

THE COMMUNICATOR



GIVING
thanks

BY JILL VANDERWIER



Listowel
CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

It is that time of year, Thanksgiving, when we stop and reflect on all the things we have to be thankful for. As a school community, we overflow with thankfulness—for our new school and new playground, and our school community who put in countless volunteer hours helping to get the school ready. We are also thankful for our teachers who love our children and teach them daily. We are committed to Christian education because we want our children to be rooted in the faith. As Colossians 2:7 (NLT) says, “Let your roots grow down into him, and let your lives be built on him. Then your faith will grow strong in the truth you were taught, and you will overflow with thankfulness.” We want our own faith and our children’s faith to be the foundation of our lives. We overflow with thankfulness to God for the gift of salvation that he has given us. When things are going well, it is not difficult to find things to be thankful for!

But, God also commands us to “Always be joyful. Never stop praying. Be thankful in **all** circumstances, for this is God’s will for you who belong to Christ Jesus.” (1 Thessalonians 5:18 NLT) What about being thankful in hard times? What if you lose a loved one, battle cancer, have a relationship break down, deal with depression, things like that? How do

we thank God in the dark and difficult times in our lives? I remember walking through a very difficult time, and realizing that the only thing I had left to hold on to was God. That realization made me thankful. I felt like I was falling, and just knowing deep down, that God was there to catch me gave me hope. I didn’t know how I was going to get through the dark time, but I just knew from the faith that was deeply rooted in my heart that God was there and would help me get through. If I

didn’t believe God was there, I would have just felt like I was falling, not knowing when it would end. So even in the hard times, we can be thankful for God’s faithfulness and comfort. Knowing that He has a plan and holds each one of use close to him give us peace and hope.

This verse from Philippians summarizes this so wonderfully: “Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, *with thanksgiving*, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.” Philippians 4:6-7 (NLT). As we remember all that we are thankful for, remember that God is in it all. Have a blessed Thanksgiving!

*“Let your roots
grow down
into him”*

It is not joy that makes us grateful; it is gratitude that makes us joyful.

BROTHER DAVID STEINDL-RAST



WHO IS IN CHARGE?

Having worked in the Listowel community for over five years now I realize that many of us are hard workers. We are doers, we are fixers, we are take charge people! Whether on the farm, in the school setting, or in our churches, we encounter obstacles and we seek to overcome them. For a lot of us, that has been built into our character and, in many cases, it has enabled us to flourish. It is a good characteristic.

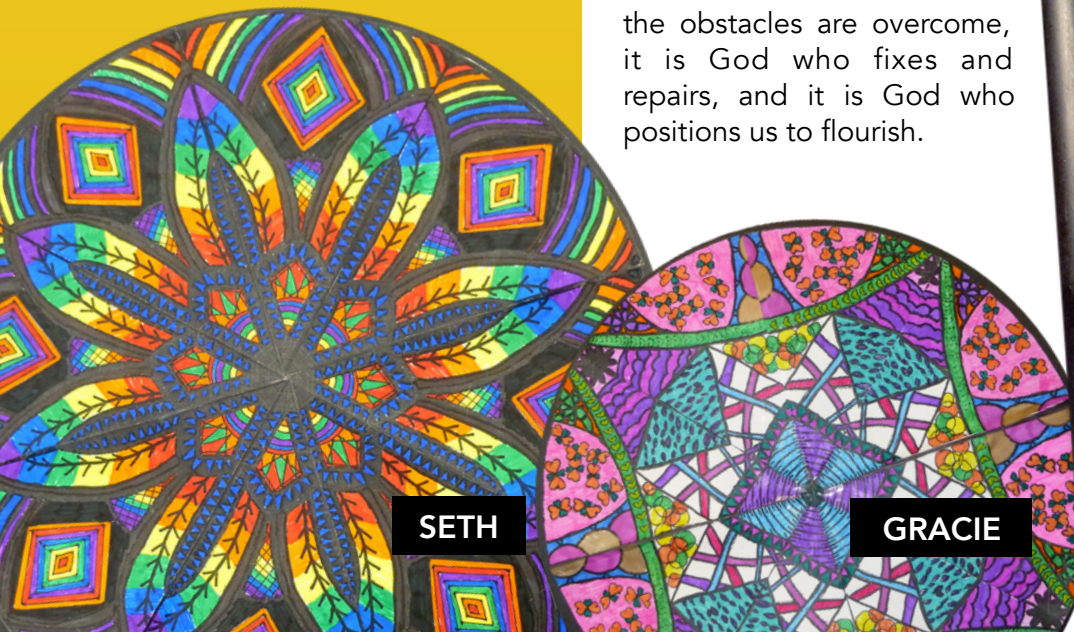
However, I am also thankful that I am not dependent on my own ability to fix or overcome obstacles to govern my life. I believe the result would be disastrous. This year we adopted a school verse that challenges our fixer and doer mentality. Our verse from Matthew 6:33 states, "But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well". I take great assurance in the promise here. All I need to do is focus on God Himself, His will and His plan for me, and He will take care of all the details. It is God who ensures the obstacles are overcome, it is God who fixes and repairs, and it is God who positions us to flourish.

We have a sign in our kitchen that reads, "Good morning! This is God, I will be handling all of your problems today. I will not need your help. So relax and have a good day!". Now when I pour my morning coffee I read that sign. I don't have to rely on my own strength, I can give it all over to God. All I have to do, is put my trust in Him.

There are a lot of things I am thankful for, but this one seems to hit the mark for me every day. I am thankful for a God who cares about me enough to greet me in the morning and assure me that he will watch over me throughout my day. The success of my day doesn't depend on me, God has it! My task is much easier – seek to follow God and align myself with his plan. I am thankful that God is in charge!



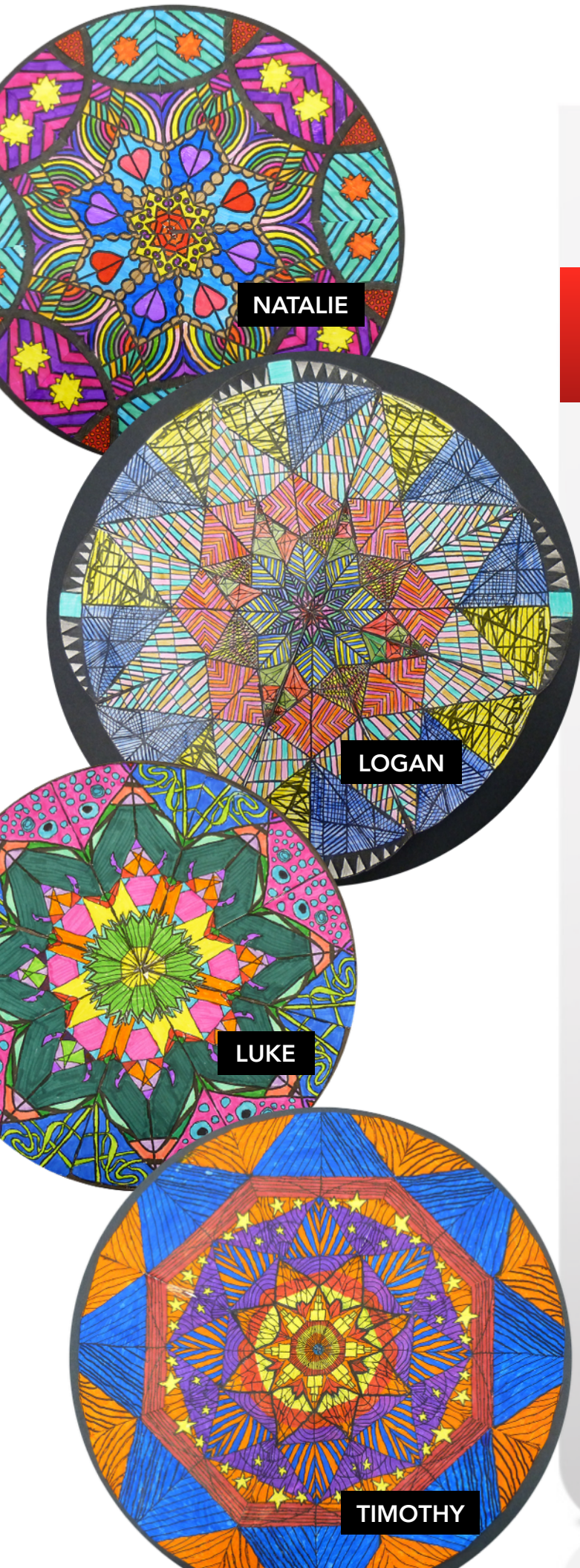
Grade 1 and Grade 5-6 are reading buddies. Here they are working together to create 3-D replicas of characters in their books.



SETH

GRACIE





NATALIE

LOGAN

LUKE

TIMOTHY

BOARD REPORT



CHERYL MULDER
BOARD SECRETARY

The 2018-2019 school year has begun with much more than the usual excitement. The Kick Off BBQ, the unofficial beginning of school, was very well attended and provided the first opportunity for many to see, touch, and tour the new building. The building committee, volunteers, and our dedicated staff worked hard to have classrooms and common areas ready for viewing. The excitement could be felt in the air as all students were eager to see their new classrooms; something typically experienced only by Kindergarten students at this end-of-summer event. What a blessing to walk through this facility with its fresh paint smell indicating new beginnings; to study the mural in the foyer representing almost half a century of love, support, and even sacrifice; and to be surrounded by the crowds in the hallways – generations upholding this community and encouraging it on to ever greater things!

Our former building was bursting at the seams; a new facility promised room to grow and the board was pleased to be able to approve the membership of 11 new families over the summer months.

The board also received the report from the COO Evaluation team. The board wishes to thank all who contributed to this process through surveys and interviews. We have received a report from the committee based on your contributions and are pleased to continue to support our COO, Ed Boelens.

Autumn is a time of gathering a harvest, of realizing the potential of planted seeds and dreams. My youngest child graduated from LCS six years ago, but coming back to walk these new hallways as a board member has me once more seeing the harvest of dreams, of big ideas, and of our Lord's blessing on this community! I look forward to seeing a completed renovation and all that is in store for Listowel Christian School for generations to come.

LISTOWEL CHRISTIAN SCHOOL
presents the

country craft **BAZAAR**

**SATURDAY
NOVEMBER 24**



Food
Crafts
Plants
Games
Ice Cream
Popcorn
Home Baked Goods
Books
Cards
& MORE!



8AM - 2PM

FREE
Admission

NEW LOCATION!

Listowel
Christian School
305 Binning St. W.
Listowel



The soccer teams had their annual tournament. Above right the girls are super excited to score their only goal of the tournament! It was a long day and they are showing their post-game fatigue (right).

LCS *in* ACTION



KALEB



HENK



The playground equipment has been a huge hit. Thanks to the LCS supportive community for providing these amazing structures.



CLAIRE



KATHERINE



KENZIE



CHARIS



DYLEN

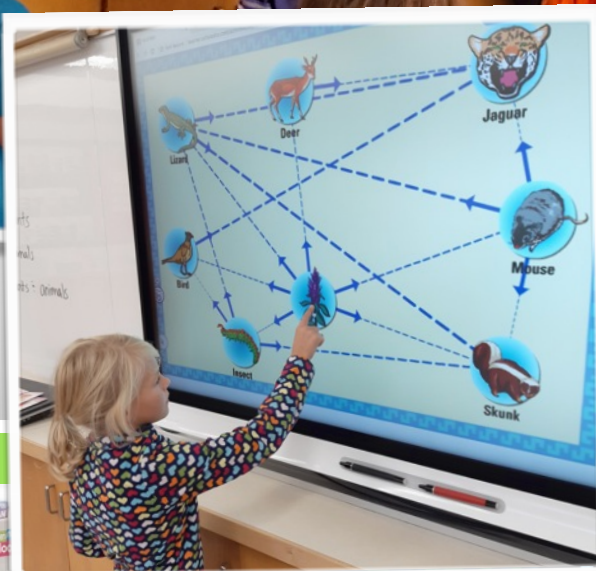


HAYLEY

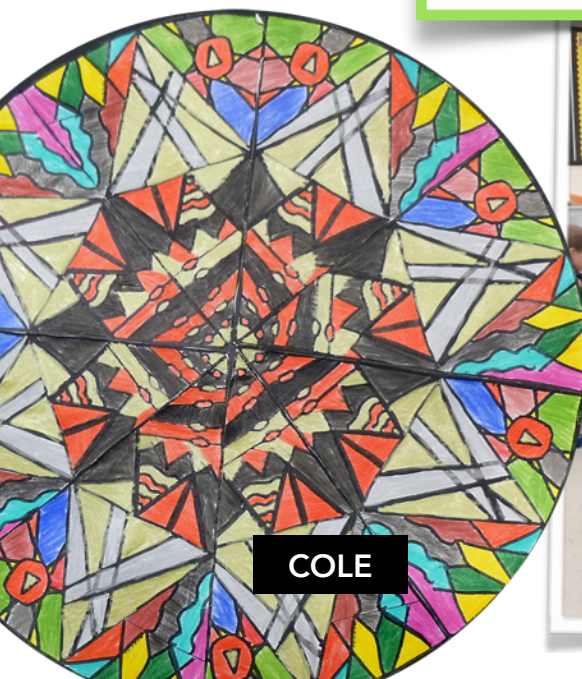


DANIEL

Mrs. Delleman is loving her new Smart Board. Students can engage visually and interactively in many ways, either at the board or through their Chromebooks. They even worked through a rainy recess!

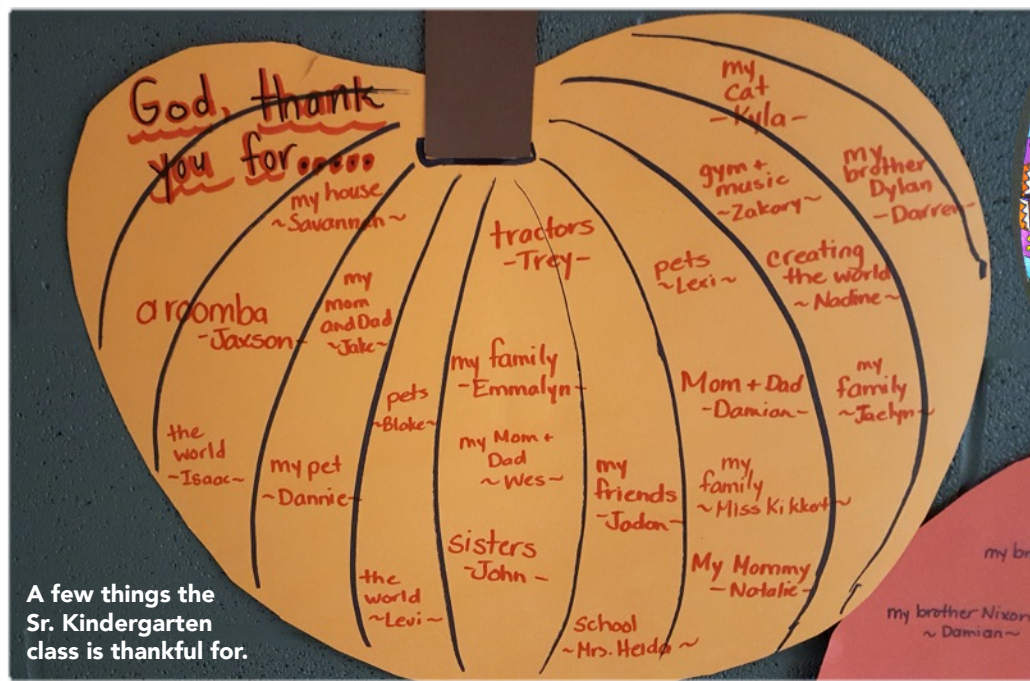


TECH FUN



COLE





A few things the Sr. Kindergarten class is thankful for.



BETHANY



NOAH

pie PIE PIE

Thanks to all who came out to make this fundraiser a success!



LEVI



CELINE

MISSION + VISION

LCS is a growing elementary school through excellence in Christian education in a nurturing environment supported by a diverse Christian community.

Our vision is that the vibrant community of Listowel Christian School will expand its relationships with the broader community through engaging our students in educational endeavours which puts their faith into action.



SCOTT



BROOKE

2018-19 THEME VERSE:

"But seek first his kingdom
and his righteousness,
and all these things will be
given to you as well."

MATTHEW 6:33

UPCOMING EVENTS

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- | | |
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| Mon. Oct. 22 | Open House, 7 - 9 p.m. |
| Tues. Oct. 23 | Pastor's Breakfast,
8:30 - 10:30 a.m. |
| Thurs. Oct. 25
& Fri. Oct. 26 | PD Day - Edvance
Teacher's Convention |
| Mon. Nov. 5 | Calling All 3-year-olds,
1 - 3 p.m. |
| Fri. Nov. 16 | PA Day - Report Card
Writing |
| Mon. Nov. 19 | LCS Fall Membership
Meeting |
| Sat. Nov. 24 | LCS Bazaar |
| Mon. Nov. 26 | First term Report Cards
go home |



GERRIT



WILLIAM



Listowel
CHRISTIAN SCHOOL