



ORANGE CITY CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

# SPOTLIGHT

Jun/Jul  
2017

## BE THOU OUR VISION

*Orange City Christian provides academically sound, Scripturally-directed instruction to assist Christian parents in teaching their children to know God and His world, to develop godly character as Christ's image bearers, and to acquire knowledge, skills, and values to fulfill their calling as His servants.*

### Community

We are quickly racing toward another school year. Last Spotlight we took time to look back at the wonderful year with which the Lord blessed us. This time we will look ahead to the coming year. My last article gave many examples of how we Thrived last year. It was fun to see how many of those had to do with the community of our school. Now we will look forward to our theme for the coming year which just happens to be cultivating community.

This theme came about as a suggestion from Christian Schools International as we celebrate the 500<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Reformation. That was a historical time in the history of the Church and its celebration is an important milestone. However, Martin Luther and the other Reformers were probably not seen as cultivating community. Some of the material given to us by CSI states it this way:

“The Reformation was unsuccessful in that it did not reform the Roman Catholic Church. The Reformers—including modern-day reformers—believe that we are called to Christian unity, and yet the Reformation led to denominational division.

However, the Reformation was successful in that it spawned Protestantism, a movement that teaches that we are not saved through the church or its rituals. Churches in the reformed tradition preach that we are saved by grace, by faith, and through Christ; that Scripture is available to all; and that God alone is deserving of glory. On these principles, there is much consensus, and for 500 years there have been ongoing efforts, large and small, for the people of God to come together in community around them.”

Here at Orange City Christian School we strive to continue the work of cultivating community around those basic, Biblical principles. We will spend the year looking at what the Reformation meant: Scripture Alone, Faith Alone, Grace Alone, Christ Alone, Glory to God Alone, and how we are Stronger as Community. This fits well with our new mission statement: “Orange City Christian School is a Biblically-based community that partners with parents to educate hearts and minds for service in Christ’s kingdom.” We look forward to sharing this celebration with you. It will be an exciting year.

*Shalom,  
Jason Alons*

### IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

July 10-28	School closed, no TRIP sales
August 8 & 14	Registration for 2017-18 school year, OCCS gym
August 22	6:30-8:00 p.m. Back-to-School Night
August 23	First day of school for 2017-18 school year
	8:45 Dedication Service at First CRC
September 4	Labor Day - No School
September 5	Preschool begins
October 5 & 6	Heartland Conference - No School

**MEMORIALS**  
Coba Rens



## New Faces for 2017-18

We will have a couple new staff around the building this coming year.

- Mrs. Jo Ellen Harvey will be the 6<sup>th</sup> grade homeroom teacher. She lives in Orange City with her husband, Shawn. They have one son and another child on the way. She has 7 years of experience teaching at Gehlen Catholic School in LeMars. We are excited to have her join our team.
- Mrs. Kim Lee will be a classroom aide primarily in the middle school. She and her husband just moved to Archer where he will be the new pastor of Archer Reformed Church. Kim has 6 years of experience teaching 5<sup>th</sup> grade at Timothy Christian in Elmhurst, IL. We look forward to having her help out in our classrooms.

We are still looking for some classroom and student aides for the upcoming school year. We will need classroom and student aides in different grades. Positions will be roughly 20 hours a week. If you are interested in one of these positions, please send in a resume and application you can download from our website as soon as possible.

*Jason Alons  
Principal*

## Board Report – July 2017

- June balance sheet - \$491,097.97
- You are invited to OCCS on Saturday, July 22 from 5-8 to enjoy the students' favorite pulled pork meal, see the RAGBRAI family-friendly camping area, and mingle with RAGBRAI participants and family members. Proceeds from the meal will benefit the OCCS General Fund.
- Registration dates for the 2017-2018 school year have been set for Tuesday, August 8 and Monday, August 14 from 6:30-8:00 p.m.
- Focus group meetings have been set for Monday, September 11 and Tuesday, September 12. Please plan to attend one of these two dates. We plan to present the building needs for OCCS that the board has researched as well as provide an opportunity for those attending to provide feedback and ask questions.
- The fall Society meeting will be Monday, September 18 at 7:00 p.m.

*Respectfully submitted,  
Anita Nykamp, board secretary*

## OCCS Recycling Fundraiser

If you are new to OCCS you may not be aware that we have had an ongoing recycling fundraiser for many years. This fundraiser helps us all to be caretakers of creation. It keeps e-cycling waste out of landfills and also raises funds for our technology program.

We collect used ink cartridges, laser toners, cell phones, tablets and laptops. Thank you to those who continue to bring in those used products to the school office. If you've never done so, consider starting. Even one small ink cartridge helps because it all adds up when we each do our part.

We work with two companies, [greenschoolnews.com](http://greenschoolnews.com) and <http://www.fundingfactory.com>. We have one business who has partnered with us by registering at Funding Factory and listing OCCS as the recipient of all their e-cycling waste that they send in on their own. We would like to have more businesses doing this. If you are interested in this go to the Funding Factory website and follow their registration links or give us a call. Those links are also on the school website under About us/Supporting OCCS.

If you are unsure what can be recycled, please check out the qualifying list on either of these two websites. There are certain brands we can't take as well as no toner tubes. Thank you for your continued support.

### CHRISTIAN EDUCATION UNITS

<u>Church Unit</u>	<u>Requested for 2016-17</u>	<u>Contribution 2016-17</u>	<u>Balance Remaining</u>
Calvary CRC	74,400.00	74,400.00	0.00
First CRC	55,800.00	55,800.00	0.00
Hospers CRC	3,100.00	3,100.00	0.00
Immanuel CRC	99,200.00	99,200.00	0.00
Living Water	40,971.38	37,988.50	2,982.88
Redeemer URC	48,050.00	48,050.00	0.00
Other Supporting Churches	5,425.00	5,425.00	0.00
Partner Society	56,998.27	54,458.27	2,540.00



July 2017

Dear Friends of OCCS:

The Covenant Foundation is an active investment group that manages the OCCS endowment fund. The Foundation currently has over **\$1,000,000** in assets. The Foundation's goal is to grow this fund while contributing approximately 5% of its balance each year to OCCS to help curb the increasing cost of tuition. Next school year the fund will contribute **\$45,000** to the general fund which offsets our expenses and in the end, reduces the cost of tuition.

We believe in the power of Christian education and hope that you would join us to make it affordable. Each gift makes it more feasible for families to have the opportunity to give their children the gift of a Christ-centered education. As public schools continue to offer salary increases to their teachers, we would also like to be able to give our teachers a competitive salary, yet keep tuition affordable for young families. A good step toward sharing this vision is through a membership in the Orange City Christian School Foundation. Through annual memberships and additional gifts, the Covenant Foundation continues to grow and this year is contributing **\$150** per student that would normally come from tuition. With continued growth and increased contributions, we can continue to increase the amount per student and keep tuition as low as possible, while paying our teachers a competitive wage. We want to encourage you to become a member of the OCCS Covenant Foundation. Investing in the Covenant Foundation helps secure the existence of Christian Education from "Generation to Generation".

If you have any questions about Wills and Estate Planning please contact the Barnabas Foundation by phone at 888-448-3040 or by email at [info@barnabasfoundation.com](mailto:info@barnabasfoundation.com). Christian professionals from the Barnabas Foundation will answer your questions and help you work out a plan to meet your individual needs and support kingdom causes which are important to you.

Last year, we received **\$18,845** in gifts and memorial donations to the Covenant Foundation. We would like to thank everyone who contributed to the OCCS Covenant Foundation during this past fiscal year (August 1, 2015 through July 31, 2016).

Please fill out the donation form and return it to OCCS. As a foundation committee, we thank you for your continued support and prayers. For the Lifetime Members, we are sending you this information as a means of keeping you up-to-date on our continued growth. If you would like to contribute again, please do so. We would be happy to provide you with additional information or answer any questions you may have. Please contact OCCS by phone at 712-737-2274 or by email at [office@occhristian.pvt.k12.ia.us](mailto:office@occhristian.pvt.k12.ia.us).

In His Service,  
The OCCS Covenant Foundation Committee

Barb De Boer, Deb De Jong, Rick Droog, Dale Pluim, Brent Philipsen,  
Dave Van Den Brink, Gary Vande Vegte and Brenda Walhof

"From Generation to Generation..."

ORANGE CITY CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

## Covenant Foundation

Orange City Christian School partners with Barnabas Foundation to offer you Planned Giving services that...

- Encourage Christians to develop the best possible Estate Plan to meet **your family needs**.
- Provide clear and **easy-to-understand** Estate Planning information
- Assure **complete confidentiality** in the planning process
- Provide planning services at **no charge** and with no obligation

*Many Christians want to make a lasting statement about the importance of God's kingdom in their lives. Barnabas Foundation provides helpful services to Christians seeking ways to honor God with the resources with which they have been blessed.*

To learn more about this valuable service, contact OCCS by phone at 712-737-2274 or Barnabas Foundation directly toll-free at 1.888.448.3040.



18601 North Creek Drive, Suite B  
Tinley Park, IL 60477-6399  
1.888.448.3040  
[www.barnabasfoundation.com](http://www.barnabasfoundation.com)

Thank  
You

### OCCS COVENANT FOUNDATION

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_ Phone # \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

\$1000 lifetime membership       Donation \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\$50 yearly membership (July 1st, 2017 through June 30th, 2018)

Please have a Covenant Foundation Committee member call on me to further my goals of Christian stewardship.

**PLEASE RETURN BY AUGUST 31, 2017**