

THE COMMUNICATOR

Victory IN CHRIST

BY JANEL HIEMSTRA

The graduates of the 2021-2022 class chose 1 Corinthians 15:57-58, "But thanks be to God! He gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. Therefore, my dear brothers and sisters, stand firm. Let nothing move you. Always give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord, because you know that your labour in the Lord is not in vain." May we all find encouragement from these verses as we celebrate the class of 2022 on their graduation.

At the end of the chapter in verse 57 Paul says, "Thanks be to God! He gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ." Then he encourages us with this, "Therefore, my dear brothers and sisters, stand firm." Stand firm No. 1: "Let nothing move you." No. 2: "Always give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord, because you know that your labour in the Lord is not in vain."

For one and a half school years, I had the privilege of literally taking a back seat ride through education with these 7 graduating students. Now I don't know if this is payback because I got to watch, observe, listen to, encourage, mentor and educate from the back of the classroom while they presented, acted, passed notes, wrote tests, recited memory work etc. in front of me and I rarely took the front of the class. So, work with me for a moment, is this your way of wanting to put me in the hot seat?!

If we take a look at the graduation verse that this graduating class chose this year, it starts off with giving thanks and reminds us that He gives us the victory through Jesus Christ. Each of these graduates are not graduating alone. In fact, their parents are also graduating. They have walked this journey too and for that reason we need to give thanks to them as well.

Each student couldn't have reached this milestone without a lot of help from their parents. Think about all the lunches they have packed, permission slips they have signed and parent/teacher conferences they attended so diligently. Don't forget

all the homework and projects they may have helped with and gentle reminders to attend ZOOM meetings during lockdown. Think of all the events they attended, regardless of the weather. They purchased school supplies and made sure that clothes were clean and shoes fit. On graduation night some families were seeing their first child graduate from LCS, while others had the opportunity to do so before. But just because it may be the second, third or fourth child to graduate from Grade 8 from a family, it doesn't mean that it's insignificant. We are to give thanks because we are each uniquely made in God's image. To the parents in which this was your final LCS graduation, may you never be strangers, but mentors and friends to those that are still navigating this educational road. So parents, remember to hold your head up proudly as your child walks across the stage because it was your graduation too.

Next, Paul then encourages us to stand firm. "Therefore, my dear brothers and sisters, stand firm. Let nothing move you". I have seen each graduate stand firm on multiple occasions. Each of them demonstrated on one occasion or another their confidence in their faith, themselves, and their classmates. Don't ever lose that confidence. I've seen students rock a mullet like it's the 1980s. I've seen someone play hockey on an all-boys team with no previous organized hockey experience. I've seen students step up and take charge while leading a Team event or Student Leadership assembly. I've seen students helping other students that struggle with education and social interactions. They encouraged and filled each other up.

Now there can be many advantages and disadvantages to a class of 7. Some of our graduates will attend high school together, while others travel to uncharted territory. The friendships they made here at LCS can last their lives through. I encouraged the graduates to keep in touch with each other, call or text to say hello. Encourage each other, like they so often have. Keep each other accountable. As followers of Christ, we are accountable to each other. High school can be a hard time for some and an exciting time for others. Remind each other

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2021-2022 ISSUE #4



Listowel
CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

*This issue features
the Gr. 8 graduates,
with poems written
by the Gr. 7 students.*





Congratulations

TO THE

CLASS OF 2022

BETHANY, HENK, LOGAN, TIMOTHY, CHARIS, DANIEL & COLE



My time at LCS has been a journey; between loving school and hating school and finding my place. I've enjoyed being a part of plays and playing on sports teams, even when we lost every game. One of my favourite memories at LCS is laughing with Charis so hard that we'd both be crying. Next year I will be attending Listowel District Secondary School. I'd like to pursue a career involving people, I'm not sure exactly what though.

See ya, LCS.

Bethany is fun
She is good at her school work
She loves recess too

She is artistic
She always gives it her all
She is amazing!

BY LEXIE, MADDIE + OLIVIA

Bethany
BAARDA

*So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed,
for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you;
I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.*

ISAIAH 41:10

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

to stand firm in your faith when times get tough. Stick together. Pray for each other. Your faith will be tested but we believe as Christian educators that we have given you the tools you need to continue this educational journey as a disciple. Stand firm, let nothing move you.

Finally, "always give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord, because you know that your labour in the Lord is not in vain." On graduation evening, we reminded the students that they are now standing at the beginning of their future. It's not a distant reality anymore like when they entered JK. Their future is just around the corner. They began as a 4 year old, maybe even as a 3 year old when they entered their education career, but now they are leaving as 13 or 14 year olds to enter into high school. Some of them have completed 10 years of Christian education and that will serve as the platform they use to launch themselves into their futures. Each of them will travel their own path.

No matter where they go or what you do, there are challenges ahead. What we ask from each of them is to meet those challenges straight on with their head held high and their heart wide open. It's not enough to simply try to get by in life. That doesn't move the world forward. They must try to excel in everything they do; strive for excellence in every task, large or small, and be an image bearer of Christ.

Although it may not be easy to see, every accomplishment we achieve is added to the world's accomplishments. Your individual successes benefit society as a whole because, when you succeed, you lighten the burden on your fellow friend and believer. When you succeed, you are in a position to give rather

than take. Be the light of God in this broken world.

Imagine if every individual lived up to his or her own potential. Think about how amazing that would be and how much better off the world would be. Now imagine if just half of those individuals lived up to their potential. The world would still be an awesome place. If even ¼ of those individuals worked to make their lives successful, they could still make some amazing contributions to society. Now think of these students. There are 7 graduates who are gifted, talented and made in the image of God. I encourage each of you to live up to the potential that God has created you to be.

Well, you may not have the power to inspire the entire world to strive for success, but you do have the power to try to achieve it for yourselves. My challenge to each graduate is to do all that they can do to reach their full potential. Always give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord, because you know that your labour in the Lord is not in vain. If each of these graduates are able to do that, just imagine the effect they could have on their next set of classmates, friends, and community. The future is truly in their hands, so let's encourage them to make the most of it.

So be encouraged by this graduation verse. Our victory is in Christ. Therefore, we can stand firm. Therefore, we can know that nothing will move us, and nothing will separate us from His love so we can boldly give ourselves to the work of the Lord. Everything that God calls us to do will not be in vain and this is not true because it is my promise. It's true because it is His promise.

May the light of your glory never grow dim. May the wisdom of God remain in you, and may mighty doors be opened up for you. Congratulations graduates of 2022.

I have been at LCS for 10 years, and have made many different friends. One of my favourite trips was the Ottawa trip, especially the TreeTop Trekking day. I learned at LCS to love your neighbour as yourself. Some of the nicknames I had were Psycho Sid, Antonio, and Big H. Next year, I will be attending Woodland Christian Highschool. I have participated in almost as many sports as I could, and I hope to do more in highschool. I still don't know what I would like to do in the future.

Henry, Henry, Henry...

Henk's hair is as fluffy as a cloud,
and like a golden lion's mane.
He is as macho as Goliath, as tough as a stone fortress,
strong like an iron beam.
His biceps are like rolling hills, his abs like hard rock.
He is as devoted as a loyal mutt, as devious as a fox.
He is as robust as a cinderblock,
as knowledgeable as a seer,
and as rugged as a cliff-side.
Henk is epic and awesome as a good classmate!

BY JAXON AND SHAUN



*Your path led through the sea,
your way through the mighty waters,
though your footprints were not seen.*

PSALM 77:19

Henk
BENJAMINS



VALEDICTORIAN SPEECH

BY CHARIS VANDER KLIPPE

Fellow graduates, teachers, family, and friends. The time has finally come! This is the day we graduate and end our journey at L.C.S, but also the day we begin a new chapter in our lives. The road has been long and at times difficult. Mr. Boelens has packed our heads full of facts and numbers, we've been taught and tested, coached, and encouraged to grow. Now we wait eagerly for the future and what it will bring. Today, we celebrate an end and a beginning.

We began school with no idea what we were in for. First learning our ABCs, we grew and flourished, watched classmates leave and new ones arrive. We did group projects, painted, wrote papers, typed essays, and leapt over high jump bars. Yes, arriving at the end of all these good things is a bittersweet goodbye, but there's no group I'd rather

do it with than my friends at L.C.S. However, I think we've all realised that there's more to school than just reading and writing. Often, we would focus on social skills and group work - making some awesome memories along the way. Whether it's faking a lost connection in online school, coming up with insane ideas to present before the staff, or even picking up schoolyard trash, it was fun when we worked together. Looking at all of the faces here, I know God has got amazing things in store for all of us, and He'll be there guiding us on whatever paths we choose to take.

There have been difficulties in getting to this place and there will be difficulties ahead. I know that online schooling was pretty tough for me. I mean, you can't doodle on a Google Doc! We went from seeing our friends in person every day to seeing an occasional face on zoom calls. It was really a big transition, and I don't even want to talk about masks. Skipping ahead, we're still here, and even though I will never look at hand sanitizer the same way again, we're going to continue travelling this route towards the future.

Though there are only seven of us here

today, that's seven more kids out there, equipped with the armour of God, and ready to take on the battle we call life. True, we all have different skill sets. Some of us are really book smart. Others are more socially oriented, and still others are good at sports, art, languages, and music - even war history! No matter what gifts we've received, they are important and unique, and it's going to be really cool developing them further in high school. God has blessed us all in some way or another, but sometimes it's hard to see. It's easy to feel afraid of failure, but never stop walking forward courageously and trying new things, because Jesus is the author and the perfecter of your faith.

Our class graduation verses this year, 1st Corinthians 15: 57-58, reminds us that we can be firm and courageous, because God has given us the victory. And just remember that God is always ready to talk. He's the best friend you could ever have! Always available. Even in times of doubt, God is our salvation. He's remarkable, holy, everlasting, unfailing, merciful, compassionate, unshakeable, and most importantly, He loves you SO much.



I have enjoyed my past 9 years at LCS. My nicknames have been Vector or Lawrence. I have had the opportunity to be on every sports team this year. We got consultation champs in soccer, 2nd in volleyball, 2nd in baseball and not so good in the other sports. Two of my favourite memories of LCS are the bus rides on the West bus and the Ottawa Trip. I have appreciated the Christian environment and small size of LCS. I will be attending F.E. Madill this coming fall and hope to go into the agriculture business when I am older.

Loves playing hockey
Outstandingly competitive
Good at sports
An amazing friend
Never gives up

BY MADDIE, LEXIE AND OLIVIA

Logan
HAANSTRA

*Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for human masters, since you know that you will receive an inheritance from the Lord as a reward.
It is the Lord Christ you are serving. COLOSSIANS 3:23-24*

L.C.S has been the best experience of my life. Think of what good things will happen in the time to come! It's kind of scary, but also really exciting. Some of us will attend the same high school, maybe even the same classes, but all of us will make new friends and even more happy memories. High school will bring joyful days, dreary days, boring days, and crazy days- even though we've had our share of those at L.C.S. It will present new opportunities and develop skills we didn't know we had.

There will be classes for business, sciences, languages, nutrition, and especially art- which I am definitely taking. Also something called trigonometry- which I'm a little apprehensive about. The first day will be nerve-racking, the second, scary, but gradually, we'll grow more and more comfortable, and get to know some awesome things about other people and ourselves. In a couple of years, we'll be watching Grade 8s just like ourselves arrive, which feels a little absurd. But don't worry- that's not coming for a while, and right now, we're still in the stage of excited anticipation.

So, thank you. Thank you teachers,

parents, and coaches. You're the reason we're here today, and we couldn't have done it without you. Some days must have been pretty difficult, but you guys made school an awesome environment to learn in. I'd also like to address my classmates. Wow guys- we're here! Remember all of those times we tried to change the subject in class to talking about graduation? Well, now it's actually happening. It blows my mind to think that I've spent so much of my life with you guys, and now we're moving on. I'll never forget any of you. Daniel, keep trying to find the book of Moses. It's got to be

out there somewhere. Bethany, thanks for sticking around even when the other girls moved away. All of my bus mates, thanks for the strange conversations that kept things lively. And Henk, thanks for keeping the class awkward-silence free.

So, Bethany, Logan, Cole, Henk, Daniel, and Timothy, be proud of yourselves, and move forward with a smile on your face to the next stage of life. You've accomplished so much, and God's got good things in store for you. So, sit back and enjoy the ride. Thank you.



My time at LCS has been a great experience. I have enjoyed the sports teams and the great Christain community. I have made lots of new friends at LCS. My nicknames have been Timo and Mahommed. My favourite memory was the Ottawa trip. Next year I will be attending F.E. Madill.

Timothy is great
Shines like a star
He'll make it far

He adores hockey
He scores many goals
He plays it well

He loves to dirt bike
On his KTM
Goes very fast

He is a nice guy
Always helping out
Goodbye Timo

BY LOGAN AND SCOTT



*The Lord has done great things for us,
and we are filled with joy.*

PSALM 126:3

Timothy
KRAAYENBRINK



HISTORIAN SPEECH

BY BETHANY BAARDA, HENK BENJAMINS, AND LOGAN HAANSTRA

Logan- Here we are at the end of grade 8. We have so many good memories of our time at LCS, and we'd like to share them with you.

Bethany- It all started a long, long, long, time ago back in the year 2012. Our class included Henk Benjamins, Charis Vander Klippe, Cole Weber, Ryer Damen, Kaleb Schouten, Thomas Drenth, Noah Robson, Celine Angst, Claire Elisen, and myself, Bethany Baarda, and Mrs. Heida was our teacher. Probably the best part of our whole time at LCS was nap time. At the time, we might not have thought so but looking back we all miss it. At playtime, the boys would play with tractors and trucks and the girls would play dress-up. Our field trip was to the Fire Station, and we had pizza in the park, a treat we savoured then and still love today. We all loved to see the big fire trucks and Sparky the dog.

Henk- In SK, Logan Haanstra and Daniel

VanderSlikke joined our class, while Ryer left. Again Mrs. Heida was our teacher. We all loved doing dress up and singing the alphabet as a class, especially when we got to choose what genre it was in. We always chose the more 'cool kid' rap version. I also remember we used to fight over who got to sweep around the sandbox after every playtime. Mrs. Heida always had to mediate, as the arguments sometimes got quite heated. Other times, Mrs. Heida had to control the fight over whose dad was stronger, or taller... even though nobody ever won that argument. Our field trip was to a pumpkin patch where we got to go down a big slide, and everyone got to pick out a pumpkin to bring home. At the end of the year, we got to graduate for the first time into elementary school.

L- In grade 1, we had a new teacher, Mrs. O'Boyle, who taught us lots of fun songs such as 'Boom Chicka Boom' and 'The Water Cycle', which we sometimes still sing. Mrs. O also used to get the 'singing flu', which meant that she would only be able to sing, not talk. Sadly, we lost naptime and we also started coming to school every day instead of just three times a week. Our field trip was to Ripley's Aquarium where we saw interesting and

unique marine life. I think the best part of the Aquarium was when you got to walk beneath the shark tank - we all thought that was so cool. I remember also feeling mature because this was the first year we got homework, which was exciting at the time.

B- In grade 2, Thomas left and Silas Barnhoorn joined our class. This was the first and only year that our class was split with half of us in Mrs. O'Boyle's class with the grade 1s and half of us in Ms. Van Rooyen's class with the grade 3s. Our field trip was to African Lion Safari where we saw elephants that painted, birds of prey, and monkeys that climbed on top of our bus. It was really cool to see animals that we wouldn't usually see, and everyone enjoyed it.

H- For grade 3, we were all in the same class again with Ms. Van Rooyen. We did our first French play that year: The Three Little Pigs. During the play, Noah (the Wolf) was climbing the 3rd little pigs house (the brick house) and he knocked it over- not the strongest brick house, that's for sure! We went to the Clay and Glass museum this year for our field trip where we got to see some cool art and even got to make different animals out



I've been at LCS for 10 years, and loved every second.

There have been good times, like writing legion poetry, and bad times, like online schooling and rainy field days. But even through the downs, I've learned that joy comes in the morning, and each day is a blessing.

One of my favourite memories here has been math classes with Bethany. Our conversations typically had little to do with math, but were all the more fun.

I was called a lot of nicknames, including Carrot and Shereese. I still don't know what I'd like to pursue when I'm older - maybe illustrating, writing, or cartoonism. I'll be attending FE Madill, a public highschool in Wingham, and I'm taking tech and art. I'm super excited for what's to come.

Sayonara, LCS!

She is cool and fun,
She is hard-working and kind,
She loves her Maple,

She can be hyper,
She is an awesome artist,
She is a great friend,

She draws all the time,
She is up beat and crazy,
She is great at sports.

BY TESS AND MYJAH

Charis
VANDERKLIPPE

*There is no wisdom, no insight, no plan
that can succeed against the Lord.*

PROVERBS 21:30

of clay.

L- In grade 4, Silas left our class and Timothy Kraayenbrink joined. Our teacher was Mrs. Delleman and we finally got to go to the big kid side at recess which sadly meant that we lost all of the slides, swings, and monkey bars. This year, I think we all got pretty good at Rock, Paper, Scissors because we played so many different variations of it at morning meeting every day. Our field trip was rock climbing which was super fun.

B- Grade 5 was the big year that we left the old school and came to the new school building, where we're at now. It was a big, exciting change. For a teacher we had Mr. Katerberg, who I don't think could go a day without telling at least a few jokes and stories. And every time we had a spelling test, we got so sidetracked because the spelling words would remind Mr. K of a story, and then he'd have to tell us. An unforgettable moment was when Mr. K walked into one of the little rooms off of our class, stomped on a mouse, and carried it out by the tail! Our field trip was to Camp Kintail where we got to do a high ropes course, rock climbing, and other outdoor activities.

H- In grade 6, Celine left our class and we had Mr. K again for our teacher. This was the year that the dreaded Covid hit, so after March Break we never went back to school, and we finished the year out online. I remember someone asking Mr. K just before March break if our school would be shut down because of Covid and he said no. Two weeks after that, we were sent home. Apparently, contrary to popular belief, teachers are not always right. We did not go on a field trip because of Covid. And so, the online school journey began. *Sigh*

L- In grade 7, we had Mrs. Vogel and then Ms. VanKampen as teachers- and let's not forget our math teacher, Mr. Boelens. Claire, Kaleb, and Noah left our class that year. We had to wear masks and had online school off-and-on. Also, sometimes when someone in the class decided they didn't want to be at the zoom meeting, they would turn their camera off and change their name to 'Reconnecting', even though every once in a while, someone would misspell it. Although we didn't get to see and interact with each other as much, we still saw each other's faces (When people decided to put their videos on) and tried to make the best of the situation. Again,

we did not have a field trip due to Covid. *Sigh*

B- And now we come to our final year at LCS, grade 8. Our teacher was first Ms. VanKampen and then Mrs. Vogel. I think most of us would say this has been our best year. We had online school once this year, but after that things got better and we didn't have to wear masks anymore! We were able to help sort toys at the Salvation Army, organize team events, and play on sports teams. We actually did get to go on our field trip this year (finally)! Our Ottawa trip was so fun, and I think it brought us all closer together. Close quarters on a small bus can do that.

H- Our ten, nine, or four years at LCS have seemed to drag on in some moments, and fly by in others, but ready or not, it's time to graduate! LCS has brought us closer to God and strengthened our faith, and we'll never forget all of the great teachers that led and taught us along the way, the parents and siblings that helped us with that tricky math homework, or the friends that made it all enjoyable and fun.

Shine on, fellow graduates!

I have been at LCS for 9 years. Here are some of my nicknames: Jasper, Danny, D.dog, and Big D. My next school that I am going to is Sacred Heart High School. My favourite sport is baseball. In the future I would like to be a fighter pilot. Some good memories are the Ottawa trip and being locked in a cupboard.

Does the right thing
Awesome friend
Never backs down
Interested in many things
Easy going is he
Loves God with all his heart!

BY LANDON AND KASE



*God presides in the great assembly;
he renders judgment among the "gods"*

PSALM 82:1

Daniel
VANDERSLIKKE



I have been at LCS for 10 years. A few nicknames I have picked up over the years are Zeek, Alie and Gledes. One of my favourite memories at LCS was the Ottawa trip. Some of the activities I participated in are volleyball, basketball, soccer, and baseball.

One thing I really appreciated about LCS is the teachers' care of the students. Next year, I will be attending Listowel District Secondary School. When I am older I would like to be a mechanic on heavy equipment.

Colorado Avalanche is his favourite hockey team
Loves Mountain Dew
Likes heavy equipment
Excellent at sports

BY TESS AND MYJAH

Cole
 WEBER

*Praise be to God, who has not rejected my prayer
 or withheld his love from me!*

PSALM 66:20



BUT THANKS BE TO GOD!

He gives us the victory
THROUGH OUR LORD
Jesus Christ.

Therefore, my dear brothers and sisters,

STAND FIRM.

Let nothing move you.

Always give yourselves fully
TO THE WORK OF THE LORD,
because you know that
YOUR LABOUR IN THE LORD
IS NOT IN VAIN.

1 CORINTHIANS 15:57-58





