



Minnesota Association of Christian Schools

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Honoring Dr. Ed Johnson



Pastor Edwin Johnson Jr., the Executive Director of the Minnesota Association of Christian Schools (MACS) for many years retired as of September of this school year. He was honored at a special service at his home church

First Baptist Church of Rosemount on October 19, 2011.

Dr. Johnson became pastor of First Baptist Church of Rosemount, MN on June 7, 1967. He started the church's first Vacation Bible School and witnessed tremendous growth in the church in his first 5 years as pastor.

Pastor Johnson was instrumental in starting First Baptist Christian School in 1971 as enrollments were accepted from Kindergarten through the 4th grade. The school added K4 and 5/6th grades in 1972 and junior high and high school were completed by 1974.

It was in 1974 that Pastor

Johnson received his doctorate from Hyles-Anderson College. In 1976, First Baptist School held its first graduation ceremony with 11 graduates in May of that year.

In 1977, Dr. Johnson became associated with MACS as President of the state chapter. Through the years, Dr. Johnson became very interested in legislative issues that impacted our Christian schools. In 1987, Dr. Johnson served on a task force to pass legislation called, "Definition of a School Bill" in the state of MN. That legislation enabled parents to choose private, public or home school options

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Legislative Breakfast

This year's Legislative Breakfast is slated for Thursday morning, January 26, 2012, at the Kelly Inn in St. Paul. We are encouraging all MACS schools to attend. We would like to ask you to invite your district's Senator and Representative.

If you don't know who your State Senator and/or Representative is, please go to www.leg.state.mn.us/leg to identify them.

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Honoring Dr. Johnson *(continued from page 1)*

that would meet a fully legal avenue allowing for parental choice in the education of their children.

Dr. Johnson served on the Board of Directors of the American Association of Christian Schools for two terms (1991-1995 and 1999-2002). He was honored to be

asked to pray in the US House of Representatives as their guest chaplain on September 13, 1993 and was a delegate to the National Republican Convention in 1996. Dr. Johnson has served as the Executive Director of the Minnesota Association of Christian Schools for well over 15 years.

He has been married to his wife, Ellie, for 57 years. He has two sons, Rick and Mark and two daughters Sara and Lori. Three of his children are involved in Christian education in some capacity. Sara is a teacher at First Baptist in Rosemount. The Johnsons have 11 grandchildren and winter in Florida, but still reside in the warmer months here in Minnesota.

Dr. Johnson serves as Pastor Emeritus at First Baptist Church and no doubt will continue to be involved in Christian education and legislative issues as he is needed and called upon.



Dr. Ed Johnson with Ellie, his wife.

We are grateful to Dr. Johnson for his service to the cause of Christian education, a cause that we continue to fight for in our generation.

May we be found as faithful as Dr. Johnson has been these many years and may God give us protection, strength, and the freedom to continue to operate our Christian schools as we have in the past.

-Alan Hodak, new MACS Executive Director



Mr. Alan Hodak of Fourth Baptist and Pastor Mark Poorman of Woodcrest took part in the service honoring Dr. Ed Johnson



Legislative Update: Race To the Top (RTT) – Early Learning Challenge State Grant

For the past couple of months, we have been making calls and sending emails to state and federal legislators regarding this issue. Funds are due to be distributed in December and the law will go into effect upon receipt of grants. This law is a part of the Obama Stimulus Package that grants 500 million dollars to states whose Early Education Plans are approved by the US Department of Education. Minnesota stands to receive \$50 million dollars and an additional \$9-11 million if their application is considered one of the best.

The reason for the program is that the federal government believes that early education (intervention from 0-3 years old) will narrow the achievement gap that currently exists between higher and lower income children. There are; however, stipulations in this grant application which allows the federal government to have a direct hand in all private school education as a result of the state accepting the money. Those stipulations include licensing of all preschool programs, national kindergarten entrance testing, teacher licensing, and early learning development standards. These standards will define expectations and developmental milestones that all children should attain by kindergarten entry. Furthermore, these standards must be developmentally, linguistically, and culturally appropriate according to federal standards.

Praise the Lord for MN Congressman John Kline, current chairman of the US House of Representatives Education Committee. His office called the MACS office on Tuesday,

November 15, to let us know what was currently happening. They shared that all attempts to address this issue have failed and they are going directly to the Secretary of Education, Arne Duncan. The office further said that this attempt of federal government intervention is “unprecedented.” Congressman Kline’s office is determined to try to get a religious exemption instituted on behalf of all private preschools and kindergartens nationwide.

As a result of this progress, and believe me, it is progress, we are asking God’s people, who care about the continued autonomy of Christian education, to pray for Congressman Kline’s office and for Secretary Duncan – that God would work through these people to protect what we have enjoyed for many years. The success of Christian education is not dependent upon federal government guidelines, money, licensing, or testing. The success of any of our programs is totally dependent upon the truth of God’s Word as it is taught, the discipling of our children from godly teachers, the philosophy of our schools being the extension of the Christian home, and the integration of Bible truth throughout all that we teach.

We are at crunch time regarding this legislation and we need the hand of God to protect our schools. Thanks for your prayers on behalf of Christian early education and all private education nationally. *-Alan Hodak*

The Process of Accreditation

As you may know, for the past two years, our state Christian school association (MACS) has worked for our accreditation instrument to become state approved. The process was lengthy, but we wanted to make sure that if we were going to work toward accreditation, that the state would look at our accreditation and be in total approval of it. So, last year, the MN Dept. of Ed. approved the American Association of Christian Schools (AACS) accreditation instrument.

As a result of this decision, a number of our schools decided to move ahead with accreditation. Fourth Baptist, Woodcrest Baptist, and First Baptist of Rosemount are working together on the first phase of accreditation (We hope that our other MACS schools will soon follow). This is a huge step for our schools, but we believe it will be very beneficial as it forces us to take a good look at ourselves and our programs. We'd appreciate your prayers on our behalf. -AH

MACS Calendar 2011-12	
December 5	Bible Quizzing at Grace Christian, Mankato
January 23	Bible Quizzing at Victory Christian, Rochester
January 26	Legislative Breakfast at Kelley Inn, St. Paul
February 9	Speech & Bible Festival at Woodcrest Baptist, Fridley
February 13	Bible Quizzing at Woodcrest Baptist, Fridley
February 23-25	Basketball Tournament at Fourth Baptist, Plymouth
March 9	Jr. High Fine Arts Festival at Woodcrest
March 12	Bible Quizzing at Fourth Baptist, Plymouth
April 13	Fine Arts Festival at Fourth Baptist, Plymouth
April 13	MACS Annual Meeting at Fourth Baptist, Plymouth

MACS Website Update

Many thanks to Deb Boldt who maintained our MACS website for many years. As the role of Executive Administrator has changed hands, we are also in the process right now of transitioning the website. The task of keeping the website up to date will now be the responsibility of Mr. Alan Hodak's administrative assistant at FBCS, Alison French. As the website URL is not changing, please continue to use the website at mnchristianschools.org for athletic score reporting, and those e-mails will now be automatically forwarded to afrench@fourthbaptist.org. The contact info and MACS address will also be updated. Thank you. -AF



Legislative Breakfast (continued from page 1)

We are asking you to invite both of the legislators in the district of your school as well as your home district if they are different. My desire is to impress upon them the value of what we do in our MACS schools.

Please invite them to come by email before we close down for Christmas break and follow up with an email when we return from break. A phone call is even better than an email to add a personal touch. Thank you for your help.

In preparation for future events like these, we would like to make up a short slideshow presentation of MACS highlights that we can show to our legislators. Please send in photos and short video clips from events such as: school plays, dramatic readings/recitations, athletic highlights, music (vocal and instrumental) or another special event that we can use to create this presentation. The goal is for our legislators to be impressed by the quality of students we are producing by the solid education and opportunities we can offer them, and be more interested in helping us to protect the educational freedoms we currently enjoy as private Christian schools.

You may e-mail photos or video clips to my assistant, Alison French (afrench@fourthbaptist.org) or mail to FBCS, 900 Forestview Lane N, Plymouth, MN 55441.

-Alan Hodak

THE SPORTS REPORT

2011 MACS Soccer/Volleyball Tournament Results

SOCCER

Champion: Lake Region Hornets - Brainerd/Baxter

Runner Up: First Baptist Crusaders - Rosemount

Third Place: Fourth Baptist Warriors - Plymouth

Consolation: Chisago Lakes Patriots - Chisago Lakes

VOLLEYBALL

Champion: Owatonna Christian Sabres - Owatonna

Runner Up: First Baptist Crusaders - Rosemount

Third Place: Fourth Baptist Warriors - Plymouth

Consolation: St. Francis Lady Patriots - St. Francis



Congratulations
to the
players and coaches
of both the
Lake Region Christian
Boys Soccer Team
and the
Owatonna Christian
Girls Volleyball Team
on their
MACS Championships!



"Whether, therefore, ye eat or drink, or whatsoever ye do, do all to the glory of God." - I Corinthians 10:31

2011 MACS Soccer/Volleyball Tournament All-Conference Selections—First Team

SOCCER

1	Nathan Rupe	Rosemount
2	Ryan Poorman	Woodcrest
3	Nakwon You	Rosemount
4	Michael Towberman	Woodcrest
5	Paul Dewhirst	Fourth Baptist
6	Daniel Foster	Rosemount
7	Daniel Newton	Lake Region
8	David Jensen	Lake Region
9	Patrick Trout	Lake Region
10	Jacob Goodew	Lake Region
11	Alec Hraba	Chisago

VOLLEYBALL

1	Vikki Goncharenko	Rosemount
2	JoJo Hodak	Fourth Baptist
3	Kari Weil	Owatonna
4	Marissa Steien	Heritage
5	Shayla Carlson	Prior Lake
6	Bethany Cressman	Lake Region





2011 MACS Soccer/Volleyball Tournament All-Tournament Team Selections

All-Tournament Team: SOCCER

1	Jacob Goodew	Lake Region
2	Nakwon You	Rosemount
3	Ryan Poorman	Woodcrest
4	Kostya Haug	Fourth Baptist
5	Nathan Rupe	Rosemount
6	Paul Dewhirst	Fourth Baptist
7	Michael Towberman	Woodcrest
8	Patrick Trout	Lake Region
9	Daniel Foster	Rosemount
10	Brett Cournoyer	Woodcrest
11	David Jensen - MVP	Lake Region

All-Tournament Team: VOLLEYBALL

1	Elizabeth Helder	Rosemount
2	JoJo Hodak	Fourth Baptist
3	Shayla Carlson	Prior Lake
4	Marissa Steien	Heritage
5	Vikki Goncharenko	Rosemount
6	Kari Weil - MVP	Owatonna



All-Conference Selections

Second Team:

1	Brett Cournoyer	Woodcrest
2	Scott Fruetel	Rosemount
3	Robert Horn	Fourth Baptist
4	Justin Keck	Chisago
5	Sander Dagen	Heritage
6	Daniel Kroll	Mankato/St. Cloud /Owatonna
7	Matt McDonald	Lake Region
8	Dawson Barringer	Lake Region
9	Jeff Fruetel	Rosemount
10	Kostya Haug	Fourth Baptist
11	John Newburg	Chisago

Second Team:

1	Haiven Kloeckner	St. Francis
2	Cherilyn Jorgensen	Owatonna
3	Amber Wikstrom	Heritage
4	Victoria Bennett	Chisago
5	Samantha Galles	Rosemount
6	Ashley Amborn	Fourth Baptist
7	Evie McKay	St. Francis
8	Kathie Ann Keister	Woodcrest
9	Emily Moeller	Mankato/St. Cloud
10	Samantha Snow	Lake Region

Honorable Mention:

1	Bryar Klopp	Heritage
2	Philip Grandstrand	Heritage
3	Mitch Dudek	Rosemount
4	Trent Koens	Rosemount
5	Josh Gazelka	Lake Region
6	Joseph Bachorik	Woodcrest
7	Rajan Mohinani	Fourth Baptist
8	Sam Mortenson	Chisago
9	Kevin Newland	Woodcrest
10	Ryan Larson	Woodcrest
11	Aaron Bostrom	Lake Region



Honorable Mention:

1	Erica Kirkwold	Chisago
2	Whitney Harmon	Woodcrest
3	Elizabeth Helder	Rosemount
4	Jayden Webster	Fourth Baptist
5	Bethany Corwine	Owatonna
6	Kyana Kloeckner	St. Francis
7	Nadine Zwart	Mankato/St. Cloud
8	Alyssa Larson	Owatonna
9	Cara Hodak	Fourth Baptist
10	Jessica Springer	St. Francis