

# THE COMMUNICATOR

2023-2024 ISSUE #2

## MOVING FORWARD *in faith*

BY GALEN WEBER

I trust you have all come through the Christmas season refreshed, and enjoyed some time off to spend with family & friends, but most importantly celebrated the birth of our Saviour, Jesus Christ!

Now that we have turned the calendar page to 2024, there might be new goals (aside from new years resolutions!) you are trying to reach. Our wonderful teachers here at LCS work with and encourage each individual student to exceed certain levels throughout the school term, having an end goal in mind. Likewise there may be areas in our own lives as well where we can and want to brush up on! In Psalm 140; 23-24 David writes, "Search me, O God, and know my heart! Try me and know my thoughts! And see if there be any grievous way in me, and lead me to the way everlasting."

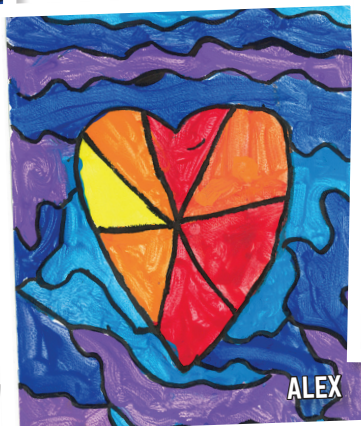
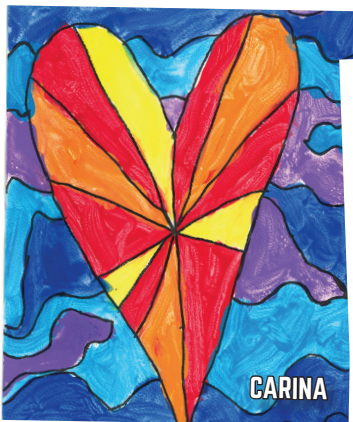
As I reflect on the past 12 years our family has been a part of the LCS community, there have been numerous changes in this time frame..... increased enrollment, we've moved to a bigger facility to accommodate the growth, new personnel have been added to our staff. These have all been positive changes to the LCS community. Often when we approach change we tend to initially

form negative thoughts, and all the 'what ifs' begin to surface. Change is inevitable. I am impressed how the LCS community has faced each one of the changes mentioned above, and moved forward in faith. Remember # 1 of our core values at LCS is: we believe the word of God as truth and integrate faith in Christ in every aspect of school life.

Another change we will see in the 2024-25 school term, our COO Ed Boelens, will be leaving at the end of July, after serving here at LCS for 11 years! Please remember Ed and Janet in your prayers as they seek God's will for the future. Ed has been a huge asset to the community, we will miss him! Thank you!

"Learn.Love.Lead. In a Changing World", is the preface on the LCS website. So remember this, as we face changes in the coming months/years, we have an entire community who supports each other while moving forward.

"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



The artwork featured in this issue has been submitted by the Grade 1 & 2 Classes



**Listowel**  
CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

# THE principal's POST

## FAMILIES & CHANGE

Families change. When Janet and I were first married, we would have listed our family as our parents, brothers, and sisters. The group was relatively small, maybe 10 people on each side. We all lived in the same area, saw each other frequently, and were fairly well connected.

Shortly after our marriage, Janet and I moved to British Columbia. There, our family shrunk – just the two of us. After several years there, we grew into a family of five. If you asked us then to list or describe our family, we would have mentioned the five of us specifically but would have quickly followed with a list of friends and a church community who were like family. Our family changed. Eventually, we moved back to Ontario and our family immediately grew. Our parents, brothers, and sisters were back on the list. And now, as time continues, there are nieces and nephews and their children who are also a part of the family. Holiday gatherings are much larger in number than I remember them. When we get together, there are some that I never get to talk to and never get to know well. However, we know we are connected and belong together. Our family changed again, and I assume that is natural and common among other families.

The LCS family is also changing and growing. When I started at LCS, we had 120 students and around fifty-five families filling the school building on Line 87. I could quickly get to know all the students and the parents because the school was small and our paths

were always intersecting, creating natural opportunities for face-to-face meetings. I would say that I quickly felt the welcome of being a part of the LCS family. Now, I hear from some who were parents of students when I started that, when they are at the school, the crowd is larger and they don't know as many people. They are excited to see a new generation rising to take their place. Next year, it is possible that we will have 180 students coming from over 80 families. Our LCS family is changing, and the change is natural.

Families do change. However, our core values, our purpose, and the God we serve does not. One descriptor that really makes LCS a strong community is its unity in serving our one God and our focus on showing God's love to one another as family – brothers and sisters in Christ. As we commit to our biological family relationships because we are bound to each other in blood, let us also commit to our LCS community because we are bound together in faith. It is my prayer that, although the people within our LCS family may change, the LCS purpose statement and our desire to follow Christ does not change.

### PURPOSE STATEMENT:

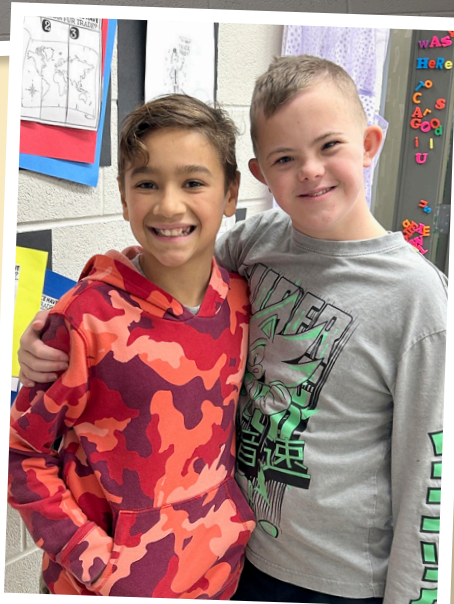
EDUCATING CHILDREN  
WHILE NURTURING  
FAITH IN CHRIST TO  
INTERPRET AND IMPACT  
GOD'S WORLD



TOP: Rock, paper, scissors tournament.

MIDDLE: SK rings in the New Year with party hat art.

BOTTOM: February Spirit days







## INTRODUCING THE *Hordyk Family*

We're the Hordyk family! Rob and Jodie have three daughters - Dayna (born Dec 5, 2023), Brielle (2), and Norah (4). This is Norah's first year at LCS in Junior Kindergarten. Her favourite things about being in JK are library time, playing with her classmates, and recess.

Growing up, Rob was homeschooled and Jodie attended a small Christian school in Wingham. We currently live on a turkey farm managed by Rob and attend Gorrie Bible Fellowship where Jodie works as the church secretary.

We are grateful for how welcoming the LCS community has been to us in the first few months. We are so thankful for a group of staff, teachers, and other families who are passionate about raising children who desire to love God and to learn how to grow in Him.



# BOARD *report*

We are well into the New Year and the Board has continued to meet monthly. The annual Board-Staff social was held in January at the Palmerston Curling Club (photo below); a lot of fun and fellowship was had! LCS continues to be blessed with a wonderful group of dedicated staff and it was so great to be able to connect in a fun and relaxed way.

The Board has received a letter of resignation from Ed Boelens. Ed has been the principal and COO of LCS for the better part of the past 10 years; he will be missed. Ed has led LCS through these years with strength and wisdom, always striving to follow God's leading. The school has grown from 120 students to over 160 and beyond! The Board prays God's blessing on Ed and Janet as they move on to their next chapter. A search committee will be put together to take on the task of hiring a new Principal and COO.

LCS has, once again, seen the blessing of its community through both the 2023 Bazaar and Annual Drive. The board continues to oversee the budget monthly and will have a proposed 2024-2025 budget at the Spring Membership Meeting.

LCS's policies and procedures are being reviewed systematically, some of which are specified in the strategic plan. An ad hoc team is also in place to plan LCS's 50th anniversary celebration! This is sure to be an exciting event to remember our history and look forward to our future.

The Board has also put together a group to spearhead renovating the staff room. Staff has been using a classroom as their "staff room" since the move to our new school and we are excited to be able to give them a multipurpose space they can use for work and rest.

At this time of year the Board also begins its nomination process to replace outgoing members.

As much as September 2024 seems in the distant future, it is now that we begin to plan for it! We continue to see LCS's enrollment numbers grow with many new or interested families inquiring about LCS. We are excited to see what God has in store!

RIENEKE GREIDANUS  
BOARD SECRETARY







## INTRODUCING THE *Hordyk Family*

We are Patrick and Jessica Hordyk. We have 2 kids, Lincoln and Zoe and are expecting our 3rd at the end of February 2024. Lincoln is our oldest. He is 4 years old and likes being outdoors, anything to do with farming and being creative with lego. He attends JK at LCS and is enjoying it. Zoe is our second. She is 2 years old and likes tagging along with her brother, loves animals and playing with her dolls.

We manage a pig farm just on the outside of Palmerston. Patrick also runs a pressure washing business and works for a local farmer. I am a stay at home mom. As of last year I quit my job in sales to be more present for our family and home. I enjoy gardening and photography as hobbies. We have recently started attending Palmerston Evangelical Missionary Church middle to end of last year and we're looking forward to growing and serving there.

We have been so grateful to have Lincoln in LCS and knowing he is getting a Christian education is so important to us. This is just a little bit about us and we hope to get to know more of you at LCS.





The last several months have provided lots of opportunities for students to be involved in different activities including: skating, creating Hobbit Maps (Grade 7/8), painting snow (SK), celebrating 100 days of school, and playing hockey.



CALEB



BOSTON

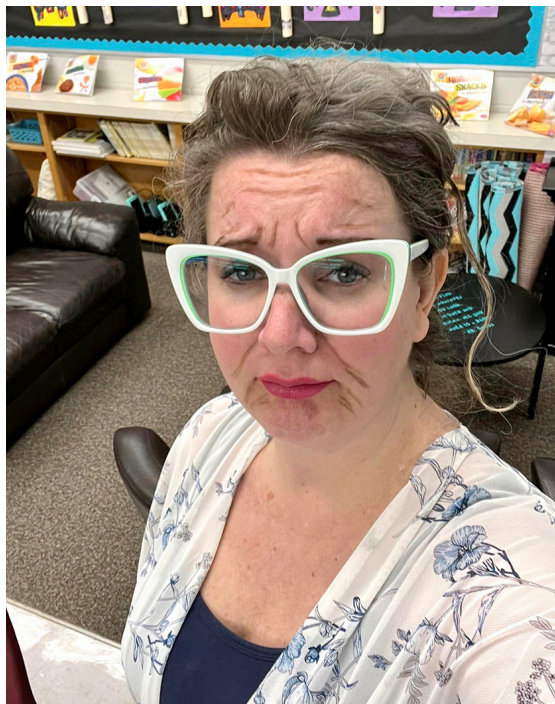


UNKNOWN



MELANIE





## UPCOMING EVENTS:

**MAR 5** - Basketball Tournament

**MAR 11-15** - March Break

**MAR 18** - Second Term Report  
Cards go home

**MAR 29** - Good Friday - No School

**APR 1** - Easter Monday - No School

**APR 4** - Dental Screening,  
Grades JK, SK, 2, 4 & 7

**APR 10** - Grade 7 Immunizations

**APR 22** - Membership Meeting

**APR 26** - Kindergarten Registration  
9:30 - 11:30



BLAKE



BRYER



HAILEY



ESMAE





# Listowel Christian School

PRESENTS THEIR ANNUAL

## Spring Auction

### Online Auction

Begins Thurs. March 21 at 9am  
Closes on Sat. March 23 at 9pm

### Live Auction Dessert Cafe

**Friday March 22, 2024 at 7pm**  
Live Auction begins at 7:45pm.

### Item Pick-up

**Monday March 25**  
from 2-4pm & 7-9pm

**\$5 ADMISSION**

includes Coffee & Dessert

Specialty hot beverages available  
at an additional cost

Contact Melissa Stege 519-492-0578 or  
[fundraising@listowelchristianschool.ca](mailto:fundraising@listowelchristianschool.ca)

