

FROM THE ADMINISTRATOR'S DESK

Lately, I have been thinking about running away, running towards, and standing still.

In physical education class, Mr. Spankle is completing a unit on universal games. One game the elementary students play is "Captain Midnight." A student is designated to be Captain Midnight and stands on one side of the gym while the rest of the class waits on the other side. The waiting players will yell, "What time is it Captain Midnight?" Captain Midnight will yell out a time and the players will step forward that many steps and then stop. For example, ten o'clock would signal the players to take 10 steps forward. When Captain yells that it is midnight, he will chase the players in an attempt to catch them as they run away. The caught players then join Captain Midnight in the next rounds aiding in the tagging until all players are caught.

Just like this childhood game, I am reminded that in our spiritual journey there are times of running towards, running away, and standing still. In our work with young people at Johnstown Christian School, my prayer is that we can teach students the importance of each part in their journey.

In today's broken world, I want our students to be equipped to run towards those who are hurting. As Christ reminds us in Matthew 25, we are the ones to take food to the hungry, provide a drink to the thirsty, give clothing to those in need, show hospitality to the stranger, and visit the lonely. Students at JCS need to know they are the hands and feet of Jesus to those in need. This will mean running toward those who need us the most in potentially hard and difficult places.

Sometimes students need to learn to run away from things. James 1 gives a picture of how our thoughts will give birth to sin, and sin when full-grown gives birth to death. To seek His holiness, it is necessary to run from sin which begins with our thoughts. How can we, as Christ followers, run away from sin with the same deter-

mination as the young students fleeing Captain Midnight? The desire to run from sin begins with the heart. Our hope is to raise up young people whose whole heart is set on running from what is evil.

An important part of the game is stopping to wait for the next set of directions from Captain Midnight. This waiting can take two important forms in our faith journey. The first is a time of seeking and waiting on answers from the Lord. Similar to our game, it may be at those times when we call out to God, "Which way do I go?" Or possibly when we ask for wisdom or healing and mending in brokenness. The Bible gives us many examples of people who stopped and waited: Moses and Israel in the desert, Joseph in captivity, and Simeon who saw the Messiah. We too may need to stop and wait for His leading.

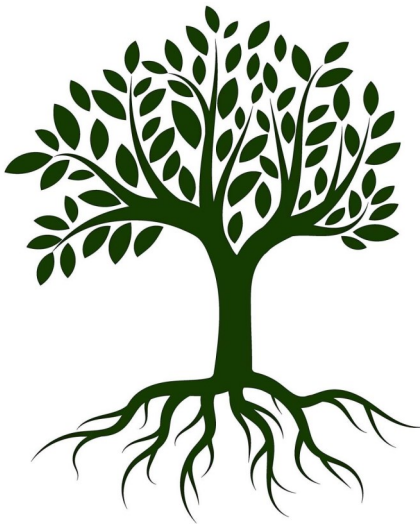
Today we live in a culture that is ever changing. The world swirls together right and wrong as postmodernists encourage us to create our own truth. In these times, we must stop and stand strong, rooted in truth. "Blessed is the one whose...delight is in the law of the Lord, who meditates on his law day and night. That person is like a tree planted by the streams of water" Psalms 1:1 - 3. We want students to know the source of truth, His law, and to teach them to meditate on it. By doing this, they will be rooted and will stand firm in spite of the ever changing world we live in.

At JCS, we teach universal games, like "Captain Midnight," and strong skills in literature, mathematics, science, and history. However, at our heart, we are training young believers about times in our spiritual journey to run towards, to run away, and to stand still.



Celeste Sprankle

Celeste Sprankle, Administrator



Events



Scout Project

The trail to becoming an Eagle Scout is long, but JCS senior Tyler Williams is nearing the end. A member of Troop 622 chartered by Roxbury St. Paul's UMC, he has held the position of Assistant Senior Patrol Leader and Librarian. Tyler is currently Senior Patrol Leader. For his Eagle Project, Tyler updated the front of the lower parking lot. This included completely replacing the wooden fencing and cleaning and painting the one-way signs. His proud parents are Angie and Tim Williams.

Homecoming 2021

Congratulations to the 2021 Homecoming Court & Class Representatives. Homecoming was held on Saturday, October 2. The court was comprised of seven underclassman representatives and eight seniors.



From Left: Sybella Mack, Elijah Williams, Dakota Wilson-Boyles, Aaron Viscusi, Allenna Shellenberger, Michael Taylor, Mary Hostetter, Jacob Huston (King), Sarah Huston (Queen), Tyler Williams, Kasmira Mack, Noah Baker, Unity Miller, and Sam Ribaric. *Jeremiah Taylor – not pictured

Somerset Arts Center

Mrs. Marsha Carr's Grade 4 Bible class studied what it meant to be "welcoming" as they "let our light shine for Jesus." Students learned about Somerset County's response to 9/11. In particular, the students learned how community members did not hesitate to extend hospitality and share their faith in the aftermath. The Dressler Arts Center in Somerset invited the class to paint a Blue Sky scene to be hung in the gallery. The scene represents the sky the morning of 9/11 before the plane crashed in Shanksville. What a beautiful way to commemorate the anniversary of 9/11.



Fall Banquet 2021

This year, we were blessed to host an in-person Fall Banquet. What a joy to look around the room and see so many of our faithful friends gathered together. It was a wonderful celebration of Johnstown Christian School and how it equips students to “let their light shine before men, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your father in heaven” (Matthew 5:16).

The night was full of words, spoken and sung, that pointed to how JCS creates an environment that prepares students to let Christ’s light shine. Our high school quartet exemplified this by challenging their listeners to:

***“Carry your candle, run to the darkness;
Seek out the lonely, the tired and worn;
Hold out your candle for all to see it;
Take your candle, and go light your world.”***

Dr. Merle Skinner, our guest speaker, reminded us that JCS is running towards the brokenness in our culture to be like Christ. Our school is empowering students to be His light in a time of darkness.

We are thankful for those who those in our community who come along side us through prayer and financial support. As our region changes, especially in the past 20 months, families need additional support to make the vision of a Christ-centered education a reality. God has been faithful in providing for JCS to help meet financial needs for 77 years. JCS looks forward with gratitude for how He will meet scholarship needs as JCS prepares young people to “take their candle, and go light the world.”





Carnegie Natural History and Art Museum

On September 23, the sixth through eighth grade students traveled to the Carnegie Museums of Natural History and Art in Pittsburgh. Students spent time at the museum studying American and African wildlife by completing a scavenger hunt studying dioramas of animals in their various habitats. Students also marveled at the world's third largest exhibit of dinosaur bones, unique minerals and gemstones, famous artwork, Ancient Egyptian artifacts, and much more. It undoubtedly was a memorable experience for all!

Operation Christmas Child

Students packed 256 shoeboxes for Operation Christmas Child. A shout out to the OCC team for a successful event!

Front Row: Jacob Huston, Lydia Hostetter, Mary Hostetter, Ella Lushko, Amelia Shaffer, and Noah Hurt.

Back Row: Unity Miller, Emma Engleka, Sarah Huston and Grace Ressler.



re:ACT 2021

Fifteen students traveled to Washington, D.C. on November 21-23 to participate in the ACSI Redemption Everyday HS Leadership Conference. With a focus on human suffering, students were challenged not only to re:ACT, but to be an active part in restoring and reconciling all things to God's plan. We are thankful JCS students are not too chicken to lead.



Students who attended: Mason Dean, Sarah Huston, Ella Lushko, Emmaleigh Lushko, Lydia Hostetter, Mary Hostetter, Jacob Huston, Noah Hurt, Kasmira Mack, Solenna Mack, Gabby McGeary, Unity Miller, Grace Ressler, Elijah Williams, and Tyler Williams.

Washington, D.C.

Our annual junior and senior trip to Washington, D.C. trip was different than years past. The Holocaust Museum was still greatly limiting guests (groups of six), so we were unable to tour this year. Heavy rains also canceled our annual farmer's market fun. Students started at Union Station, walked to the Capitol Building, and visited the American Indian Museum. It was a tremendous adventure which included one of the Smithsonian museums almost no student had been to before. They concluded the trip by exploring the art at the Freer and Sackler Galleries which were exhibit Asian art, similar to what students studied in the previous chapter in History. God's timing was perfect. Students finished the day wet but had a great time and explored new places.



Gettysburg, PA

Ninth and Tenth graders traveled to Gettysburg at the beginning of September. Students toured the battlefield and several other historical stops along the way. They greatly enjoyed physically walking where such a defining moment occurred through a guided tour of the grounds. Students also experienced the National Battlefield Museum with the diorama, movie, and exhibits.



County Chorus Festival

Congratulations on an outstanding Somerset County Chorus Festival and Concert at Rockwood High School on November 22-23, 2021. These six students were amazing representatives of JCS as they joined their voices with 60 other high school students from Somerset County.

The choir was under the direction of the guest conductor, Professor Jeff Webb from University of Pittsburgh at Johnstown and accompanied on the piano by Miss Lloyd. Great Job on an amazing concert!

From Left: Christopher Burkey, Abigail Godin, Julianna Beltz, Abigail Holsopple, Allison Burkey, and Dakota Wilson-Boyles.



Somerset All-County Band

Seven students represented Johnstown Christian School at the 2021 Somerset County Band Festival. The senior high band was conducted by Dr. William Stowman, who is the Professor of Trumpet and Co-Chair of the Department of Music at Messiah College. The junior high was conducted by Technical Sgt. Chris McGinty, who is a euphonium player with the Ceremonial Brass, The United States Air Force Band, Joint Base Anacostia-Bolling, Washington, D.C. The students rehearsed for many hours over the two day festival which concluded with a wonderful performance Thursday evening at Rockwood Area School District. Both directors spoke highly of the work ethic, talent, and maturity of not only JCS students, but all of the students who attended the festival. A special thanks to Berlin-Brothersvalley School District for letting JCS purchase some of their old band uniforms. We look forward to converting them into JCS uniforms in the near future.



From Left: Ellie Speigle, Dakota Wilson-Boyles, Hope Ressler, Allison Burkey, Shiloh Swart, Abigail Holsopple, and Dorin Cook.

Carly Turgeon— Discovery and Elementary



This fall we welcome back Carly Turgeon, who is a 2015 graduate of JCS. Carly attended UPJ, graduating with a major in Middle-level English with Special Education. She also added on Secondary English.

Carly joins the JCS faculty teaching 5th grade English and Language Arts, Middle School Math, and teaching in the Discovery Center. She is active at the Greater Johnstown Christian Fellowship and sings on the worship team.

A life goal of Carly's is to become certified in sign language. In her free time, Carly enjoys quality time with her fiancé, family, and friends, riding bikes, snuggling with her animals (dogs, donkeys, cats, and cows), and boating (or anything where she can be in the water). Her favorite thing about JCS is the atmosphere—it is welcoming and it feels like a giant family. She shares that people genuinely want you to succeed and be the best version of yourself.

Melissa Maddy—Preschool Aide

A new smiling face in Preschool this year is Ms. Melissa Maddy. Melissa and her husband Eric Kotch live in Davidsville and are the parents of Isabella (4th) and Sara (1st). They attend St. David's Lutheran Church. Melissa



graduated from Allegany College of Maryland with a degree in Nursing. She teaches Sunday School and is a Girl Scout leader. When asked what she likes most about JCS, she quickly responds "the family atmosphere."

Megan McKeever— Elementary

Mrs. Megan McKeever joins the Elementary Staff in Second Grade. She graduated from IUP in 2012 with a Bachelor's Degree in Elementary Education and a focus in reading intervention. Megan and her husband, Nate, attend church at Trinity PCA where she teaches children's Sunday School and is a member of the Missions Outreach Committee.



In her spare time, she enjoys kayaking and hiking. Megan has hiked over a hundred miles (total/combined) on trails in the Greater Johnstown area. She also enjoys spending time with her husband, friends, family, and their two Siberian Huskies. One of her goals is to return to serve on a short term mission trip to Haiti, like she used to when she was younger.

Megan likes JCS because "walking into the building is like walking into church or a family get together. Someone is always there to encourage, pray for, and guide you. There is accountability, growth, and a genuine Christ-like love shown for all. I am glad to be a part of this family!"

Sarina Hardison—Kitchen Staff

Sarina Hardison joins the kitchen staff this year. Sarina attends Works of Deliverance Fellowship International Ministries where she is an associate pastor and head of the administration. She also is a worship leader and teaches Bible studies.



Sarina and her son, Trevaun, write music together. She has a certified home bakery and loves to act and sing. Sarina loves to build vision for others and help them reach their goals.

Along with filling their bellies, Sarina is excited to fill lives with hope and encouragement as she builds relationships with the JCS students.

Achievements AND Accolades

Middle School Speech Meet

Eleven Middle School students were selected to participate in the JCS in-house Middle School Speech Meet held on October 29, 2021.



Front Row: Avah Evans, Anna Lushko, Abigail Shellenberger, Eliza Shaffer, and Avery DiGuardi.

Back Row: Matthew Blough, Jonah Harr, Ryan Pribish, Shawn Oldaker, Brayden Kibbe, and Mitchell Gusmerotti.

Spanish Honor Society

On November 9, 2021, JCS inducted five new members into el Capítulo Miguel Cervantes de La Sociedad Honoraria Hispánica. The evening included worship in Spanish and English led by current seniors, a recitation of the history of the chapter, an encouraging word from our speaker, Pastor Andrew Taylor, inducting new members, and recognizing seniors with honor cords. The SHS advisor is Mrs. Jillian Walker.

Front Row from Left (new inductees): Amelia Shaffer, Solenna Mack, Elijah Williams, Allison Burkey, and Zoey Stanton.

Back Row from Left (seniors receiving honor cords): Sarah Huston, Grace Ressler, Owen Miller, Emmaleigh Lushko, Kasmira Mack, and Mary Hostter.



XC Advances to the State Meet

JCS Varsity Girls qualified as a team for the state meet in Hershey, PA. Congratulations to Unity Miller, Kasmira Mack, Ellie Speigle, Mary Hostetter, and Lydia Hostetter. This is JCS's 8th trip in the last 10 years advancing to the state competition.



GV Soccer

The varsity girls had an awesome season ending with an 8-1-1 conference record. The team entered the ACAA tournament as the #1 seed.



ACAA All-Star Game

Congratulations to the following students who represented JCS on the West team in the ACAA All-Star Soccer Game played November 2 at Centre County Christian Academy. Coach Derek Turgeon coached the West Girls All-Star Team.

*Boys: Ethan McDowell and Chris Burkey
Girls: Mary Hostetter, Sarah Huston,
Kasmira Mack, and Alana Hinton.*



Santa Classic

Seniors *Chris Burkey, Mary Hostetter, Kasmira Mack, and Ethan McDowell* represented JCS in the Santa Soccer Classic soccer game on Thursday, November 18, 2021 at Trojan Stadium. The Santa Classic features outstanding senior players from the area. The proceeds provide gifts at Christmas to area families in financial hardship.

Mary Hostetter netted two goals and was named MVP for her performance as the South girls defeated the North 4-0.



Engagements

Alex Stahl engaged to **Heather Chaderwick ('15)**
on June 25, 2021.

Luke Varner engaged to **Carly Turgeon ('15)**
on April 12, 2021.

Caleb Simms engaged to **Lindsey Horner ('16)**
on September 27, 2021.

Marriages

Will Ellis married **Tiffany Turgeon ('10)**
on July 18, 2020.

Christian Hodges ('12) married Sara Corso
on August 14, 2021.

Caleb Van Grouw married **Lindsey Najjar ('13)**
on August 14, 2021.

Travis Najjar ('16) married **Kelsey Hunsberger ('17)**
on October 9, 2021.

Levi Peruso ('17) married Leah Baum
on September 5, 2021.

Births

Eric and **Marcy (Spory) ('03)** Weaver
Daughter, Isabelle Rey, on November 20, 2021

Cory ('04) and Cristina **Yacynych**
Son, Matteo Pecora, on October 18, 2021

Marty and **Alicia (Marks) ('06)** Prokop
Son, Everett Martin, on August 6, 2021

Travis and **Courtney (Hershberger) ('08)** Buffy
Son, Blaze Elijah, on April 12, 2021

Erin and **Kara (Shook) ('08)** Dovey
Son, Oliver James, on July 24, 2021

Derek ('10) and Gabrielle **Dwire**
Son, Liam Harry, on August 7, 2021

Deaths

Melanie (Jubin) Grove ('91) went to be with the Lord
on September 15, 2021.

*"Now the Lord of peace Himself give you peace at all times and in every way. The Lord be with you all."
-2 Thessalonians 3:16*

It is a joy to receive gifts that are sent to acknowledge a loved one. We are very grateful for the gifts received from the following:

In Memory of

DARYL ALWINE

Maryella Alwine

Dorothy Hollingsworth

Esther Helmuth

Kathleen Fagan

Dixie Mock

Leslie & Elizabeth Neufeld

Jackie Ondesko

Mark & Nicole Seneca

Marilyn Weaver

Notice BOARD

Stay Connected!

Johnstown Christian School is on Facebook and Instagram. Join us for updates throughout the week. The Facebook feed is also on the home page of our website www.johnstownchristianschool.org.

Please call 814-288-2588 or email kmack@jcsfamily.org with alumni news.

ESTABLISH A MEMORIAL OR LIVING LEGACY FUND

If you would be interested in pursuing either a Memorial Fund or a Living Legacy Fund in order to honor a loved one, contact Celeste Sprinkle, Administrator, at csprinkle@jcsfamily.org.

Johnstown Christian School



Telling the next generation about
the praiseworthy deeds of the Lord
Psalm 78:6

Thank you for considering a gift in your estate plan for JCS. Including JCS in your future plans leaves a legacy that will bless our ministry for generations to come.

WHY IS AN ESTATE PLAN IMPORTANT?

An estate plan ensures your desires and values are honored and that your assets will go to the people and organizations you select.

WHAT IS A PLANNED GIFT?

A gift that utilizes charitable planning strategies to maximize your charitable impact and achieve your personal planning goals.

HOW CAN I SUPPORT JCS WITH AN ESTATE GIFT?

You can name JCS as a beneficiary of your will, trust, retirement plan, insurance policy, bank accounts, and/or establish an Endowment fund. These future gifts are changeable during your lifetime.

WHAT IS AN ENDOWMENT?

A fund that is invested permanently, and part of the income is spent annually to support the ministry; the fund grows over time and provides financial stability to the ministry.

HOW DO I NAME JCS IN MY WILL OR ESTATE PLAN?

JCS is a 501(c) (3) non -profit.
Our ministry is identified as:
Johnstown Christian School
125 Christian School Rd,
Hollisopple, PA 15935
Federal Tax ID: 25-1005200

I INCLUDED JCS IN MY ESTATE PLAN, WHAT'S NEXT?

Please let us know!

We want to acknowledge and celebrate your future gift!

If you have any questions about this type of giving or wish to talk about your desire to give, please contact our Business Manager, Ms. Amy McDowell
(814) 288.2588 or amcdowell@jcsfamily.org



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MATT
5:16



Let your **LIGHT** so shine
BEFORE OTHERS, THAT THEY MAY SEE YOUR
good deeds & glorify
YOUR FATHER in Heaven

*Engaging Minds * Building Character * Deepening Faith*



JCS 21-22