



The Mustard Seed

December 2001

Faith Mennonite High School

Vol. 24, No. 3

GRANDPARENTS' BANQUET

Students arrived at school around 7:00 to meet their grandparents. Supportive students, those who

by Darwin Hurst
Student Writer

sation, everyone enjoyed a few songs that were sung by the singing class. After the singing, a prayer was said and the servers began to bring the food. Everyone enjoyed the jovial conversation and chicken, mashed potatoes and green beans. The students and grandparents talked about each other's lives and heard some interesting stories. Coffee, tea, pie and ice cream were served, and everyone moved to the other side of the gym and waited for further instructions.

Joel Martin stood up and

gave us directions for a game. Mr. Martin asked us a question such as "What year were your grandparents born?" All the students that knew raised their hands. He kept asking questions about their grandparents until only one person had their hand raised. That person received a prize. It was a good way to learn interesting facts about one's grandparents. After Joel Martin was finished, the large chorus got up to grace everyone with their singing ability.

When the large chorus had finished singing, Dan Ehst spoke. Mr. Ehst gave a challenging

speech to the grandparents about leaving a Godly heritage for their grandchildren. He

also entwined different points in his message that challenged the students.

The night was a big success; the grandparents were very generous and donated over 5,000 dollars to meet school expenses. Also the students and grandparents had a great time getting to know each other a little better. Thank you to all who made the



Students fellowshiping with their Grandparents during dinner.

did not have any grandparents attending, attended as well. Everyone filed into the gymnasium with quiet anticipation. After a few minutes of conver-



Large chorus performing for their grandparents.

Grandparents' Banquet a success.

Datebook

December	03	Progress Reports Due
	06	Maranatha Game
	13	Christmas Concert- 7:30 pm
	21	Christmas Vacation Begins at 3:07 pm
January	2	Christmas Vacation Ends- 8:30 am
	14	Basketball Intramurals Begin
	14	PTF-7:30 pm
	18	End of Second Quarter (47 days)
	24	Basketball Game with Terre Hill (home)
	25	Report Cards Due
	26	MACSA Bible Quizathon (York). Make-up date Feb. 2
28	Basketball Game with Terre Hill (away)	

Central Christian

With the bell ringing for the end of school, the lower classmen quickly stuffed their books into book bags and headed for the door looking forward to a fun-filled afternoon of basketball and volleyball games with Central Christian. The juniors and seniors had gotten out of class at 2:30 to start the games while the freshmen and sophomores finished eighth period. Only the volleyball and basketball classes played while the rest of

the school cheered for their team. The afternoon was kicked off with four grueling games of girls' volleyball. With both teams equally matched, it soon became apparent that it was going to be a fight to the finish. In the end each team won two games.

The nets were quickly taken down and the floor cleared for a much-anticipated boys' basketball game. It started out with Faith in the

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Principal's Corner

by J. Raymond Harnish, Principal

Giving Others a Merry Christmas

Merry Christmas! It can only be merry if we *turn* from the spirit of hoarding and then *welcome* the spirit of giving. Too many people will spend money they do not have to buy things they do not need to give to people who already have everything. I suggest three things to consider as we prepare for Christmas.

First, on the basis of Luke 14:12, when you do your giving, it should not be to your friends or brethren, kinsmen, or to your rich neighbors. These people can return the giving and you will have your reward. Therefore, our giving needs to be to those who have little. Many of the persons on our Christmas lists are hard to shop for because we cannot think of anything that they do not have already.

Secondly, in Luke 14:13,14 we should give to those who cannot recompense or give back in order that we can be recompensed at the resurrection of the just. Do we construct our shopping lists by thinking of all the people that will have us on their lists? Our giving this Christmas season and all next year should be without expecting anything in return.

Thirdly, what would happen if instead of buying our gifts at the hardware store, Kmart, or any other place, we would use God as our example? God gave of Himself to a people that could not return His gift. It was a gift that would affect them for all of eternity.

Will our gifts this season be to people who cannot return a gift? Will our gifts benefit the recipients for eternity?

MACSA

"Transformed by the Renewing of Your Mind" was the theme for the fifty-third annual Mid-Atlantic Christian School Association (MACSA) Teacher Convention held November 14-16 at the Lancaster Host Resort, Lancaster, PA.

Faculty from FMH numbered among the more than 2,000 delegates who attended the three-day conference. Delegates came from New York, Massachusetts, Connecticut, New Jersey, Delaware, Maryland, and Virginia representing over 200 schools from the Mid-Atlantic region.

by Ted Gilmer
Teacher

About 160 educational workshops and seminars were offered for both elementary and secondary faculty. Topics ranged from "Curriculum Development in Christian Schools" and the "The Prodigals in Your Classroom," to "Schools of Excellence" and "Administrative Handyman." Also, more than fifty exhibitors presented materials such as educational software, camps for school retreats, and contemporary textbooks.

Each year our staff finds MACSA to be educational, enlightening, and enjoyable.

Central Christian

(Continued from page 1)

lead but Central, eyes set on the win, pushed on. Both teams played their best. The game ended with Faith winning, 78 to 52.

After the games were over, David Gilmer called everyone together and thanked Central for coming then gave the blessing for the meal. Conversation and fellowship proceeded over the meal. Following the meal, Central prepared to leave.

Thanks to Student Council for giving the students an enjoyable night and to Central



for coming and giving us the pleasure of fellowship with another school.

Featured Writer

James Zook

Clamorous, cheering fans in the packed stadium roared as their favorite player strode out of the dugout and into the batter's box. In the stands, crazed legions of fans loudly declared their adoration for him. Why did he play the game? He played not for the money or the fame, but because it was what he loved to do. Ever since his childhood, it had been his dream to play major-league baseball, and now he was achieving that dream. It was the bottom of the ninth inning, and the bases were loaded. His team was behind by three points, but he knew he had a chance, even though it was slim at best. Determined and calm, he now stood at the plate, watching for signs of where the pitcher would throw the ball. He stood there motionless for what seemed like hours until the pitcher deftly hurled the ball over the plate. "Strike one!" the umpire hollered, as the batter swung the bat, but hit nothing

but air. With the words of the umpire ringing in his ears, an intense dread of failure began to fill him. He shook off his anxiety and, with fire in his eyes and newfound resolve, strode back up to the plate. Once again he stood, watching the pitcher's every move. "Strike two!" the umpire bellowed as the ball streaked past the second time. He now felt sweat begin to bead on his forehead, and the bat begin to stick to his perspiring palms. With no less determination than before, he stepped up to the plate for the third time. Again the pitcher sent the ball speeding in his direction. But this time, instead of the bat hitting nothing, a loud "crack!" was heard. A skillful batter, he had solidly connected with the ball and sent it spinning up and over the fence for a grand slam. He had just won the game, and with the delirious fans screaming and his teammates rejoicing, he rounded the bases and headed for home.



Is This You?

The Christian community today is not what it once was. It is deteriorating

by Liz Maust
Staff Writer

from lack of faith, lack of evangelism, and lack of any other number of things that should hold the people of God together. Today, in America, Christianity is corrupted. There is a soul problem in America that is comparable to the one in ancient Roman times. Today, however, the idols are different, although only from outward appearances. Money, lust, pride—these are idols that many worship, whether or not they are aware of it. This can be seen in the time many take to prepare their faces while neglecting their souls. Fear of man keeps in place tongues that would otherwise be loosed in praise to God alone. Not many in Lancaster County would stand on a street corner and preach God's word at risk of being ridiculed, would we? Homosexuals and divorce cases haunt the modern Christian church. We all believe these are wrong, agreed? But what about the other "little" sins that are tearing Christ's bride apart piece by piece. Things like hidden pornography, gossip, and deception run rampant in many Christian circles, eating away at God's peace and at His very presence. These things that haunt us as Christians are not so far in the past or so far the distant future that they cannot be seen; instead, they linger right here, right now!

How many churches do you know that the general public would really and truly re-

spect? I am not just talking about the-it's-a-nice-church-with-a-big-building kind of respect. I am speaking of a respect and honor that would draw a person into God and His truth. How many of us are sharing the gospel and evangelizing in our everyday, run-of-the-mill lives through actions, words, and example? How many have converted to pants and short hair, simply because that is the style? Furthermore, of these, how many will change again as the styles change? How many have left a church because it is labeled too conservative by peers and the public at large? And of the few who have not fallen into these traps, how many have really and truly suffered for the cross of Christ Jesus? How many truly endeavor to use their talents and abilities to the glory and honor and praise of God before His people? These questions could go on and on. And I'm afraid the answer to these questions is a resounding but clear minority in the area of what is right. Not many still live in America who would dare to serve the cross of Christ at a cost that seems in our flesh too dear to pay. But then let me ask you this: how is it that we can live this way in the presence of a holy, righteous God who will one day sit on the judgment seat? As Peter so aptly stated: "For the time *is come* that judgment must begin at the house of God: and if it first *begin* at us, what shall the end *be* of them that obey not the gospel of God?" (I Peter 4:17)

He who cannot direct the winds can adjust his sails.

STUDENTS SPEAK OUT

WHAT DO YOU LIKE BEST ABOUT CHRISTMAS?

Donna Hurst (Right): *I love giving gifts and getting together with my extended family. The whole holiday season makes me happy.*



Bradley Fox (Left): *The holiday season is fun because we get out of school and get Christmas gifts.*

Wanda Hoover (Right): *I like Christmas because it is a day when I can relax, be with my family, and think about Christ being born in a stable. I also enjoy the break from school.*



Reuben Bender (Left): *I like the way our family gets together at our grandparents. We always eat a big lunch and play football or baseball. Then, before we open our gifts, we recite the Christmas story to keep centered on Christ.*

Senior Social

The senior social began like any other. The seniors walk to the gym and begin to talk or play basketball and volleyball, which ends when the planning committee comes in. They set up mats, which are used to play a high scoring game of kickball.

The class then numbered off, assembled into teams, and

by Dale Mellinger
Staff Writer

about equally matched. Some people realized that it was getting past their usual suppertime, and began to inquire about when supper would be ready.

Not too much time had passed before the class was summoned outside to the patio. For supper the students made pizza mountain pies. A mountain pie is two

slices of bread placed in a mountain pie maker; topped with cheese, meat, and pizza sauce; closed and heated over a fire.

After supper concluded, the seniors and the advisors went up to the fire and

piled more wood on it. They started to sing, with David Gilmer accompanying them on



Seniors socializing around the campfire.

played basketball or volleyball. These games were enjoyed and the teams were

Alumni News

Engagements:

Congratulations to Wilmer Stoltzfus and Myma Lapp ('85) who are planning a wedding for December 29, 2001.

Congratulations to Sheldon Musser and Twylene Horst ('99) who are planning a September 28, 2002 wedding.

Births:

Congratulations to Brent ('91) and Rhoda Stoltzfus on their first child, a son, Jonathan Brent, born on October 12, 2001.

Congratulations to Dwight ('92) and Melissa ('91) Russell on the birth of their first child, a daughter, Natalie Faye, on October 12, 2001.

Congratulations to Keith ('87) and Cheryl ('88) Beiler on the birth of their daughter, Erica Rochelle, born on April 21, 2001. She is their third child, second daughter.

his guitar. After singing, some people stayed by the fire and talked, while others went back to the gym to continue athletic activities.

Before they knew it, the clock said 9:30 and the social had to wind down. Some people stayed to help rewax the

gym floor and others went home or to other activities. As their second-to-last social drew to a close, the seniors realized that they had had a great time and that they were able to get to know each other even a little better.

MUSTARD SEED (USPS Per. # 9-17535) is published monthly by Faith Mennonite High school. Staff: Editor - Dale Mellinger, Asst. Editor - Jeremy Weaver, Layout Editor - Tony Gochnauer, Asst. Layout Editor - Brian Groff, Typists -Dwight Wenger and Justin Nolt, Photographer - Jordan Ehst, Staff Writers - Elizabeth Maust, Faculty Advisor - Mr. Ted Gilmer

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FAITH MENNONITE HIGH SCHOOL
5085 Woodland Drive
Kinzers, PA 17535