

## FROM THE ADMINISTRATOR'S DESK

Johnstown Christian School equips students to understand God's absolute truth by engaging minds, building character, deepening faith, and creating community to glorify God.

This is the mission statement of JCS – our goals as we work with many young people daily. What does it mean to “build character” and how does our community impact this development?

One highlight of November is ACSI's student leadership conference. For many years, we have sent students and a few adults to Washington DC to interact with students from other ACSI schools. I have never had the privilege to attend the event with our students, but Miss Adkins keeps in contact with me through text, pictures, and quotes during the conference. This year I received a powerful one-liner, “Community shapes character.” Wow, these few words encapsulate much of what we do inside the walls of JCS. Our community: teachers, staff, coaches, and many others, play a vital role in a student's development of Godly character.

How is character developed?

I have been patiently, maybe not so patiently, waiting for a new Dollar General to be completed in my neighborhood. If my understanding is correct, it will be a Dollar General Market. My children are not as impressed, but this means it will include a small produce section and a few additional grocery items. It is the small things, right? I was very excited about the speed at which the building was constructed. This gave me great hope. At first, my comments were, “I bet it will be ready for me to shop in by the end of October. Then, “For sure by Thanksgiving.” It was even a topic of discussion as I rode home from my Thanksgiving holiday travels. “Would the store be done? How exciting will it be to shop there?” I know, it is all pretty ridiculous and my family just laughs

at my enthusiasm. I keep peering in to see flooring, then freezers, and eventually shelving.

You may be wondering, what does the building of the Dollar General have to do with character development? I think that the process of character development is much like this build. The outward and visible changes to students' character and ours as adults are often the first to show signs of construction. The outer behaviors point to our desire to have a Godly character and the openness to allow the Holy Spirit to work at changing us to be more like Him.

I have been following Christ for a long time, the outward construction is fairly solid. My daily actions and behaviors should reflect this. However, the internal building, the unseen parts of my heart are still being constructed and changed to be more like Christ. Hebrew 4:12 – 13a talks about how God's word judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart and, ultimately, these are not hidden from Him.

“For the word of God is alive and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to divide soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart. Nothing in all creation is hidden from God's sight.”

In all of us, the journey toward being Christ-like requires community and time. Our community helps us on this journey to reflect His character and to assist us in being open to the internal finishing of our heart.



*Celeste Sprankle*

Celeste Sprankle, Administrator

# Events



## Homecoming 2022

Congratulations to the 2022 Homecoming Court & Class Representatives. Homecoming was held on Saturday, October 1.



**First Row (seated):** Allison Burkey, Jacob Taylor, Olivia Lushko, and Shiloh Swart

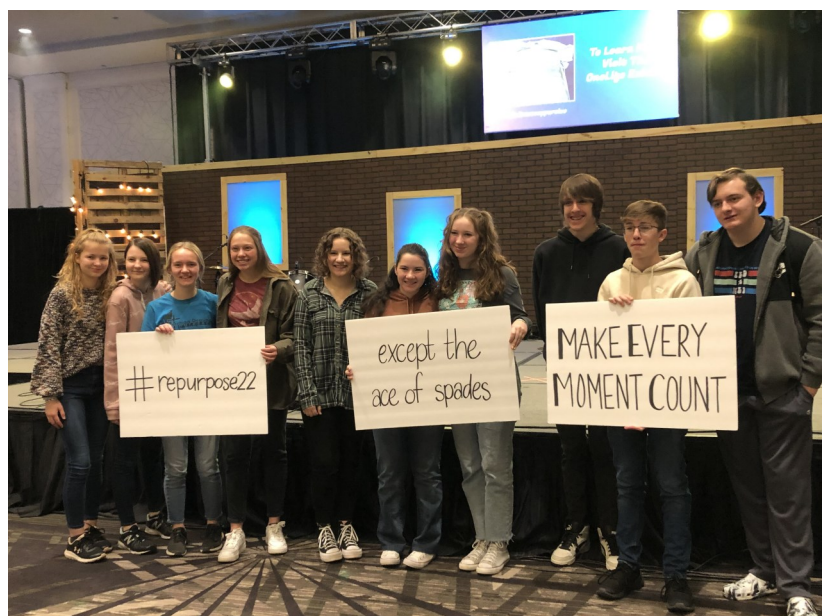
**Middle Row:** Ellie Speigle, Josh Berkey, Noah Hurt, Aaron Viscusi (King) and Hope Ressler

**Last Row:** Gavin Hart, Jaydon Yoder, and Arizona Wolfe

## re:Purpose 2022

Ten students traveled to Washington, D.C. on November 21-23 to participate in the ACSI Redemption Everyday HS Leadership Conference. This year, the conference theme was “The Purpose of Life” and focused on how service, education, family, beauty, and work affect our view of purpose. The goal was to help student leaders realize that every moment matters so that they can lead others in the right direction, with empathy for the brokenness of our culture, an understanding of their role in God's story, and a clear vision for restoration. The students have returned from the conference excited to share what they learned and full of hope for how God will use them at JCS in the upcoming year!

**From Left to Right:** Anna Lushko, Ella Lushko, Lydia Hostetter, Unity Miller, Solenna Mack, Sybella Mack, Shiloh Swart, Elijah Williams, Mason Dean, and Josh Berkey





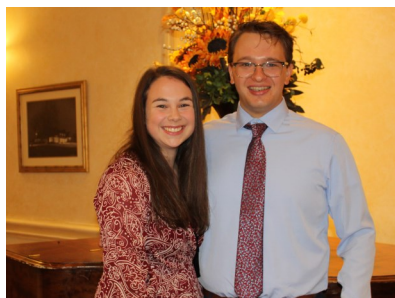
## Fall Banquet 2022

Fall Banquet 2022 was a blessing! It was inspiring to celebrate the community that is Johnstown Christian School.

This school year, we are reflecting on JCS's mission statement: Johnstown Christian School equips students to understand God's absolute truth by engaging minds, building character, deepening faith, and creating community to glorify God. In addition, we want to highlight the community we are creating within our JCS family. "You are the body of Christ, each one is a part of it" 1 Corinthians 12:27.

At this year's banquet, we were able to hear how the JCS community impacts the lives of students and families. We were encouraged by second graders singing about all the parts of the body being important, even the belly button. Our speakers gave heartfelt testimony about the value of community. We were challenged to take a stand for Christian education and the community it builds for students. This unique community comes alongside its members during times of blessing and during times of hurting, as was echoed in the words of one JCS family.

Thank you for your contribution to the JCS community. Our prayer is that you will continue to support and invest in this community that is Johnstown Christian School.







## Carnegie Science Center

On September 30, the JCS Middle School journeyed to the Carnegie Science Center in Pittsburgh to enjoy many hands-on experiences with science, engineering, and technology. One of the favorites of the trip was learning about the stars in our night sky in the newly renovated Buhl Planetarium. Students also enjoyed interacting with robots, playing the world's largest guitar, various sports science activities, and exploring a WW2-era submarine. Overall, it was an awesome time of discovery for students and hopefully, a catalyst in further building their interest in studying science, recognizing and marveling at God's creation, and using science to help better serve Him. ~ Eric Yacko, Science Teacher

## Gym Renovations

The JCS gym has a new look. This Fall, renovations to the JCS gymnasium began. Many thanks to all who donated! We are grateful to the many donors who gave financially. Phase 1, refinishing the floor, is finished and looking great. Phase 2, relocation of the backboard and bleachers is also complete. The next stages include improving the roof, insulation, walls, and obtaining new bleachers.

## #GivingTuesday 2022

A heartfelt THANK YOU to all who gave on #GivingTuesday. The monies raised will go to the gym renovation.





## Harrisburg, PA

Our freshmen and sophomores were blessed to go to Harrisburg on September 3, 2022. We ate at the capitol building and toured the capitol. A representative from Rep. Rossi joined us on the tour and the students were amazed at the beauty and history of our state. We then explored the PA State Museum and learned more about our state's history. We had a lot of fun and learned much about the place we call home.

~ Jason Crissman, History Teacher



## Washington, D.C.

Our juniors and seniors had the blessing of going to Washington D.C on September 30, 2022. They enjoyed the farmer's market with live music, the Smithsonian museums of African and Asian art as well as the Holocaust museum. Our students were exposed to art and culture and had opportunities to discuss these as well as process through all they witnessed at the Holocaust museum. It was a great trip that had a beautiful blend of fun, experience, and opportunities for educational development.

~ Jason Crissman, History Teacher





## County Chorus Festival

Thirteen students represented JCS at the Somerset County Chorus Festival held at Somerset High School on November 21 and 22. These JCS students joined their voices with more than 150 students from other Somerset County schools and were directed by guest conductors Dr. Scott Rieker from Frostburg University and Ms. Kye-Won Doyle from IUP.

~Kristen Lloyd, Choir Director

JCS students who were a part of this Choral Festival were:



**From Left to Right:** Allison Burkey, Dakota Wilson-Boyles, Sara Blough, Matthew Boland, Dorin Cook, Aubrielle Lawley, Alyssabeth Berkebile, Kierra Holley, Eliza Shaffer, Avah Evans, Isabella Williams, Avery DiGuardi, Danielle Coleman



## Somerset All-County Band

The 2022 Somerset County Band Festival was held at Conemaugh Township High School on November 30 and December 1 with 165 students participating from 12 school districts. The Junior High Band was directed by Dr. Jason Worzbyt from IUP. The Senior High was directed by Dr. Ben Blasko from Lipsomb University, who graduated from Conemaugh Township in the mid-2000's. Dr. Erik Frost from Messiah University directed the Percussion Ensemble. The festival culminated Thursday night with a wonderful concert. All three groups played extremely well for a standing-room-only audience.

~Steven Fassnacht, Band Director

**From Left to Right:** Matthew Boland, Avah Evans, Noelle Lushko, Danielle Coleman, Lily Lushko, Dakota Wilson-Boyles, Ellie Speigle



## Jeanna Harclerode - Elementary

A familiar face this school year is Miss Jeanna Harclerode. She joins the staff in Fourth Grade. Jeanna is a 2018 JCS graduate. She attended UPJ, earning degrees in Early Childhood and Special Education. Jeanna lives in Windber and attends Berkey Church where she serves on the worship team and in children's ministries.

Jeanna loves the feeling of home at JCS, including the caring community, encouragement, and service with others who are like-minded and focused on raising students to glorify God in all they do. In her free time, Jeanna likes to spend quality time with family and friends, explore new places, and play games and volleyball. She is always willing to try new experiences too!



## Megan Hodges— Administrative Assistant

A recent addition to JCS is Miss Megan Hodges. Megan is a JCS 2020 graduate and will be working at the front desk.

Megan lives in Westmont and is active at The Gathering. She has a heart for missions and has served in Ecuador, Guatemala, and Peru.

In her free time, Megan enjoys baking, quality time with friends and family, and spending time outdoors. Her favorite thing about JCS is the loving community.



## Kristi Magi—Language Arts and Science

Kristi Magi joins the JCS Family this year in Language Arts and Science. Kristi is a local and graduated from Ferndale. She graduated from Penn State University with a degree in Elementary Education and went on to receive her



MA in TESOL and Intercultural Studies from Wheaton College. Miss Magi taught at a Christian school in eastern PA and spent 12 years teaching in China.

Miss Magi currently attends Trinity Presbyterian. She appreciates the support she receives from fellow teachers, administrators, and staff. She also enjoys seeing how the Lord is working in the youth of Johnstown.

In her free time, Kristi likes to read, crochet, take pictures, write, and spend time in the outdoors along with family and friends. She is also rediscovering Johnstown, her hometown, after being away for a long time.

## Stefanie Miles—Custodial

A new smiling face in the building this year is Mrs. Stefanie Miles. She and her husband Dan, a 2002 JCS graduate, reside in Johnstown and are the parents of Madysen (2nd) and Harper (Kindergarten). They attend West Hills Community Church.

Stefanie graduated from Admiral Perry Vo-Tech in Welding. When asked about what she likes most about JCS, she responds, "how inclusive they are. No one feels left out, no matter their grade or position within the school."

## Miriam Offe— Preschool Aide

Miriam joins us from Wedel, Germany, a small town next to Hamburg. She is a 2022 graduate from Gebrueder-Humboldt-Schule. Miriam joins us from Service Adventure, Johnstown. She lives in Kernville with the other SA participants and enjoys spending time with her host family, Dave and Celeste Sprinkle. Miriam attends Kaufman Mennonite Church. You can find Miriam assisting Miss Sprinkle with preschool on Monday, Wednesday, and Thursday mornings. On her other mornings, she helps throughout the building in a variety of ways. She loves to be creative through art, painting, writing poetry, and calligraphy. When asked what her favorite thing about JCS is, she replied, "the loving atmosphere. You feel like you are part of a big family."







## **Maddie Sprankle— Preschool**

Welcome back to another alum! Miss Sprankle is a 2018 graduate whose Bachelor's degree from Penn State has led to experience in several preschool and kindergarten classroom settings. With her joy and enthusiasm

for teaching young learners, she has already become a great asset to the preschool team.

Maddie resides in Windber, PA. In her free time, she enjoys running and spending time with family and friends. Her favorite thing about JCS is the welcoming and loving atmosphere.

## **Ashley Trachok— Kindergarten**

While new to JCS, Mrs. Trachok is not new to Christian Education. She grew up in Christian Education and has taught Preschool and Kindergarten at two different Christian schools for many years. She comes to us highly qualified with a MA in Education from Saint Francis University. We are blessed to have her as part of the Kindergarten team at JCS!

Ashley and her husband Michael reside in Geistown and attend Liberty Grace Church with their daughter Vada (Kindergarten). When asked about her favorite thing at JCS, Ashley replied, "I love that I can share about Christ as I teach my students!"



## **Melanie Wenger— Preschool Aid**

Melanie Wenger is a 2022 graduate of Dalton High School in Ohio. Like Miriam, Melanie joins us from Service Adventure, Johnstown. Melanie lives in Kernville, and enjoys spending time with her host family, Jodi and Tim Mock. Melanie is currently attending Kaufman Mennonite Church. In her free time, she enjoys journaling, reading, and all things out-

doors. She can be found assisting Miss Sprankle in the preschool room on Tuesday and Friday mornings. Her other mornings are spent working with students in Kindergarten through grade 8.



## **Kathy Werner— Administrative Assistant**

Kathy Werner joins the office staff this year. Kathy and her husband Josh reside in Johnstown and attend Greater Johnstown Christian Fellowship. They are the parents of Josh ('20) and Lilian ('26). Kathy loves JCS because "it is a place where you

feel safe, loved, and have the freedom to love and worship the Lord in every way. The atmosphere is always overflowing with the love of Christ!"

In her free time, Kathy can be found spending time with her family (video games, board games, movies, shopping, and Jeep rides), drinking coffee, studying the Word, and serving at the church.

## **Susan Wolfe— Administrative Assistant**

Another addition to the office staff is Mrs. Sue Wolfe. Sue will be focusing on attendance. She and her husband Calvin live in Johnstown and are the grandparents of Chad, Arizona ('23), and Elana. The Wolfe's attend Belmont UMC.

In her free time, Sue enjoys camping, crafts, and spending time with her family. When asked what she likes most about JCS, she replied, "I like the devotion to helping the students grow spiritually, keeping a 'family' environment, and making each one feel special."





## XC Advances to the State Meet

JCS Varsity Girls qualified as a team for the state meet in Hershey, PA. Congratulations to Kaylee Frederick, Lydia Hostetter, Ellie Hunsberger, Ellie Speigle and Unity Miller. This is JCS's 9th trip in the last 11 years advancing to the state competition.



## Soccer

It was a year of growth for our soccer teams. The varsity girls ended their season with a 4-4-0 conference record and entered the ACAA tournament as the #3 West seed.

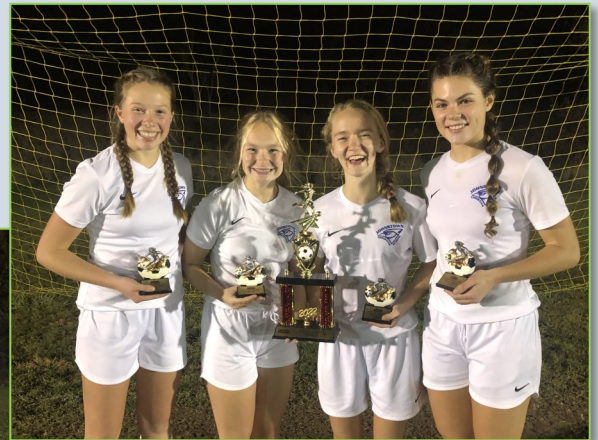


## ACAA All-Star Game

Congratulations to the following students who represented JCS on the West team in the ACAA All-Star Soccer Game played on October 31 at Centre County Christian Academy.

**Boys:** Mason Dean and Kauan Freeman

**Girls:** Allison Burke, Lydia Hostetter, Unity Miller, and Ellie Speigle





## Engagements

Nathan Homyak engaged to **Kara Waters ('16)**  
on May 14, 2022.

Jordon Morack engaged to **Abigail Holsopple ('22)**  
on October 21, 2022.

## Marriages

Luke Varner married **Carly Turgeon ('15)**  
on July 23, 2022.

Caleb Simms married **Lindsey Horner ('16)**  
on July 30, 2022.

## Births

Cody and **Jennie (Bozic) ('11)** Todaro  
*Daughter, Molly Sharon, on November 8, 2022.*  
*Son, Noah Cary, on November 8, 2022.*

**Dan ('10)** and Rachel Inman  
*Son, William Joseph, on December 7, 2022.*

Adam and **Emily (Spory) ('09)** Rudderow  
*Daughter, Lindy Jean, on December 15, 2022.*

*"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*

JOCELYN CROFT

*Daniel & Brandee Croft  
Ron Westover*

*In Memory of*

OWEN LEHMAN

*Anonymous*

*In Honor & Memory of*

GERALD & NORMA LLOYD

*Gerald Lloyd*

*In Memory of*

NOAH & ELMA MAE YODER

*Ron Yoder*

*In Memory of*

NAOMI YOUNG

*Charles & Lucille Guttendorf*

# 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](http://www.johnstownchristianschool.org).

Please call 814-288-2588 or email [kmack@jcsfamily.org](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:amcdowell@jcsfamily.org)





**JOHNSTOWN CHRISTIAN SCHOOL**  
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# **YOU ARE THE BODY OF CHRIST**

## **EACH ONE IS A PART OF IT**

**1 Corinthians 12:27**

*Engaging Minds, Building Character, Deepening Faith &  
Creating Community to Glorify God*

**JCS 22-23**

