



# The Messenger

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## Minnesota Association of Christian Schools

### Growth Exceeds Expectations

By Alan J. Hodak

*In our 52 year history as a school, FBCS has not experienced an increase in student count like we are seeing since 1984-85! Why are we suddenly seeing such significant growth?*

First and foremost, we praise the Lord for our growth! This is not normal and we acknowledge that God is the One who is blessing and bringing us so many new families. Ending last school year with 217 students, we are currently at 268 students, 51 students ahead of last year (a 24% increase) and we are not done yet. Families are still visiting and touring our school and we are expecting to add more students by mid-year.

Our growth can be attributed to a number of factors, but I would like to highlight just two.

- Growth only comes as a result of satisfied parents who value their child's education and school. Word of mouth advertising is the key to our growth. Case in point: A new family joined our school recently and was so pleased with their decision that they have had multiple conversations with friends and acquaintances about their child's new school. Several applications have been distributed to

families as a result of sharing the news with those who did not know our school even existed. This has been the case with a number of our families who are sharing regularly about our school and encouraging others to "check us out."

- Our area school districts are failing our children academically and the changes in curriculum, standards, and direction are becoming blatantly obvious. One area district has been in the news recently as a result of a magazine article published in the fall of 2017. The article stated that many of the cultural norms we have known in the past are being forfeited for an "unrelenting focus to shape students' attitudes and beliefs on a range of controversial issues — most importantly, the familiar litany of 'race, class, and gender'" (Kersten, p. 28).

When an effort to indoctrinate dominates the teaching of academics, test scores fall and academics suffer. Almost every family coming to us from the public school has realized a significant drop in academics in the past two years and we are working hard to get our new students back to where they should be. In addition, another district is making a conscious decision to alter the thinking and loyalties of their students with regard to our nation. This local district





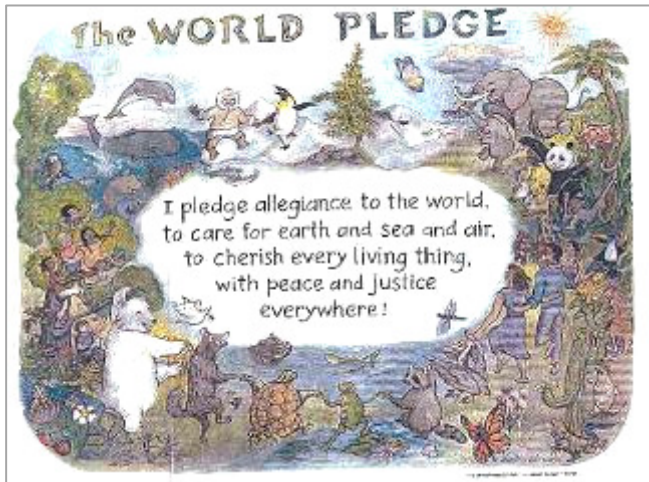
# MACS Choir Festival 2017

On November 3, 2017, 168 students from 6 MACS school participated in our MACS Choir Festival. Our guest conductor, Dr. Mary Kay Geston, rehearsed with the choir for 4.5 hours throughout the day as we worked on combining our voices on our festival repertoire. Dr. Geston did an excellent job conducting and the students learned much from her instruction. Time was also spent in vocal masterclasses with Miss Samantha Laumann and Mr. Al Hawkins who encouraged the students to enjoy singing and to sing out more energetically. We had some great snacks and meals to keep students happy throughout the day. The day culminated with a concert which included performances from the Fourth Baptist Christian School and Woodcrest Baptist Academy Choirs as well as the combined festival choir. The festival choir repertoire was *He is Born!* by Dan Forrest, *With a Heart of Thanks* by Victor Johnson, *Gloria!* by Marc Hafso, and *A Mighty Fortress is our God* by Dan Forrest. The final song was accompanied by organ, brass and percussion and was a fitting celebration to the 500<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Reformation. We appreciate each of the schools that participated in our festival and are thankful the Lord for the voices he has given to each of our students. May you continue to sing for His glory! - Levi Kolwinski



*(Growth, continued from page 1)*

allows their students to replace the daily “Pledge of Allegiance” to our American flag with a new pledge, “A Pledge to the World.” The movement appears to encourage our children to move away from the Biblical institution of “Nationalism” found in Genesis 11. The attack on one of four Divine Institutions found in Genesis 1-11 now focuses on the fourth institution (the others being volition, marriage, and the family).



Parents are waking up to the fact that as more liberal ideology enters and dominates the teaching of our public schools, the way our students think will change and a more liberal nation will result. This has been Satan’s strategy for some time and it seems to be working. The recent elections have resulted in a new attack

from the liberal side, an all-out onslaught to recapture the minds of the populace. The liberal agenda is invading our government-run schools with a vengeance and it will be nearly impossible to reverse. As our government-run schools capture the minds and hearts of the majority of our nation’s children, so the direction of the nation will follow. Could we be living in a day when the younger generation will permanently scoff at our nation’s flag? Could this be the generation that forsakes all remnant of our history, monuments, founding principles, and moral foundation? Could this be the generation that forsakes civil authority? What will be left for our children and grandchildren?

Why are so many families looking for an alternative to the government-run schools? The answer is obvious. As truth is taught less and less, and liberalism dominates more and more, parents are fighting to rescue the minds of their children because it really does matter how our children think!

Fourth Baptist Christian School and all of our MACS schools stand in the gap ready to serve Christian families who desire to see an educational system dedicated to the *development of a student’s spiritual life in Jesus Christ, while pursuing academic excellence in a manner which honors and glorifies God, based on the only infallible Word, the Bible.*

As of the date of this article, MACS schools’ enrollments are up 148 students from last year, an 8% increase. Our MACS Christian school parents want an educational system which teaches our children to “think like God thinks” and the product on the other side of the educational spectrum is simply unthinkable. ~AH

*Mr. Alan J. Hodak is the administrator of Fourth Baptist Christian School in Plymouth, MN and also serves as the Executive Director of the Minnesota Association of Christian Schools (MACS)*

Kersten, Katherine. “Whose Values? Educational Excellence Threatened by Ideology...” Thinking Minnesota, no. 9, Sept. 2017, pp. 26-35.





*The combined MACS choir directed by Mrs. Mary Kay*



## 2017 MACS State Soccer & Volleyball Tourney Results

### Boys' Soccer

**Champions:** Woodcrest Baptist—Warriors

**Second Place:** Fourth Baptist Warriors

**Third Place:** First Baptist Rosemount Crusaders

**Consolation:** Lake Region Hornets



### Girls' Volleyball

**Champions:** First Baptist Rosemount—Crusaders

**Second Place:** Fourth Baptist Warriors

**Third Place:** Woodcrest Baptist Warriors

**Consolation:** Owatonna Christian Sabres



### All Tournament Teams:

#### Boys Soccer All-Tournament Team:

1. Woodcrest—Kaleb Walters (MVP)
2. Woodcrest—Junior Covarrubias
3. Woodcrest—Michael Fruetel
4. Fourth—J.J. Webster
5. Fourth—Micah Morrell
6. Rosemount—Daniel Graves
7. Rosemount—David Fruetel
8. Chisago—Riley Keck
9. Chisago—Quinten Bennett
10. Lake Region—Tim Moody
11. OCS/Oakland—Rylan Boldt
12. St. Francis—Thomas Stewart

#### Girls Volleyball All-Tournament Team:

1. Rosemount—Ciarra Weber (MVP)
2. Rosemount—Callista Weber
3. Fourth—Claire Peterson
4. Fourth—Joelle Webster
5. Lake Region—Abby Grider
6. Owatonna—Anne Levy
7. Woodcrest—Erica Ureke



You did it!  
*Congratulations*







MACS Soccer Champions:  
Woodcrest Baptist Academy Warriors



MACS Soccer 2nd place:  
Fourth Baptist Christian School Warriors



MACS Volleyball Champions : First Baptist School—Rosemount  
Lady Crusaders



MACS Volleyball 2nd place: Fourth Baptist Christian School  
Lady Warriors

## All-Conference Soccer

### First Team - Soccer

1. Chisago—Riley Keck
2. Chisago—Quinten Bennett
3. Rosemount—David Fruetel
4. Rosemount—Tyler Johnson
5. Fourth—Micah Morrell
6. Fourth—Nate Kinniburgh
7. OCS/Oakland—Rylan Boldt
8. St. Francis—Ryker Kloeckner
9. Woodcrest—Junior Covarrubias
10. Woodcrest—Jack Tutt
11. Woodcrest—Kaleb Walters

### Second Team - Soccer

1. Chisago—Choong Kim
2. Rosemount—Steffan Aliking
3. Rosemount—Jordan Barnes
4. Fourth—JJ Webster
5. Fourth—David Groulx
6. Lake Region—Tim Moody
7. OCS/Oakland—Steven Htoo
8. Prior Lake—Simon Allen
9. St. Francis—Micah Coons
10. Woodcrest—Mark Ababiy
11. Woodcrest—Michael Meader

### Honorable Mention - Soccer

1. Chisago—Seth Elliott
2. Rosemount—Jaris Johnson
3. Fourth—Stanley Luckett
4. Lake Region—Carson Moore
5. Lake Region—Sam Filkins
6. OCS/Oakland—Ramon Hernandez
7. Prior Lake—Peat Allen
8. Prior Lake—Jonny Stange
9. St. Francis—Thomas Stewart
10. Woodcrest—Michael Fruetel



## 2017 Awards

## All-Conference Volleyball

### First Team – Volleyball

1. Rosemount—Ciarra Weber
2. Rosemount—Callista Weber
3. Fourth—Joelle Webster
4. Heritage—Krystal Wikstrom
5. Lake Region—Abby Grider
6. Owatonna—Anne Levy
7. Woodcrest—Erica Ureke

### Second Team – Volleyball

1. Chisago—Elena Nielson
2. First Baptist Rosemount—Rosa Torres
3. Foundation – Emily McCarrol
4. Fourth—Claire Peterson
5. Heritage—Katie Russell
6. Lake Region—Sydni Ogren
7. Owatonna—Amanda Larson
8. St. Francis—Ali Koel
9. Woodcrest—Naomi Darling

### Honorable Mention – Volleyball

1. Chisago—Emily Linden
2. Foundation—Caitlyn Nisly
3. Foundation—Whitney Maasch
4. Rosemount—Rosalie Mele
5. Fourth—Maddie Hodak
6. Fourth—Morgan Stephens
7. Owatonna—Annisa Greiner
8. St. Francis—Marcale Palm

*All-Conference Awards are awarded to athletes based on their testimony on and off the field, sportsmanship and skill throughout this entire 2017 season. Congratulations!*







MACS All-Conference First Team: (L to R): Riley Keck, Quinten Bennett, Rylan Boldt, David Fruetel, Tyler Johnson, Nate Kinniburgh, Micah Morrell, Junior Covarrubius, Jack Tutt, Kaleb Walters, and Ryker Kloeckner (not pictured).



MACS All-Tournament Team: (L to R): Tim Moody, Quinten Bennett, Riley Keck, Rylan Boldt, Andy Fruetel, Daniel Graves, Micah Morrell, J.J. Webster, Michael Fruetel, Junior Covarrubias, Kaleb Walters (MVP), and Thomas Stewart (not pictured).



MACS All-Conference First Team: (L to R): Erika Ureke, Abby Grider, Krystal Wikstrom, Anne Levy, Joelle Webster, Callista Weber, Ciarra Weber



MACS All-Tourney Team: (L to R): Erika Ureke, Anne Levy, Abby Grider, Claire Peterson, Joelle Webster, Callista Weber, Ciarra Weber (MVP)



  
*MACS Association welcomes  
 Foothills Christian Academy  
 in Backus, MN  
 as our newest member school!*  


## Granite City Hosts Invitational Volleyball/Soccer Tourney

GCBA INVITATIONAL VOLLEYBALL TOURNAMENT									
Fri	VOLLEYBALL		Win- ner	Score	PLACE		W	L	
1:00	Faith (Foreston)	Twin Ports/GCBA	Faith	3-0	1	Valley Christian, WI	3	0	
2:30	Foundation	Valley	Valley	3-2	2	Faith (Foreston)	2	1	
4:00	Chapel				3	Foundation (Redstorm)	1	2	
5:00	W1 - Faith	L2 - Redstorm	Faith	3-2	4	GCBA	0	3	
6:30	W2 - Valley	L1 - GCBA	Valley	3-0	M.V.P.— Emma Brown, Faith				
SATURDAY					All Tournament Team				
9:00	L1 - Redstorm	L2 - GCBA	Red- storm	3-0	Emma Brown, Faith		Megan Hankel, Valley		
10:30	W1 - Faith	W2 - Valley	Faith	3-2	Laura Crapser, Faith		Emily McCarroll, Foundation		
					Jenna Hankel, Valley		Caitlyn Nisly, Foundation		

GCBA INVITATIONAL SOCCER TOURNAMENT									
Fri	SOCCER		Winner	Score	PLACE		W	L	
1:00	Faith (Foreston)	Heritage	Faith	5-2	1	Valley Christian, WI	3	0	
2:30	Valley Christian	GCBA	Valley	4-0	2	Faith (Foreston)	2	1	
4:00	Chapel				3	Heritage (Karlstad)	1	2	
5:00	W1 - Faith	L2 - GCBA	Faith	7-5	4	GCBA	0	4	
6:30	W2 - Valley	L1 - Heritage	Valley	3-1	M.V.P.— Austin Degerstrom, Valley Christian				
SATURDAY					All Tournament Team				
9:00	L1 - GCBA	L2 - Heritage	Heritage	3-1	Austin Degerstrom, VC		Carsen Wright, Faith		
10:30	W1 - Faith	W2 - Valley	Valley	2-1	Josh Hankel, VC		Daniel Kavanagh, Heritage		
					Joe Thompson, Faith		Taylor Hugg, GCBA		





*At left: Valley Christian,  
First place in Soccer*