



The Messenger

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Minnesota Association of Christian

Who Received the Greater Blessing?



by Alan J. Hodak

This year, the Minnesota Association of Christian Schools hosted its annual music festival (Band concentration) on the 4th of November. Next year, we will switch to a choir concentration (2017). The tentative date for next year's festival will be **Friday, November 3** at Fourth Baptist. MACS schools, please mark your calendars for this event!

Five schools participated this year: Chisago Lakes Baptist, First Baptist of Rosemount, Fourth Baptist, Lake Region, and Woodcrest. Seventy-seven students took part in this year's program directed by Dr. Jerry Luckhardt, Director of Graduate Studies, Associate Director of Bands, and Associate Professor at the University of Minnesota.

Earlier in the year, selected music pieces were given to band directors at our

schools for practice and preparation for this day. The day-long exercise was an effort to put everything together for an early evening program presented by all participating students for the public. It was outstanding! The students did a marvelous job and our gratitude is extended to all the coaches and teachers who had a part in the success of the day.

Our guest band conductor, Dr. Luckhardt, had some interesting comments about our students. He did not have to, but he had plenty to say. Among his comments:

- "Very disciplined!"
- "Concentrated for many hours."
- "Not every student has the ability to sit and listen for a long period of time."



Dr. Luckhardt

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Trumpet sectional coached by Mr. Jeff Scholl



Miss Teresa Herbert coached the Horn masterclass



Saxophone masterclass with Mrs. Madeline Elmhirst



Clarinet masterclass with Mrs. Julie Serber



Trombones and Low Brass sectional led by Pastor Loren Paulsen and Dr. Jeremy Kolwinski



Mr. Joel Alexander worked with the group of fifteen percussionists on their percussion ensemble number

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- “This was a skill-set that many people do not have.”
- “An extraordinary group of people behind me!”
- “I would be willing to write a letter of recommendation for each student based on their ability to concentrate, cooperate, follow directions, and lead.”

Who was he talking about? He was talking about our students and that was his take on the seventy-seven participants and the day he spent with them! Great job, students!

But I wondered if the students realized that their activity had a greater impact than just an evening performance? I wonder if they realized that they were paid the highest of compliments by a director at a major university program who had his first taste of seventy-seven students from five of our MACS' schools?

I received a blessing that night, but I think someone else did too.

—Alan J. Hodak, Executive Director, MACS



Flute masterclass with Mrs. Abigail Nicholson



Friday, Nov. 3rd at Fourth Baptist Christian School

The day will begin at 9:00am and will include sectional as well as full group rehearsals.

The closing concert will be at 6:30pm.

Welcome to Two New Member Schools to MACS!



Bethany Christian Academy is located in Brooklyn Park, MN and is a ministry of Bethany Russian Baptist Church. The school is in its second year of operation and currently has an enrollment in the mid-70's. The school administrator's name is Ilya Marchenko, and the pastor of Bethany Russian Baptist is Vitaliy Bak.

From their website: Bethany Christian Academy provides a Christ-centered, challenging academic program with instructions based on the Biblical view of God and the world. Our teachers faithfully educate and equip students to boldly employ their knowledge, talents, and faith to profoundly impact the world for Jesus Christ.

FHL Academy stands for Faith, Hope, Love, but the official name of the school is FHL Academy. This program is in its first year of operation and has an enrollment of 12 students. The Pre-K – 6th grade independent school meets in an area church. Bagley is in the northwestern part of our state. The administrator's name is Vanessa Jodock.

From their website: Our philosophy of education enables students to learn that all truth stems from God. Subjects are taught from the perspective that God is the center of all things and that academics must include God if a student is to know the complete truth in any area of study.



Fourth Baptist Senior Receives Commended Student Honors

Release dated September 2016

COMMENDED STUDENT IN THE 2017 NATIONAL MERIT SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM



Mr. Alan J. Hodak, Administrator of Fourth Baptist Christian School, announces that David Murray has been named a Commended Student in the 2017 National Merit Scholarship Program. A Letter of Commendation from the school and National Merit Scholarship Corporation (NMSC), which conducts the program, will be presented

by the administrator to this scholastically talented senior.

About 34,000 Commended Students throughout the nation are being recognized for their exceptional academic promise. Although they will not continue in the 2017 competition for National merit scholarship awards, Commended Students placed among the top five percent of more than 1.6 million students who entered the 2017 competition by taking the 2016 preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT/NMSQT®).

"The young men and women being named Commended Students have demonstrated outstanding potential for academic success," commented a spokesperson for NMSC. "These students represent a valuable national resource; recognizing their accomplishments, as well as the key role their schools play in their academic development, is vital to the advancement of educational excellence in our nation. We hope that this recognition will help broaden their educational opportunities and encourage them as they continue their pursuit of academic success."

We congratulate FBCS Senior, David Murray, and wish him all God's best in his college career in his chosen field of study. ♦



MACS Dates for the 2016-17 School Year & Beyond

January 20—Student Leadership Conference at Owatonna

February 2—Speech and Bible Festival at Woodcrest

February 23-24—State Basketball Tourney at Fourth and Woodcrest

March 3—Jr. High Fine Arts Festival at Rosemount

April 7—MACS Fine Arts Festival at Fourth/MACS Annual Meeting

May 12—Granite City Track Meet

Legislative Breakfast date TBD.

2017-2018 School Year:

Oct. 12-13—Teacher's Convention at the WI Dells

Oct. 26-28—MACS Soccer/VB Tournament at Lake Region

Nov. 3—MACS Choir Festival @ Fourth Baptist

Feb. 22-24—MACS Basketball Tourney @ Fourth Baptist

2018-2019 School Year:

Oct. 11-12—Teacher's Convention at the WI Dells

Oct. 25-27—MACS Soccer/VB Tournament at Rosemount

Feb. 21-23—MACS Basketball Tourney @ Fourth Baptist



2016 MACS State Soccer & Volleyball Tourney Results

Boys' Soccer

Champions: First Baptist Crusaders—Rosemount

Second Place: Lake Region Hornets

Third Place: Fourth Baptist Warriors

Consolation: Chisago Lakes Patriots

Tier 2 Winner: Heritage Patriots—Karlstad



Girls' Volleyball

Champions: First Baptist Lady Crusaders—Rosemount

Second Place: Fourth Baptist Lady Warriors

Third Place: Lake Region Lady Hornets

Consolation: Heritage Lady Patriots—Karlstad



All Tournament Teams

Boys Soccer All-Tournament Team:

1. Rosemount – Andy Fruetel
2. Rosemount – Michael Graves
3. Rosemount – Seth Murphy
4. Lake Region – Tyler Ogren
5. Lake Region – Levi Jenson
6. Fourth – Vivek Mohinani
7. Fourth – Micah Morrell
8. Fourth – Ben King
9. Grace/PL – Josiah Choi
10. Grace/PL – Martin Duarte
11. Chisago – Riley Keck

Girls Volleyball All-Tournament Team:

1. Rosemount – Ciarra Weber
2. Rosemount – Catie Pierson
3. Fourth – Claire Peterson
4. Lake Region – Abby Grider
5. Heritage – Grace Wikstrom
6. OCS - Bethany Roberts
7. Woodcrest – Ashley Towberman



You did it!
Congratulations



MACS Soccer Champions: First Baptist Crusaders,
Rosemount



MACS Soccer 2nd place: Lake Region Hornets



MACS Volleyball Champions : First Baptist Lady Crusaders,
Rosemount



MACS Volleyball 2nd place: Fourth Baptist Lady Warriors

All-Conference Soccer

First Team - Soccer

1. Chisago: #25, Riley Keck
2. Heritage: #35, Mike Steien
3. Owatonna/Oakland: #14, Jordan Schmidt
4. Woodcrest: GK, Kaleb Wolters
5. Grace/Prior Lake: #10, Martin Duarte
6. Grace/Prior Lake: #6, Josiah Choi
7. Fourth: #10, Ben King
8. Fourth: #14, Noah Kinniburgh
9. Rosemount: #4, Andy Fruetel
10. Lake Region: #5, Tyler Ogren
11. Lake Region: #20 Levi Jensen

Second Team - Soccer

1. Rosemount: #20, David Fruetel
2. Rosemount: #9, Michael Graves
3. Granite City/Twin Ports: #34, Tyler Hugg
4. Heritage: #28, Ian Medicraft
5. Lake Region: #2, Tommy Thompson
6. Owatonna/Oakland: #11, Ryan Boldt
7. St. Francis: #10, Thomas Stewart
8. Woodcrest: #11, Jack Tutt
9. Woodcrest: #25, Kevin Penner
10. Fourth: #2, Micah Morrell
11. Fourth: #8, Vivek Mohinani

Honorable Mention - Soccer

Owatonna: Brett Larson
 Woodcrest: Junior Covarrubias
 Fourth: Isaiah Reis
 Granite City/Twin Ports: Moresse Chatman
 Chisago: Quinten Bennett
 Heritage: Josiah Hubbard
 Rosemount: Sam Bryant
 St. Francis: Sam Wenzel
 Lake Region: Tim Moody
 Grace/Prior Lake: Ashton Schultz



All-Conference Volleyball

First Team – Volleyball

1. Owatonna: #6, Natalie Greiner
2. Rosemount: #3, Ciarra Weber
3. Woodcrest: #16, Ashley Towbermann
4. Heritage: #13, Jenna Grandstrand
5. Fourth: #9, Abbey Kolacz
6. Lake Region: #14, Abby Grider
7. Owatonna: Libero, Bethany Roberts

Second Team – Volleyball

1. Chisago: #4, Alayna Hraba
2. Grace – Mankato: #9, Lillie Schultz
3. Heritage: #4, Grace Wikstrom
4. Woodcrest: #6, Erica Ureke
5. Rosemount: #4 Catie Pierson
6. Fourth: #7, Claire Peterson
7. Lake Region: #15, Sydni Ogren
8. Owatonna: #12 Anne Levy

Honorable Mention – Volleyball

Foundation – Kendra Nisly
 Chisago – Elena Neilson
 Heritage – Krystal Wikstrom
 Rosemount – Karena Shaboldin
 Heritage – Katie Russell
 Fourth – Joelle Webster

All-Conference Awards are awarded to athletes based on their testimony on and off the field, sportsmanship and skill throughout this entire 2016 season. Congratulations!





MACS All-Tournament Team: (L to R): Tyler Ogren, Andy Fruetel, Levi Jensen, Michael Graves, Vivek Mohinani, Riley Keck, Seth Murphy, Ben King, Micah Morrell



MACS All-Conference First Team: (L to R): Tyler Ogren, Levi Jensen, Noak Kinniburgh, Ben King, Caleb Wolters, Jordan Schmidt, Riley Keck, Andy Fruetel



MACS All-Tourney Team: (L to R): Abby Grider, Claire Peterson, Grace Wikstrom, Bethany Roberts, Ashley Towberman, Ciarra Weber, Catie Peterson



MACS All-Conference First Team: (L to R): Abby Grider, Abbey Kolacz, Jenna Grandstrand, Ashley Towberman, Ciarra Weber, Natalie Greiner, Bethany Roberts