



## Upcoming Dates

May 22: Victoria Day (no classes)  
 May 25 to June 2: Ottawa Trip  
 June 19 to 23: Elementary VBS  
 June 19 to 22: High School Exams  
 June 27: High School Graduation

## School Contact Information:

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## Looking Ahead to the 2023/24 School Year

I am happy to report that enrolment is looking very strong for the upcoming school year. Many of our grades are at capacity and some have sizeable wait lists. We are encouraged to see God drawing students and families to Himself through Faith Academy. Our primary aim is to give our students opportunities to meet and accept Jesus as their Saviour and grow in their relationship with Him. It is a privilege to build an excellent education program on an evangelical foundation which sees a Biblical worldview integrated into all that we do. Please pray that God will continue to bless our ministry and give all of the staff the strength they need to carry out His work.

We are looking forward to an updated set of washrooms in the high school next year. This summer renovation project will be quite extensive and costly. Please pray that all of the details would come together to have the work fully completed in the summer months with limited time and financial overruns on the various components being updated.

We are continuing to explore the potential of a gymnasium building project. I was able to have a very positive meeting with a few members of the Faith Academy parent community in April to discuss possibilities and get advice from them. Please continue to pray that God would guide and direct us as we take small steps forward.

*So we tell others about Christ, warning everyone and teaching everyone with all the wisdom God has given us.*

*We want to present them to God, perfect in their relationship to Christ.*

Colossians 1:28

James Harnett - Superintendent

## Grade 12 Arnes Retreat

Having the opportunity to go on the Grade 12 Camp Arnes retreat was unlike any other experience we've had in our high school lives. We were ecstatic as we arrived at school, anxiously awaiting the bus's arrival. We quickly loaded onto the bus and prepared ourselves for what would be our final retreat at Faith Academy.

Our days at Camp Arness were filled to the brim with fun events and activities such as life-sized foosball, cross-country skiing, and a twin-themed group dress-up. The camp hosted us and provided many fun activities to fill our free time. Sledding and ping-pong were some of the most popular pastimes.

The retreat wouldn't be complete without the chapels that were led by our chaperones and included some personal testimonies from some of the students that allowed us to grow and bond as a class. Mr. Leclair gave us advice on our postgraduate lives and taught us about the importance of building your relationship with God in the church. Mr. Kroeker led a chapel highlighting the impact we can have on the rest of the school whilst leaving a legacy that inspires and brings out the best in others.

Of course, chapels were not the only opportunities for growth and bonding as a class. During the final night, we all gathered around a campfire making s'mores and drinking hot chocolate. We shared some of our favourite memories we made during high school and got to reflect on our time spent together at Faith Academy.

Overall, the Camp Arness retreat was a great way to end our high school experience. We got to hear some great testimonies and learn from the chapels. We grew a lot as a class and got to reminisce about our high school experience. It truly was a life-changing experience that everyone enjoyed and cherished.

- Callum Dyck, grade 12





## Getting to know...Mrs. Pledger!

Very rarely do I have the opportunity to feature a teacher who has been on staff for a number of years. When thinking about Faith Academy, it's hard not to associate Mrs. Pledger with our school in some way. After working in the elementary for 19 years teaching Kindergarten and Bible Blast, she has become somewhat of a staple in our school community and has impacted many students', teachers' and parents' lives with her positivity, creativity and love for the Lord.

Mrs. Pledger was born in the northeast of England in a Colliery village called Kibblesworth. She was Christened in the Methodist Chapel at 6 weeks of age, and heard about Jesus with every life lesson her mom taught her. Despite a near death experience at the age of 3, Mrs. Pledger would say she had an amazing childhood with her earthly family which included her mom, dad, and brother David. She fondly remembers get-togethers with her grandparents, aunts, uncles and cousins, complete with trips to the Seaside. Their get-togethers were always filled with music and laughter. When Mrs. Pledger was 11, her family immigrated to Canada where they settled in Thompson. Mrs. Pledger did a lot of entertaining in Thompson for 7 years as a drummer, singer/song-writer, guitarist, comedienne, and actress. She says her mom and dad were her biggest fans. After graduating from R.D. Parker Collegiate in Thompson, Mrs. Pledger attended the University of Winnipeg to get her BA with majors in Theatre and English. Around this time, the Lord showed her that she could write songs for Him. She continued on to the University of Toronto to get her Honours in Theatre and English and the equivalent of a minor in Religious Studies. Mrs. Pledger met John Pledger at a church in Scarborough, where they were married in 1981 (she says this event was one of her life's most amazing experiences). After a year of married life, the couple moved to Winnipeg where they went on to have 5 sons. They currently have 7 grandchildren, 5 of which have attended Faith Academy. Mrs. Pledger's interests include writing for the Lord (whether that means songs, poems, scripts etc. - all which come from Him), playing all kinds of instruments (which she enjoys sharing with her grandkids), and building rustic furniture. She also enjoys doing outdoorsy things with John such as camping, canoeing, hiking up mountains, and white water rafting. She even has a T-shirt collection which depicts various places she has been to in Canada.

Mrs. Pledger considers Faith Academy her home away from home. So much of what she loves to do happens right here. The kids are precious to her, as are the staff. She enjoys conversations with the parents, complete with opportunities to talk about Jesus. She enjoys her every moment to teach about Jesus, and in the context of teaching, she too learns more about Him. Mrs. Pledger is grateful that we have the freedom to teach from a Biblical world view and that everyone gets to be on the same page and she is thankful that she can use the gifts He has given her in music to proclaim His name at school concerts and presentations. There is no other place she would rather work than at Faith Academy, and she thanks The Lord for His kindness in letting her be a part of this great school family.

- by L. Dyck



## Gr. 7s Learn Value of Serving at UGM

In March, the Grade 7 students put together a proposal to go and volunteer for a morning at the UGM (Union Gospel Mission). I had the privilege of going with both classes on different mornings and doing different jobs.



The 7A class split into two groups; one group helped sort clothing into usable and unusable, while the other group helped put together snacks and dessert for those who would be coming for lunch later that day.

Last week I also went with the 7B class to the UGM and we unloaded and loaded up trucks full of bags of clothes. It was a workout for everyone, and the bus trip back to school was definitely much quieter than the trip there!



While both of these trips were different, the attitude amongst the Grade 7 students was the same, and I was very impressed with their willingness to do whatever with a good heart. Many expressed a desire to return and help again for a morning. Way to go Grade 7! You've set a good example for us all!

~ by J. Pickel

## Community Service: Good Thing to Do

On the afternoon of Friday, Apr. 28, the entire middle school went out into the community for a time of neighbourhood clean-up. The students and staff first organized themselves by transitioning from their classrooms to their house groups and then took to the sidewalks for the last hour of the day in order to help perform this much-needed, and appreciated, task.

Each house group leader was given a map of their particular walking route ahead of time. This gave them the opportunity to familiarize themselves with their route before leading their students outdoors. They were also provided with a few garbage bags and disposable gloves - enough for everyone in the group to glove-up so as to not have to pick up garbage with their bare hands.



As each group left the building they set out in different directions in order to blanket the neighbourhood as much as possible. Students and staff members alike pitched in to help clean up the area stretching from Jefferson to Inkster, between Sinclair and the train tracks. Every group did a good job of picking up garbage and each group filled between 2-3 large garbage bags by the end of the hour. There were even some neighbours who happened to be out in their yards who thanked us and commented about how nice it was to see us out there doing this act of community service.

Overall it was a very worthwhile project and one which we were happy to do for the benefit of our school community.

~ by B. Mensforth