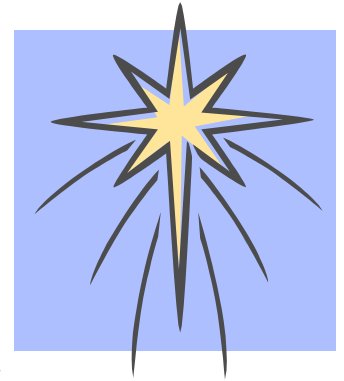


# Stonewall Faith Academy

## Newsletter – December 3, 2011



### CHRISTMAS WILL SOON BE UPON US!

We have been reminded of the coming of Christmas this past weekend as we had a Faith Academy float in the Stonewall Festival of Lights Parade. This is our second year of trying such and the float improvements were significant due to the work of Cathy Penner and her helpers. **Thank-you, Cathy and crew** for the great job done! **Pray** that the SFA information in the candy bags given out will make those in our community and surrounding area more aware of our School and, perhaps, interested in having their child(ren) attend! THANKS to all the families who joined us riding the float or walked beside it handing out candy/info. bags.

We had some very different students (and teachers) attend our School Friday, Nov. 18<sup>th</sup> as our Student Council held a 'Costume Day' event. It was a fun day for all and we **thank our Student Council** for all their good work as we look forward to their next special event!

Our Christmas Concert ('Have A Super Duper Christmas!') will be held **MONDAY, DEC. 19<sup>TH</sup> starting at 7 pm**. This is the evening before the last day of school (Tues., Dec. 20<sup>th</sup>). School classes will resume Thursday, Jan. 5<sup>th</sup>. **NOTE:** School has early dismissal of 3 pm the afternoon of TUESDAY, DEC. 20<sup>th</sup> ! Each year in lieu of a gift

exchange we help support an 'Outreach' ministry. This year it was decided to support the Union Gospel Mission (UGM) in Winnipeg. This is a Mission close to our heart as we partner with UGM in the operation of the Pritchard Faith Academy (K – 4). There will be an offering taken the night of the Christmas concert to help support UGM with the many ministries they have amongst the homeless, etc. If you will not be at the Concert and would like to contribute ahead of time, just make your cheque out to UGM and we will include it with the others contributing. **THE PARENT GROUP ASKS FOR THOSE**

**WHO CAN TO BRING A PLATE OF CHRISTMAS BAKING/GOODIES FOR THE TIME OF SOCIALIZING AFTER THE CHRISTMAS CONCERT. IT WOULD CERTAINLY BE APPRECIATED! COFFEE, JUICE, ETC WILL BE PROVIDED. ALSO, ANYONE WILLING TO HELP PREP/SERVE THAT EVENING, PLEASE CONTACT TRACY WALDE AT 467-5484.**

**SWIMMING LESSONS** are quickly coming to an end (last one is Monday, Dec. 14<sup>th</sup>). Our grades 3 to 8 students will be working hard for their badge levels these last two weeks.

**INTRAMURALS:** Team Handball took on new meaning this year as we ran a league schedule with playoffs coming up soon! This fast moving activity has been keenly participated in and it will be interesting to see which of the four teams involved will come out on top. **(CONTINUED)**



**Bethlehem Live!** Last year we were too late to get our School booked for a field trip to this excellent presentation but this year it's different! We are attending this living nativity involving a multitude of actors this coming Friday, Dec. 9<sup>th</sup>. Although the bookings during the day on Friday are for school groups only, we would highly encourage your family to take in this presentation being done by the Gateway Church in Winnipeg. It will be held Dec. 8 – 11: 6 – 9 pm and also 12 – 3 pm on the Saturday and Sunday. Phone 204-989-6580 for more information.

**FIRST TERM IS OVER:** It's hard to believe but it's 'Report Card' time! Almost a third of the school year is gone and our students have received feedback on their academic progress. CONGRATULATIONS to all those who attained Honours or High Honours status and for those who didn't, 'Keep working hard and make the best of your second term!'

**The Parent Food Group will, once again, be hosting a Special Hot Meal Time to be held Wednesday, December 14<sup>th</sup>.** We have been informed that both the students and teachers are in for another hot turkey lunch on par to that provided last year. We do not take for granted the great way we are supported here at SFA and can but say, **THANK-YOU SO MUCH for this expression of your support and love!**



**FUNDRAISER FUND LOW!**

With this in mind a couple of fundraisers are presently on the go! We will have a Baking/Crafts Sale table at the Ag Red Barn 'Spirit of Christmas' Winter Festival on Dec. 13. **We are asking parents and students to DONATE SOME BAKING OR CRAFTS if you are able and willing to. Please contact fundraiser coordinator, Mrs. Alma Waldner, as soon as possible!**

**ALSO: 'Danny Whole Hog'** product sheets have been sent out to SFA families to help raise some funds as well! With Christmas celebration food preparations being made perhaps you or your

friends/contacts can both help us raise some funds and buy food products that can be used this Christmas. **Deadline for orders is December 13<sup>th</sup>!** Again, Mrs. Waldner is fundraiser coordinator. **THANK-YOU FOR YOUR PARTICIPATION IN THIS WAY!**

**CONGRATULATIONS TO Mr./Mrs. Dyck on their news of having a baby come July! God's Richest Blessings!**

**Check the December calendar sent out to you by child mail !** Some upcoming events of note include **^\*Parent/Teacher** interviews Mon. 4:15 – 9 pm, Tues. 9 – 12N (no school for students on Tuesday, Dec. 6); **^\*Bethlehem Live'** field trip, Friday, Dec. 9; **^\*Hot Turkey Meal**, Wed. Dec. 14; **^\*Christmas Concert**, Mon. Dec. 19. **^\*Christmas Break**, Wed., Dec. 21 to Wed., Jan. 4.

**THE GRACE CARD!** This past weekend my wife and I watched an excellent video called, 'The Grace Card'. In the story told was, I believe, an important Biblical truth demonstrated that I think all of us as Stonewall Faith Academy family (others as well) can/should apply at this Christmas season and beyond! Sometimes when working so close together as teachers, students and parents/guardians throughout the school year and with the smaller numbers that we are, we forget to extend our grace (forgiveness) to one another and lose out on reflecting that grace to those who do not know our Lord and Saviour! Christmas is a great time to talk (witness) to others about why Jesus came as that Baby in a manger. As the poem indicates below, perhaps, at this time of year and beyond, we need to look at others closest to us in a new way so that we might truly be the Lights of the world (our community) we need to be! In relation to this, if there is anything in any way that you need to talk to myself or us as staff of SFA about, please do not hesitate to contact us. We are striving to do the very **(CONTINUED)**

best we can to serve your children and yourselves as parents/guardians but can only deal with areas of your concern if we are aware of what they are. THANK-YOU FOR YOUR ONGOING SUPPORT AND WE EXTEND TO ALL THE WARMEST CHRISTMAS BLESSINGS FOR THIS JOYOUS SEASON OF THE YEAR!

### **Sensitize Me, Lord!**

I spoke to her at the bus stop  
But she turned the other way.  
My immediate reaction:  
A rush of resentment –  
She's ignoring me,  
She doesn't really like me,  
I've always suspected it.  
Now I know.

Suddenly she looked toward me.  
Startled, but sincere:  
"Forgive me –I didn't see you!"  
(Until then I hadn't noticed  
The agony lining her face.)  
A hesitant pause  
A catch in her voice –  
"I just came from the doctor's office  
Our little boy has leukemia  
It's all a terrible nightmare!"

Lord, Lord  
What loathsome selfishness.  
A mother stricken with grief  
Her heart soak with pain  
An hour of black catastrophe  
And I thought only of me.  
Cleanse me, Lord!  
Sensitize me!  
Until my first concern is others  
And my last concern is me.

(Anonymous)



**DO "Keep Encouraged!" 2 Corinthians 5 v 20, 21**

*D. Davidson*

NEEDS LIST: we will again have skating and hockey for our students at the local arenas starting mid-January and going through until the end of March on Fridays. If anyone is able to help with the instruction in either of these areas for the hour, please contact Mr. D.



Mr. Davidson plans to be at school on Dec..28<sup>th</sup> & Jan. 3<sup>rd</sup> (9 am - 3:00 pm). Feel free to call and/or come by for a visit if you sense the need.

**Register for 2012 - 13 'All Day'  
Kindergarten soon!**

**It's OPEN HOUSE at SFA; drop-in at anytime!**