

FOOTHILLS CHRISTIAN ACADEMY Newsletter



APRIL 2024 | ISSUE NO. 11

"Therefore, my beloved brothers, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that in the Lord your labor is not in vain." -1 Corinthians 15:58



THE FOOTHILLS CHRISTIAN ACADEMY THRIFT STORE

continues to be a tremendous blessing to FCA. Since reopening almost 8 months ago, the thrift store has brought in \$52,000 and sold almost 10,000 items! The generous ongoing monthly donations of premium shoes provide 40% of that, and the other donations just keep getting better and better. We're often amazed by the generosity of the donations that come in!



We're grateful for the many volunteers who keep things running smoothly. We have 12-15 volunteers who are regulars. Since we have no paid employees, those volunteers are critical. And no payroll expenses means more funding for the school!

We have developed a few partnerships that help us maximize profit and minimize waste. We have a couple businesses that buy things we can't sell in the store, more heavily used clothing gets delivered to families in need, and we have begun selling some special items on ebay. All those things are made possible by our skilled and diligent volunteers. We've also been able to partner with Pine Mountain Gospel Church for benevolence and ministry opportunities that come our way.



One of the biggest changes we made when we re-vamped things last winter was adding a point-of-sale computer system with barcodes. *(continued on next page)*

F.C.A.T.S.

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That allows us to track our income in each area, and guides decisions about the best way to use space. The color coded tags and frequent rotation helps us keep fresh merchandise on the sales floor, which greatly increases sales. A volunteer decorator keeps displays fresh and new, which creates an enjoyable shopping experience. That all works together to keep things running smoothly and makes FCATS the favorite thrift store of many of our regular shoppers.

Thank you for supporting the FCA Thrift Store! We always have room for more volunteers looking to get in on the fun. Keep donating and shopping! It makes a difference!

Donations can be left during hours of operation - Thank you!

FCATS is here to financially support Christian education at Foothills Christian Academy in Backus, MN.



**Foothills Christian Academy
THRIFT STORE (FCATS) Hours:**

**Wednesdays 10am - 4pm
Thursdays: 10am - 4pm
1st Saturday of the Month: 10-4**

**Phone: 218-947-5020
Email: FCATHriftstore@gmail.com**

**BE SURE TO
CHECK OUT OUR**



**DEALS
EVERY WEEK!**

ELEMENTARY ART & READING

The elementary art class has been at it again. Pre-K through 6th grade have been trying their hand at the art of weaving. Students showcase their masterpieces after spending several weeks allowing their creative juices to flow. During this time, students experimented with color, texture, and line to create an original work of their very own.

New to Mrs. Neumann's 4 - 6th Grade class this month is DEAR time. At the end of each school day, grades 4-6 students find a great book and cozy spot to read. For the last fifteen minutes students enjoy reading a favorite or new book as their busy day comes to an end. Although individual reading time has always been a part of this class, routinely reading quietly as a whole group is new.



Foothills Christian Academy School Board Members:

President - Ron Burns

Vice President - Blair Ecker

Treasurer - Carrie McAllister

Marie Langer

Den Pluimer

Blair Ecker

Kendra Kozelka

Keith Kuhlman



The FCA school board meets once a month. You can find the meeting date & time by calling the school office (218) 947-3206. The public is welcome to school board meetings. If you have an interest in becoming a school board member, please attend a meeting for further information and process. Thank you!

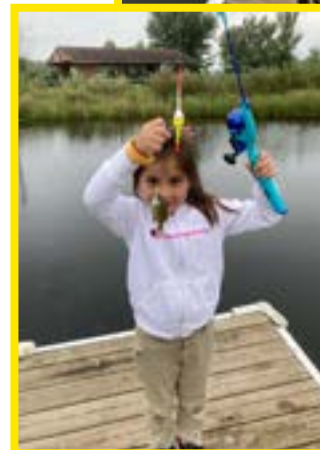
FISHING AT ROCKY DOCK

First, Second, and Third graders are having a great year. We had a fun Talk Like a Pirate Day, had a relaxing Pajama Day, there have been several Thankful Thursdays, we celebrated 100 Days of School, attended many Chapels, spent time in prayer together, studied the bible, and of course learning math, language arts, and social studies. We have been quite busy.

One of our favorite activities was going fishing with Mr. Denny Pluimer. Mr. Pluimer has been part of the school board from the beginning of Foothills Christian Academy. He is a huge supporter and has recruited several other supporters for us. He is our prayer warrior. Plus Denny is a fishing guide and was willing to take us fishing.

On a very cold and windy day we met Mr. Pluimer at Rocky Dock. The kids were very excited. Only one student had caught a fish before. We tried to fish on the park side of Rocky Dock but it was too windy, so off to the dock we went. There were several fish caught. The "biggest fish ever" being one of the ones caught. Just like in all fishing trips there was that one person that caught a fish every few minutes. Surprisingly there were very few tangled lines, but poor Mr. Pluimer lost a lot of bait. Before we left everyone had caught a fish.

Thank you Mr. Plumber for everything you have done for Foothills Christian Academy. Most of all thank you for helping my students to make lifetime memories. You are one of a kind!



KINDER CORNER

Hello, followers of Foothills Christian Academy!

Here in the kindergarten room we have been learning so much. Our small class allows for individualized learning and pacing. The students explore learning in fun and creative ways. We enjoy crafting, playing and exploring our world. The students enjoy hands-on activities.

In our classroom we allow the students to navigate learning in ways that make sense to them and propel them into lifelong learning. Students are encouraged to push themselves and have a "I can do all things through Christ who gives me strength" attitude. They accept challenges with eagerness. God has blessed our room in many ways this year, and for that we are incredibly grateful.



CHRISTIAN WORLDVIEW & CURRENT CULTURE

Ever have someone ask – what is your worldview? Truth is, we all have one, yet it's the last thing we think about while juggling a busy week of work and family. But it's a really big deal, because our worldview determines what's truly important to us. It shapes our standards and values and underlies our every decision and behavior. And these standards, values, and behavior – our lifestyle – shape our children's life, present and future, whether we are intentional about it or not.

Make no mistake – the world system is very intentional about shaping the worldview of the young generation – our kids. Of course, this is nothing new. What's new is the intensity of the intention. Businesses market it. Social media screams it. Government uses our money to finance it. It invades Education without apology and seeks to shame and silence anyone who questions it. In short, our current culture is being saturated with a worldview that is spiritually empowered by what Bible calls "the god of this age." It's not natural – it's straight-up demonic. Scripture rightly describes it as a spiritual battle between light and darkness.

Fortunately, God's Word doesn't just point out the problem, it provides an answer to the lifestyle question, "How then do we do life?"

First, Trust in and receive Jesus Christ into our lives as our personal Savior.

Jesus said, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me (John 14:6)." "But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, to those who believe in His name (John 1:12)."

Second, Make Jesus Christ Lord so that His Word defines how we live.

But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you.

(Matthew 6:33) "Seek" – to intentionally make our relationship with Jesus the center of our lives; "First" – to

please Him as our first priority; "His kingdom and righteousness" – to obey His Word, follow His principles,

and trust in His promises, knowing that if we put Jesus Christ first, He will provide everything else we need!

Third, Commit your family to be Jesus-followers.

But as for me and my house, we will serve the LORD." (Joshua 24:15) The Good News is that God is for your

family, and He will help you win the culture battle that comes against your children and family. The staff and board leadership of Foothills Christian Academy are committed to assist Christian parents with their God-given mandate to train children to know and serve the Lord. We are honored to partner with you toward that purpose!

Blessings on you and your Home! - Earl Ready, FCA Administrator

"Within the Christian worldview, Scripture is the sole and ultimate test for truth. God has given us a system of truth through the Scripture. Since the Bible is God's revelation, it can never be wrong on any issue that it addresses. A thorough knowledge and understanding of the Scripture, then, is our ultimate safeguard against satanic deception of every kind."

— Vincent Cheung

FOOTHILLS TRAP TEAM

In 2023, the FCA Trap Team achieved numerous remarkable milestones. The Novice team stood out in two tournaments, securing second place in Bemidji and clinching the top spot in Park Rapids. Furthermore, we introduced a lettering program. Mason Carlson, Ethan Rogers, Caleb Burns, and Maverick Shot were honored as the first letter winners for the Wolverines Trap Team. Our Top Shots for the year were Caleb Burns, Maverick Schott and Hally Esdohr.



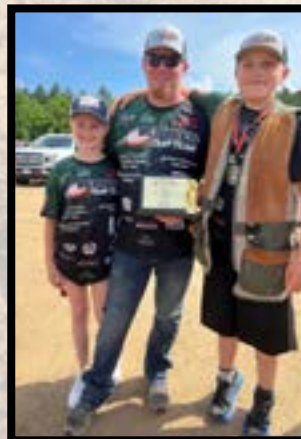
The pinnacle of the year occurred at the state championships in Alexandria in June. Under beautiful weather, the kids displayed their exceptional shooting skills, and the camaraderie shared among the families was truly priceless.



Working side by side with my son Austin as a coach for this team and having the opportunity to spend valuable time with my children, grandchildren, and all the incredible kids at this school, whom I cherish like family- remains the highlight of my year. I am thankful for the chance to partake in the joy of guiding and nurturing your children. Thank you for trusting them to me.



A huge thank you goes out to our dedicated scorers who braved the elements- the heat, rain, snow, wind, and blazing sun - so that our kids could participate this year. You all were the true heroes of the season. A special shout out to Ruth and Ron Bouma and Den and Sherri Pluimer for their unwavering commitment- showing up every single week regardless of the weather. We are so grateful for your support. And a massive thank you to our sponsors! Without you, we wouldn't have a team. Your generosity is truly appreciated.



Here's to what is sure to be an extraordinary year ahead!

- Carrie McAllister, Wolverines Trap Coach

Backus CLASSIC BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT



It was our 6th year hosting the Backus Classic Basketball Tournament, where schools all the way from North Dakota to Mankato attend! We invite a handful of teams to come stay in our neck of the woods and play ball for two full days, ending with an awards ceremony congratulating the winning teams.



For the second time in a row, the FCA Wolverines took 1st place! They defeated The Warriors of Grand Forks, North Dakota, The Heritage Patriots of Karlstad, Minnesota, Grace Christian School Eagles of Mankato, Minnesota and The Granite City Rockets. We are so proud of our boys and coaches! The FCA Varsity and Junior Varsity teams consists of boys ranging from 5th to 12th grade and several VOLUNTEER coaches. There's a lot of heart & sacrifice poured into this program! The concessions were a huge hit this year with several new options for excited

basketball fans to choose from! Volunteers from FCA and Pine Mountain Gospel Church help run the concessions and even make a full breakfast for all the teams Saturday morning.



The Backus Classic is the biggest and funnest event of the school year and we look more forward to it every year as we continue

to grow. We love opening up this building to the community and showing them what it means to play the game with Christian character. We are proud of our Wolverines!





WOLVERINES 



SAVE THE DATES:

FCA GRADUATION - MAY 23RD

SILENT AUCTION - OCTOBER 26TH

CHILI FEED/GUN RAFFLE - NOVEMBER 23RD

