



Fourth Baptist Christian School

Warrior Quarterly Newsletter

VOLUME XV, ISSUE 1

NOVEMBER 2024

How God Leads

By Andrew Broere

Six years ago, the Lord led my family and me to Fourth Baptist Christian School. Two of our children have graduated from Fourth, and our third child is in eighth grade. We are thankful to God for bringing us here.



But the process of finding God's will for our lives was difficult. Having taught for many years, I know students and adults struggle with discerning what exactly God's will is for their lives.

In this issue, I would like to address what brought the Broere family to Fourth Baptist Christian School, as a means of encouraging you to both see God's will in play in your life and recognize what God is doing in and through Fourth Baptist Christian School.

The year was 2018, and we were at a Christian school in Chicago, and the senior pastor of the church had just left for another ministry. In many ways, our family felt that he held the ministry (church and school) together through his personality, his preaching, and his presence. But it was his absence that made the 2018-2019 school year feel different from previous years.

And it was in October of that year that my wife and I were discussing the school year and the struggles we had already

seen. I distinctly remember saying to her, "I am 75% certain we will not be here next year." While this statement wasn't intended to be prophetic, my wife realized my seriousness and began packing shortly afterward.

In the months that followed, I submitted 37 applications, was selected for 13 first-round interviews, visited five different campuses, and received two different offers. I didn't know then what God had in store for us and why the first 36 applications did not pan out.

But I know now.

When we visited the Plymouth campus of Fourth Baptist Church and Christian School, I was reminded of the old campus in North Minneapolis, where I attended from kindergarten through 3rd grade. That old building was a literal maze, so much more complex than the two floors we occupy today. I rode a school bus for a few years, but there were plenty of students who walked to and from school each day.

But this Plymouth campus was so much different. Instead of a building with varied architecture from add-on after add-on, we have a consistent, clean look.



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Our Mission

Fourth Baptist Christian School, as a ministry of Fourth Baptist Church, is committed to the development of a student's spiritual life in Jesus Christ, while pursuing academic excellence in a manner which honors and glorifies God, based on the only infallible Word, the Bible.

How God Leads (cont'd)

(continued from page 1)

Instead of the tight, urban feel of North Minneapolis, you get the spaciousness of a suburban campus. Instead of tough inter-city neighborhoods, we are located in the relatively safe northwest suburbs of Minneapolis, with a newly paved Highway 55 (finally!).

We were impressed with the facility and the campus. Mr. Hodak was warm and welcoming. The staff were excited about the work in front of them. The students and families were positively interacting with each other and with the school staff.

As my wife and I walked from classroom to classroom that day, we saw:

- **Continuity** – from classroom to classroom, the staff interacted with students in similar ways
- **Care** – discipline was taken care of privately as often as possible; care was taken to separate the student and action
- **Connection** – teachers demonstrated real knowledge about the students in front of them

“We were not looking for perfection, we were looking for progress.”

Those things stood out to us, and maybe you have noticed them as well.

The next night, Mr. Hodak hosted my wife and me, along with the rest of the pastoral staff. There were a few hard-hitting questions—it was an interview, after all. And there were some easy ones—Apple vs. Android. What impressed us was the easy way all of the church and school staff interacted with one another. The laughter lasted well into



the evening, and as we drove away, my wife and I knew this was where God wanted us to be.

Over the years, I have asked myself if Fourth Baptist Christian School was the best school we visited. No perfect school exists, just like there's no perfect job, house, or spouse. (If you're newlywed, you can ignore that last one). But we were not looking for *perfection*, we were looking for *progress*.

Every school must learn to grow, improve processes, and address weaknesses. We know Fourth has not arrived at perfection, and we seek to improve day after day. Thinking back to my time as a classroom teacher, I was determined to be 10% better every year. I wanted to improve and demonstrate to my students that adults can grow and change. I believe we must continue to change, day after day, year after year, to be what Christ wants us to be.

The Apostle Paul argues for a life of growth in Ephesians 4:15–16, where he says, “But, speaking the truth in love, may grow up in all things into Him who is the head—Christ—from whom the whole body, joined and knit together by what every joint supplies, according to the effective working by which every part does its share, causes growth of the body for the edifying of itself in love.” Later, in verse 24, he continues by encouraging the believer to “put on the new man” which was created in God for us to attain towards holiness and righteousness.

Please be encouraged that God is still working in the Fourth Baptist Christian School Warrior family. As we continue to grow and change into His image, we will know what He wants for our lives, where we go, and what we do.

In the next issue, I'll be sharing some stories from the staff about why and how God led them here. In the spring issue, I'll be sharing some of the stories of why God brought you here. ■



Introducing Our New FBCS Faculty



Mrs. Stephanie Golightly
K4 Teacher

Mrs. Stephanie Golightly

I grew up in a Christian home in St. Paul, MN. When I was 5, I realized that I was a sinner and there was no way for me to get to Heaven on my own. I then asked my dad how to be saved, and accepted Christ as my Savior. I was homeschooled through 4th grade and started going to a Christian school when my mom began teaching there. It was at this school where I met my future husband. After graduating from high school, I went to Maranatha Baptist University in WI for a degree in elementary and early childhood education. Upon graduating with my undergraduate degree, I went on to get my master's in education from the same university.

When my time at Maranatha was done, I got a job teaching kindergarten and first grades at Victory Christian Academy in Rochester, MN. I taught there until the school had to close this past year. It was during my years at Victory that I reconnected with my friend Michael who is now my husband. We were married in June of 2021. We are both looking forward to this opportunity God has given us to get involved in the ministry at Fourth. ■ ~Stephanie Golightly



Miss Kaylee Keck
Spanish, 7-10 Girls Bible

Miss Kaylee Keck

Although I have lived in a couple of different places, Minnesota is my home. I grew up hearing the Gospel very often and I am so grateful that God softened my heart and saved me at an early age. Growing up, God used my church and Christian school to help me grow academically and spiritually. I am very thankful for that ministry, so now it is my privilege to be able to teach in a Christian school and help my students in the same way.

I have always been interested in language and how it works, so I have jumped at any opportunity to learn more about it. I have studied Spanish, Portuguese, and Chinese. With each language I've studied, my awe of God's beautiful, creative, and intricate creation grows. I hope to share this awe with my students and show them that God can use language to open many doors in their professional, academic, and spiritual lives. ■ ~Kaylee Keck



Miss Jennifer Kovacik
3rd Grade

Miss Jennifer Kovacik

I was raised in a godly Christian family and accepted Christ as my Savior at a young age. I attended Northland Baptist Bible College where I received a degree in elementary education. After graduation, I began teaching at a Christian school in Minnesota where I had the opportunity to teach first, second, and third grades and serve in various capacities in the school and church for twenty-six years. To help me grow in my teaching profession, I have gotten master's degrees in Teaching and Learning and Educational Leadership from Bob Jones University. God has instilled in me a love for teaching elementary students, and I enjoy finding ways to make learning fun for them. ■ ~Jennifer Kovacik



Miss Julie Kovacik
7-10 English, Drama

Miss Julie Kovacik

I grew up in a Christian home in Wisconsin and was saved at a young age. I attended Northland Baptist Bible College and earned my undergraduate degree in Secondary Education with a double concentration in English and Speech. Following graduation, I taught at a Christian school in Georgia for four years and then at a Christian school here in Minnesota for nineteen years. During this time, I earned my master's degree in Christian Education as well.

I am starting my twenty-fourth year of teaching. I love teaching English and speech and watching my students grow! If there is anything that I can do to help you, please don't hesitate to contact me! ■ ~Julie Kovacik

Introducing Our New FBCS Faculty



Mrs. Char Miller
Kindergarten

Mrs. Char Miller

I grew up in a Christian home in Illinois and knew at a young age that I was a sinner and needed to accept Christ as my personal Savior. However, it wasn't until I was 9 years old, and my sister died in a car accident, that I asked my dad about getting saved. He sat down with me and went through some verses in the Bible to ensure that I understood what I was doing. I asked Christ to be my Savior and was baptized shortly thereafter. I attended public schools until I had the privilege of going to a Christian university. I attended Liberty University in Lynchburg, VA, and met many students and teachers who loved the Lord and wanted to glorify Him in all they said and did. I was blessed to be in an environment that taught me, not only strong academics, but also how to grow in my relationship with the Lord through daily Bible study and prayer.

After receiving my degree in Elementary Education, I taught for two years in Charlotte, NC. Though I loved the school, I wanted to be closer to my family, so I accepted a teaching position at Faith Baptist Christian School in St. Paul, MN. It was there that I met and married the love of my life, Dale Miller, in June of 1990. God blessed us with our daughter, Stephanie, in 1993. I was fortunate enough to be a stay-at-home mom, homeschool my daughter in her first years, and still work part-time at Faith Baptist Christian School. I then went back to Faith full-time and taught there until they closed in 2012. After that, I substituted in public schools for 1 year and then accepted a teaching position at Prior Lake Christian Academy. Altogether, I have taught for 25 years, but I have never been more excited than I am now because I will have the pleasure of teaching alongside my daughter and many friends at a school that has always been very special to me. I look forward to meeting many more friends and working with my new Kindergarten class. It will be fun to see what the Lord has in store for us! ■ ~Char Miller



Miss Abbie Page
Kindergarten

Miss Abbie Page

I grew up in a Christian home and accepted Christ at the age of four. As a student in the K4 class at Fourth, I heard the Gospel presented and later that night accepted Christ as my Savior. This school ministry holds a special place in my heart as it is the place where I graduated, played sports, and grew in my walk with Christ.

Currently, I am half way through a degree in educational studies at Bob Jones University. I have a passion for education that developed through my involvement in Awana, Children's Church, summer camp, the 2nd grade classroom, and the summer program at the YMCA. I love the way kids see the world, and I continue to be amazed by their simple, yet beautiful faith.

In my free time, I love hanging out with family and friends, watching movies, reading the classics, and cheering for the Kansas City sports teams. I am confident that it is no accident that God has placed me here for this time. I am astounded by His leading in my life and have no doubt that He will do amazing things this school year! ■ ~Abbie Page

(Below is a picture of most of our staff for this year during In-Service Week. We are here to serve you!)



Sportswalk 2024

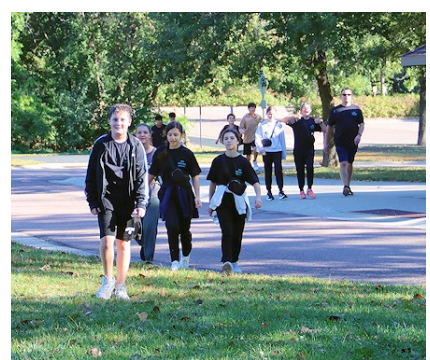
On Monday, September 23rd, almost all of our 6th-12th grade students participated in Fourth's annual athletic fundraiser. Each participant raised at least \$50 to go on the walk around Medicine Lake here in Plymouth. The Lord blessed us with a beautiful day filled with sunshine and clear skies. Each class started the 8-mile trek at West Medicine Lake Park and enjoyed hot chocolate, coffee, water and snacks at rest stops along the way.

Thank you to the many parent volunteers who helped serve our walkers at these stops. Our student-walkers and teachers walked around the lake and returned to Fourth,

enjoying a free pizza lunch and snacks before heading back to class for the rest of the day. Thank you, students, for your part in helping raise more than \$12,000 for our athletic department.

We have already used some of these funds to purchase practice equipment, pay for hotel rooms for athletes at tournaments and help cover the cost of our athletic trainer. We hope to purchase more uniforms (JH teams) this year as well. Thank you also, parents and grandparents, for your support of Warrior Athletics! ■

~ Sarah Stephens, Athletic Director



Exciting News: A New Addition!

We're excited to announce the newest upgrade to meet our transportation needs—a brand-new 2026 Blue Bird school bus! After an initial fiasco with the ordering process (they ordered and sent us the wrong type of school bus), we are so happy to finally have this new bus.

This 77-passenger bus is equipped with a gas engine, a 100-gallon fuel tank, and advanced safety features, including front and rear cameras. Its bright LED headlights and taillights ensure safe travel for our students on sports trips or field trips.

We are especially grateful to an anonymous donor whose generosity made this \$123,000 purchase possible. The bus has already proven its value on several recent sports trips, and we look forward to using it for many more adventures. ■



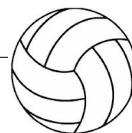
Varsity Volleyball Season Recap

The 2024 Varsity Volleyball team participated in the inaugural season of the Minnesota Christian Athletic Conference (MCAC), and we had the opportunity to play some new teams this year. Our team had four returning players with eight new girls added to the team.

As we learned to play together, we saw some early success—winning five of our first seven matches. As seasons go, slumps and illnesses happen and we struggled through the middle of the season to pull off some wins against a few tough opponents. In October, we enjoyed a 2nd place finish in our annual Spikefest Tournament, which was an exciting finale against some very strong MCAC teams.

Our best win of the season happened on Senior Night as we defeated Woodcrest in straight sets. Overall, we ended our conference play with 11 wins and 7 losses, finishing in 1st Place in the Tier II MCAC Tournament. I'm grateful for the girls' hard work and sweet spirit to give me their best for God's glory. ■ ~Coach Sarah Stephens

Warrior Awards: Game Changer Award ~ Megan Lewellen; Coach's Award ~ Sydney Weisser; Perseverance Award ~ Megan Page; Warrior Award ~ Sophia Morrell.



2024 Volleyball Captains:

Sophia Morrell, Megan Page

MCAC Volleyball Honors:

- 1st Team All-Conference: Sophia Morrell
- 2nd Team All-Conference: Megan Page
- All-Tournament 2nd Team: Megan Lewellen, Megan Page

Faith All-Tournament Team:

Sophia Morrell



Varsity Soccer Season Recap



This year was another successful season for the Warrior Soccer Program. With the formation of the new MCAC league, we had new teams to play and new friends to meet. We were thankful for a winning regular season record of 9-4, and saw balance in our scoring this year with many players having multiple goal games. We were also a stalwart on defense, with a very strong back defensive line that took away many goals and goal opportunities from our opponents.

Our theme for this year was Isaiah 42:8, "I am the Lord, that is My name; and My glory I will not give to another, nor My praise to carved images." We had regular devotionals together where we talked about God's desire for us to worship Him alone. We took home the MCAC Tier II Championship at the state tournament in late October. Coach Page and I appreciate all the hard work the boys put in and all the fun and learning we had together through the game of soccer. ■ ~Coach Jeremy Stephens

Warrior Awards: Offensive Player of the year ~ Asher Zderchuk; Defensive Player of the Year ~ Jude Olson; Golden Glove Award ~ Tyler Stephens; Warrior Award ~ Grant Vikander.

2024 Soccer Captains:

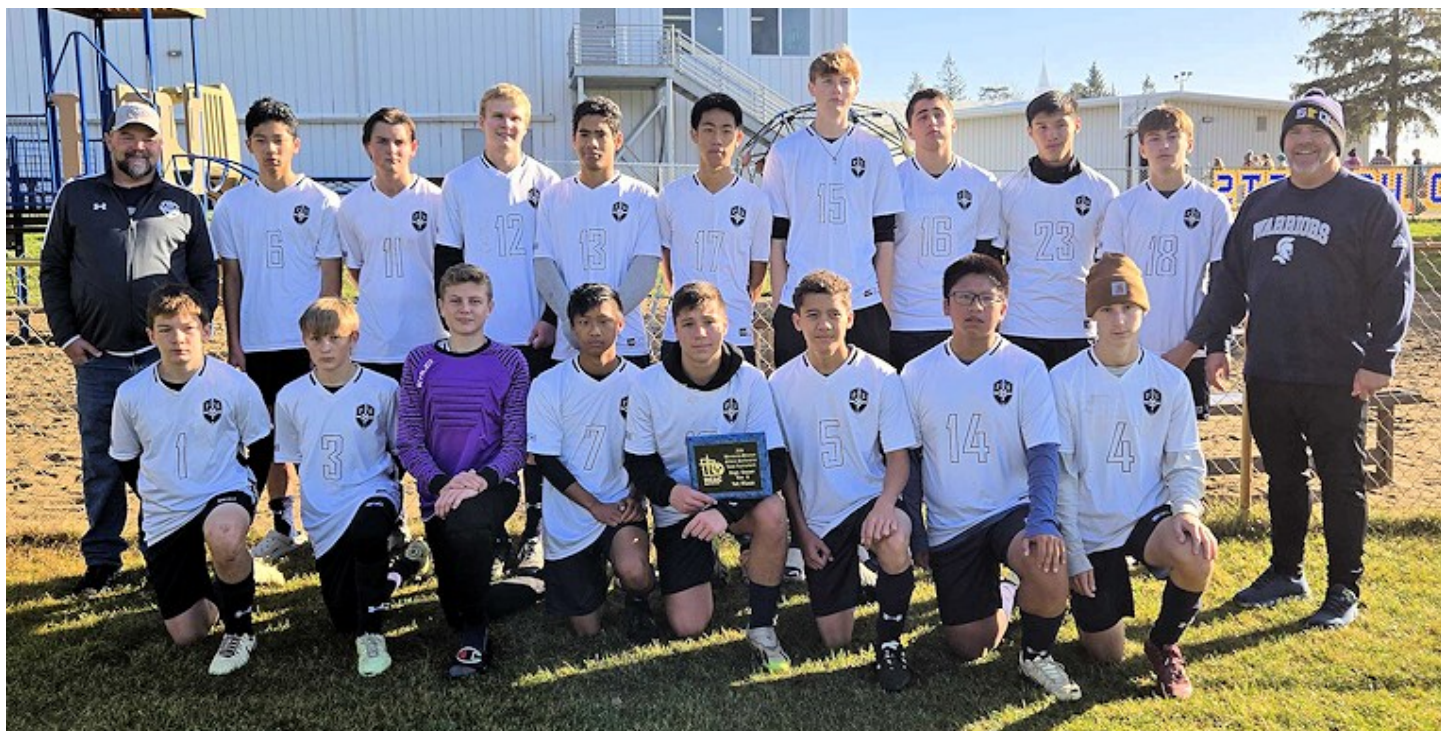
Tyler Stephens, Grant Vikander,
Eli Villar

MCAC Soccer Honors:

- 1st Team All-Conference:
Grant Vikander, Asher Zderchuk
- 2nd Team All-Conference:
Tyler Stephens
- All-Tournament 2nd Team:
Grant Vikander, Asher Zderchuk

Faith All-Tournament Team:

Tyler Stephens



Thank you, Senior Athletes & Managers!



Left to Right: Jude Olson, Megan Lewellen, Sophia Morrell, Sydney Weisser, Emma Payne, Addie Farish, Tony Eppers



*Jude Olson
Defender*



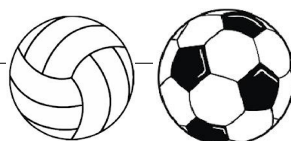
*Sydney Weisser
Outside Hitter*



*Sophia Morrell
Libero*



*Megan Lewellen
Middle Hitter*



JV Volleyball

This season was special as four of our players were playing in their very first year of volleyball. We experienced lots of growth this season from our ability to move on the court and provide good coverage to our ability to set up and get good hits.

We were thankful to have our reserve players, Ava, Gretchen and Brianna who brought positive leadership and skills to our team. We enjoyed lots of giggles at the beginning of the season when the first away game was at an old shrimp factory. Shrimp then became our new cheer before our games! We saw lots of growth from our middle hitters, Star and Brianna, who made lots of kills throughout the season. I look forward to seeing these girls continue to grow in this sport! ■ ~ Coach Erika Infantas

Warrior Awards: Heart & Hustle Award ~ Sara Sousa; In It to Win It Award ~ Brianna Treptau; Rookie of the Year Award ~ Jenny Nayrath.



JH Soccer

This season, the Junior High Boys Soccer Team responded to adversity with poise and maturity and produced a successful season. The start of the season was marked with struggle as we came up just short in all four of our MACS tournament games. The team responded very well during the NSPSL regular season as they secured the #4 seed with a record of 6–1. Our record was achieved while overcoming illness and injuries of several of our players.

This winning record demonstrated our team's consistency and commitment to playing soccer as well as they could. The team then went on to finish fourth place in the NSPSL tournament after a first round win followed by two close losses in the semifinal and third-place games.



The main characteristic the team showed this year was **resiliency**. No matter how tough the opponent was, this team never gave up. They stuck together and achieved results beyond any preseason expectations. This was an incredible soccer season, and I am very proud of how this team handled success as well as adversity throughout the season. ■ ~ Coach Erik Fredericksen

Warrior Awards: Most Improved Player ~ Gabe Shrader; Unsung Hero ~ Asher Olson; Most Valuable Player ~ Liam Broere.

JH Volleyball Team Blue

I was very encouraged by the growth that I saw in the JH Blue Team, and the unity that they created throughout the season. We started with everyone getting a chance to play all of the different positions. I taught them how to pull the setter from the back row, and they each had the opportunity to try that out. As the season progressed, we worked into a 6-2 rotation with specific setters, outside hitters and middle hitters. Through this process, the girls not only gained a better understanding of the game, but they also began playing better together as a team.

In the NSPSL league, our record was 4-5. We had some tough losses in games that were very close. With that record, we were only the #7 seed in our season ending tournament. We had to face the #2 seed, St. Stephen, who were undefeated. After losing the first set, the girls rallied together and came back to win the second and third set. We eventually went on to win the third place match against Providence. It was a very exciting victory that went all the way to the third set with a score of 16-14. ■ ~ *Kaycee Leanger*

Warrior awards: Most Improved Player ~ Neshe Blazosky; Leadership Award ~ Allison Leanger; Warrior Award ~ Sarah Goshgarian.



JH Volleyball Team Silver

I enjoyed coaching this group so much! They put so much effort into learning new skills. We may not have won as many games as we would have liked, but we had a lot of fun and the girls displayed great attitudes. They played with heart and it was evident on the court.

We ended our season with a 2nd place finish in our NSPSL Varsity Tier II Tournament. I gave out three Warrior awards this season: Most Improved ~ Juliana Strong, the Most Encouraging ~ Clara Morrell, and the Court Comedian ~ Rosie Mendoza. ■ ~ *Coach Claire Bouwman*



JH Volleyball Team White

I had the privilege of coaching the JH White team. This group of girls was amazing to work with. They brought energy and determination to the floor each time they stepped on it. There was an excitement that was contagious as they learned each new skill and then successfully performed that skill in a game setting.

This year, we focused in on the word "volleyball" and qualities we should have as volleyball players (*only the first two qualities are noted here*). **V is for victory.** We celebrated our first victory as we won our first game, and then the next three games after that. But we didn't just see victories as games we won. We counted it a victory when Vivi got her first overhand serve over the net in a game, and then serve seven more of them! When Margot hit from the back row, or the team had a 3-touch play, or went after a ball and got it back in bounds, we celebrated those as victories. **O is for overcome.** These girls overcame their nerves to win their very first game. We overcame an injury that took one of our good servers out for the rest of the game. As the tournament rolled around, we assumed we would have to face the two teams that we lost to during our regular season. We did meet both of them again, losing to one, but overcoming to win against the top seeded team, and taking home that third place trophy in our NSPSL B-Squad Tournament.

Overall, this was such a great team to coach, and any coach will be lucky to have any of these girls on their team!

Warrior awards: Leadership award ~ Vivi Skurat; Hustle award ~ Sofia Lipinskiy; Warrior award ~ Lexi LaVasseur. ■ ~ *Sheila McLeish*



Elementary Fall Field Trips

K4 & K5 Trip to Fall Harvest Orchard

The K4 and K5 students went to Fall Harvest Orchard in Montrose on Thursday, September 29th. They enjoyed a guided wagon tour, a giant corn bin they could play in, two different train rides, a giant slide, pedal carts, visiting and feeding the animals, a haybale mountain and much more. Each student also received a coloring book and an apple to take home. Of course, the students also enjoyed riding the bus. It was a beautiful day, and fun was had by all! ■ ~ Mrs. Char Miller



Second Grade Trip to Gale Woods Farm

The second graders visited Gale Woods Farm in Minnetrista on October 2nd. They had an amazing day exploring a working farm. They all were able to experience what it would be like to work on a farm. Some of their favorite activities were: eating vegetables out of the garden, collecting eggs from the hen house, making apple cider and visiting the sheep in the field. They also enjoyed a wagon ride around the farm property. The students learned first hand that running a farm can be fun, but it also takes a lot of hard work. ■ ~ Mrs. Kim Morrell



Third Grade Trip to Oliver Kelley Farm

On Friday, October 4th, Mrs. Macalus, Miss Kovacik, the third graders, and several parents went on a field trip to the Oliver H. Kelley Farm in Elk River. The third graders got to experience what life was like on a farm in the 1800s by participating in several activities. They learned how to make sauerkraut and

helped press sap out of sorghum. They even experienced pitching hay and manure and grinding corn. A highlight of the day was seeing and petting some of the farm animals. Everyone enjoyed a picnic lunch before heading back to school. ■

~ Miss Jennifer Kovacik



Grandparents & Parents Day 2024



This year's Grandparents' & Parents' Day on Friday, October 18th looked a bit different from our usual. Our SH Band prepared a short concert at 8:00am in the Auditorium (you can watch the recording on our website). Our guests again enjoyed catered cinnamon roll twists from Isles Bun & Coffee (their famous *Puppy Dog Tails™*) with coffee in the Atrium beginning at 8:30am. After a brief welcome by Mr. Broere at 9:00am, our guests were dismissed to visit their grandchild(ren)'s classrooms until the special program in the auditorium at 10:00am.



The program delighted everyone in attendance with the mix of sweet sentiments about grandparents and parents and humor throughout the various songs, poems and skits. Every class from K4 through 12th grade took part in the program. The entire recording is also available on our website. Mr. Broere heard many encouraging comments from our grandparents in attendance, which he appreciated so much.

Largely because Mrs. Allyson Hodak's celebration of life service was the next day in Kansas City, we opted to end this day early, with elementary classes dismissing right after the special program, and the older students dismissing shortly afterward. Doing so allowed many of our staff to travel down to Kansas City Friday afternoon & evening and arrive at a reasonable hour.

We are so grateful for the 220+ parents and grandparents who were able to be with us, and for many more who weren't able to attend, but who also whole-heartedly support what we do here at FBCS. ■ ~ Mrs. Alison French



IRBC Kick-Off Retreat

Each year, FBCS starts off the year with a kick-off retreat for secondary students at Iowa Regular Baptist Camp in Clearwater, IA. This event has been a student favorite for years and sets the tone for a great year at the school as we build relationships at camp and prepare ourselves spiritually for all that is to come. This year was no exception, and started our year off on the right foot. One change we made this year was that only 9–12th graders attended. This smaller retreat provided a greater opportunity for fellowship and community among the high schoolers.

Pastor Andrew Solarek from Chisago Lakes Baptist Church preached a series of messages on purposeful living, exhorting us to live with intentionality in our own spiritual development, our friendships, and our evangelism. As always, IRBC was a great host to us. Their program director, Willie Felderman, led us in games and fun throughout our time there. He also delivered a helpful and challenging seminar about smartphones and social media. As always, skit night was a highlight as all of the classes...and the faculty and staff...presented hilarious skits. We ended our time at camp with the seniors leading small groups of students in prayer for the school year ahead. We are grateful for our time at IRBC and look forward to it again next year! ■ ~ Pastor Jared Page



Mrs. Allyson Hodak ~ With the Lord

Dear Parents, Students and Staff of FBCC:

Words cannot express our family's gratefulness to so many who sent cards, flowers, and gifts and the many who made the trip to Kansas City for my bride's celebration service. We did our best to honor her memory and make it a true celebration of her life, and I believe we were able to do that, but most importantly, Mrs. Hodak wanted God to be glorified throughout the service.

She planned the service many weeks ago and we talked through what we wanted to do and asked several to participate: Mr. K sang "The King of Love, My Shepherd Is" and Mr. Bruffey sang "It is Not Death to Die." Mrs. Bruffey played piano and did the prelude, accompanying Mr. K and Mr. Bruffey and also a playing a postlude for the service. All three did a beautiful job. I was so proud of them! The people from my church (Maywood Community Church) were present, our family, and so many friends that our church was packed. We were overwhelmed with the turnout and grateful for the support.

Following our graveside service, we enjoyed, you guessed it, Papa John's Pizza!!! We did this because of Friday Pizza Days at Fourth. We have had about 2,500 views of the service on line and if you want to see it, it is posted on our church's website and on Facebook: (click on hyperlink at right)



[Mrs. Allyson Hodak's Celebration of Life Service](#)

Mrs. Hodak lived a life of dependence and trust in her Savior. Her example to all of us is one that I hope we will not soon forget. Walking with Christ is possible and Mrs. Hodak taught us all how. Thank you all for your prayers. We love you! With a Truly Grateful Heart, Mr. Hodak ■

Allyson Hodak's Obituary

Allyson Hodak was born in Chicago, Illinois, on June 23, 1965, the sixth child born to Henry and Barbara Heft. Allyson is survived by her loving husband, Alan of 38 years, and their five daughters and fifteen grandchildren. Their daughters in order from oldest to youngest: Lydia Sharp (husband Chris) and children Noah, C.J., Addie, Zach, Hannah, Olivia, Sophia, and Felicity; Ellie Conover and her son, Lincoln; Jojo Wilkes (husband Marcus) and children, Addie, Cohen, and K.J.; Cara Baldwin (husband Andrew) and children: Asher, Rory, and Maggie; and Maddie Hodak (fiancé, Jake). In addition, Allyson is survived by her sisters, Jennifer Davies and her daughter, Jonna; Holly Stokes (husband Rob); brothers John Heft (wife Marie) and their son, Henry, and Adam Heft (wife D.J).

Allyson's family moved to Phoenix, Arizona from northern Minnesota in 1981. The move allowed her father to begin a new career and take care of his aging parents. Allyson graduated from Camelback High School in Phoenix, AZ, in 1983 and about a year later was hired to start a new floral program at Bashas' Grocery store (#5) on 32nd St. and Indian School Road. This is where she first met her husband, Alan. As Allyson began to share the truth of God's Word with Him, he decided to see what her church was all about. The church was called Highland Bible Church and Alan heard, for the first time, that he was created with a special purpose and that God loved him so much that the offer of salvation was a gift, freely given through faith alone in the person and work of Christ alone. Alan received the gift of eternal life and that changed everything! Allyson and Alan were married in 1986 and the rest is history. After their marriage, Allyson completed her elementary education degree from Arizona State University.

Allyson's talents were found in her teaching ability, friendliness, convictions, music talent, and in her gift of hospitality. Allyson always supported her husband in the decisions he made. She learned how to obey God's mandate of a submissive wife while trusting God to work through her husband. In the days moving forward, God directed the Hodaks to teach and work in Christian school ministry and Allyson was always there to support her husband's work. She was often found in the stands rooting (quite loudly) for her husband's basketball teams. Alan coached basketball at all levels for almost all of his career in education. The Lord directed the Hodak family to schools in Sedona, Arizona; Watervliet, Michigan; Chisago City, Minnesota; and Plymouth, Minnesota. While Allyson cherished raising her daughters in the nurture and admonition of the Lord, she was able to begin to teach part-time when their youngest entered school. Allyson taught various classes at Fourth Baptist Christian School, but loved junior high Bible and elementary chapels. She was also the head of the school's lunch program, and helped her husband with all the school's various special events.

It was only in the last year that Allyson was able to enjoy two of her life-long desires and that was to be closer to her children and grandchildren, and have her husband as her pastor. Last October, Alan and Allyson moved to the Kansas City, Kansas area and began a new ministry at Maywood Community Church. Allyson served the people at Maywood by playing piano for as long as she was able. Always up early, before the sun came up, Allyson was faithful in her time with her Lord in study and prayer. She was a prayer warrior for her family, students, their families, and our church. She was well-loved and will be missed by all who knew and loved her. ■

Allyson Hodak's "Celebration of Life" service was held on Saturday, October 19, 2024 at Maywood Community Church in Kansas City, Kansas. Allyson requested that attendees not wear black. Men were asked to wear a Hawaiian shirt and ladies were asked to dress in bright colors. The goal for this service was to honor the Lord for His goodness in the lives of the Hodak family, His graciousness in their years of ministry, and the confident hope of Heaven that they know to be true based on their shared faith in Christ. ■

FIRST QUARTER 2024-25	All "A" HONOR ROLL	A AVERAGE	B AVERAGE
First Grade	Owen Byers Sevyn Daniels Bella Eggleton Quintin Levang Charlie Quinn Stella Schindelholz	Aurora Bruggenthies Alexa Brutskiy Ellie Damyan Sebastian Golodneac Mirabella Kifyak Lennon Langum Timothy Manoila Nana Nyarko Kyrylo Postaichuk Porter Schwartzenburg Anna Zhukouski	Lincoln Conover Davida Simonovich Ruby Strong
Second Grade	Asher Bruder Wilson Campbell Mira Damyan Mila Demchenko Kristen Goshgarian Oliver Hanks Daniel (DJ) Jean-Louis Anna Kachula Carson Kolwinska Abigail Macalus Daniel Nsameh Wesley Rathbun Santiago Skurat	Paton Blazosky Roman Bodrug Sarah Damyan Lily Eggleton Caspian Jeppeson Amelia Kappel Alexa Miezwa Karina Petrashov Adelina Poroseci Evangeline Shrader Addison Terlouw Yefim Yeremiya	Timothy Loghinov
Third Grade	Adam Babcock Micah Bruder Gage Byers Caleb Caasi Luke Chihak Peter Levang Everly Quinn Aurora Rathbun Maxwell Schindelholz Hudson Schwartzenburg Neriah Shelton Anthony Zhukouski	Margaret Brutskiy Eva Damyan Brecken Felt Isabella Korovin Ezekiel Li Maxim Lipinskiy Daniel Tkach	Gabriela Damyan Octavian Golodneac Ophelia Kifyak Kayda Mendoza-Tamayo Daryna Postaichuk Amelia Sisam Joshua Strong
Fourth Grade	Matthew Aleckson Leyla Blazosky Blake Coulson Aria Felt Zoey Jean-Louis Eva Jenkins Elise Liu Emmaline Macalus Rhys McLeish Michael Olaru	Daniel Chuprin Asher Delich Vanessa Diaz Calero Blessa Johnson Avonlea Laumann Isaac Leanger Calvin Levang Ezekiel Nsameh Lucia Skurat Michael Totimeh Shaella Zeah	Emma Damyan Max Montgomery Jason Ureke
Fifth Grade	Ava Blazosky Thomas Wheaton	Kate Kovalchuk Michelle Olaru Ammiel Rylka	Mark Brutskiy Jackson Byers Dan Damyan Leah Damyan Parker Delich Harrison Kappel Mira Nagel Gabriel Nieson Isaiah Shrader Robinson Smith Vanessa Tkach Jace Wicklund

FIRST QUARTER 2024-25	ALL "A" HONOR ROLL	A AVERAGE	B AVERAGE
Sixth Grade	Roman Kachula Viviana Skurat	Belinda Aleckson Margot Levang Sofia Lipinskiy	Kimberly Arroyo Josiah Bruder Garrett Coulson Daniel Damyan Jacob Damyan Colin McCulloch Elijah Rudolph Anna Strong Reuben Totimeh Tianci (Grace) Zhou
Seventh Grade	Ashley Blazosky David Caasi Allison Kovalchuk Alexis LaVasseur Elise Pacencu Naomi Pacencu	Chloe Johnson Katelyn Kolwinska Bryna McLeish	Elias Brombacher Liesl Campbell Daniella Damyan Hunter Delich Jacob Demchenko Ezekiel Leanger Alessandra Mendoza-Tamayo Ella Petrashov Julia Raisanen
Eighth Grade	Liam Broere Ziqian (Isaac) Gao Sarah Goshgarian		Dima Brutskiy Isabelle Chuprin Levi Damyan Mark Damyan Nathan Kauffman Allison Leanger Alexandra Lipinskiy Clara Morrell Gabriel Shrader Julianna Strong Tiegan Treptau Taya Wall
Ninth Grade	Jizhen (Jila) Peng Sara Sousa	Star Delich Ava Fure Lauren Stephens Claire Vikander	Nikita Bodnar Isaiah Caasi Anna Damyan Rebeka Damyan Lily Goshgarian Christian Hoffman Zhenghan (John) Huang Christian Kolwinska Lukyn Williams
Tenth Grade	Karina Anderson Josiah Combs John Goshgarian Haihang (Kai) Guo Yiwen Huang	Deborah Dahl Nikita Lipinskiy Joseph Litkey Asher Zderchuk	Gretchen Campbell Ethan Coulson Israel Keyzer Caleb Larson Brianna Treptau
Eleventh Grade	Tava McLeish Grant Vikander Eli Villar	Anja Brombacher Blake Delich Giselle Legoff Ethan Markgraf Megan Page Tyler Stephens Lillian Williams	Elena Arroyo Carlos Flodstrom Joseph Goshgarian Brandt Johnson Mialia (Jenny) Nayrath Jinwen (Jane) Qin
Twelfth Grade	Adelynn Farish Jack Fure	Antonio Eppers Jonathan Kolacz Sophia Morrell Lexi Owens Sydney Weissner	Megan Lewellen Cody Mercado Emma Payne