

THE NORTHERN MICHIGAN CHRISTIAN SCHOOL **SATELLITE**



THE MIDDLE SCHOOL CHOIR PERFORMS AT OUR ANNUAL CHRISTMAS CONCERT IN DECEMBER

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

SUPPORT NMCS: PAGE 2

ATHLETICS: PAGE 5

HAPPENINGS: PAGE 3 AND 4

CONNECTIONS: PAGE 6



AUCTION RECAP: PAGE 3



CHRISTMAS JOY: PAGE 4



OPPORTUNITIES: PAGE 7



RECOGNIZABLE REFLECTIONS

By: Scott Curell, Superintendent

I attend the Reed City Church of the Nazarene. We call it RCNaz for short. I love my church and the people that are a part of our church. The makeup of our congregation is diverse in age from the very young to the older generation. Our pastors that we have on staff are great- good preaching, good music and a great deal of effort is put on serving the community of which we are located and beyond. It is wonderful! But the purpose of this article is not to write about how wonderful my church is. Please stop by sometime and I would love to brag on my church. The mission statement of my church is what I would like to share with you in this article. It reads "The Reed City Church of the Nazarene exists to help one another move closer to God as together we become recognizable reflections of Jesus Christ."

I hate mirrors. If a mirror is in good condition it doesn't lie. You look in the mirror and it gives you

an honest picture of your appearance. It is an exact replica of the person who stares into it. The RCNaz mission uses the imagery of the mirror not so that others can see ourselves, but instead see Jesus Christ in our lives. The goal is that others would see Jesus in all aspects of our life. It is a long process and is not normally done instantaneously. God shapes and molds us through life so that day by day we might look a little bit more like Christ to others. If we let Him.

James 1:23-24 says, "Anyone who listens to the word and does not do what it says is like a man who looks at his face in a mirror and after looking at himself, goes away and immediately forgets what he looks like." It is simply not enough to read the Bible, but we must put it into practice. This is why I believe Northern Michigan Christian School is important. We not only read the Bible. But in all subjects and disciplines the Bible and our relationship with Christ is woven into every subject matter. Students not only gain knowledge from

reading the Bible but they are taught how to put it into practice in their daily lives. They learn how to apply it. It is our hope that each day our students can take one step closer to becoming recognizable reflections of Jesus.

We have a tendency to look in the mirror in our bathrooms too much. For me, I can see the weight, the gray hair and all of the other stuff that comes with getting old. It is my hope and desire though that when other looks at me they see a person that is a recognizable reflection of Jesus. That is what we want for the students at NMC. We want to partner with parents on the journey to help our students become recognizable reflections. In fact, it might do us all good to look in the mirror from time to time. "And we, who with unveiled faces all reflect the Lord's glory, are being transformed into his likeness with ever-increasing glory, which comes from the Lord" (II Corinthians 3:18).



IMPORTANT DATES

MARCH 13: ELEMENTARY MUSICAL
MARCH 18: RISING STARS ROUND UP
MARCH 24-28: SPRING BREAK
APRIL 7: ASSOCIATION MEETING

Northern Michigan Christian School aims to educate children by challenging their minds, nurturing their hearts, and helping them develop their gifts for service in Christ's Kingdom. At NMCS, we think it's important to invest in Christian education and our students today. Supporting Christian education is an investment in a child's future, preparing them to make a positive impact in a changing world for Christ. We strive to raise children who seek a genuine relationship with Jesus despite societal pressures.

There are many ways to support NMCS each day. We appreciate your prayers for guidance and safety, as well as your ongoing financial contributions. Your generous support enables us to provide transformative experiences for our students and to keep Christian education affordable for all.

Visit nmcs.us/support to learn how you can get involved and to help us reach our yearly fundraising goal.

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BUILDING THE FUTURE AUCTION

\$138,360

This school year's auction took place on November 9th and was the biggest on record for NMCS. The auction committee and coordinator, Diane Eisenga, had their sights set on supporting the school like never before.

Through exceptional prizes, experiences, and ticket sales, the auction brought in over \$138,000.

Throughout the evening, appetizers and desserts were provided by Ebels General Store, Dawn Fresh Catering, and Sandy Roby. Cornerstone Coffee also donated coffee and drinks to the event.

Athletic Director, Trey Reed, served as the host and auctioneer of the evening. Everything from homemade pies and furniture to trips and hunting equipment were up for grabs.

Thank you to our donors, volunteers, and school leadership for helping us provide affordable Christian-education to all families.

CHRISTMAS CONCERT

The entire school community came together for the annual Christmas concert early in December. Students from pre-school to high school performed musical selections honoring the birth of our Lord and Savior.

From the classic hand bells to performances by the middle school and high school band and choir, it was a night of joy and celebration.

The final song of the concert brought all of the voices together to sing "Behold our God" in a moving reminder of the reason for the season.

The concert was again under the direction of Mrs. Erin McPherson.



Christmas Joy at NMCS



“Unto us a child is born, to us a Son is given.” - Isaiah 9:6

Christmas at NMCS is a time filled with joy and community as we come together to celebrate the birth of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

Throughout the Christmas season, students are led through many intentional activities that focus on building community while teaching the true meaning of Christmas.

High school students participated in a hallway decorating contest where the seniors came away with the first place prize. Their theme focused on the Biblical manger scene.

Other classes enjoyed decorating cookies, getting together with pen-pal friends, and singing carols as one student body.

IMPORTANCE OF SPORTS AND COMMUNITY

By: Trey Reed, Athletic Director

Athletics are such a crucial piece in building community.

Think nationally and globally. Outside of our Lord and Savior, what has more power than anything else to bring people together from different ethnic, cultural, and economic backgrounds? It's simple; sports!

This example can be seen in the latest run by the Detroit Lions. The success and heartache of early defeat brought the state together like nothing else before. It didn't matter what religion or political party you came from; the entire state of Michigan came together to support their Lions.

In good times and bad times, sports can be used as a building block for creating a strong sense of community.

That's what is so special about the power of sports here at NMCS. It can build us up, but also, if not used correctly, can tear us down.

I challenge us to look at sports as a community building pillar where we cheer on and support each other in the good times and build each other up in the bad.

Instead of focusing on the things that tear us apart (individual stats, comparison games, drama etc.), let's focus on what sports can do to uplift us. We must not forget what we are using sports for in the first place; to teach life lessons and to grow students into strong Christian men and women who will impact the world for Christ.

As followers of Jesus, we are also called to impact the greater culture for Christ. What better way to that than sports? Sports serve as an extension of what we are trying to do here at NMCS and sports can reach people that can't always be reached. Think of the students and parents we are in competition against or the families we welcome in our doors. That may be our one and only chance to show them Jesus in their lives.

At NMCS, I am thankful to work alongside coaches who understand the big picture when it comes to Christ-centered school sports. Our coaches care deeply about our students on and off the playing surface. More importantly, our coaches care about the relationship each of our students has with Christ.

Thank you for your continued support of Comet Athletics and our initiatives. If we continue to lay a solid foundation, keep our worldview on athletics broad, and focus on what Christ wants to teach our student athletes, I have expectancy in my heart that great things are on the horizon.



As a member of the Michigan High School Athletic Association, NMCS sets itself apart from other local small Christian schools in the fact that we get to participate in and host many unique sporting events. It offers great opportunities and resources for our student athletes and community as a whole and we are able to compete for district and regional championships year in and year out.

From the middle school to high school level, it provides students with a structured athletic program that promotes sportsmanship, academic achievement, and the development of important life skills like teamwork, leadership, and discipline, all while fostering a sense of community and school pride within a regulated competitive environment.

This year, during the week of March 3rd, NMCS will be hosting the regional boys basketball tournament. Teams from across the state and region will be joining us to see who will advance to the state quarter-final level. This is a great opportunity to showcase our school, community, and athletic department.

Volunteers are always needed for this type of event. If you are able to help, please email Trey Reed or sign up at nmcs.us/athletics.

GO COMETS!

WWW.NMCS.US/ATHLETICS



LAPS FOR LEARNING DIVE IN!

The annual "Laps for Learning" fundraiser is taking place on March 7th with the forms due on March 5th.

This year the theme is "Dive in!" as it encourages everyone to get involved in this fundraiser by pledging money to students who will be running laps.

Prizes this year include a trip to the Great Wolf Lodge and swimming passes to the YMCA of Cadillac.

To donate or get involved, please email Trey Reed at treed@nmcs.us.

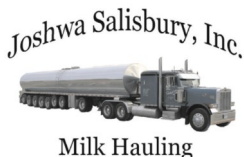
EXPAND YOUR WORLDVIEW

By: Rebecca Dieterman

Hosting an international student is such an amazing experience. It allows us to learn about other cultures and see things from different perspectives. I have been the International Student Coordinator at Northern Michigan Christian School since January 2022 and have had the chance to get to know and teach four different groups of international students from varying countries, backgrounds, and languages. My family has also hosted students since I was a sophomore in high school at NMCS. So many international students have become like family over the years. I have even been able to visit one of my previous international students in Germany. We have also had students come back to the United States to see us or spend Christmas with us years later.

Please consider opening your home this coming school year to host an international student (or two!).

If you are interested in hosting an international student, please email me at rdieterman@nmcs.us.



GOD IS OPENING DOORS AT NMCS

By: Katelyn Richard, Principal

"Be very careful, then, how you live - not as unwise but as wise, making the most of every opportunity." - Ephesians 5:15

This school year is flying by! Soon we will be planning for graduation and leaving for summer break. With part of the year in review and looking to what is ahead, we see opportunity. We see the opportunities God has blessed us with and the wonderful opportunities we have to look forward to.

As a school community, we've created "Comet Time" for our middle and high school students to connect with each other, connect with staff and faculty, and connect more with the Lord.

On Mondays, middle and high school students participate in Spiritual, Social & Emotional Learning (SSEL) where students have the opportunity to develop things like goal setting, responsible decision making, and managing stress. Scripture and truth are interwoven into the mini lessons and topics. Our elementary students participate in SSEL as well, teaching them to think before they act, manage their emotions and how to

be examples of Christ's character. "Comet Time," for the rest of the week, is spent in Bible studies and class meetings where students pray for one another and discuss things as a class. Our elementary students also get to engage with other students from other schools through pen pal partnerships.

At all levels, students engage in chapel. Middle and high school students have chapel on Wednesdays. Elementary meets on Fridays. God provides great opportunity to share Truth through various speakers, pastors and experience chapels for students to grow their faith.

Additionally, J-Term is a two-week window of extra elective classes for high school students to explore, do and create. This year's extra electives included classes like pottery, drones, cooking/home economics and theater. We also have upper classes connecting with elementary classes, to make connection and be strong role models.

In fall 2025, we are partnering with Oxford Virtual to offer high school students' additional elective options not currently offered in house.

We are blessed with the opportunity to work with littles in our PreK Rising Star program. If you or someone you know is interested in an early insight into this wonderful program, Rising Stars Round Up is scheduled for Tuesday, March 18.

God certainly opens doors! We are blessed with so many opportunities. We welcome you and anyone you know to step through these doors with us and partner in the wonderful things God is doing here. Come, explore opportunity with us! Connect with us online, in-person or by phone!



SCHEDULE A TOUR TODAY!

WWW.NMCS.US/ADMISSIONS

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WANTED NMCS is looking for individuals who would love to serve our community on the Board of Directors in the upcoming school year.

If you have a heart for servant leadership, please email Scott Curell (scurell@nmcs.us). New board members are voted on each spring during the April Association Meeting.

The Board of Directors is tasked with implementing important policies and a visionary direction for the school. Sub committees help guide the education, maintenance, athletic, and finance department to a sustainable future. It's a great way to give back to NMCS!

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