fill you with hope as you trust Him!"

The graduates received many other special messages throughout the evening from their teachers, in the form of speeches and of personal notes in their programs, filled with memories of their years spent in the EC Middle School. **Dean of Students Andrew Culp** welcomed the audience and graduates to the EC Middle School gymnasium at the beginning of the ceremony and reflected on his first year of working with EC Middle School students. Teachers **Laura Kuehlke** and **Ralph Hutton** both addressed the students and recalled many memories and gave words of encouragement.



8th grade students



Principal Richard Van Yperen

Faculty weren't the only ones to send messages. Students were heavily involved in the ceremony too. Valedictorian **Kathryn Mae Post** spoke about momentous change and the need to lean on God in times of change. Musical messages were sent by **Michelle Suh**'s violin prelude, the 8th grade ensemble's singing of "Keep Holding On", and the congregational song "Give Us Clean Hands."

Messages, in the form of prayers of thanksgiving, were spoken to God many times during the ceremony. Salutatorian **Cheryl Steenstra** and **Head of School Tom Dykhouse** both prayed for the graduates and thanked God for their years of learning and of service at the Middle School.



Jenna Struyk and Jason Kim



The 8th grade ensemble (l to r): Alyssa Shurminsky, Kathryn Post, Abigail Kuder, Connor Milkamp, director Miss Megan Siegel, Johnathan Grant, Jesse Ojeda, Robert Peretti, Kayla Van Lenten. Not pictured: Rachel Barrett, Jennifer Strelman, and Liam Westra.



Dr. Terry Allen and Michelle Suh



Alyssa Shurminsky receives her diploma from Board President Nick Kuiken and Board Vice President James Van Schepen.

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL



The 4th grade Class of 2010, in alphabetical order: **Anthony Avila, Matthew Becker, Cole Boonstra, Greta Botbyl, Joseph Bucci, Dana Carey, Nicolas Cortes, Melody Crimeni, Emily De Geyter, Jason De Vries, Gideon Engelhard, Hanna Faber, Alexandria Ficarro, Hannah Hagedorn, Noah Hagedoorn, Kaitlin Hefty, Erica Hwang, Nicholas Kinahan, Richard Klas, Paige Kuipers, Megan Leegwater, Shannon Leentjes, Cassidy Martin, Rebekah Parker, Adelina Peretti, Christina Piluso, Angelo Sanchez, Brandon Sanders, Alex Saunders, Clay Sietsma, Allison Steiginga, Hanna Sytsma, Brienne Veenstra, Jenna Veenstra, Tyinah Vigo, Sarah Vincent, Matthew Wang.**



Greta Botbyl smiles at the beginning of the Promotion Chapel on June 15 in the Elementary School gymnasium. Greta was one of 38 4th-graders in this year's class.



4th graders **Jenna Veenstra, Matthew Becker, and Hannah Faber** motion the theme for the year: **Head, Heart, and Hands**, in a song. The theme was the central message in 4th grade Head Teacher's **Debra Veenstra**'s speech. She shared three Bible verses for the students to remember the theme: Psalm 119:103-105 (Head), Matthew 6:19-21 (Heart) and Matthew 25:37-40 (Hands).



The students opened the Promotion Chapel playing recorder music. During the chapel, three other songs were sung. The 4th graders sang "All in All," everyone was invited to sing "Love the Lord Your God," and the 3rd graders sang a song for the 4th grade at the close of the chapel, "Seek Ye First."



Teacher **Carol Byma** hands **Addy Peretti** her Promotion Certificate. Mrs. Byma and fellow teacher **Donna Hoogerhyde** each spoke to their class about their reflections on the year, and Principal **Sandra Bottge** gave the Promotion Speech.

PRESCHOOL



The Preschool Class of 2010: Row 1 (l to r): Mrs. Marilyn Bushman, Nils Holst, Jaclyn Steenstra, Carolyn Biswurm, Joshua Iannone, Jill Bavagnoli, Jada Valenzuela, Michael Cook, Hannah Visbeen; Row 2: Ricky Van Olden, Nicholas Hagedoorn, Kayleigh Jeltema, Alex Losquadro, Ethan Biswurm, Faith Dalessandro, Benen Sullivan, Kirk Tsocanos (not pictured); Row 3: Grace Schulster, Beth Vander Plaat, Gabriella Rinaldi, R.J. Pierce, Kate Murtagh, Sylvia Holst, Natalie Hope, Lydia Johnson, Felice Cristaldi; Row 4: Jennifer Braunius, Brendan Hartley, William Curreri, Christopher De Rooy, Lucas Genuario, Matthew Zuidema, Anneke Reitsma, Matthew Vander Wall, Aleah Sanders, Mrs. Ruth Henion, Mrs. Kathy Faasse.

Preschoolers Use Head, Heart, & Hands in 2010

On June 15, Eastern Christian held its Closing Ceremony and Graduation for the 35 4-year olds in the Preschool Class of 2010. This year's theme for the Preschool was "Head, Heart, Hands," and the highlight of the ceremony was the children singing seven songs based on their theme, including "Jesus' Hands Were Kind Hands," and "He's Got the Whole World in His Hands." The ceremony took place in Cedar Hill Christian Reformed Church in Wyckoff.

The theme was based on Ephesians 2:8-10, which says "For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God— not by works, so that no one can boast. For we are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do."

The night was opened in prayer by **Head of School Tom Dykhouse** and closed by Preschool **Principal Sandy Bottge**. After the ceremony, parents and children celebrated together with snacks and fellowship, enjoying the first of many proud achievements of their Eastern Christian academic careers.



Matthew Vander Wall, Anneke Reitsma, and Matthew Zuidema



Preschoolers singing.

FOUNDATION NEWS



Eastern Christian School Association

50 Oakwood Ave, North Haledon NJ 07508
e-mail: foundation@easterchristian.org

fax: 973.427.9775
phone: 973.427.9294

September 2010



Dear Friends,

As we begin the new school year at Eastern Christian, I look forward with confidence to the Lord's continued abundant provision for our 118th year of service to the children and young people of the Christian community of northern New Jersey! The Lord has faithfully provided through the generations of our alumni, parents, friends and supporters. This faithfulness has uplifted us with financial and prayerful support for 118 years.

The Eastern Christian community is truly humbled by the way that God provided for us through the last school year. Eastern Christian had a far better 2009-10 school year financially than we had anticipated. The blessing of your strong financial support enabled us to accomplish the following:

- 92 graduates in the Class of 2010 sent forth to further their education or to take their place in the work force
- Successful student mission trips to St. Stephen's School in Uganda and Casa Cielo Orphanage in Honduras
- Expansion of our High School's accreditation by the Middle States Association of Colleges & Schools to include our Middle and Elementary Schools
- Successful extracurricular programs including our athletic program in which over half of our student body participates and our drama program which had 2 wonderful productions
- Expansion of Elementary and Middle School World Language Programs.

Additionally, your financial support has enabled us to pursue fundraising ventures such as *ditto*, our new upscale resale store which opens this month, and cost minimizing projects such as the installation of solar panels on the roofs of all 3 of our school buildings. These two initiatives have the potential to add \$300,000 each year to the school's net income, thus enabling us to provide an excellent Christian education that is also affordable... **To God be the glory for the things He has done!**

We begin our 2010-11 school year with a solid financial framework. In order to maintain this solid framework for this new year we are counting on our faithful generations of supporters to help us raise \$650,000 in response to this appeal. Please prayerfully consider helping us meet this \$650,000 goal by supporting our **2010-11 Annual Fund which funds scholarships and reduces tuition costs** for all who attend Eastern Christian.

May we once again count on you to ensure that Eastern Christian can continue to meet the challenge of preparing our students to be people of Christian vision and influence in this 21st century? We are asking for your generous support to jointly invest with us in God's Kingdom by completing the attached form and sending it to us with your contribution or pledge.

Sincerely yours and in His service,

Thomas G. Dykhouse
Executive Director & Head of School

2010-2011 Annual Scholarship Fund Drive

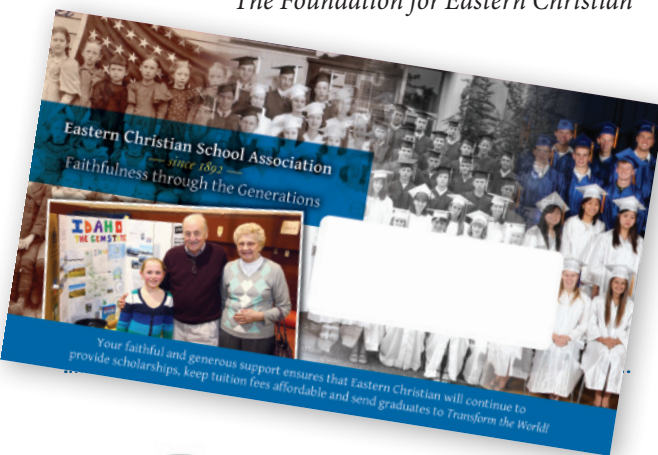
In the centerfold of this issue of *The Herald* you will find the information for the 2010-2011 Annual Scholarship Fund Drive for Eastern Christian School. We urge you to prayerfully consider your participation this year as God has enabled you to give so that we may nurture succeeding generations of children to be the church, business and community leaders of the future.

If Eastern Christian is going to be able to continue to provide a Christ-centered education for the local and broader Christian community, we will need your support now more than ever before.

Our financial goal for this year's Annual Scholarship Fund is \$650,000, which will enable us to close the gap between the actual cost of an EC education and a reasonable level of tuition that we must maintain in order for Christian education to remain affordable for our parents.

Your prayers and financial support for Eastern Christian are coveted and sincerely appreciated.

The Foundation for Eastern Christian



Wish List— Thank You

The Foundation Office would like to thank those supporters who provided the funds to purchase Wish List items during the past school year.

Your generosity provides important classroom technology that our teachers and students use every day. We are deeply grateful for your support.

You Counted on Eastern Christian for a Great Education



*Eastern Christian High School
Class of 1958 50th Reunion*

Help give future Eagles the same opportunity by including ECSA in your will, living trust, or other type of estate plan.

Create a Legacy.

Join the faithful generations supporting ECSA in our **2nd Century**.

We're Counting on You!

Visit us at:
<http://plannedgiving.ecsa.org>



Eastern Christian
School Association

Foundation Office
50 Oakwood Ave
North Haledon, NJ 07508

**For more information
please contact:**

**Garret Nieuwenhuis
Dir. of Planned Giving**

**Phone 973.427.9294
Fax 973.427.9775**

**[gnieuwenhuis@
easternchristian.org](mailto:gnieuwenhuis@easternchristian.org)**



Introducing **ditto**, our new upscale-resale store.

After several months of planning and searching, we found what we hope will be the ideal location for a new and larger resale store for the benefit of Eastern Christian School. Having outgrown our previous location and being anxious to expand our inventory selection, we were able to negotiate a favorable lease with the Sybesma family for approximately 11,000 square feet at their 965 Belmont Ave, North Haledon facility. On May 15 we took possession of the site and began the demolition/renovation process to convert this former warehouse/office space into a state of the art resale facility for good, clean, used merchandise. We plan to have the store stocked and open for business in early August.

To manage the day to day operations, we hired **Mr. Eric Hawn**, a former Eastern Christian parent who is active in local ministries. Eric has a strong background in retail operations which will be a significant advantage for this start-up operation.

Now that the work of getting the site ready has begun in earnest, we are starting the process of soliciting volunteers to assist with the day to day operations. We are also beginning to receive calls offering donations of household goods, clothing, appliances, furniture, sporting goods and other items. We will be very careful not to accept items that are not in good working condition or are worn or soiled so that our reputation for selling only upscale items will be preserved. All items will be accepted as a donation only; we will not operate on a consignment basis.

We are very excited with our first donation—a 1999 Ford Pickup truck in excellent condition which will be very handy in assisting us with

donation pickups if necessary.

We are indebted for the good advice received from our friends at other resale stores in Michigan, especially **ditto** in Holland, Michigan who have been extremely generous in sharing their experiences and permitting us to use their name and logo.

By the time you are reading this article, we hope to be open for business and on our way in supporting Eastern Christian with significant revenues from this exciting new venture. If you have an occasion to be in the North Jersey area, please stop by and say hello. We plan to be open year round everyday, except for Sundays and major holidays.



This fall, Eastern Christian will be installing solar panels on the roofs of all three school buildings. According to **Director of Operations John Belanus**, the school could save over \$6 million over 20 years. Listed below are some of the facts associated with this latest project by Eastern Christian to control the costs of education using proactive measures.

Eastern Christian School Solar Energy Fact Sheet

- ✓ System Size: 601,155 KW
- ✓ Life expectancy: 30-40 year useful life and comes with standard long term warranties
- ✓ Displacement of annual electric consumption: 98%. This is a net metering system—the meter will literally run backwards when we produce more power than what we are using.
- ✓ Approximate electricity value produced per year at 2010 rates: \$88,000.
- ✓ Construction time line: October 2010-December 2010
- ✓ Associated Benefits: System generated electricity will earn EC Solar Renewable Energy Certificates (SRECs) for the next 15 years. SRECs are clean energy credits; each credit represents the environmental attributes associated with generating 1,000 kilowatt hours of emissions-free solar energy from a qualified generation facility.
- ✓ In combination the sale of the SRECs, the electricity produced, and a 30% federal grant will pay for the entire system in less than 7 years.
- ✓ System Type: Ballasted flat roof solar array
- ✓ Number of Panels: A total of 1970 Sun Power T-5 305 watt solar panels will be installed on the roofs of all three of our school buildings. The one piece panels combine the solar panel, frame and mounting system into a single pre-engineered, non-penetrating unit positioned at a 5-degree angle. This is the industry's first all in one, non-penetrating photovoltaic roof-top product, and emanates from the investments made by the US Dept. of Energy through its Solar Initiative program.
- ✓ System Owner: Eagle Solar LLC

2010 Service Awards

5 Years

Courtney Dyksen
Lisa Dykstra
Stephanie Tanis
Mary Doreen
VanYperen
Paul Versnel

10 Years

Naomi Braunius
Judy Bruinooge
Cathy Clark
Corene DeGraaf
Nancy Johnston
Richard VanYperen

15 Years

Jean Huntington
David Joustra
Beverly Peters
Janet Santhouse
Jack Wilson

20 Years

Cynthia Adair
Terry Allen
Sandra Bottge
Nancy Hemrick
Manuela Lindemulder

30 Years

Ralph Hutton
Jan Lucas
Philip Verrengia

EVENTS

Thank You!

Our sincere thanks to the following businesses that generously helped to underwrite Auction Elegance.

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Thank you to the following businesses that generously supported this year's Golf Outing.

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SPRING EVENTS



AUCTION ELEGANCE

EC's Auction Elegance was held at The Tides on April 22, 2010. Nearly 300 EC supporters attended, placing bids on a variety of items, getaways, sports tickets and more. Thanks to the generosity of the sponsors and those who attended, \$49,100 was raised for EC. Pictured: **Ron & Laura (Faber-Struyk) Maccone '87.**



GOLF OUTING

EC's Golf Outing was held at Black Bear Golf Resort on May 24, 2010. 124 golfers enjoyed a fun day of golf, good fellowship and a delicious dinner. Thanks to the generosity of our sponsors and participants, \$34,500 was raised for EC. Pictured: Several golfers taking part in the Putting Contest.



BEEFSTEAK DINNER

The EC Athletic Boosters organized a beefsteak dinner at The Brownstone on March 17, 2010. The dinner was well attended by current EC athletes, their families, and many EC alumni. At the dinner, Athletic Director **Steve King** was recognized for the many awards he has received including 2009 New Jersey Coach of the Year and 2009 Northeast Sectional Coach of the Year, after his 500th win coaching girls' basketball last season. Pictured are many of Steve's past and current athletes he has coached.



SPORTS BOOSTER BENEFIT CONCERT

Bob Rubestello, owner of Select Catering, which provides lunches and snacks to all EC campuses, and his band "Out of Truth" held a concert on May 8, 2010 to benefit the EC Athletic Boosters. Joining them was "The Jay Everett Band" with former EC athletes **Jay Everett '06** and **Dominic Rivera '07** (pictured).

ALUMNI NEWS

Note: The following Alumni News was received via written note, e-mail or from media sources. The editors reserve the right to edit submissions.

FORMER STAFF

Milo Okkema '42 of Ridgewood, NJ, on Wednesday, June 16, 2010. He was a resident of Midland Park most of his life. He taught at EC from 1949 through 1965, teaching World History, Problems in American Democracy, American History and Civics. He also taught Commercial courses such as Steno and Typing in his early years. He was a member of West Side Presbyterian Church of Ridgewood, where he served as both a Deacon and Elder. Milo served his country during World War II in the United States Army. An avid gardener, his flowers provided much beauty to Vreeland Avenue in Midland Park for many years.

1930S

DEATHS:

- Margaret (Huizenga) Heerschap '33** on May 15, 2010 at the Holland Christian Home in North Haledon, NJ. Marge was a lifelong resident of Prospect Park before moving to North Haledon six years ago. She was a member of the Unity Christian Reformed Church in Prospect Park.
- Dow R. Drukker '34** of Wyckoff, NJ on Saturday, May 15, 2010. He was a member of Hawthorne Gospel Church and formerly a member of Bethel CRC. He also volunteered as a Chaplain at Preakness Health Care Center for 28 years.
- Vivian (Walder) Rodgers Younger '35** of Brick Township, NJ on Thursday, May 6, 2010. After Eastern Academy she attended business school, beginning her professional career as a bookkeeper at age 16. She was an active member of First Presbyterian Church, Lakewood NJ where she served as treasurer and elder.
- May (Veenstra) Capio '36** of Midland Park, NJ on March 18, 2010. May was born in Midland Park and was a lifelong resident there. In her early career, May worked as a Registered Nurse at the Paterson General Hospital.
- Martha (Postma) Zoetewey '36** on May 26, 2010. "Motts" was born in Fair Lawn, NJ and after graduating from EA, married and moved to Denver, CO. She was a member of Third Christian Reformed Church in Denver.
- John David Zuidema '38** of Harrisonburg, VA on March 31, 2009. During WWII he served in the United States Army Air Corps and was honorably discharged as a Corporal. As a self-taught Bible scholar, from the late 1950s onward, Mr. Zuidema was a lay gospel preacher and teacher. In 1973, he was pastor of Faith Gospel Church in Clifton, NJ. In 1979, he moved to Bradenton, FL to supervise the construction of a retirement community for retiring gospel missionaries.

1940S

DEATHS:

- Ada Marie (Meyer) Pontier '42** on April 10, 2010. Born in Orange City, IA, she lived in Wyckoff, NJ for 53 years before moving to North Haledon in 2005. Ada was a secretary for fifteen years for the Christian Health Care Center and a member of Cedar Hill Christian Reformed Church.
- John M. Kooreman '45**, of Hawthorne, NJ on April 25, 2010. John served his country proudly at the end of WWII in the Army Air Corps. John served in

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In Memorium

- Rev. Eugene Bradford -

Rev. Eugene Bradford passed away on January 20, 2010, in Holland, Michigan, after a brief period of decline. He was 94. Rev. Bradford was a minister in the Christian Reformed Church for more than a half-century, and before that, he served in the Orthodox Presbyterian Church for a decade. He pastored seven churches, and after he retired in 1980, he was an interim pastor at more than 19 churches. He leaves behind his second wife, Florence, five children, 10 grandchildren, 12 great-grandchildren, a brother, as well as nephews and nieces and four stepchildren and seven step-grandchildren. His first wife, Gwen, passed away in 1988.

Rev. Bradford served as President of Eastern Christian's Board of Directors in 1959, 1960 and 1961. During his service, he established "Loyalty Day" which continues still today under the name of Christian Education Day.

In his Loyalty Day letter of May 1961 to the Eastern Christian constituency he wrote, "believing that the God who has provided in the past, likewise holds the future in His hands, we plead for your unflinching loyalty to Him, praying much that He will inspire us all with deep faith and unwavering devotion in order that this Eastern Christian School Association may be an instrument of His glory."

We are forever grateful for his devoted service to our local churches, our Christian School and the larger Christian community. May God comfort the grieving family with the assurance that their loved one is with the Lord, and heard God say to him, "Well done thou good and faithful servant!"

For more information about Rev. Bradford's life, visit www.reveugenebradford.com.

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Eastern Christian Class of 1963

Wonderful memories exist of our school years in the Eastern Christian School Association. Most of us started together in kindergarten and were classmates until graduation day! Many of us began our school days at North 4th Street and continued on to Junior High, which was the old Eastern Academy on North 8th Street, Prospect Park. We were thrilled to attend the newly built, modern High School in North Haledon. As we walked up the front steps and entered through the door, we were daily greeted with these words "In thy Light shall we see Light"...Psalm 36:9. Guided by teachers and parents, we received a Christ-centered education. With this Christian slant on learning, we received the Light, retained it and transmitted it to others as we went on with our lives. Out of love, duty and devotion, our parents sacrificed to send us to Eastern Christian and because of it, our lives would never be the same.

Here we are 47 years later! Let's renew old friendships by remembering the fun and the memories by joining this group and by posting comments and sharing pictures, both past and present. This will be lots of fun for all of us!

To The Class of 1963 By Claire Beversluis Abel

We said good-bye in '63
But wondered through the years,
where could everyone be?
It's hard to know just where to look—
But hey—it's 2010—I'll check FaceBook!
Now here's a thought, how can this be?
We're older than our parents were in 1963!
We all were born in 1945,
Well, we're just thankful to still be alive!
But wait, we go on to say with pride—
"It's not your parents '65!"

Midland Park Christian Reformed Church for many years and most recently was a member of Covenant Christian Reformed Church in North Haledon.

Florence (Rozema) Van Harken-Clow '45 of North Haledon, NJ on April 9, 2010 at Hospice of New Jersey in Wayne. Florence worked as a Medical Secretary at the Christian Health Care Center in Wyckoff for more than 40 years before her retirement in 1999. She was a member of the Ridgewood Christian Reformed Church.

John W. Van Dyk '46 of Wilmington, DE on January 10, 2010. Born May 2, 1928 in Paterson, NJ, he was the only child of Andrew and Ida Van Dyk. After graduating from Eastern Academy he furthered his studies at Calvin College and Rutgers University and earned a PhD in Physical Chemistry from Columbia University in 1954. John was a longtime member of Emmanuel Orthodox Presbyterian Church in Wilmington.

John Smid '47 on Monday, April 19, 2010. He served in the United States Air Force followed by a career as a self-employed family dentist. John was most recently a member of the West Side Presbyterian Church of Ridgewood, NJ.

Henrietta (Faber) Valkema '49 on March 18, 2010, in Tallahassee, FL.

1950S

DEATHS:

Ruth Brain '51 on January 14, 2010 at Calvary Fellowship Homes. She served as a missionary in France for 30 years. After returning from France, she taught children in the Youth Ministries Department of Bible Centered Ministries in Akron, PA. Upon retiring, she volunteered at Willow Valley Retirement Center as well as Calvary Fellowship Homes.

William R. La Fleur '53 of Villanova, PA on February 26, 2010. He graduated from Calvin College, and continued with graduate training at the University of Michigan and the University of Chicago. Dr. La Fleur taught as an authority on Japanese intellectual history at Princeton University, the University of California at Los Angeles, and

Sophia University in Tokyo. He was most recently professor in Japanese Studies and also in the Department of Religious Studies at the University of Pennsylvania.

Alberta "Bert" (De Leeuw) De Blaeu '54 of Wyckoff, NJ on February 2, 2010. Bert was a member of Irving Park CRC in Midland Park for 34 years and then with Cedar Hill CRC. Bert was a treasured volunteer at EC's Corner Closet for many years.

Whether she was pricing items or working at the checkout counter, she always had a friendly smile and a willing heart. She will surely be missed.

1960S

Class of 1960: 50th Reunion on Friday, September 17 at The Paris Inn, Wayne NJ at 6pm. Also, on Saturday, September 18, breakfast at Eastern Christian High School at 9am. If you have not already responded and would like to attend, e-mail **Len Wynbeek** at: lwynbeek@aol.com.

Class of 1961: 50th Reunion is in the planning stage. Contact: **Joyce Kruithof** at jkruithof@rockisland.com or 21 Gull Place, Lopez Island, WA 98261.

Claire Beversluis Abel '63: I created a new site on Facebook called I REMEMBER EASTERN CHRISTIAN HIGH CLASS OF 1963. I had great fun in finding photos, mementos and memories of our days at Eastern Christian. Please visit and join! (See sidebar)

DEATHS:

Margaret (Kramer) Herr '60 of Whiting, NJ on Monday, March 8, 2010. Margaret and her husband were active members of the First Reformed Church in Pompton Plains.

John Vander Kooi '60 of Opp, AL, formerly of Hawthorne, NJ on June 6, 2010. He was a successful contractor who also used his skills to serve the community. He was a member of Westview Baptist Church in AL and a former member of Faith Community CRC in Wyckoff, NJ.

Joanne (Smith) Van Lenten '64 of Hawthorne, NJ on Friday, March 26, 2010. She was a member of the Madison Avenue Christian Reformed Church, Paterson where she was an elder, member of the

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ALUMNI PROFILE

Donald E. Greydanus, Class of 1962



Donald E. Greydanus, MD, is a Professor of Pediatrics & Human Development at Michigan State University College of Human Medicine and Pediatrics Program Director at the MSU/Kalamazoo Center for Medical Studies in Kalamazoo, Michigan.

In September of 2009, Professor Greydanus lectured at the Greidanus College in Zwolle, Netherlands; this is a Christian school named in honor of Professor Dr. Seakle Greydanus (1871 to 1948) who was a well-known theologian in the Netherlands and brother of Professor Donald

Greydanus's grandfather (Sytze Elo [Samuel] Greydanus) (1883-1964). In March 2010, the Senate of the University of Athens, Greece conferred on Dr. Greydanus the title of *doctor honoris causa*. This is the highest honorary title awarded by the University of Athens and is an honor declaring Professor Greydanus "a distinguished scientist who through outstanding work has bestowed praise and credit on the field of Adolescent Medicine (Epebiatrics)." He is pictured here receiving the award with his wife, Kathy.

In the spring of 2010 Dr. Greydanus also received the Society for Adolescent Medicine's most prestigious award, the Outstanding Achievement in Adolescent Medicine Award for 2010. The award was presented on April 10, 2010 in Toronto, Canada for a "Lifetime of exemplary scholarship and contribution to the field of Adolescent Medicine benefitting countless youth, their families, medical students, residents, and clinicians throughout the world."

Don adds, "I always credit my education at Eastern Christian for giving me a great educational and religious foundation!"



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Judah Choir, was co-leader of the women's Bible Study Group and, for 20 years, coordinated the Homeless Shelter Program.

1970s

Class of 1973: Check out "Eastern Christian High School Class of 1973" on Facebook. Join the group, let us know how you are doing and post your ideas about a 40 year reunion.

Jim Kuiken '72 is Senior Vice President and Executive Projects Officer with MWH Global, Inc. in Broomfield, CO. MWH does wet infrastructure, environmental, water and energy projects in more than 30 countries. Jim works closely with the company's executive team in building a better world.

1980s

Paul Thompson '83 was promoted to Associate Professor of History at North Greenville University, SC, where he is cur-

rently serving as Chair of the Department of History and Political Science and Coordinator of the Social Studies Education Program.

Lisa Visbeen Lehmann '87 was recently commissioned to design a line of jewelry to coincide with the Alexander Calder jewelry exhibit at the Grand Rapids Art Museum. Lisa's jewelry can be found at StudioJewel.com as well as stores around the country.



BIRTHS:

Dawn and **Gary Sporn '82**, a son, Preston Alexander on February 16, 2010. Preston joins sister Reagan (age 10) and brother Austin (age 8).

Patricia and **Ben Bontekoe '87**, twins, Samuel Thomas and Lucy Elizabeth on September 29, 2009. They join big brother Will (age 1½).

DEATHS:

Steven Wayne Jongsma '82 of Fremont, NH on April 3, 2010. He spent his career in the sheet metal fabricating industry, the past 18 years with Amada America. He was the beloved husband, for 26 years, of his high school sweetheart, **Laurie Ann (Van Dyke '82) Jongsma** and father of Steven and Danielle. Steven is survived by his mother, Elizabeth Jongsma of Hawthorne, NJ, and brothers Harold, Kenneth, Thomas and David and twin sister Sharon Jongsma.

Raymond John Hamming '82 of Wantage, NJ on June 7, 2010. Ray was a dairy and crop farmer with the family farm, Foothill-Acres Farm of Wantage. A member of the Sussex Christian Reformed Church, Ray was a loving and devoted husband and father who shared his passion for farming and love of God and His creation with family and friends. Ray is

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REUNION UPDATE

The Class of 1945



Front row: *Alice Wisse, Muriel (Van Lenten) Prins, Alice (Kruithoff) Baker, Lenora (Visbeen) Malefyt, Elaine (Hey) Hoogstra, Gertrude (Hartensveld) Troast, Herman Schipper.* Row 2: *Gary Link, Daniel Minkema, Ann (Vander Ree) Fisher, Helen (Van Abbema) Borduin, Doris (Hofstra) Villarreal, Kay (De Nooy) Arnold, Gerda Beverluis, Richard Roukema, Robert Troast.*

The Class of 1945 celebrated their 65-year reunion with a luncheon at Covenant Church in June 2010. A great time was had by all!

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survived by his wife, Jamie; his daughters, Andrea and Ashley; parents, Ike and Janet Hamming; and siblings Peter, Margaret, Bruce and Renee.

1990s

Shalom Fairley: "I graduated from the wonderful class of 1993. I just completed a masters in secondary education from Grand Canyon University. I teach Family Consumer Science at Rockdale County High School in Conyers, GA. I live in Covington GA, with my dog Judah. I am so blessed to have graduated from EC, no place else compares!"

BIRTHS:

Alissa and **Ryan Leegwater '92**, a son, Sean Edward on May 13, 2010 who joins big sister Hannah (age 2).

Mike '94 and **Becky Aupperlee '96 Lapinsky**, a daughter Gretchen Mae on June 1, 2010. Gretchen joins big sister Emma (age 7).

Mike and **Darlene Faasse Kameno '95**, a son, Matthew Victor on October 3, 2009.

Sarah and **Ernie Pastor '95**, a son, Noah James on March 17, 2010.

Meghan and **Dan Aupperlee '95**, twin daughters, Gwyneth Jane and Sophia Elizabeth on September 18, 2009. Dan and Meghan are both community group specialists with Wedgwood Family Services in Grand Rapids, MI.

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REUNION UPDATE

Class of '81



Front row (L-R) *JuleAnn Troast Martin, Lori Miller Lansey, Marianne Dyk Bushoven, Linda Van Boerum Hefty, Linda Mabie, Ginamarie Cassidy Quinn, Jim De Jong.* Back row: *Wayne Schipper, Jeff Streelman, Rich Vriesema, Kathy Van Goor Vriesema, Blair Hefty.*

Several members of EC's Class of 1981 gathered together on June 19 to pray for classmate Pam Westra Abma because of her serious illness. Many classmates who could not attend also promised to pray during this time as well.

It was a blessing to get together, to reminisce and to spend time together in prayer for Pam, Jim and their family.

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Jennifer and **Christopher Dykhous** '96, a daughter, Abigail Beth on May 18, joining older sister Madeline Rae. Chris practices veterinary medicine in Wyoming, MI, and lives in Hudsonville, MI.

Stephanie and **Mike Tanis** '96, a daughter, Brielle Claire on March 31, 2010.

Ashley and **P.J. De Jong** '97, a daughter, BryceEllen Marie on May 16, 2010.

2000S

Class of 2000: Our 10-year reunion is quickly approaching! If you are part of Facebook, please join our group "Eastern Christian High School Class of 2000." Post a message or email **Janelle Klaassen Peters** directly at bella8262@aol.com. Watch your mail for information!

Class of 2001: **Yvonne Wisse** has begun putting together a reunion committee. If you are interested in assisting the committee; please reach out to Yvonne or **Heather (Bushoven) Troupos**. The committee is in the process of gauging interest of class members in attending a reunion and looking for a location. The committee welcomes recommendations for place, date, and themes and has currently created a Facebook event as a forum. We are currently considering Friday, November 25 2011 as the best date option. You can contact us through Facebook or email Yvonne at yjwisse@gmail.com or Heather at troupos758@gmail.com.

Julie Dykhous Tokarski '01, graduated in May 2010 from UMDNJ-Robert Wood Johnson Medical School with a MD degree. Among other awards, Julie won the award for the highest degree of academic excellence in her class in the field of pediatric critical care. She is now entering a residency of training in pediatrics at Montefiore Children's Hospital in The Bronx, NY. Julie is married to classmate **Bill Tokarski** '01. Bill is a Treasury Analyst with the consulting firm Booz & Co. in Parsippany, NJ.

Christopher Lynch '04, has had several poems published. Many of these are based upon Bible accounts, including titles such as

Can You Identify These People?

If you can help us by recognizing any of the people in the photo below, please call us at (973) 427-9294 x208, email us at herald@easternchristian.org or write to The Herald, 50 Oakwood Ave, North Haledon, NJ 07508



"Jonah Goes Overboard," "Samson's BIG Mistake," and "Jesus' Big Test." Many of these are suited for children's books.

If anyone has an interest in illustrating for such material, please contact Chris at christopherl2010@yahoo.com.

Alex Noyes '04 is the drummer for American pop band, Honor Society. The band performed live at the NFL Pro Bowl in the Sun Life Stadium in Miami, FL on January 31, 2010.

BIRTHS:

Joshua '00 and **Cassie Cortese**'01 De Jong, a daughter, Isabella Faith on April 28, 2010.

Ken and **Kristina Lyman Kruthoff**'04, a daughter, Annabelle Grace on August 31, 2009.

MARRIAGES:

Yvonne Wisse '01 and Danny Gogolen on July 30, 2010. Yvonne & Danny became

engaged at the finish line of the Hartford Marathon last October! They are residing in Hawthorne, NJ.

Krista Breure '03 and Jason Rankin on June 19, 2010. The couple resides in Lancaster, PA.

Kelley Greenfield '05 and **Daniel Westra** '04 on June 5, 2010. They are living in Oakland, NJ.

Jenna Hulsebos '05 and **Phillip Beverly** '05 on June 25, 2010. They are residing in Prospect Park, NJ. Jenna is a 2nd grade teacher at ECES, and Phillip will begin graduate studies at NYU in the fall.

Samantha Nathan '06 and **Harrison Bruining** '06 on February 14, 2010. Harrison is currently serving in the US Marines and is stationed at Camp Lejeune in Jacksonville, NC.

DESIGNATED GIFTS

JANUARY 9, 2010 – JUNE 24, 2010

*During this time period, 257 gifts were received in honor/memory of a loved one or friend.
The total amount of the gifts received in honor/memory of a loved one or friend was \$48,834.90.
Thank you to all who made these donations to support Christian education at EC!*

☞ In Memory of ☞

William Allman, Sr.

Leonard Allman & Jill Sipe

Edith R. Belanus

Jewel Snyder
Judith Achterhof
Edward & Betty Slump

Nicholas & Anita Beverly

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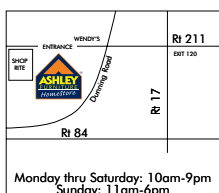
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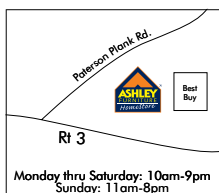
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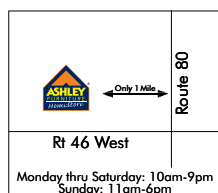
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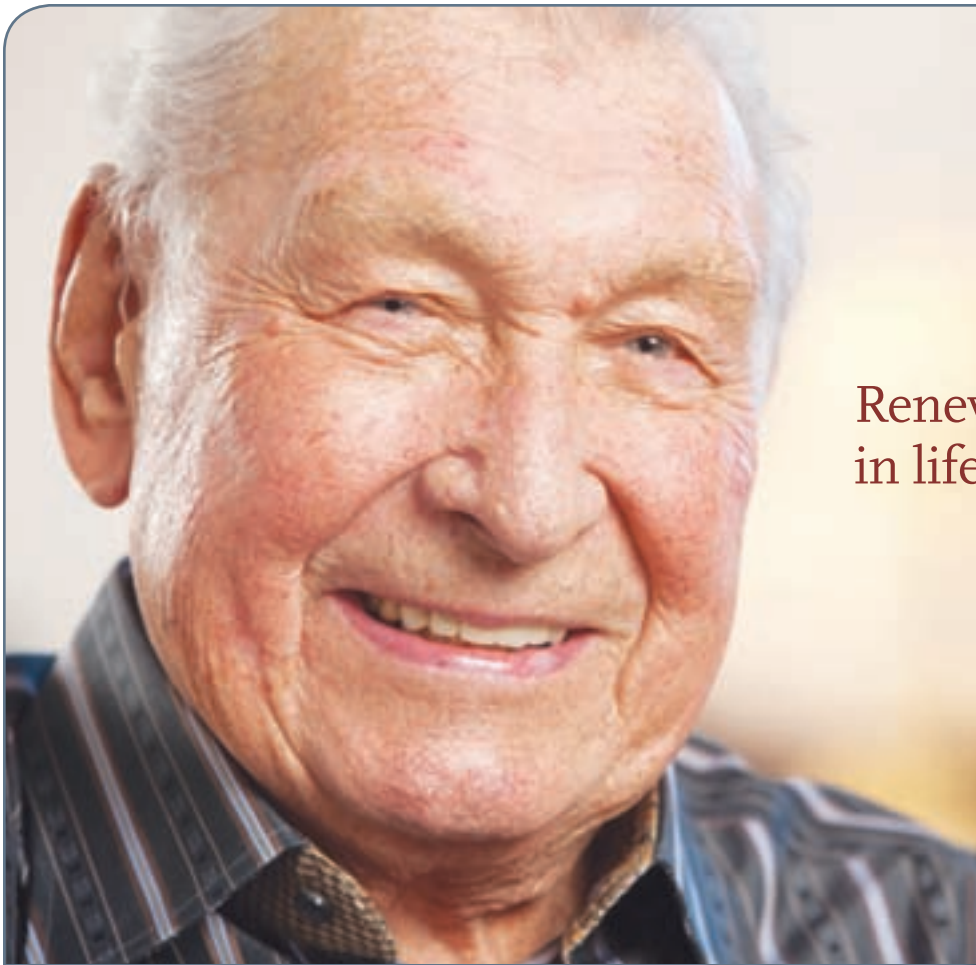
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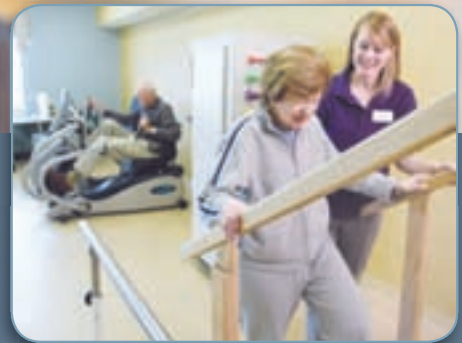
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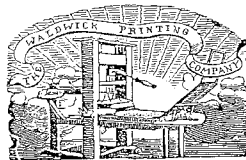
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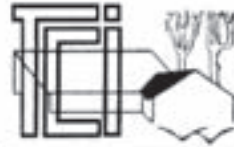
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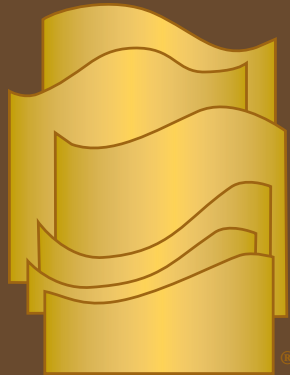
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Sophomores **Morgan De Marco** and **Faith Schmitt**.

Girls' Track & Field: The girls' team had one of the best seasons in its history, as it won the BPS league title and came in second in the Non-Public B State Meet. Sophomore **Kristen Traub** won the state, county and league titles in the 1600m and 3200m. In addition, senior **Jamie Van Buiten** (discus, javelin, shot put), freshman **Bethany Van Eck** (100m hurdles, 400m hurdles, long jump) and three pole vaulters: seniors **Kerith Sunden** and **Emily Bruins** and sophomore **Jessica Wisse** took home medals from the State Championship Meet.



Senior **Megan Polulak**

Girls' Varsity Softball: The softball team finished with a record of 9-12, and had a season of many ups and downs. Struggling at the start of the season, the team finished with seven wins in their last 10 games. A season highlight was a victory against Midland Park, the team's first win against their rival in four years. Senior **Megan Polulak** was named to the 2nd-team All Passaic County, and senior **Kelsey Spoelstra** was named to the 3rd-team.



Senior **Jordan Paulino**

Boys' Track & Field: While the boys' team finished with a record of 2-4 in the league, there were many strong individual performances this year. Senior **Ben deWaal Malefyt**, in breaking his own school record in the discus, won the Non-Public B State Title. Juniors **Sam Braen** (200m, 400m) and **Jeremy Braunius** (1600m, 3200m) had solid seasons as well.



Senior **Tim Byrd**

Boys' Varsity Tennis: The boys' tennis team had their most successful season in years, finishing with an 11-3 record and tying for first place in their very competitive division with Pompton Lakes. The team was led by junior **Gene Hill** at first singles, where he proved to be one of the best players in the league. Based on their successful records, four of the five spots in the varsity team earned a bye in the first round of the County Tournament, and the team finished 4th in that tournament. The team's fine season ended in the first round of the State Tournament to a tough Solomon Schecter team.



Seniors Eric Malnati and Taylor Crawley

Golf: The golf team, led by lone returning players seniors **Eric Malnati** and **Taylor Crawley**, learned a lot from new coach **Mark Yannota**. Eric said, "All of our success was due to our new coach. Over the next few years, the team will see even more improvement."



Sophomore Dylan Renicker and Senior Tyler Westra

Boys' Varsity Baseball: With a number of games lost in the final or extra innings, the baseball team this year couldn't catch a break. Their final record was 7-15, but a number of games were decided by two runs or less. In both the County and State Tournament, the team lost games after going into the final inning tied. The team was lead by senior pitcher **Tyler Westra** and his catching partner **Dave Rainville**. Juniors **Craig Jacobs**, **Scott De Jong** and **Dan Onove** also had strong seasons for the Eagles.

Athletic Department Awards

Wendy's High School Heisman Award

Ben de Waal Malefyt and Rachel Greenfield

ECCHS Athletic Department Varsity Club Award

Dave Rainville, Kelsey Spoelstra and Megan Polulak

NJSIAA Scholar Athlete Award

Rachel Greenfield

Athletic Department Iron Eagle Award

Kelsey Spoelstra, Megan Polulak and Andrew Vriesema

Passaic County Coaches Association Senior Scholar Athlete

Andrew Vriesema and Kelsey Spoelstra

New Jersey National Girls and Women in Sports Day

Megan Polulak

Two EC Athletes Named to All Decade Team

Kelsey Spoelstra '10 and Erin Veenstra '02 were recently chosen by The Bergen Record as being members of the 2000s All-Decade Girls Soccer Team for Passaic County. Erin scored the winning goal in the Passaic County final game in 2000. Kelsey scored the winning goal in the 2007 State Parochial B final.

Here are the entries written by The Record:

Erin Veenstra, Eastern Christian (2002): Veenstra was a three-sport standout and finished with 74 goals and 59 assists. She led the Eagles to their only County title in 2000.

Kelsey Spoelstra, Eastern Christian (2010): Scored 25 goals as a senior and 81 overall, but none was bigger than the overtime game-winner in the 2007 State non-Public B final.

THE HERALD

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