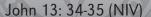
2021 Alumni Newsletter

"A NEW COMMAND I GIVE YOU; LOVE ONE ANOTHER. AS I HAVE LOVED YOU, SO YOU MUST LOVE ONE ANOTHER. BY THIS EVERYONE WILL KNOW THAT YOU ARE MY DISCIPLES, IF YOU LOVE ONE ANOTHER"





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UPCOMING EVENTS

June 4, 2021

DCS Graduation

July 31, 2021 DCS Annual Golf Outing

October 16, 2021

Apple Pie Fundraiser

November 6, 2021

Annual School Auction

Please contact to verify activities or questions, anytime of the year by contacting the school office **262-728-5667**.

Greetings from the Principal, Luke Taylor

First of all, I'd like to introduce myself to the DCS Alumni. I've been teaching at DCS for seventeen years, but I am new to the position



of administrator. I've had the honor of seeing 182 graduates receive a diploma on graduation night but this year's graduation will be especially memorable. My oldest child, Carter, will be receiving his diploma from me. I have two other children enrolled at DCS, Brady (6th) and Mackenzie (4th) and my wife, Joy, is extremely involved in the life of the school. We are blessed to call this DCS community our family.

As you are all aware it has been a very "interesting" year for schools. When the 2020 Alumni Newsletter was being published we were just finishing up a quarter virtual learning. We had to make tough decisions on how to move forward safely during COVID-19. There were new protocols for the current school year to limit interactions between grade levels. Through it all DCS has been blessed to be able to stay open with face to face instruction this year. God had absolutely had his protecting and guiding hand on DCS this year.

I've taught under four different administrators at DCS and I've gleaned leadership qualities from each of them. Mr. Perkins served DCS faithfully for the last two years and brought a steady hand when there was so much uncertainty. With concerns about keeping himself and his family healthy during the 2020-2021 school year he made the difficult decision to step away from DCS. His calming presence and background in the medical field was pivotal in guiding the Back to School plan. He genuinely cared for every child in our school and had a faith that was evident to everyone. Thank you Mr. Perkins for being a faithful servant of God and guiding our school.

Our theme for the 2020-2021 school year was Love One Another.
John 13:34 & 35 "A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another.

As our world has become more divisive, it has been refreshing to be saying this verse at our weekly chapels. It has given our school a unified goal of putting others before ourselves. We have been reminded that God commands us to love one another. It's not a recommendation or a suggestion. It's a command. Ultimately we want to be viewed as "different" in the eyes of the world and what sets us apart is our love.

In His Service, Luke Taylor

HEARING FROM OUR TEACHERS AND STAFF

PRESCHOOL: 3-YEAR OLD

Brooke Henningfeld

This is my first year at DCS, and my sixth year as a classroom teacher. I taught kindergarten in Lake Geneva for five



years before my family grew big and fast, moving me into the role of a stayat-home mom. This may be my first year as a classroom teacher at DCS, but I have been around DCS for about eleven years now. In 2010, my oldest son Evan started preschool with the wonderful Sue Olson. Six more of my children attended pre-school at DCS after Evan. In 2019, I took on the role of a substitute teacher at DCS. During the 2019-2020 school year, I was the pre-school aide, working side by side with Mrs. Olson with a combined three and four-year-old class, two mornings a week. And in 2020, when everything felt so uncertain and out of character, I accepted a part-time role as the 3-year-old pre-school teacher, three mornings a week. The 2020-2021 school year started with seven students in the three-year-old classroom. In October, the class was up to eight students. In November, our class grew to ten students. At semester, we lost one student taking us back down to nine. In February, we bumped back up to ten students, and in April we were up to eleven students. As I have told too many people to count, the mornings go by way too quickly, and I continuously find myself wishing for more time with my students. In the three-year old room, we spend our mornings creating, playing, sharing, singing, dancing, signing in ASL, writing, coloring, cutting, painting, counting, listening to stories, learning Bible stories, recounting Bible verses, playing outside, having snack, going to music class and chapel, and more! Our mornings are a good blend and balancing act of academic, socialemotional, motor (fine and gross), and

spiritual growth. Two of the eleven children in the three-year old class attend half-day, going home at 11:20, while the other nine students stay all day. At 11:30, those students and I join the four-year old class for lunch. After lunch, my all day three-year old students spend the afternoon with Mrs. O'Niel and her class for rest time, recess, snack, and more play time. It has been a year full of new beginnings for me and the children. Our busy classroom is full of learning, laughter, smiles, curiosity, and some mischief too. Many friendships have formed and blossomed. The children have grown in countless ways which is such a privilege to be a part of and to witness. It's hard to believe it's April already! We have now entered the fourth and final quarter and are nearing the finish line of the 2020-2021 school year. Soon we will be celebrating our 100th day of pre-school, heading to our first field trip at the zoo, and saying "See you later!" on our last day together. It has been a unique year with a global pandemic, but I am so proud of the children, parents, and my coworkers. We are not only going to make it to the finish line, but we will take that extra victory lap to celebrate another year of growth. All things truly are possibly with God in the driver's seat!

PREKINDERGARTEN: 4-YEAR OLD

Sarah (Chase) (1990) O'Neil

I feel very blessed to be writing for the "teachers and staff" section of the DCS newsletter. As



a DCS alumni and a parent to five DCS students (two graduates; three currently enrolled) I was very excited to join the staff this year as the PreK4 teacher. The DCS preschool program has seen a lot of change this past year. During the 2019-2020 school year the PreK3 and PreK4 programs shared one classroom,

one teacher, and sometimes even the same schedule as the two classes. were combined into one class. This year in order to meet the needs of our families, the four-year old schedule increased to four full days a week. In order to accommodate this increase in schedule, the two classes were once again separated and given their own classrooms. Although this year looks very different from past years - new classroom, new teacher, new schedule, and new COVID-19 restrictions, the foundations remain the same. The students are learning letters, numbers, shapes and colors. They are playing, creating, building, cutting, gluing, and painting. They are exploring the world that God has given them, hearing again how much God loves them, and learning to share that love with others. We have had to make adjustments this year as many things that had been done in the past were restricted in order to keep our families as safe as possible and our students in school. Most field trips had to be canceled, although we are looking forward to a trip to the zoo at the end of the year. Getting together with our older reading buddies was also put on hold as were traditions like "Donuts with Dads" and "Muffins with Moms." This did, however, give us opportunities to do other things and stretch ourselves in ways that we might not have otherwise. We took a nature walk that ended in raking leaves for someone who needed help. We worked hard on our Thanksgiving program, and then recorded it to share with our families. We created an apple orchard in our classroom and made homemade applesauce. We painted snow, went sledding on our bellies down the big snow drifts. and built snowmen. We watched what happens when bubbles freeze, and what happens when eggs are left in vinegar. We colored Easter eggs with cool-whip and food dye, and built the city of Jericho and



HEARING FROM OUR TEACHERS AND STAFF

then watched as the walls "tumbled down." Reflecting on our year as I write has reminded me what a faithful, loving and good God we serve. My heart is filled to overflowing with gratitude for all of the support and prayers received for our school.

KINDERGARTEN

Maria DeJong

Hooray! We are having school in person this year! Remember the saying, "You don't know what you've got until it's gone?" Definitely true fo



gone?" Definitely true for in-person school! Last year, we finished the school year with distance learning and weren't sure what this year would bring. Praise God we have been able to have in-person school this entire year! Kindergarten is definitely better face to face!

While the year has been a bit different as far as field trips and other events, we were able to go to the Pumpkin Patch last fall and we are planning a trip to the Zoo in May. We are going to squeeze in our Annual Donuts with Dads and Muffins with Moms events before the school year is over.

In our classroom, we have been doing lots of work with letters, numbers, sounds and have been enjoying stories from the Old Testament in our Bible class. We also have Social Studies, Computers, Gym, Music, Art and Science. We definitely keep busy!

We have adjusted to a "new normal" and have been wearing masks most of the year. We take our temperatures every day when we get to school. More thought is given to how we can do some activities we used to do without really thinking about it. Who would have ever guessed we would be living through a pandemic?!?! In an ever changing world, it is great to remember that God is constant. Hebrews 13:8 "Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and

forever." What a comfort to serve a loving, faithful God who remains with us through all the changes!

FIRST & SECOND GRADE

Brenda (Kragt) Flikkema

This year has looked a little different from all the others. Although we haven't been able to do all the things we



usually do, we have still been busy actively learning about God's world in our classroom. Our desks are farther apart, and we have not been able to work together in groups as much as we usually do. We sometimes read to a stuffed animal instead of a partner. We have separate lunch and recess from the older students. We miss the Gift Groups and Reading Buddies with the older kids too. But, we look forward to having all of that back again soon!

We still have many things to be thankful for including; being able to read a lot of books each month, memorizing Bible Verses, participating in and leading chapels throughout the year, and we were still able to host our annual "First and Second Store" in our school gymnasium. Besides practicing our money skills, we were able to raise around \$500.00 to help feed the children at Avery House in Haiti. Our annual Jingle Jog took place outside this year instead of running in the halls at school. We look forward to presenting our First and Second Grade play It Could Always Be Worse later this Spring. We are also planning to clean up the garbage at Congdon Park as a K-4 school group, and we plan to take a field trip to the Milwaukee County Zoo in May!

It is amazing to see God at work everyday in the lives of our teachers, staff, families, and students here at DCS. This year our Chapels have helped to focus our hearts and minds on "Loving One Another." We can all share the love of Jesus with those around us in our thoughts, words, and actions! I am so thankful for God's many blessings this year.

THIRD & FOURTH GRADE

Janet Versweyveld

This has been an interesting year...I can honestly say that after 21 years of teaching at DCS, I have



experienced nothing like the 2020-2021 school year where new phrases like Social Distancing and Masking Up entered our vocabulary. After nearly three months of Distance Learning at the end of the last school year, we all have gained a new appreciation of in-person learning!

My ten lively students and I have tried to focus on what we can do instead of what we can't do this year. Field trips and extra-curricular activities have been somewhat limited, but we did have our Chocolate Luncheon to celebrate finishing the book Charlie and The Chocolate Factory. One lucky student found the Golden Ticket! Baking cookies for first responders was a great opportunity to practice our measuring skills and perform an act of service.

Spring will find us doing our annual clean-up at Congdon Park. We'll also enjoy electing students to be our President and Vice President for the day. Trading Day will give us a glimpse of what life was like for Wisconsin's early fur traders as we barter with our classmates for items we bring from home.

Our Fitness Challenge in February and Spiritual Emphasis Week in March caused us to reflect on our physical and spiritual health. We are so thankful that we have been able to be together and we realize what a blessing that is after months of quarantine.

HEARING FROM OUR TEACHERS AND STAFF

Thank you to all of you who support our school through your prayer and financial gifts. It is a true gift to teach and learn in an environment that honors the Lord.

FIFTH-EIGHTH GRADE

Beth Hutson

This is my fifth year at DCS, I can hardly believe it! I love this school, staff, and families. It has been a blessing to me. We



have made it through this past year and almost a half even though it has been a bit crazy with COVID. We had some students working from home for brief periods of time. We connected with them over Google Classroom for the entire day. This helped them stay on top of their schoolwork. It also allowed for some interaction with their peers on a consistent level.

We started our last quarter sometimes the days are slow, but
the months go quickly. This year I
was asked to teach middle school.
MIDDLE SCHOOL?? I would never
pick middle school in a million years,
ugh! However, I agreed and it actually
isn't too bad. Actually, it is really
pretty good. Actually, (shhh, don't
tell anyone, but) I kinda like it. I am
teaching a combined 5th and 6th
grade classes in Reading, Writing,
History, and Bible. I am also teaching
a combined 7th and 8th grade classes
in Reading, Writing, and History.

I have now attended two of Lucy Calkins Reading workshops. One was in person, and last summer, we had meetings remotely. They were just as amazing. This summer, I signed up and have been accepted for both the Reading and Writing workshops. They are each a week long commitment and 6-8 hours of classes a day. I have found that learning from "the experts" to be so valuable.

There are still many activities to look forward to as the year finishes

up. We will be doing our community service project soon, where we will put down bark chips at the Arboretum in Delavan. The students are also looking forward to field day. The students have grown a lot. I hope that you all can see the positive gains in your children. It has been a privilege to be part of their lives.

MIDDLE SCHOOL MATH & SEVENTH-EIGHTH BIBLE & ATHLETIC DIRECTOR

Luke Taylor

This year saw me teaching less than any other year at DCS due to taking on the Administrator position.



Mrs. Vicki Blakeslee and Mrs. Beth Hutson agreed to take on some of my previous subject areas. What a relief that was with the school year rapidly approaching! As the year progressed I was curious to see if there would be gaps in learning due to the last quarter being virtual. There have been a few topics that we've had to dedicate extra time to, but overall our students at DCS have bounced back admirably. For Bible class, we continue to stress the personal relationship with Jesus Christ, Biblical knowledge is definitely important, but our kids cannot leave our school doubting God's love for them.

MUSIC DEPARTMENT -

David Bordy

Being a new teacher is always a challenge. Entering the music classroom after a 12-year hiatus in the middle of a



pandemic was one on a completely different level. This was my challenge this school year, leading the music instruction at DCS. It has been a year of flexibility. When the theme of "Love One Another" was announced, the elementary students learned the old Sunday School song "This Is My Commandment." When we could not

bring in our community's veterans for our annual Veteran's Day concert, we adapted, bringing the student body together to sing a combined tribute song, "God Bless America." We had planned to do a Christmas Musical for a winter in-person concert, but when the pandemic made that impossible, we adapted again, performing David and Celeste's Candy Cane Lane musical for a camera. The Middle School Choir garnished this production with a beautiful arrangement of "Silent Night." Through the midst of masks, social distancing, and quarantines, the students still managed to produce a beautiful Christmas offering.

As the snow began to melt, we continued to focus on this year's theme of love. The elementary learned a praise song focused on God's sacrificial love for us entitled "For All You've Done." In addition, they were taught in chapel that "love is patient" and we subsequently learned (and acted out) the old children's song "Patience" (Herbert the Snail) from the Music Machine. For Easter, the Middle School Choir performed a beautiful song celebrating the resurrection, Chris Tomlin's "I Will Rise." They also learned two other beautiful songs with powerful lyrics, "More Than A Song" by Dan Whitmore and the Don Besig's benediction song "A Closing Prayer." In addition to all these wonderful performances, every student also received regular instruction in basic elements of music theory and gained listening exposure to a wide variety of classical music repertoire. The goal in all of this is to produce a well-rounded music student who performs, listens, interprets and appreciates God's gift of music. This school has much musical talent among its students (as evidenced by the fantastic performance of Beauty and the Beast, Jr. this Spring). I would encourage you to listen to some of the DCS students' musical offerings from this year for



yourself, which can be accessed at www.voutube.com/channel/ UCfEqzT8jSdwVRFpNyvTvQcw. Though it wasn't easy, these students not only produced beautiful music, but intentionally did so to the glory of the One who gave us that of music. I look forward to hearing His praising sung here at DCS for many years to come.

FOREIGN LANGUAGE, RESOURCE TEACHER

Vicki Blakeslee

For 30 years I was a teacher of special needs students at a public middle school in Walworth County.



I retired from that teaching career in June of 2016! In the fall of 2017, I received a call from a DCS board member asking if I would be at all interested in working with a small group of students. Having only been retired for a year, I was a little hesitant to jump right back into teaching, even if it was part time! I asked for the weekend to think and pray about it. I was a little familiar with DCS and the operation of the school, as my grandchildren are students there. I decided to accept the position that was offered to me, and what an added blessing it has turned out to be!

My first two years at DCS I was involved with Title One Reading and with students who needed alternative methods of learning and academic assistance. That responsibility looked different on a daily basis, depending on where there was a need. Sometimes it was within the academic class during the students class hour, other times it was on a pull-out basis reinforcing skills mostly in the areas of math, reading, comprehension, and writing.

Fall of 2020 brought changes to DCS and changes to my teaching responsibilities. This school year I have had the opportunity to teach Science classes to the middle school students. I've also monitored the online Foreign Language class, and continued to support students in areas of special need. One of the highlights from Science class this past fall was a culminating activity to a pumpkin catapult lesson. During class the students had designed a small scale catapult that would launch a candy pumpkin. They designed, measured, and looked at all the scientific factors that could affect the distance their candy pumpkin would travel. Once the class activity was concluded, students built a large scale catapult that would launch pie pumpkins. We spent a cool October day at our home, launching pumpkins, cooking hot dogs and s'mores over a campfire, and playing yard games. Continuing to work with students on an individual basis is one of the things I love about teaching. Middle school years can bring new challenges of growth and independence. DCS places a high value on helping shape a well-grounded student as individuals and disciples of Christ.

When pondering my decision back in 2017, this daily devotional appeared:

Proverbs 16:3: Commit to the Lord whatever you do, and he will establish your plans. His plan for my involvement at Delavan Christian School continues to enrich and bless my life in so many ways. I am so thankful DCS is in His plan for me.

KEEP UP-TO-DATE

www.delavanchristianschool.org www.Instagram/ delavanchristianschool Facebook.com/ delavanchristianschool

PART-TIME STAFF

Marie Bertacchi Administrative Assistant Bookkeeper Food Service Director





Bertacchi

Food Service Personnel

Elaine Vegter First-Eight Grade Art

Chrissy De Boer

Donnie Hiemstra (1992) Janitor

Jeff Hiemstra (1993) **Janitor**

Diana Huerta Teacher Aide

Chester Schotanus Band Director

Jan Olson Librarian (volunteer)



Chrissy De Boer



Elaine Vegter

We had some changes in staffing for the 2020-2021 school year. Sue Knudtson served as the bookkeeper for three years at our school. Taking on that position is Marie Bertacchi in the DCS Office and Kathy Bilskey from K&B Accounting. Carol Lamb and Suzette Wilson served in the DCS middle school, but took on new teaching positions after the 2020 school year. Sue Olson retired after 30 years of teaching in the DCS preschool. She had a lasting impact on our DCS community. We've welcomed her back regularly as a substitute teacher. Taking over the preschool program is Mrs. Brooke Henningfeld (3K) and Sarah O'Niel (4K).

ADDRESS/NAME CHANGE

Please contact Theresa Hiemstra at woodenshoedt@charter.net if vour address label needs to be changed. It is very important for our records.

MESSAGES FROM THE SCHOOL BOARD AND COMMITTEES



Current School Board members for the 2020-2021 school year are:

Front row: Aaron Nieuwenhuis (1999) (Vice President), Melissa Sisk (President), Cathy Terpstra (Secretary), Rhiannon Terpstra Back row: Bill Stallings (Treasurer), Matt Vavra, Mark Baker

DEAR DCS ALUMNI,

Wow! What a difference a year can make. Last year at this time, the COVID-19 pandemic was raging across America and DCS, like most other schools, was trying to navigate uncharted waters. School was closed. Teachers and students were not allowed in the building. Students were learning "virtually." Graduation plans were being altered. Most ways of life had come to a sudden and screeching halt. But with God's provision and quidance, DCS made it through the end of the 2020 school year with nine students graduating and all others continuing to receive a quality education.

As the Board and Administrator started to plan for the 2020-2021 school year, there were still many questions about how the school year would unfold. Times were stressful and planning the year was a daunting task with so many unknowns. Then, by mid-August, things were looking even more bleak. There were less than 50 students enrolled to start the school year. We were not sure how long in-person learning would

last. We were searching for a new administrator. And, we were planning for funds to be less than expected due to the pandemic limiting the various fundraisers and donations DCS normally receives. Needless to say, the Board was nervous heading into the school year. But Philippians 4:6 says, "Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God."

Then, a few weeks before the school year started, DCS was blessed with a new administrator in Mr. Luke Taylor. Mr. Taylor has been a staple at DCS for the last 17 years. He is primarily the middle school math and Bible teacher, but has taught almost every other subject for grades 5-8. His energetic personality and love for the Lord has been a blessing for DCS. He is starting his administration program this summer through Dort University. Hopefully this means Mr. Taylor is going to be around awhile!!!

As the school year started, there were many new policies and procedure in place in order for DCS to have in-person learning while still following COVID guidelines. Students had to have temperature checks and wear masks just to enter the building. Social distancing was strongly encouraged; if you know anything about learning styles, social distancing limits most of the current best practices teachers would normally use in the classroom. Yet despite all of

the changes, the students at DCS were happy to be back and learning in school with their teachers, who found new and innovative ways to still teach effectively.

Speaking of students...as word spread that Mr. Taylor was the new administrator and DCS was having in-person learning, more and more students started to register for the school year. By the end of August, there were almost 60 kids registered for DCS, 3k through 8th grade. Currently, there are 78 students walking the hallways of Delavan Christian. And, thanks to the Lord, most of those students received inperson instruction the entire school year. While some students and individual classes had to quarantine due to COVID, DCS has stayed open the entire school year. As Psalm 5:11-12 says, "But let all who take refuge in you be glad; let them ever sing for joy. Spread your protection over them, that those who love your name may rejoice in you. Surely, LORD, you bless the righteous; you surround them with your favor as with a shield." God shed his protection over DCS all year long!

As the school year has progressed, many regularly scheduled activities have been able to take place, even if they needed modifying. Students were able to participate in some athletics; soccer and basketball teams were able to play a handful of games against other schools, and volleyball was intermural. The school just finished the musical Beauty and the Beast Jr. (which was amazing!). The apple pie sale sold out before the first pie was made! The annual DCS Auction set a record and raised over \$66,000 for the school. And, many other individual donors have blessed the school financially, almost erasing a \$90,000+ deficit.

Looking back on the 2020-2021 school year, Delavan Christian School has been blessed abundantly from the



start of the school year until now.

Matthew 17:20 says, "...Truly I tell
you, if you have faith as small as a
mustard seed, you can say to this
mountain, 'Move from here to there,'
and it will move. Nothing will be
impossible for you." God has used
so many of you, from current families
to the DCS alumni, to bless DCS.
You have kept the faith and Delavan
Christian School has reaped the
rewards of your faith and love.

Thank you!

DCS School Board

DEAR DCS ALUMNI,

Before I sat down to write this letter, I referred to the letter I wrote for the newsletter last year. As I started reading it, verses 7-11 from the book of Matthew instantly came to my mind. They read, "Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives, and he who seeks finds, and to him who knocks it will be opened. Or what man is there among you who, when his son asks for a loaf, will give him a stone? Or if he asks for a fish, he will not give him a snake, will he? If you then, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father who is in heaven give what is good to those who ask Him!"

In last year's letter, I asked for the continued financial support from the DCS alumni as Delavan Christian was starting the school year with over a \$90,000 deficit. I am happy to report that with your continued support and God's providence, DCS is projected to end the school year with a surplus over \$10,000. This is primarily due to a year unlike any other in the history of DCS. While the year will forever be remembered as the year our lives were drastically changed by COVID, I will remember it as a year full of God's abundant faithfulness and blessings:

- We had a record breaking school auction that raised over \$65,000.
- We had miscellaneous donations that topped \$45,000.
- We received over \$26,000 in memorial donations.
- Delavan CRC partnered with DCS to donate almost double the tuition of their students.
- Every fundraiser raised more money that was allocated in the budget, most by 1.5 times.
- DCS received two PPP loans in excess of \$130,000.

While the 2020-2021 school year was a blessing, next school year still presents a lot of the same challenges that were discussed in last year's letter. There are still three parochial schools in Delavan and enrollment is down. The board has taken steps to reduce tuition to increase enrollment. but that leads to a larger projected deficit leading into next school year. While the projected deficit is lower than the last two years, we are still going into next school year with over a \$70,000 deficit. With that in mind, first and foremost, I am asking that you continue to pray for DCS. Also, if you have the means and feel like you can give, we ask that you do to help offset the deficit projected for next year. As Matthew 7:7 states, "Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find." I have no doubt that God will continue to use the Alumni of DCS in amazing ways again next year as you continue to support DCS and show your commitment to the mission of Delavan Christian School.

Sincerely, Bill Stallings, Treasurer

BUILDING AND GROUNDS

Plans are being made to order and install LED lighting in the remaining classrooms on the main hallway of the school. The bleachers were inspected and repaired and nice knowing

they are safe and fully operational. Two classrooms and Janitor's room were retiled. Plans are underway to revamp the current Graduation display as there is a need to expand for additional class pictures.

The three Memorial Boards plaques, Allan Decker's picture, and original trophy case were temporarily taken down to do work with lighting and ceiling in that area. We need to purchase additional memory boards as well. These items will be addressed this summer as well.

We sincerely thank the following who made contributions to the school. Dan and Kim Green family installing and donation of water fountain near the gym area.

Anonymous donation for new molding in the entire main hall/kitchen area.

Jon Kok (1982) painting all gym and kitchen doors. Nieuwenhuis Bros. Inc. Bob (1967), Pete (1969), Eli (1971) for continuous weekly garbage and recycling removal.

PROMOTIONS COMMITTEE

The promotions committee has the fun job of spreading the word about our amazing school! From helping to organize events such as Summer Celebration and DCS Open House/ Tour Days to keeping the welcome packet, Facebook page, and website up to date (the committee is currently working on an updated, mobile friendly website), we are always looking for ways to help increase our student enrollment. Although we do have a number of families that have found us by searching online, the most effective marketing tool we have is YOU! Year after year, word of mouth is by far our most valuable tool for spreading the word about DCS, so please continue to help us tell others what a special place this school is! And if you don't already follow us on Facebook, be sure to

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Ethan Hiemstra, Elizabeth Oren, Nathan Hackett, Marlene Huerta, Camron Lumkes, Raegan Pelnar, William Olson, Cheyenne Parker, Hunter Childers

CLASS VERSE: "BE ON YOUR GUARD; STAND FIRM IN THE FAITH; BE MEN OF COURAGE; BE STRONG. DO EVERYTHING IN LOVE." I Corinthians 16: 13-14

On Wednesday, June 3, the class of 2020 were presented with their Bibles and Diplomas outdoors at their individual homes. The principal, school board member and teacher were present for each of the ceremonies. At the closing, a prayer for the graduate was given. In July, a celebration party was held at graduate, Camron Lumkes's home, where the families gathered with staff to celebrate their milestone!

CONGRATULATIONS CLASS of 2020!

Thank you for the beautiful class banner made by Jennifer Pelnar.

THOSE GRADUATING:

Ethan Hiemstra - Son of Jeff (1993) & Silvia Hiemstra

Elizabeth Oren - Daughter of Troy & Lisa Oren

Nathan Hackett - Son of Allyn & Terri (Hiemstra) (1985) Hackett

Marlene Huerta - Daughter of Hilarion & Miriam Huerta

Camron Lumkes - Son of Jim (1983) & Chris Lumkes

Raegan Pelnar - Daughter of Joe & Jennifer Pelnar

William Olson - Son of Matthew & Nicole Olson

Cheyenne Parker - Daughter of Levi & Melissa Sisk

Hunter Childers - Son of Brooke & David Rhone and Bryan Childers



VALEDICTORIAN SPEECH BY WILLIAM OLSON

Hello fellow
classmates, we
did it! It has been
like a ride on a
rollercoaster. You
are always nervous
to get on, sometimes
even scared, but you
get on. Sometimes



Left to right: Will and Josh Olson

along the way you hate it and scream, other times it feels like the best thing in the world. At the end, everyone's reaction is different. Some people love it and want to go again and again and again and never get off, while others are excited to start the next ride life is about to give them.

With every roller coaster it has it ups and its downs. These past couple of months have certainly felt downhill. Our roller coaster came to a screeching halt this spring. In so doing, we missed the 8th grade class trip and a traditional graduation ceremony, but we got an experience that no other riders can say they have had before. We're the class that graduated in unprecedented times in an unprecedented way. We experienced virtual school overnight. We had to figure out not only how to manage our time, but also our

space. We learned how to share space and time in a way we couldn't have imagined just months prior.

The downside of the roller coaster is not the only thing we should remember. We should also remember the times we went up and it felt exhilarating or the loops when you feel your stomach drop.

Here are just a few things to look back on. We were the first fifth grade class to participate in Quarter trips. Remember when we went to StoneFire Pizza and played on the bumper cars and ate pizza for the afternoon?

Wasn't it cool when we went to the Weather Day Brewers game when we not only saw an awesome baseball game, but we also saw an experiment that produced a massive cloud of liquid nitrogen that spread throughout the stadium? How about that time we went ice skating and Mr. T split his pants doing the limbo. He had to skate with his jacket tied around his waste the rest of the trip.

And one of my best memories in kindergarten we were outside for recess, and Nathan climbed up into a tree and slipped and the leg of his snow pants got caught on a branch,

but the branch did not break. He just hung there upside down. He asked Ethan to run and get a teacher for help. I just stood there talking with Nathan while he hung upside down! It was our first time hanging out.

This celebration is for each and every one of you. It doesn't matter how long you have been at DCS; whether you have been here since threeyear old pre-school, kindergarten, second grade, or even joined this past year. You all have worked incredibly hard to get where you are now. We could not have done this without the encouragement and love of our parents, grandparents, teachers and staff, but most importantly our LORD and Saviour, Jesus Christ.

This experience has helped us to be more adaptable to change and has shown us how strong and resilient we can be. Change can be scary or exhilarating depending on how you approach it.

I want to leave you with a final thought from an inspirational leader, Gandhi.

"Be the change that you wish to see in the world."

Congratulations Class of 2020, let's go be that change.

MESSAGES FROM THE SCHOOL BOARD AND COMMITTEES

<< Continued from page 7

search "Delavan Christian School" for all sorts of fun pictures and posts that you can like and share!

This last year the school has had two billboards donated by a generous donor that helps promote our school. They are located on County O South as you come into town from North Shore Dr. as well as on at the intersection of Creek Rd. and Beloit St. by Sweet Aroma. This last year was spent working on a new website that is more user friendly and mobile friendly as well. The committee is

also in the planning stage of making a small video to go with the new website to promote the school. It was a tough year to try meet people at events with the pandemic happening. But God has blessed our school with ALOT of very generous donors as well as talented people to help with getting the word of our school out there.

TECHNOLOGY

Our goal is to keep the students on track in technology to move on to the next level. We currently are focusing on updating the server and adding Chromebooks so every student has one. Our committee includes Mark Baker, Dan Green, Troy Oren, Rhiannon Terpstra, and Luke Taylor.

LEAVING THEIR POST

We want to thank
Donnie (1992) and
Jeff (1993) Hiemstra
for their hard work
as Janitors in
maintaining a clean
environment in
our school, for our
students, and staff
since 2009. Enjoy
the extra time!!



Left to right: Jeff and Donnie Hiemstra

FUNDRAISING EVENTS OF 2020 AND 2021

2020 DCS ANNUAL GOLF OUTING

We had a successful golf outing in the midst of a pandemic in 2020 with a record 80 plus golfers and raising nearly \$10,000 for DCS and Christian education. We are trying to reach our goal of 100 golfers! Thanks to everyone who attended for your fun spirit and support. We have tentatively set the date for JULY 31, 2021, at Delbrook Golf Course at 1:00 p.m. with a dinner to follow at 6:00 p.m. The outing has become a fun staple to get together over the summer to fellowship, enjoy a fun day of golf, and raise funds for DCS. To make reservations you can contact Chris O'Niel (262) 661-3169.

APPLE PIE FUNDRAISER



Taegan Soellner, Cadyn Lumkes, Brady Taylor, and Mackenzie Taylor

The DCS gym was busy at work on Saturday, October 10 from making crusts, coring and peeling, to mixing filling and boxing the finished product. The goal due to COVID was to reduce to 1700 from the previous 2000 the year before. Well 1720 were made and our requests were for more! Thanks to everyone who participated in this fundraiser and those who purchased pies. Thank You once again to our Apple Pie Committee for putting in so much work: Luke & Joy Taylor (chairs), Bill & Kris Stallings, Rich & Kari Schroeder, Kent & Lynelle Soellner, Jim & Chris Lumkes, and Matthew & Nicole Olson. Thank you to John and Alice Lumkes for providing lunch to

our hungry work crew. Thanks also to the numerous businesses who helped cover the cost of the supplies including: Countryside Plumbing, The Apple Barn, John's Disposal. Delavan Seamless Gutters, Monroe Funeral Home, Thrivent Financial, SPX Flow and Coach's Locker. Set a reminder on your calendars for next year's sale on October 16, 2021.

DELAVAN CHRISTIAN SCHOOL AUCTION



On Saturday, November 7, 2020, our annual auction was held in our DCS gym. Our fantastic auctioneer, Terry Schmaling had stated to us that it was a tough year with COVID and warned about expectations for this auction. Our God is awesome and so are the people who took part. A huge thank you to our DCS families and our community for helping to make our auction a huge success. Thank you to Terry Schmaling for the excellent job he did as Auctioneer and to Karen Berg as chair person along with many volunteers to make it a great day. It is with deep gratitude that the school collected \$66,000.00, Sorgs was gifted \$1,200.00 and 6 Standard **Chromebooks & 4 Touchscreens** were purchased from DCS Wish list.

SPREAD THE WORD ABOUT DCS

Sharing with other what DCS has meant for you and your family is very important.

SPECIAL AUCTION ITEM



Gathering for the donation presentation are (from left): Andy Sorg, DCS families; Zack, Kari and Varick Schroeder, Kelly, Adeline Berg, Administrator, Luke Taylor, and John Sorg Sr.

Delavan Christian School held its annual auction and with a \$75.00 certificate Sorg's had donated for the event, the auctioneer asked attendees to raise their numbers and say how many units of \$25.00 they would be willing to donate to Sorg's, which recently had a corn silo fall on it's meat processing plant. When all was said and done, \$1200.00 was raised for Sorg's.

PANTHER PARTNERS

Interested in a fun and easy way to get more involved at DCS? Panther Partners may be the place for you! This committee meets quarterly and is made up of parents, alumni, and friends of the school: it offers support to the school by organizing events such as the annual auction, poinsettia sale, Danish Kringle sale, and the apple pie fundraiser. The group also plans family fun activities that have included movie nights and all school roller skating parties! We'd love to have more people join us, and we welcome you to contact the school office for more information or to find out when the next meeting is.

FUNDRAISING EVENTS OF 2020 AND 2021

DANISH KRINGLE SALE

Almond, Pecan, Cherry, Turtle, Cheesecake...no matter your favorite flavor, we had you covered! The students and staff did a great job collecting orders, and we were able to earn over \$2300 from this fundraiser! Thank you to all of you who ordered!

2020 FOUNDER'S DINNER

The 2020 Founder's Dinner event was canceled due to the COVID 19 pandemic. However, despite not having an in-person event, the DCS community still felt the desire to give and blessed the school with \$22,420 in donations.

PANCAKE BREAKFAST

Thank you to everyone who came to support DCS at the Pancake Breakfast on **Saturday, March 13, 2021.** It was a very successful fundraiser that raised approximately **\$5,000**. Blessings abound!

DCS ENDOWMENT FUND

The Delavan Christian School
Endowment supports Delavan
Christian School by providing annual
scholarship funding. Money from
the Endowment is sent to Delavan
Christian School each year and
applied to the DCS scholarship
program. This program helps reduce
the cost of Christian education for
families who otherwise cannot afford
the full cost of tuition. Therefore,
more children can receive a Christ
centered education at DCS.

This June, the Endowment will make a \$22,000 donation to DCS. Since its first donation seven years ago, the Endowment has donated an amazing \$100,000 to Delavan Christian School for scholarships!

Would you please consider a gift

to the Endowment? Checks may be made out to "Delavan Christian School Endowment" and mailed to 848 Oak St. Delavan, WI 53115. The Endowment can accept donations of stocks or bonds. Through the Barnabas Foundation, the Endowment can also accept gifts of real estate, farm equipment, an IRA, or any other asset for tax-wise gifting. You may even make anonymous donations through the Barnabas Foundation at 888-448-3040.

This past year the Delavan
Christian School Endowment
received gifts of \$30,915 in memory
of Matthew Bunker, a \$10,000
donation from the Harold and
Bernice DeWeerd Foundation, and
\$71 through AmazonSmile.com.
Thank you to everyone who made
a donation to the Endowment.

The Delavan Christian School Endowment Inc. is a separate organization, distinct from Delavan Christian School Society, and is incorporated as a 501©3 non-profit and all donations are tax deductible. The DCS Endowment exists to maintain a permanent fund which makes an annual donation to Delavan Christian School for tuition assistance.

The Endowment board consists of Joe Bunker, Joe Mulder, John Scherer, Kent Soellner and our newest member, Rich Schroeder. Thank you to Jack Keizer, who recently stepped down after many years of service to the Endowment. Please contact any Endowment board member if you have questions.

TRIP (TUITION REDUCTION INCENTIVE PROGRAM)

This program allows you to reduce the cost of your tuition or the tuition of someone else by purchasing gift certificates/SCRIP for things you'll buy anyway. It also helps support Tuition Assistance. It doesn't cost you anything more than you currently spend, except for a few minutes of your time and anyone can participate - parents, future parents, grandparents, uncles, aunts, cousins, and friends. Families have already saved hundreds of dollars off their tuition this year! Check it out: www.scripwithscrip.com. If you want to learn more about this program, contact the school office at info@delavanchristianschool.org.

POINSETTIA SALE

Thank you to all who participated in the poinsettia sale. The sale made over \$900.00! A special thank you goes out to Don Hiemstra Sr., (1961), Kari Schroeder, Lynelle Soellner, and the 7th & 8th grade students who helped on delivery day. Special thanks to Terri (Hiemstra) (1985) for chairing this event.

PULLED PORK DINNER



Cathy Terpstra, Joy, Luke and Mackenzie Taylor, Matthew Olson

This summer DCS put on a Pulled Pork Drive Thru fundraiser. The demand was great and we sold out in under an hour! It went so smoothly it will likely become an annual event. Thank You to the Committee for their hard work to plan this event: Luke & Joy Taylor, Joe & Jennifer Pelnar, and Matthew & Nicole Olson.

FAREWELL PICNIC



Left to Right – Suzette Wilson, Susan Knudtson, Carol Lamb and Susan (Hiemstra) (1977) Olson

A farewell picnic was held on June 27, 2020 with staff for **Suzette Wilson**, **Susan Knudtson**, **Carol Lamb and Susan (Hiemstra) (1977) Olson**. Thank you for your years of service and devotion to DCS. A big thank you goes to Dale and Vicki Blakleslee for being such gracious hosts at their home for the picnic.

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD



A huge THANK YOU to all of you for your generosity for Operation Christmas Child! At DCS, we exceeded our goal of 200 boxes and packed 242! That is amazing! As a drop-off site, we collected **2,093 shoeboxes** from our community and sent them off on their journey to the Chicagoland Processing Center. They will travel all over the world to share God's great news with lots of children! Thank you again! Special thanks to Maria De Jong who has chaired this project for several years now and to the volunteers who helped in the process of filling the shoeboxes.

BASKETBALL A TEAM



Back Row: Ian O'Niel, Josh Olson, Karyssa Green, Aaron O'Niel, Addison Stallings Front Row: Carter Taylor, Karston Soellner, Lance Hiemstra, Sophia Hievmstra Not pictured: Jack DeBoer Coach: Kent & Lynelle Soellner

BOYS BASKETBALL B TEAM



Back Row: Coach Vavra, Sean Baker, Clay Huerta, Miles Person, Evan Doerksen, Zack Schroeder, Brody McCarthy, Coach Baker **Front Row:** Zach Baker, Chase Nieuwenhuis, Andrew Green, Blake Soellner, Brady Taylor

GIRLS BASKETBALL B TEAM



Back Row: Hailey Nieuwenhuis, Cadyn Lumkes, Delaney Stallings, Monika Huerta, Front Row: Laylah Slack, Mackenzie Taylor, Lorelei Terpstra Not pictured: Coach Stallings, Alexis Menard, Abby DeBoer





BEAUTY & THE BEAST, JR.

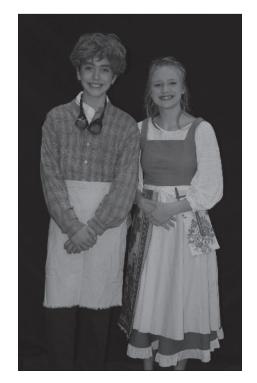
On April 23 & 24, our 4th-8th graders presented *Beauty & the Beast, Jr.*They did a wonderful job and all who attended were blessed by the performances!
Thank you to so many volunteers who helped out with props, sets, costumes, and countless other details. And thanks to the kids for using their talents to praise God through drama! Well done, everyone!



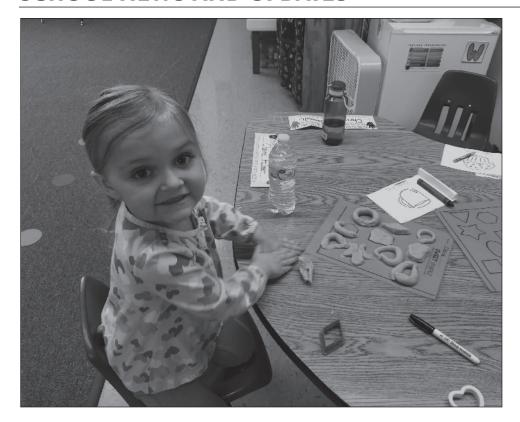


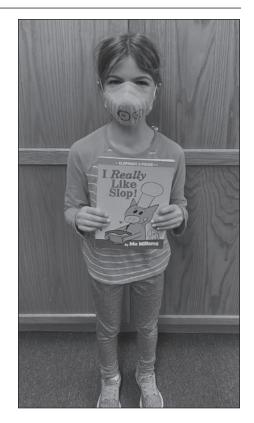






















Thank you, Maria De Jong, for your requested photography and contributing to our Facebook page.





















Thank you to Bridget McCarthy for updating the DCS Facebook page with recent news and events. Thanks to those who submit pictures!



CONGRATULATIONS CLASS OF 1971, 50 YEARS AGO!



Front row: Bernice Jeninga, Debra Vegter, Debra Baar, Linda Overbeek, Judy TerSteege Second row: Mr. Roger Kok. Michael Hoekstra, Harold Swets, Eli Nieuwenhuis, Jim Terpstra, Louis Decker

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE DELAVAN CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH ON THEIR 90TH ANNIVERSARY ON MAY 28, 2021



The existence of Christian education in Delavan, Wisconsin was first conceived in the hearts and minds of men in the church. They held their first meeting on May 10, 1945 having as its purpose the forming of a Christian School. Through early years of toil and much prayer, Delavan Christian School opened its doors in September 1951. Delayan Christian School will celebrate 70 years this fall, and are grateful for the prayers and financial support the church members have given to the school throughout these many years. To God be the glory!

A PRAYER FOR THE 90TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE DELAVAN CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH

By Fritz Vriezen

Gracious Father, Lord, Creator You who formed the sky and earth, Forests seas, and mighty mountains, You've sustained us from our birth. You have been our Rock of Ages, Solid for these ninety years, You have filled our days with gladness, Comforted, and wiped our tears.

We were blessed with faithful pastors Bringing truth from God's own Word, Teaching us by their example Of a life lived for the Lord. Thanks for those in foreign missions Who bring Christ to all he lost, Far from family and homeland, Leaving much, not counting cost.

Thank you, Lord, for Godly teachers Who instruct our youth each day, Teaching them the love of Jesus. Give them wisdom, Lord, we pray. Give us all the love of Jesus That the world around may know. Give us unity and purpose, As co-workers here below.

Ninety years our God has blessed us, Guided us from age to age. Be our refuge and our fortress As we turn another page. Thanks we give for many blessings Poured upon us from above Bless us with your Word and Spirit, Fill our hearts with joy and love.

We thank Fritz Vriezen for sharing her gift of poetry in this poem for the 90th Anniversary of the Delavan CRC. This poem can also be sung to



the tune of "Glorious Things

of Thee are Spoken."

BIRTHS

JEREMY AND ALESHA (FLIKKEMA) (2001) WYMAN of Marengo, IL welcomed their sixth child.



Alivia Grace, on

October 28, 2020. She was 8 lbs. 14 oz. and 21" long. Alivia was welcomed home by her siblings Levi (10), Lucas (9), Aralee (7), Addelae (5) and Liam (2). Her grandparents are Brent and Brenda (Kragt) Flikkema of Delavan, WI and Debbis and Deborah (Porter) Wyman of Newington, NH. Great-grandparents include Rich and Delores (DeGroot) Flikkema of Delavan, WI, Joyce (Los) Kragt of Milaca, MN.

DAN (2002) AND MELISSA JONGETJES

We are thrilled to have welcomed our identical twin daughters,



Tessa Faye

and Lily Joy on Tuesday, January 12, 2021. After a long and scary pregnancy, we are delighted that they are with us and are as healthy as can be! We are so incredibly grateful for all the prayers that were offered on our behalf for our family and especially the girls. The girls were born six weeks early. Tessa was 4 lbs. 14 oz. and 18.25 inches while lily was 4 lbs. 10 oz. and 17.5 inches. They were welcomed home by big siblings Macie, Logan, and Annie and adored by Nana and Papa aka Nancy and Brian Jongeties (1976).

THOMAS AND KARA (FLIKKEMA) (2006) SOLOFRA welcomed Remi Jean on April 30, 2020 in Elkhorn, WI. She weighed 8 lbs, 1 oz and was 20 1/2 inches long. She was welcomed home by big brother Rhett. Grandparents are Brent and Brenda (Kragt) Flikkema.

Proud parents
ZACH & KIANNA
(VENEMA) (2008)
NEIGER of Fort
Atkinson, WI are
happy to announce
the birth of their
daughter, Kenzie



Eve. Born on November 12, 2020 at St. Mary's in Madison, WI. Kenzie weighed 4 lbs. 12 oz. and was 17.5 inches long. She is the first child of the family. Kenzie is adored by Grandparents Mark (1966) & Debbie Venema, and Aunt Katrina Venema (2011).

NATE AND ELIZABETH (JONGETJES) (2003) Hello DCS family! Life is quite busy in the Austin household.

Our oldest son Jack



is three (9/25/2017), William is two (1/9/2019) and Brody will turn one in May (5/12/2020). We are also very excited to be moving back to Delavan this year! Thankful for the opportunity to send our boys to DCS when they are ready to start school very soon.

We wish God's blessings in the birth of these children to their families.

DCS ALUMNI OBITUARIES

MATTHEW JOSEPH BUNKER (2005),

age 28 of Seattle, Washington passed away Friday, June 26th 2020, while descending



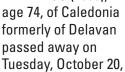
Mount Rainier on a backcountry hike and ski descent. Matthew was

on August 2, 1991, and was raised in Delavan, Wisconsin, He attended Delavan Christian School and Faith Christian High School before attending The United States Military Academy at West Point, NY. After West Point, Matthew served with the Army's 1st Cavalry as a Recon Scout at Joint Base Lewis-McChord in Tacoma, Washington. Matthew had a strong faith in Jesus Christ and marveled in God's creation. He loved being outside, skiing, hiking, trail running, cycling, and going to the family cabin up north. He loved his family and friends, photography, and tackling new adventures and challenges. He will be sadly missed by all who knew him. Matthew was proud of his accomplishments and always encouraged others to seek out new adventures. In his own words: "I've had the incredible opportunity to run around Mount Rainier on the Wonderland Trail, the Rockwall Trail in Kootenay National Park, complete the challenge Fatdog 120 race in Manning National Park, and the iconic rim to rim to rim at the Grand Canvon. I've been able to ski classic ski routes such as the STS couloir, Forever Young couloir, and the Spearhead Traverse in British Columbia, among other incredible ski descents." Matthew is survived by his parents, Joe and Carolyn Bunker; his sisters and brother-in-law, Callie Bunker (2008), Catherine (Bunker) (2010) and Ben Machen; his grandparents, Eugene and Dolores Bunker and Carolyn Lightfoot; his aunts and uncles, Dave (Alice) Bunker, Tom (Sally) Bunker, Sue O'Keefe, Greg (Lavon) Bunker, Jane (Joseph Sullivan) Bunker, Amanda (Steve) Finch, his cousins; Tim, Jennifer, Mike, Kara, Amanda, Angie, Erin, Chelsea, Sydney, Heather, Tyler, Zachary, Emily, Alex, and Claire. Matthew is preceded in death by his maternal grandfather, Richard W. Lightfoot III. Matthew is

born in Charleston, South Carolina

now in heaven with Jesus, and we pray that God's name and greater purposes be glorified through Matthew's life and death. Matthew deeply appreciated his Christian education. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations can be directed to Delavan Christian School and/or Endowment, 848 Oak Street, Delavan, WI 53115. www.delavanchristianschool.org/support/donations.cfm. Monroe Funeral Home assisted the family.

FRANCIS "FRANK" PETER LOS (1960),





2020 at home. He was born in Delavan on September 22, 1946 to Jacob and Alice (Mensonides) Los. Frank was united in marriage to Joyce Thayer and March 13, 1965 at Delavan Christian Reformed Church, Frank owned Los Transfer and Storage in Delavan for 40 years along with his brother Mel. Frank is survived by his wife of 55 years, Joyce; three children, Daniel (1979) (Barb) Los, of Hudsonville, MI, Deborah (Los)(1980) (Craig) Wiegers, of Mt. Pleasant, WI, and David (1981) (Cherie)(1981) Los, of Sioux Center, IA; 14 grandchildren and one great grandchild; four sisters, Sylvia (Los)(1954) Greenfield, Janice (Los)(1957) Drake, Lois (1965) (Russell) Lindholm, and Ruth (1967) Kravenas: two brothers, Harold (1955) and Mel (1961) Los; and many nieces and nephews. Frank is preceded in death by his parents; brotherin-law, Thomas Kravenas and two sister-in-laws, Roselyn and Carol. Memorials can be directed to the Delavan Christian School, Monroe Funeral Home assisted the family.

ANNE (VENEMA) (1956) BELLOWS,

left us on May 10, 2020, for her home in glory after months of struggling with Lymphoma. She was born to Andrew



and Della Venema on April 4, 1942 near Drachten, Friesland in the Netherlands. At the age of five, she immigrated to the U.S. with her parents and three of her brothers. They settled in the Elkhorn/Delavan area where her paternal grandparents were already living. In 1962, she married William (Bill) Bellows and together they had one son, William (Billy) Bellows. Anne spent most of her life living and working in the area where she had settled with her family so many years before. She was preceded in death by her parents and three brothers, Martin (1955), Gordon (1957) and Lee. She is survived by her husband Bill and son, Billy, her two sisters, Gloria (1968) (Howard) Stuit and Ruth (1970) (Mark) Beute and one brother, Henry Venema (1972). Also surviving are two grandsons, Travis (Michelle) Bellows, Ryan Bellows and beloved granddaughters, Alexis and Taylor. One sister-in-law. Lorraine Papke also survives along with several nephews and nieces.

EDNA (MONTSMA) (1955) KELDER,

went home to be with the Lord on May 2, 2020. Her husband, Bill writes: In March 19, 2019, Edna was diagnosed to have Acute Myeloid Leukemia. Both oral and IV infiltration of Chemo were started. She had some good days and many bad days. Through it all she kept a good attitude with a close relationship with Jesus. So after 55 beautiful years of marriage she went to heaven. We owned my father's bakery in St. Catherines, Ontario, Canada and one in Winter Haven, FL. Together they had a very busy life with baking and nursing, family, etc. Thankful for her good

schooling: Delavan Christian School, Elkhorn High School and Evangelical Deaconess Nursing School. She was preceded in death by her husband Bill, three children and their families along with extended family.

GERALD E. LINDBERG JR. (1979),

age 55, of Pell Lake, WI passed away on Thursday December 31, 2020 at his residence. He was born on August 20, 1965 to the late Gerald and Evelyn (Swets) (1957) Lindberg. Gerald served



Lindberg. Gerald served as the custodian for the Lakewood School for 30 years. Proud father of Gerald E. III and Joshua Lindberg; grandfather of Jayden, Connor, and Jonny; brother of Jeffrey Lindberg (1982), Aaron and Adam. Gerald is also survived by mother-in-law Ella Shulka, nieces, nephews, other relatives and many friends. He is preceded in death by his parents.

DCS ALUMNI FAMILY OBITUARIES

DIETRICH "DICK" A. NIETFELDT II.

age 47, of Darien passed away on Saturday, September 19, 2020 at home in



Darien. He was born in Elkhorn on March 27, 1973 to Dietrich and Dorothy (Keyzer) (1961) Nietfeldt. Dick was an avid motorcycle rider and loved dogs, especially walking with his dog. Dick is survived by his mother, Dorothy; a sister, Dionne (Brody) Brown, of Delavan; a brother Steve Forsyth (1981), of Sturtevant, WI; nieces and nephews; a great niece and great nephew; and many aunts, uncles, and cousins. Dick is preceded in death by his father. Memorials can be directed to Our Redeemer Lutheran Church with School Little Lambs Fund.

HOWARD ERWIN
DEJONG, age 86, of
Hudsonville, went to be
with his Lord and Savior
on Saturday, July 4,
2020. He was preceded
in death by his sisters,



Dolores DeJong, Cindy Wiltier; brother, Ted DeJong; sister-in-law, Dolores (Dick) Suwyn; and brotherin-law, Donald (Alice) Verduin. He will be dearly missed by his wife of 61 years, Norma (Verduin) DeJong; children, William & Carol DeJong, Randall & Joy DeJong, Ross & Sonja DeJong, and Laura & Michael Brinks; grandchildren, Melissa & Andy, Stephanie & Jordan, Alexis, Hailey & Joel, Tess, Ridge, Easton, Jessica, Jacob, Jordyn, Jae'l, Aliyah, Jade, and Jaxen; great-grandchildren, Adaline, and Eloise; siblings, Kathy Brouwer, Elaine Duimstra, Evelyn Musch, Gwen DeJong, Phyllis (Jon) Huisman, Warren (Susan) DeJong, Marvin (Sally) DeJong, Paul (Mary) Wiltjer; and many nieces and nephews. A private family funeral service will be held at Trinity Christian Reformed Church, with Rev. Stan Sturing officiating. Relatives and friends may meet the family Wednesday, July 8, from 2-4 p.m. and 6-8 p.m. at the Trinity Christian Reformed Church, 60 Port Sheldon SW, Grandville. Masks are strongly encouraged. Howard loved teaching at Jenison Christian School for 35 years. He proudly served his country in the U.S. Navy on the USS Shangri-La. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Jenison Christian School or Unity Christian High School.

THERESA (MONTSMA) VEGTER, age 92, of Elmhurst. Beloved wife of the late Harry Vegter; loving mother of John (1964) (Candice) Vegter, Ed (1966)



(Mary) Vegter, Dennis (Kris) Vegter, Steven Vegter (Helen Smith), Barb (Gene) Oldham and Brenda Cook; devoted grandmother of eighteen; great-grandmother of twenty-eight; fond sister of Peter Montsma and Alice Heeringa and preceded in death by nine other siblings; aunt of many nieces and nephews.

eve Jeninga, age 96, of Delavan, passed away peacefully on October 10, 2020. Eve was born on February 26, 1924 in Rotterdam,



The Netherlands and at age 10 moved to Heerlen with her family. She was the daughter of Marie (father) and Metje (mother) Hamaker. Eve enjoyed her childhood years in Heerlen. She particularly enjoyed gymnastics, which she started at a very young age. She fondly remembered putting on a Cinderella play where she got to play the role of one of Cinderella's bad stepsisters. Ice skating on the canals and roller skating on the streets were also activities she greatly enjoyed. After high school, Eve chose to attend a three-year program in home economics. Upon completion of that program. Eve took a two-vear course in child development, which included internships as a nanny, assisting in kindergarten, and working in a children's home. Eve loved working with children. In addition to raising her own children and watching her grandchildren, Eve provided childcare for a number of other children. Eve enioved working with her hands. especially knitting and crocheting and would often be found creating something with yarn. She took great pride in her home which was always spotlessly clean. Eve lived through the occupation of Holland by the Germans. She remembers, at the age of 16, opening her window on a beautiful May morning to the site of the German tanks rolling down

the street. Eve displayed great bravery during the war in her work with Jewish children. She worked at Koningin Emma Children's Home from 1940-1945. This was a home for orphaned and sick children. During the war, many Jewish children were brought there in secret at great risk to the staff and the children. The staff changed the children's names to keep their identity secret from the Germans. Eve met her future husband John in 1939 when she was 14 and he was 17. They were married in June 1949 and lived in Utrecht where their first three children were born. In March 1957, John and Eve moved to the United States traveling on a ship called the "Groote Beer" or the Big Bear. They settled in Delavan, Wisconsin and became lifelong and active members of Delavan Christian Reformed Church, Three more children were born after the move to the United States. Eve loved doing things with and for her big family. Sundays were always a special day spent together with a big Sunday dinner. Eve was the queen of jello making and one could always count on a jello dish when coming over for a meal. After raising her children. Eve discovered a passion for travel. She and John traveled all over the United States in their camper. They also traveled to multiple countries in Europe. When Eve could no longer travel, she would enjoy watching Rick Steves take her on a tour. In addition to traveling, Eve was very involved in charitable activities and church activities, including participating in the choir. Eve was a kind and caring woman, who always had a cup of coffee or tea and some cookies for all her visitors. She was a very strong woman, living through the War and starting anew in a new country with her husband and children. She will be greatly missed by her family. Eve was preceded in death by her husband

John and her brother Leendert. She is survived by six children: Mary (Jeninga) (1965) Reyenga (John) (1961), John Jeninga (1966) (Karen), Maryann Lundin (Bill), Bernice (Jeninga) (1971) Zaehringer (Don), Ed Jeninga (1974), and Annette (Jeninga) (1977) Drefs (Matt); 14 grandchildren: Chris Reyenga, Corrina Haringsma (Jared), Hillary Miersma (Harlan), Leon Goytowski (Michelle), Nadine Osburn (Robert), Theresa Ware, Eric Lundin, Ben Lundin, Sam York, Nicole Zaehringer, Steve York, Ashley Schneider (Nolan), Kelsey (Drefs) (2002) Houser (Kyle), Jake Drefs (2005) (Alli), Adam Drefs (2011) and Lena Drefs (2012); 28 great grandchildren and two great great grandchildren. The family asks that remembrances be made to Bethany Christian Services and/or the Delavan Christian School. Memorial Service will be held on October 16, 2021 at the Delavan Christian Reformed Church. Monroe Funeral Home assisted the family.

ROGER KOK, age 81, of Delavan passed away on Monday, January 18, 2021 at Aurora Lakeland Medical Center in



Elkhorn. Roger was born December 20, 1939 in Cambria, WI to William and Anna (Elgersma) and grew up on a farm in Randolph, WI. He graduated in 1957 from Randolph High School, where he was a talented basketball player. He went on to receive a B.S. Degree in General Science Education with a permanent Wisconsin Teaching Certificate from the University of Wisconsin-River Falls (1957-61). Roger taught at Calvin Memorial Christian School in St. Catherines. Ontario, Canada from 1961-1967. He was an Administrator and Teacher with the Delavan Christian School from 1967-1995. During his teaching years, he was involved in the school's athletic programs and held a number

of different summer jobs. He later went on to become the manager of an apartment complex for many years in Delavan, WI. Meeting his wife, Joyce, was truly the highlight of his life. They were married in June of 1960 at Baldwin Reformed Church and spent 60 beautiful years in marriage together. Roger and Joyce served as custodians for Delavan Christian Reformed Church, where they were members for many years. Despite his long battle with Parkinson's, Roger was always a hard worker and considered work to be a gift from God. It is part of who he was, and this principle underlined every endeavor he undertook throughout his life. In addition to his work, Roger enjoyed spending his time outdoors, studying nature, and marveling at the beauty of God's creation. His interests included bee keeping, hunting, fishing, hiking, and reading. Above all else, Roger loved the Lord with all his heart and put an emphasis on having a personal relationship with Jesus. He encouraged his children and grandchildren to study God's Word and leaves this legacy of faith with them. We rejoice that he is now in the arms of Jesus, reunited with Joyce and Nate to share in Heaven's glory. Roger is survived by his sisters, Esther (Howard) VantHoff and Marlene (Don) Hughes; his sister-in-law Lorraine (Deryl) Alwin; his three sons, William (1978) (Cheryl) Kok, Dan (1979) (Jenny) Kok, and Jon Kok (1982); his grandchildren, Jessica, Joshua, Jared, David, Ethan, and Caleb; and his many nieces and nephews. He is preceded in death by his loving wife, Joyce, his brother and sister-in-law, Seymour and Junice Kok; his brothers-in-law Howard VantHoff and Don Hughes; his sisters and brothers-in-law, Hazel (Lesley) Rens, Marlys (Lester) Rens, and Sylvia (Van) Van Someren; and his grandson, Nathanael. In lieu of flowers, memorials to the Delavan

Christian Reformed Church, 850 Oak St. Delavan, WI 53115 or the Delavan Christian School, 848 Oak St. Delavan, WI 53115 are appreciated. You may donate via the church or school's web sites, or by sending a donation to their specific address.

Delavan Christian School: https://www.delavanchristianschool.org/support/donations.cfm.

Delavan Christian Reformed Church: https://www.crcna.org/ChurchGiving

JOYCE K. KOK, age 80, of Delavan passed away on Wednesday, January 13, 2021 at Aurora Lakeland Medical Center in



Elkhorn. Joyce was born on August 26, 1940 in Baldwin, WI beloved daughter to John Bol and Mabel Bol (Bosman). Raised in the country, Joyce spent her childhood on the family farm and attended Tar Creek School. She was a graduate of Baldwin High School in 1958. Throughout her life of faith, Joyce lived by the "joy" in her name, taking delight in the Lord's creation. She taught by example how to seek joy in all things big and small. Joyce was a collector of birdhouses, and especially loved cardinals. She had the voice of a songbird herself, and met the love of her life, Roger Kok, while singing in the church choir. They were married in June of 1960 at Baldwin Reformed Church. As a longtime member of Delavan Christian Reformed Church, Joyce also served with Roger as custodians of their church for many years. She worked at Inspiration Bookstore in Walworth, WI for many years and became manager at the end of her tenure. She also served as Roger's secretary while he was principal at Delavan Christian School. Joyce was a selfless homemaker and devoted herself to her family always cherishing time spent with her

children and grandchildren. Joyce had a strong faith in the Lord and encouraged her family to seek the Lord in all circumstances. She will be missed by so many and remembered as a loving wife, mother, aunt, grandmother, and friend. Joyce is survived by her husband of 60 years, Roger, of Delavan; her sister Lorraine (Deryl) Alwin; her three sons, William (1978) (Cheryl) Kok, Dan (1979) (Jenny) Kok, and Jon (1982) Kok; her sistersin-law Esther VantHoff and Marlene Hughes; her grandchildren, Jessica, Joshua, Jared, David, Ethan, and Caleb; and her many nieces and nephews. She is preceded in death by three sisters, Hazel (Lesley) Rens, Marlys (Lester) Rens, and Sylvia (Van) Van Someren; her brother and sisterin-law, Seymour and Junice Kok; her brothers-in-law, Howard VantHoff and Don Hughes; and her grandson, Nathanael, taken too soon. In lieu of flowers, please consider contributing to the Delavan Christian School memorial fund in Joyce's name.

CALVIN JOHN LOS,

age 84, passed away on December 2, 2020, and left this earth to meet his Lord and Savior face to face. Calvin was born in



South Dakota. After many moves and different jobs he found his "home" on a small farm in Byron Center. He found great joy in raising crops, tending a large variety of animals and teaching at Byron Center Christian School. Calvin was a long time member of Second Byron Center CRC and made many friends there. Waiting in heaven for Calvin were his parents, seven siblings, his sister-in-law, Dorothy Fernhout, and great grandson, Conner VanAntwerp. Calvin is survived by his wife of 64 years, Charlene (Kuik); his children, Colleen and Rick Campbell, Sue and Stu Warsen, Randy and Sue Los; Cal was a special grandpa

to 11 grandchildren, Josh (Sara) Campbell, Ben (Lisa) Campbell, Laura (Kirk) Stevenson, Kim (Phil) Averill, Stephanie Warsen, Scott (Elana) Warsen, Stacy (Scott) Sommavilla, Brian (Angelia) Los, Angie (Patrick) VanAntwerp, Jenny (Peter) Lanning, Eric (Allyson Galbraith) Los; and 23 great grandchildren; his brother, Eugene (Shirley) Los; sister, Joyce Kragt. Calvin will always be remembered for his unconditional love for his family and friends, his faithful service to his Lord, his appreciation of nature, and sense of humor.. Memorials: Byron Center Christian School Calvin Los Heritage Scholarship, 8840 Byron Center Ave SW, Byron Center, MI 49315, https://www.bccs.org/

HOWARD STUIT, on March 31, 2021, Howard Stuit passed peacefully from his earthly home to the home awaiting



him in heaven. He struggled courageously against Lymphoma for the last nine months. Howard was born on April 14, 1936 to Henry and Catherine Stuit. Together with his former wife, Bonnie, he raised two beautiful daughters. Karen and Christine. Remarrying many years later, he acquired an additional loving family. Howard worked for 37 years as a bread salesman for Interstate Bakeries and in retirement served part-time as a courier for Bank One and then United Bank. He also volunteered his time delivering senior meals and later serving at God's Kitchen. In his younger years, he also served nine years in the National Guard. Howard enjoyed traveling, taking road trips, touring European countries and cruising, often with friends. You could always find him around water; sailing, reading on the beach, or sitting on a deck overlooking the lake. He also loved reading, especially

biographies and history. Some of the most treasured time was spent at a cottage each year near Holland. Every summer was a joyful blend of grand kids, family dinners, beach time, and serious games of Sorry! Howard was preceded in death by his parents; two brothers, Gord and Mel, and by his daughter Chris. He is survived by his wife, Gloria (Venema) (1968); children, Karen (Greg) Cook, Matthew (Brendolyn) Van Zomeren; stepsons, Josh (Amy) Van Dyken, Nate (Elise) Van Dyken and Matt (Brittany) Van Dyken; and cherished grandchildren, Christopher, Andy, Madeline, Sophie, Nathan, Miles, Max, Maddy, Emmy and Asher. Surviving also are his sister-in-law, Sylvia Stuit, and his former wife, Bonnie Chamberlain. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to: Fuller Avenue CRC Benevolence Fund.

We extend our Christian Sympathy to each of these families. Prayers for God's peace and love to sustain them in their time of loss.

ALUMNI CLASS NEWS

GUIDO, JOSEPH JR. (1991) - Greetings to the Delavan Christian School Community from the United Kingdom! It is always good to receive the updates and see how everyone is doing. Since my last note from the US Embassy in Ethiopia, several years and a great many changes for everyone has happened. I left Ethiopia in 2017 and went to the US Army Africa Command in Vicenza, Italy and then here to the University of Oxford in England as part of the US Army Advanced Strategic Planning and Policy Program.

Here at Oxford, I am studying the history of war and warfare in Africa under Professor Richard Reid to write a dissertation about the Ogaden War (Ethiopian-Somali war of 1977-78). I should remain here in Oxford until July 2022 and then will likely be asked to serve next as a

Senior Defense Official (Defense Attaché) at a US Embassy in Africa.

The most important change for me, however, was getting married to Heather Farrell in 2019, the love of my life whom I met while working in Ethiopia. She and our daughter Leila are all here in the UK and doing well, Heather working as a clinical psychologist and Leila attending school.

Perhaps the most significant and obvious thing everyone has experienced in the last year, speaks to the relative insignificance of humanity in an infinite universe: our plans, compared to those of the Lord, are puny in comparison. Let us praise and worship Him in all we do; best wishes from Oxford! Email: joseph.guido@history.ox.ac.uk

Alumnus. **DALE A. VEGTER** (1976) is retired from the US Army on May 31, 2020, as a Lieutenant Colonel after



33 years of service. Dale has served in various medical hospitals, field hospitals, and MASH units as an RN and in hospital administration all over the world, including serving in the war against Iraq. Thank you, Dale, for your service to us and our country! We appreciate you! Notes can be sent to: LTC Dale A. Vegter, 2246 Jasmine Dr., Clarksville, TN 37043

GRANT ECKHOFF (2010) continues to serve in the **US Navy**. He has now departed our shores to join his fleet towards an easterly direction and



elsewhere. Please pray for his safety as he helps protect our Nation on foreign seas and lands.

STEPHANIE SLATER (1991) Happy Spring, DCS alumni. I hope this finds you all well. Although not very exciting, I'll share a brief update on what I'm up to currently. I'm in my 19th year



working for Gateway Technical College as an Administrative Assistant to the Vice President. I've enjoyed working from home for the past year, but I'll be returning to my office in Kenosha later this summer. In my free time I enjoy beekeeping, canning, and music festivals. I've also appreciated the extra time to spend on beekeeping and canning over the past year. I'm a member of several local, regional, and national beekeeping organizations and enjoy providing public education and participating in honey shows when I can. When I'm not in the apiary, I can a variety of preserves including jams, salsas, and sauces. Maybe you saw my fun article in the paper a few months back? I typically offer one or two workshops on canning through Gateway each year and enjoy the friendly open class competition at the Walworth County Fair. If your classroom or community organization is ever looking for someone to present on beekeeping or safe home preserving, feel free to contact me. I encourage you to look for the beekeepers club booth at the Walworth County Dairy Breakfast and the Walworth County Fair and stop by to say hi.

DCS ALUMNUS JOINS DDHS STAFF/ ADAM DREFS (2011) I'm writing this after having just watched the DCS production of *Beauty and the Beast, Jr.* and let me tell you, it is surreal to be looking back on a show I did 10 years ago in that same gymnasium. I had three main reasons to come see the show. First, was to enjoy live musical theatre after this year of COVID killing almost all performance events. Second, was to compare and contrast to the show I was in 10 years ago. As much as I hate to admit it, I think this time around was better. Third, though, and my personal favorite reason for being there, was to scout out the students I will hopefully be getting to work with in the next few years.

I graduated from DCS in 2011, from DDHS in 2015, and from UW-Whitewater in 2020 and am reaching the end of my first year teaching as the new choir director and drama club supervisor at DDHS. I know I'm going to be getting a lot of these DCS students in the coming years as growing students reaching young adulthood in both choir classes and theatrical extracurricular endeavors. I have worked for getting this job basically since I graduated from DDHS in 2015 and am thrilled to be continuing the excellent musical tradition of DDHS.

DCS has always been a source of fantastic students in choir, theatre, and the student body at large at DDHS and I am looking forward to my wave of incoming freshmen, having already had a couple of them audition for treble choir, and the God-given skills and talents they've been blessed with. I look forward to getting to help students discover talents they may not have known they had. I look forward to students finding their careers in my classroom. I look forward to helping them grow as fine young Christians while in the wider world at DDHS.

"It is dearness only which gives everything its value. Heaven knows how to put a proper price on its goods." - Thomas Paine

ROTARY RECOGNIZES DDHS STUDENT OF THE MONTH

ERICA DE JONG
(2017), the daughter
of Maria and Tim
De Jong was
honored for the
month of January.
Erica participates



in tennis, choir and band, and is a member of the National Honor Society. She volunteers at Delavan Christian School at their apple pie sale and also at her church on mission trips, caroling. She also volunteers with the DDABC (Delavan-Darien Athletic Booster Club) at the Walworth County Fair. Erica will be attending George Williams College in Williams Bay for nursing.

SARAH HOEKSTRA (2017) daughter of Margaret and Robert Hoekstra (1976), was recently honored as the Delavan Rotary Club student for



the month of March 2021. Sarah participates in FFA and softball and is a member of the National Honor Society. Her volunteer activities include mission trips to Troy, Missouri and Middleton, Ohio, with her church, child care during church events, and volunteering with elderly church members. She also volunteers at a local homeless shelter. Sarah plans to attend a four-year university and pursue a career in the agricultural field.

GREENFIELD, SYLVIA (LOS) (1954) It sure doesn't seem like it has been
67 years since I graduated from
Delavan Christian School. God
has been so good to my family. My
parents were so faithful in bringing
myself and my brothers and sisters to
love the Lord and to trust Him. I'm so
glad and blessed to have a family who
trusted in the Lord no matter what we

had to go through. Faith, Hope and the greatest of all Love of God. I am living in Kenner, LA and have been here since I retired. Both the kids live here, and the three grandchildren. Rhonda, works at a chemical plant, and Scott works for a tree company. Meg, Scott's wife, works at a University in the office. They have three children, Rebecca, Aimee, and Vance. They live about an hour from me on what I call a small farm. Right now, they only have four chickens, two roosters and four dogs. They are hoping and talking about goats and pigs as well. We'll see. I still go to a Baptist church, which preaches the gospel. We have finally opened up where more of us can gather for worship and fellowship after the COVID-19. In closing, knowing the Lord is so good to me and my family. God has been so good to my family and has blessed me richly. Thank you Theresa, for doing the newsletter for so many years.

TERBORG, GERTRUDE (VAN DYKEN)

(1954), 1954 is a long time ago! Through those years life went well. I married in 1960 to Bill Terborg and moved to Illinois. We had three children: Randal, Denise and Sue. They married and gave us eight grandchildren. Three of the grandsons married and gave us five great-grandkids. We traveled through the years. Since retiring we would spend our winters in Bradenton, FL. While here, Bill became immobile and had to place him in memory care. Bill passed last November and Florida has now become my home. Thanks be to the Lord God Almighty.

WHITE, LAVERNE (VANDYKEN)

(1957) Thank you for inviting me to upgrade our news since last time. I enjoy receiving the newsletter. It's my only way of finding out information of my old school. It's 63 years ago that I graduated from DCS. We send greetings from Mackay, Queensland Australia to America and the Delavan

area. Hopefully everyone is keeping safe from the COVID. We are all safe and healthy. Time does fly. Ray & I celebrated our 50th wedding anniversary this past December. Because of the COVID we had a small celebration with our son Michael. Paula, two granddaughters (aged nine & five) and a few friends with a lunch. Our daughter Narelle and her family (four granddaughters aged 9 to 15) are living in China at the present time. They went to experience living in China for one year in December 2019 in connection with Mick's work and got caught up in the COVID Virus, and needless to say they will continue to live there until it is safe to fly back to Australia and not have go into quarantine on their return. They have had their fill of quarantine periods. China is very strict with their quarantines rules. The family has traveled extensively in and around China and the family has experienced many different cultures. Hopefully one day Narelle will write a book of their experiences and show the hundreds of photos taken. Ray and I are retired, and Ray keeps himself busy with wood carving. He has joined a wood workers club, and goes to it twice a week. He's been a member now for about four years, and has many beautiful items to show for it. He has sold many items, and is experimenting many different ideas. I volunteer at our Base Hospital. I'm the Volunteer coordinator. I have been volunteering for 32 years at the Hospital. I work two-three times a week on the Information Desk, where we answer people's questions and tell/show them where they need to go. We are also members of the Mackay Vintage Motor Club. We have outings where we use our vintage cars, at times put our cars on display at various events. This keeps us quite busy at times. Other than that, we just take one day at a time and enjoy life. Hopefully this finds everyone

in the best health possible and take care. God bless and keep you all.

MEYER, ARLENE (LOS) (1958) - 2020 was a year of depending on God to get through each day. With the COVID virus becoming a pandemic and people dying every day--there was isolation, social distancing, hand sanitation, and masking. Getting together as a family on holidays was difficult but with social media we were able to Facetime or Zoom one another. In November, our oldest daughter, Christine passed away at the age of 53 after fighting colon cancer for 5 years. She was in hospice the last two weeks of her life at home. That was both a blessing that we could see her and care for her, but emotionally difficult watching her die day by day. That was devastating for both Bruce and I as well as her husband and three children and entire family. Knowing that she was in Heaven with Jesus gave us great comfort. In December on a repeat chest CT, I found out my lung cancer was back and radiation was again recommended for treating it. So I had five treatments of Sterotactic Body Radiation Therapy. One thing the year taught me and my hubby was dependence on God for every day. I have a plaque hanging in our bedroom that says "I don't know what tomorrow may bring, but I know WHO holds tomorrow." It's times like this, you really appreciate your Christian upbringing, including the Christ-living base Delavan Christian School instilled in us learning Bible verses with Mr. Ver Hulst put these treasured verses deep in my heart, and I was blessed by them. I think we don't really appreciate the difference a Christ-based education provides until we are challenged. As Job in the OT was challenged with the loss of his children and everything else, he was told by his wife to curse God and die. Job's reply was interesting

and what may seem as impossible when he said to her "Shall we indeed accept good from God, and not accept adversity?" Thus Job did not sin. I don't know how many times I read that out loud when adversity came. Praising and thanking God in times like those happening to our family and indeed to the whole world experiencing COVID was hard. Yet I knew that we could still thank God for His faithfulness and love. What God put on my heart was to put the old, old hymns on my Facepage daily and share these with whoever wanted to read them. Every day a different one is posted. Not only did it bless me but I found that several others were also blessed by the reading (and probably) singing of those old hymns-"Blessed Assurance", "Great is Thy faithfulness" and many, many others came to mind every morning - very often two songs that were similar in thought were put on FB.

Yes, my husband and I were blessed to have had Christine for 53 years to see her married to Jeff, have three children that all walk with the Lord. Our other two kids (David and Cindy and their spouses) also love the Lord and serve Him. We now have nine grandkids, two step-grandkids and two great grandkids. Although some of our grandkids do not daily walk with the Lord--yet the Lord is faithful. We pray that His Holy Spirit will work in their hearts and bring them to a personal relationship with Christ. God is always faithful and the faithful prayers of parents and grandparents touch God's loving heart. His Words says that in Jeremiah 31:17 "there is a hope for your future, and your children shall come back to their own country" meaning those who are straying and grandparents are praying, that God will honor those prayers and will soften those hearts and return the wayward to Him. We may not live long enough to see that happen, but that's what faith is all

about. (Hebrews 11:1). So one thing I've learned through all of this, is dependence on God and to have a cheerful heart. We have absolutely nothing to be afraid of because God is our strength and refuge (Psalm 46:4) when we have no strength to carry on. In times like that, God sends friends to support us and gives us words of comfort and strength, Isaiah says that God knows us by name (Isaiah 45:4 and 43:1). We are precious in His sight (Isaiah 43:4). Praise Him because He is worthy of praise. God is good-ALL the time.

STERKEN, MAURY (1960)

Where did the time go? I graduated 61 years ago. Linda and I have been married for over 56 years. Our son, Carl (1980) has daughter, Kayla and she is married to Kyle Kruger and they have one child, Oliver our great grandson! Dave's (1982) two children are, Garrett who is married to Sonia. Daughter, Anna who is expecting a son the end of April, and will be our second great grandson. Kayla lives in Appleton so we don't see Oliver as often a we would like. Anna lives in Milton about eight miles away, so we expect to babysit every once in a while. Linda and I are both retired. Linda in 2008 from Bergamot Brass and I, from Sta-Rite (now Pentair) in 2013. We keep very busy on our five-acre farmette. We grow a lot of vegetables and pumpkins which we sell by the road. We don't make any money but the customers like it. I have an outdoor furnace so I cut a lot of wood in the fall, winter, and spring. I cut 6-8 cords or more each year. One of my teachers from DCS, I remember very well. I tried to call her Aunt Char in class and was told very quickly that at school, I was to call her "Mrs. Los" (referring to Charlene (Kuik) Los). I never did forget that one. It has been a tough year 2020-2021. We lost some very good friends and relatives and we couldn't go to any

visitations as they were closed. With God's blessings the rest of 2021 will be better. Thank you Theresa Hiemstra for putting this newsletter together.

HIEMSTRA, DONALD (1961), I graduated from DDHS in 1965. In 1966, I was drafted into the U.S. Army serving two years in the infantry, including one year tour in Vietnam. After discharge, I was employed at Sta-Rite (Pentair) for 44 years, and retired in 2012. In October of 1969 I married Theresa Nieuwenhuis (1965). We were blessed with four children; Terri Hackett (1985), Donnie (1992), Jeff (1993) and Amy Martin (1996). We are also blessed with six grandchildren; Nathan Hackett (2020), Sophia, Elijah, Kianna (2018), Ethan (2020) and Lance. I enjoy gardening, fishing, golf, and morning coffee group at the local restaurant. I was a firefighter for the City of Delavan Fire Dept. for 50 years. I have stayed busy helping my sons with custodial duties at DCS for several years, odd jobs that come along the way, and helping others when needed. Blessings to all!

LOGTERMAN, DOLORES (1961), Hello Fellow Alumni, I'm not sure where I last updated on my life so please excuse the old news if there is any. After 37 years of teaching mainly Spanish but including Grades 3 and 4, Art, Music, and French in Christian schools including Delavan Christian, Denver Christian, and Valley Christian Cerritos, CA and including a stint as International Director of Semester in Spain for Trinity Christian College in Seville, Spain, I retired in 2005 and moved to the city of Logan in beautiful Cache Valley, Utah. (Go USU Aggies!) While visiting our Logan Farmers Market, I was introduced to a woman who was director of an education research and evaluation group. When she found out I was a retired educator, she hired me to work on some of her evaluation teams that were assessing reading programs for

Bureau of Indian Education schools across the nation. We traveled to reservations across the U.S. from Maine to Washington and from the northern tier of states to southern Arizona and New Mexico. That was particularly enjoyable and rewarding work given the improvement in reading program results thanks to our efforts not to mention the wonderful people I met and the parts of the country I would never have seen on my own. In the midst of my testing team runs. I received a call from Rehoboth Christian Schools to serve as a sub for their Spanish teacher while she took maternity leave. I love New Mexico, and I knew some of the people on staff there so I packed up and moved there for two months. I loved the school and the students and enjoyed talking modern education theory with the administrator there. I mention that because a few months after my return to Logan and my assessment trips, I received a phone call from Rehoboth inviting me to apply for their school administrator position at the Rehoboth High school. After my very positive experience as a sub there, I thought that was a calling from God to serve in a place I already loved and had the skills to make a difference. During my over four years there, I managed to create a plant science and gardening program that not only offered learning about plants, but also brought fresh salads to the school's cafeteria menu. Is there anything more fun than eating the food you raised? I retired from that work in 2011 and moved back to my home in Logan. I got back into working with the assessment group almost immediately but working with a team that assessed student progress in Head Start programs throughout a Utah county about an hour's drive from my home. We only went out twice a year in the fall to create a baseline of where the children started and then in the spring to measure

the progress they made. I must say that working with four-year olds was quite an interesting experience for someone who had spent most of her career working with teenagers. Oh the stories I could tell. COVID put an end to that work for now so I am truly retired, unless some other fun work comes my way. Self-isolating during this past year has been a breeze for me. As basically an introvert and thanks to all my interests, I have not missed life outside my four walls. I've played my piano a whole lot, done a few watercolors and drawings, knitted myself four sweaters, made a whole lot of original greeting cards including 80 Christmas cards, reading, enjoying Netflix, and keeping in touch on Facebook with friends and family all over our country and from places beyond our borders where I've spent time. So, to close, I thank Delavan Christian for the launch they provided me into the world of Christian Education. If you'd like to contact me, you can find me on Facebook under Dolores Dee Logterman, More people know me as Dee than Dolores hence that name. God bless you all. Thank you, Theresa, for all your work to keep this newsletter going.

GUNNINK, PHYLIS (STERKEN) (1961), Hello to my classmates and alumni of DCS. I don't get to see very many of you, so this is a nice way of keeping in touch. Thank you to Theresa Hiemstra, Larry and I married in 1967. We have three sons; Mike (1982), Dennis (1984), and Loren (1995), and seven grandchildren Mike and his wife, Alison live in Whitewater, WI, along with Reid and Katie. Reid graduates from Whitewater H. S. this year as a valedictorian. Katie also attends Whitewater H.S., Dennis and Sadie live in Rice Lake, WI. with our youngest grandson, Gabriel. Their older sons, Noah and Matthew, are nearly finished with schooling. Noah as a diesel mechanic and Matthew as a pilot, Loren and Wisteria live

in Stoughton, WI with their two daughters; Brianna and Amelia, who are enjoying the schools and friends there. Larry and I both retired in 2007 and have been enjoying retired life since then. We had enjoyed our winters since retiring in Fl. and then AL. but decided to stay in WI this year. This March we made a big decision to move from Whitewater. WI to Rice Lake, WI. In visits with Dennis and Sadie in Rice Lake, we fell in love with the lake and the pontoon boat and the fishing. So we decided to give it a try. It was a difficult decision to leave everything familiar behind along with our good friends and neighbors. But we found a place on the lake here and have already been blessed with Christian neighbors who are becoming friends. We are so grateful to God for good health and guidance. We thank Him for giving us such a wonderful family and for bringing good Christian people into our lives. We wish health and happiness to all the Alumni.

BROMELAND, DIANA (VANDER VEEN) (1961), I attended DDHS for three years, and because our family moved to the Elkhorn school district, I graduated from Elkhorn High School in 1965. This is when I met Michael Bromeland, (he was the boy next door). We were married in 1968 and after moving around a bit for the first few years, we settled down in Walworth, Wisconsin. We have lived in Walworth since 1971, and in our current home at 219 Knoll Road since 1984. We both had meaningful careers; Mike was a Police Officer for the village of Walworth for 31 years. For the last ten years, he was the Chief of Police. Since retirement, he has kept himself busy in the summer months as manager of the weed harvesting program for Lauderdale Lake District in Elkhorn. I worked as an accountant in Delayan for Randall Jenkins, then in Walworth for Dalco Metals, and from 1984 until I retired

in 2009 from USG Interiors in Walworth. I now keep myself occupied with gardening, baking, (thousands of cookies at Christmas to send to the kids), and guilting with our church group Lydia's Helpers. We were blessed with four beautiful children, and ten grandchildren. Our daughter, Michelle, lives with her husband Chris in Cincinnati, Ohio. They have two daughters, the oldest, Cassandra got her degree in nursing last spring and is currently working at Children's Hospital in Cincinnati. She is engaged to be married to Jake in October of 2022. Her youngest, Alexandra, is attending the University of Ohio studying International Business. Our second daughter, Sue, lives in Fontana, Wisconsin with her husband Justin. They have three children. Josie is a Sophomore at Big Foot High School. Scout is in eighth grade at Fontana Elementary. Vivian is in third grade at Fontana Elementary. Our third daughter, Lisa, lives in Tucson, Arizona. She has two daughters, Anna, who has been working for three years as a Community Service Officer with the Tucson Police Department. In January, she enrolled in the Police Academy and will become a certified police officer when she completes her training this fall. Lisa's daughter, Danielle, is attending Pima Community College studying business. Our son, David and his wife, Angie, live in Rosemount, Minnesota. They have three children. Quinn, who is in sixth grade; Adelia, who is in fourth grade, and Caleb, who is in second grade. David and Angie have had a rough year. Angie was diagnosed with breast cancer last fall. She has just now completed a course of chemotherapy and will begin radiation therapy shortly. The prognosis is good, but she could always use more prayers. She has a wonderful support group she calls her "Prayer Warriors" that is helping

her deal with this difficult situation, which is all the worse because of COVID. We, and so many others who want to help them out, have to keep our distance. Hopefully this will all be over soon and we can do "real hugs" again. Blessings to all!

HAAK, GORDON (1962) I want to say Hi to my fellow DCS alumni. My wife, Nancy, and I both retired and reside in the Elkhorn area. We have three daughters, one in Elkhorn, one in Minneapolis, and one in San Antonio. After 93 good years, my mother, Etheleen Haak, quietly passed away April 2020. We look forward to returning to a somewhat more normal life with camping and traveling in the near future. haakgall@gmail.com

LOS, RONALD (1962) - Guess its my turn to be included in the wonderful DCS Alumni Newsletter. I've now been retired from Pentair for 10 years. My last back surgery was in September of 2017. I am very stiff in the morning, but if I just keep moving the chronic pain subsides a bit.

Julie and I will be married 33 years this May and our youngest daughter, Jenna (2011) is getting married on the day of our Wedding Anniversary. On May 22, 2021, Lording willing, Jenna and Wes Wille will be married in Waupun at Julie's home church Bethel CRC. The reception is to follow at the Green Lake Conference Center exactly where we had ours.

Jenna is a RN and works at ThedaClark in Neenah in the neuro department. Her and Wes have purchased a home nearby so her commute is only 10 minutes. Jenna and Wes met online. He is a believer and very involved in his church. He runs all the tech stuff. Jenna has enjoyed getting involved in the church as their emphasis is outreach. Jenna graduated last year from George Williams College with a nursing degree virtually like many others.

She sat for state boards in June and passed with flying colors. She loves working the neuro department being that she dealt with epilepsy when she was younger. Wes is a foreman at the Menasha Recycling Center.

Jillian (Los) (2003 and Tom Cannon will be married seven years this year. After their wedding they purchased a home that was a fixer upper and that's exactly what they've been doing for the past seven years. Jillian and Tom both work at Allied Plastics in Twin Lakes, WI. Even with COVID their business is growing. They both work in sales and just moved into a new office building that was recently built.

Julie and I were very spoiled by Jenna. In April of 2018, Jenna drove us to see The Ark and the Bible Museum. We then headed east to visit a couple national parks in the Blue Ridge Mountains. So so enjoyable and so so beautiful. In December of that year, we also visited the Budweizer Museum in St. Louis (Julie just loves horses), onto Nashville to the Grand Old Opry Christmas Show and then on to Georgia to visit my niece and her family. We were blessed with good weather and dry roads.

In March of 2019, we flew to Mesa, AZ to visit Julie's aunt and uncle for a week. While we were there, we headed up the Grand Canyon for a couple days. Just magnificent! In May, we drove out to West Virginia to visit Shenandoah National Park.

I do love traveling, but it can be hard on my legs and back as we had to stop often to stretch. We did borrow an RV from a friend and spent a week at Kohler Andre Sate Park right along lake Michigan. Awesome sunrises and a great place to hike.

I still love landscaping, gardening, and lots of flowers. I also like to help people out by driving them to doctor appointments. This past July, I took a part time job a Mercy Walworth

Hospital as a valet. I really do enjoy it. I work 30 hours a week. It's fun welcoming many people to the hospital each day and really enjoy the tips I receive when I park their cars. Thank you to Theresa for putting this Alumni Newsletter together for the past 31 years. Reading the updates sure makes me realize how God is using each and everyone of us to spread His word and shine His light. I am so grateful for the many blessings God has bestowed upon me and my family. One being able to attend DCS. Looking forward to reading the updates from my classmates. Blessings, Phone: 262-728-8169, email: rjjjlos@charter.net.

HAAK, BILL (1963) - Thank you for your contact over the years. I am still doing what I did when I moved to western Wisconsin 45 years ago. I do odd jobs, repair work, and also have a "sport" farm. For some reason I enjoy putting up hay and raising started calves to heavy feeders. I am still in relative good health in spite of my inherited traits. I am not in pain, and I am very thankful for that.

NELSON, WILMA (KAMPHUIS) (1963),

When Theresa asked for an update, I was amazed to find it was time again. My husband Ken and I still live in the Rockford area. We will celebrate our 15th anniversary in May. I have been retired since 2013 after 40 years at Spectrum Health in Grand Rapids, I still administer Influenza injections every fall for about nine weeks. This lets me continue to use my nursing skills. COVID vaccine administration may also be in my future. We sold our house last year and downsized to a smaller home in a 55-plus community. We spend 7-8 months in Michigan and 4-5 months in a similar community in Haines City, Florida. We are grateful to be able to do this as we are both very affected by seasonal change. Staying in warmer weather helps us to keep walking. I enjoy reading, playing

games and jigsaw puzzles in addition to outdoor activities. Ken's daughter and grandchildren live about 20 miles from us, so we see them regularly in the summer. My daughter, Wendy (a surgical technologist) lives in Houston with her two adopted sons. We have not seen her in two years and can't wait for COVID to be under control so we can travel to see her and the boys. Our son, Eric, and his wife live in Athens, GA (he is Director of the School of Public Administration at U of GA) with their two young sons (four and nine). These little guys are the joy of my life. They visit Michigan in the summer and we stop there on our way to Florida. We are so grateful for Facetime. I am constantly amazed at how many Delavan Alumni have transplanted to Grand Rapids; almost enough to have a reunion on this side of the lake! I am always thankful for the years I attended DCS. They were a firm foundation for my life. Through the many ups and downs of the years, God has been faithful. Greetings and blessings to my remaining classmates out there. Wilma Kamphuis-Nelson.

SUWYN, DOUG (1963), Wow, it's been nearly 58 years since I graduated from DCS. I have been truly blessed. I have been married to my sweetheart Kathy for 52 years. We have been blessed with nine children and 19 grandchildren and eight great grandchildren. Grandchildren are the best, you can spoil them rotten and send them home with their parents! We get together once a month for a Sunday dinner and will usually have 30 plus in attendance which make quite a group to serve, but it is a blessing. I retired (actually I call it refocused) as a District Manager from Syngenta on March 31, 2016 after more than 18 years. It was a dream job. Kathy and I took many trips with the company, and we made many friends from around the country. I then went back to farming

working with my brothers and also repairing equipment for my son who owns a concrete construction company. We sold our house to our granddaughter, and we have moved into a condo which frees us up from yard work and allows us to travel a bit more. We are members of Trinity United Reformed Church in Caledonia, and I serve on various committees there. Blessings to all!

VEGTER, DALE (1963)

Since graduating from DCS and DDHS. I have lived in Delavan with the exception of four years in the service. I started working at Sta-Rite when I was a junior in high school. I was going to get drafted, but instead, I enlisted in the Air Force in 1968. I was assigned to the Minuteman II missile mechanic field. I ended up being stationed in Grand Forks, North Dakota. I spent four years doing that but came back home and went back to Sta-Rite for work. I was a machinist for 18 years and a second shift manager for 23. I met my wife in Grand Forks, and we got married a month after I was discharged. We had no children, and she passed in 2003. I called it a career in 2009 after 41 years and couldn't be happier. Getting paid not to go to work is just the best. My time now is spent woodworking, working on my house, and travel when I can. God bless!

PERSON, KAY (LOGTERMAN) (1964),

Hello fellow DCS grads! We are and always have been in Walworth County as a married couple of 50 years. Last year we had no celebration due to COVID. We had planned on going to Alaska with Joanne (Iverson) (1965) and her husband, Steve Lockwood, and all was put aside. We are still involved with DCS and the Delavan CRC. Our children and grandchildren have and one is still attending DCS. What a blessing! We have four grandchildren and one foster granddaughter. Mikaya Person (2014)

attends Baylor (yea Bears), our oldest grandchild and daughter to Shawna (1988). Our son, Chad (1991) and Alison's two oldest; Maggie (2018), Quinton (2019) are at DDHS and Miles is at DCS. Foster granddaughter is at Elkhorn's Jackson elementary. Gary and I are both retired. I have one brother left of four. Miss them all, Ben (1953), Glen (1957) and Ron (1959). We keep you all in our prayers.

NIETFELDT, DOROTHY (KEYZER)

(1961) Hello everyone, I am still living in the Delavan area. I retired in 2014 after working for 37 years at Stuart Tank Sales in Elkhorn as the Office Manager/Accountant. My husband, Dietrich passed away in 1990 and my son Dietrich (Dickie) passed away in September 2020. I have two other children, Steve Forsythe (1981) and Dionne (Nietfeldt) Brown. I have been blessed with seven grandchildren and two great grandchildren. All of whom I am very proud of. I enjoy putting puzzles together in the winter and the rest of the year I enjoy working outside with my flowers and in my garden. I also have a friend who is a farmer and I help him in the fields. I've traded my calculator for a fourwheel drive tractor. Just another way to enjoy the great outdoors. I enjoy reading the newsletter and the updates from others.

KEYZER, BRUCE (1964) - Hello DCS Alumni: Kris and Bruce are still living in NW Wisconsin near Spooner in our small cabin that is just right for the two of us. We do have room for a few visitors at a time and our two children and their families when and if the pandemic gets figured out. Kris and I are fortunate to be in good health and continue to enjoy outdoor activities in every season. Kris has officially retired as a seamstress but continues sewing and knitting projects for friends and family. We are both active in a local chapter of Citizens' Climate Lobby/Education. We advocate for

climate action at all levels. I am also getting more involved advocating for good stewardship of our lakes and rivers as a member of Washburn County Lakes and Rivers Association. These activities require quire a bit of Zoom"ing. I still like woodworking and various types of projects.

We have also been able to keep in contact with family and friends via Zoom as well. Our daughter, Tory lives in Milwaukee with her husband and two sons. Our son, Karl lives in Minneapolis with his wife, Sarah, and their first child, a girl born in late February.

We miss seeing our family greatly but are thankful for their good health and employment.

Thank you to Theresa Hiemstra for making the newsletter happen. I wish you all good health and continue to enjoy reading all your updates.

VEGTER, JOHN (1964)

Residence: Primary - Apple Valley, MN. (Minneapolis, MN. suburb). Weekend get-a-way – Lake Pepin, Pepin, WI.

Contact: jwvegter@gmail.com 952-239-0984

Education: Attended DDHS graduated 1968 Attended University of Wisconsin – Madison

- Graduated 1973 Bachelor of Science Agriculture Engineering Attended University of Minnesota – Carlson School of Management
- Graduated 1986 Master of Business Administration

Family: Married Candace Hill from Green Bay, WI. - 1973

- Graduated UW Madison
 1973 Bachelor of Science
 Communicative Disorders
- Graduated U of Iowa 1975 Masters Speech & Language Pathology

Three Children:

Alyssa - Born 1978, Married to David Moir, Lives in Seattle, Washington

- Graduated UW Madison 2000 – BA International Relations/African Studies
- Graduated U of Washington Law School – 2006
- Partner at K&L Gates Law firm specializing in Environmental Law
- Two children William Born 2010, Zachary Born 2014

Micah – Born 1981, Lives in Denver, CO.

- Graduated UW Madison 2003 BA Business – Accounting & Finance
- Principle & Owner –
 Digits Financial Services

Amanda – Born 1985, Lives in Ft. Collins, CO.

- Graduated UW Madison
 2008 Bachelor of Science
 Natural Resources
- Graduated 2013 James Cook University – Master of Science – Marine Biology
- 2021 3rd year School of Veterinary Medicine – Colorado State

Mv Work Life:

1973 > 1976 — Cargill, Inc. Processing and Refining Division

- Cedar Rapids, Iowa Soybean Processing Plant – Plant Engineer
- Mpls. MN. Research Lab Textured Vegetable Protein process development

1976 > 1983 — Conkey & Associates, Inc. Consulting Engineers

- Project Manager Managed design projects including grain and food processing plants, flour mills, corn and soybean oil extraction plants
- Vice President Responsible for staffing & directing engineering staff

1983 > 2012 — SUPERVALU, Inc. — Minneapolis, MN. — Wholesale food supply company with 30 Food Distribution Centers throughout the US

- 1983 1987 Project Manager Planmark Arch./Eng. Design Group
- 1987 1989 Senior Industrial Engineer – Corporate Distribution Dept
- 1989 1992 Manager Facility Planning – Corporate Distribution Dept
- 1992 1995 General Director Corporate Distribution Dept
- 1995 2002 Vice President Northern Marketing Region
- 2002 2012 Senior Director Corp. Supply Chain Engineering Services

2013 > 2014 — Tamimi Markets Co. LTD — Al-Khobar, Saudi Arabia

Director Food Distribution
 Center Logistics – Responsible
 for grocery operations and
 transportation for three food
 DCs located in the Kingdom

2014 > 2019 — Established Consulting LLC providing Industrial Engineering services in the areas of Food Distribution Center design and operations

2019 > Present — Continue with LLC work but mostly RETIRED!

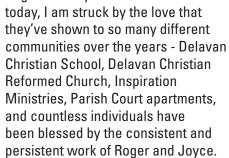
My Non-Work Life:

 Travel – My wife and I love to travel both throughout the US and internationally. Destinations have included US National Parks, East and West shorelines and sailing excursions in the Bahamas. International travel include sailing in the Mediterranean, trips to Australia, New Zealand, Italy, Spain, Portugal, Morocco, Bali, Dubai, Bahrain, UAE, Ireland, Norway, Denmark, Mexico, Holland, Germany, Columbia, Cuba, Kenya, Zimbabwe,

- South Africa. Planning to continue travel as long as we are able.
- Spending time in Colorado hiking and skiing and exploring the Pacific shorelines in Seattle with our kids and grandkids.
- Exploring the Boundary Waters Canoe Wilderness Area in northern Minnesota
- Activities including: biking, hiking, winter snow shoeing, cross country and downhill skiing, summer boating on Lake Pepin
- Around the house: gardening, landscaping, flower beds, building a tree house, time around the fire pit, feeding and watching the birds, squirrels, wild turkeys and deer visits to our backyard and of course various household repair and redo projects
- Life has been good.
 I am very thankful!

TRIBUTE GIVEN AT ROGER AND JOYCE KOK MEMORIAL SERVICE BY GRACE (VAN DYKEN) (1973) HIRTE

As we remember Roger and Joyce



Some of my best memories of Mr. Kok were from my 7th and 8th grade years at Delavan Christian when Mr. Kok was my teacher and principal. He was passionate about science, and we had a new science lab. We made batteries from zinc, manganese, potassium and paper, and they actually worked! We had

weekly Bible tests on the 12 tribes of Israel, the plagues, the kings of Israel and Judah after the split, and essay questions on the feasts of the Israelites - Mr. Kok loved teaching Bible. When we gathered around his desk in the morning with suggestions of things we could do that day, he would smile, shake his head and say "you girls." But, when Barb De Weerd suggested we write to Billy Graham and ask him to be the speaker at our graduation, Mr. Kok did not laugh out loud. We wrote to Billy Graham and received a response that his schedule didn't allow him to come to our graduation.

While Mr. Kok was teaching combined classes and overseeing the school, Mrs. Kok was answering the school's telephone at the teacherage with three little boys underfoot. Theresa Hiemstra recalls that when a student got sick at school, Mrs. Kok took them in until the parents could come and pick up their child. As a team, Roger and Joyce carried on the mission of Delavan Christian School and blessed many families in training up children in the way of the Lord.

I felt a kinship with Joyce when she joined Cheryl Streeter at Inspiration Ministries in running the Christian Bookstore. I had managed a Christian bookstore in Fond du Lac and loved talking with Joyce and Cheryl about bookstore stuff. When Joyce later ran the re-sale shop, Nancy Jongetjes and Laurie Gaspar loved to help sort the many treasures there. Joyce's kind and gentle personality made her a joy to work with, whether you were an IM resident or a volunteer from the community.

Both Roger and Joyce gave many years of service to Delavan Christian Reformed Church when they served as custodians. They faithfully cleaned and maintained the building and made endless trips to unlock and lock the doors! They worked hard to have the



church looking nice for our weddings. They were very good at finding things we all lost at church from time to time. During my years as principal at DCS, I often had an opportunity to visit with them as I "cut through the church" to get to school or to the parking lot. They always asked after family and past DCS students, and they prayed for our son, Ben, during his deployments to Afghanistan.

Roger and Joyce, along with their son Jonathan, also cared for the community at Parish Court apartments. More than just caring for the grounds and the buildings, they cared about the people who lived there. My mom could call Joyce when the faucet was leaking at her apartment, and Joyce said she would let "Rog" know about it. Roger or Jonathan would be right over to take care of it.

And, more than just people from church, schoo, and Inspiration Ministries, Roger and Joyce cared for the people God brought in their path, particularly the poor, the widow, the fatherless, and the foreigner. They were God's servants, and had compassionate hearts. Laurie Gaspar recalled how Roger and Joyce encouraged her in the Good News Club ministry reminding her how important it was for the children and praying and baking treats for the kids at Good News Club. They were intentional in meeting the physical needs of those in need, and also sharing the Good News of the Gospel with those in their circle of influence.

We have lost a very dear couple from our church family and community. We're grateful for the blessing that Roger and Joyce have been to all of us. We believe that they were greeted by the Lord with, "Well done, good and faithful servants! Come and share your master's happiness!"

Everyone who attended Roger and Joyce Kok's funeral heard a Man of God who ran his race to the finish line. When Bill, Dan and Jonathan Kok shared a recording of their dad, we all heard Roger recite Psalm 23 with quiet conviction, within hours of his passing into glory. It was powerful.

"I love the Lord, for He has heard my voice, He heard my cry for mercy. Because He has inclined His ear to me, I will call on Him as long as I live." Psalm 116:1,2

FAITHFUL SERVANTS BY LUKE TAYLOR

This past week the DCS family lost two servants of the Lord. Roger and Joyce Kok both went home to heaven this past week. While we mourn their loss, we also rejoice in the fact that they loved Jesus and trusted in his unfailing love. The things of this world that ailed them are gone. They are currently engulfed in the perfection of heaven.

Mr. Kok served as principal at DCS from the fall of 1967 to the spring of 1995. In his 28 years of service, there were 284 students that graduated from DCS. The number of students and parents that he impacted is immeasurable.

Following his years of service to DCS, Mr. Kok continued to display his servant heart by working as the custodian at Delavan CRC; faithfully serving his Lord in a new chapter of life. My family moved to Delavan in 2004, so I never knew him as the school principal. Our paths would cross often and he was always curious how things were going over at the school. Their love for DCS and Christian education endured throughout the remainder of both of their lives.

Join me in praying for peace for the Kok family. Losing both Roger and Joyce so close to each other will be a burden that will be heavy to bear alone. "He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning, nor crying, nor pain anymore, for the former things have passed away."

Revelation 21:4

ALUMNI FAMILY NEWS

JOYCE KOK -80TH BIRTHDAY

We celebrated mom's 80th Birthday on 8/30/20 at our parents home. It was a beautiful day to spend



with our precious mother. She celebrated with her husband, Roger, children; Bill (1978) Cheryl, Dan (1981) and Jenny, Jon (1982) and five grandchildren. She was very appreciative of all the cards and words of comfort and encouragement she received. Congratulations!

MARION BRENTON CELEBRATES 90TH BIRTHDAY

Marion celebrated her 90th Birthday on December 11, 2020. Due to COVID, her celebration



with family was postponed until May 16, 2021. Congratulations!

RUTH DECKER CELEBRATES 95TH BIRTHDAY

Ruth Decker celebrated her 95th Birthday on July 4, 2020. Some



of her children; Bob (1961) and Ann, Decker, Dennis (1965) and Candy Decker were able to celebrate with her in Punta Gorda, FL where she resides. Congratulations!

WAYNE AND JUDITH ROLFS FAMILY



Bottom row: Pam (1979), Tamara (1977),
Anna (David's daughter), Skylar (Pam's
granddaughter), Steven (Pam's son)
Middle Row: Jennifer (Pam's daughterin-law), Stephanie (Dan's wife), Judy,
Wayne, David, Katie (Pam's daughterholding her son, Brayden)
Back Row: DJ (Pam's son), Dan, John
(Pam's husband), Alex (Pam's son-in-law)
NOTE: Missing from the picture is David's
wife, Kathy (taking the picture), Tamara's
son, Jack, and David's son, Joshua

To our great delight and amazement, we are celebrating 59 years of marriage in June. In addition to our four children, Tamara (1977), Pam (1979), David, and Dan we have seven grandchildren and three greats and delight in our times with them. They all love the Lord and serve Him in various ministries.

God has graciously allowed us to continue ministering to children and families through the written and spoken word. Judith has twenty-six books, fiction and non-fiction, mystery novels with a Christian theme, and how-to books to help families deal with tough stuff like cancer in Love Always, Mom, the miracle story of their eighteen-year old David's healing which has encouraged many. Through Judith Rolfs YouTube Channel she gives personal and marriage advice thru free video presentations on family issues. One video called Ten Ways To Show Respect for Your Husband has had 1800 viewers these past six months - timely probably with all the stress families have experienced this year.

She weaves Christian principles from her decades as a Christian counselor into all her writing and speaking.

Her newest book in the Adventures of Tommy Smurlee and Grella Weller Series was just released, Mystery of the Silver Shells. "We pray it blesses children ages eight and up - adults read them too to our delight." My two most popular books this year are Jesus Time, Love Notes of Wonder and Worship and Man in Command, 52 Ways to be A Great Husband and Dad. Focusing on Jesus is of utmost importance for each of us to get through this difficult time in our world.

Wayne began writing also about five years ago. His books are based on his daily inspirational messages to our children, family, and many friends. The titles are Words for Today, Thoughts for Tomorrow Volume 1 and 2. All our books are available on Amazon and at local stores like Angelus Gift Shop in Walworth, WI. You can sign up thru their E-mail to receive a monthly blog and writing updates - Thoughts on Fun, Faith and Family. jwrolfs@gmail.com

We so enjoyed our connection with the wonderful families at the Delavan Christian School and appreciate the years our children spent there. We pray God's richest blessings on you all. "To God be the glory for all He has done."

FEDDEMA FAMILY



Left to Right: Rick (1979), Amy Feddema, Grace Feddema, Pam (1977) Henry (1975) Reyenga, Edie (1972), and Mark Tennant

A year of COVID brought this family from different parts of the country to see their Mom, Grace, all together. Very happy that they could spend this time together.

FORMER TEACHER NEWS

NORMA (VERDUIN)
DEJONG— It was many
years ago that my
parents, John and Dora
Verduin moved from
South Dakota to Delavan.
Those were memorable
years, however, for



me the best years were the years I taught at Delavan Christian School. I so enjoyed those three years. My students were so good at listening, working, and having fun. It was unique to have part of my class as relatives even nephews. Another good memory is when they put on the annual Christmas program where each child had a part and did it well. Another special memory is when after a big snowfall, we would bring our sleds to school. Teachers and student slid down the hill across from school. The recess bell was delayed a bit longer so the kids could remove their boots and the teachers could restyle their torn nylons. When my husband, Howard DeJong, finished his required years in the navy, required because he had been deferred for college, we moved to Racine, WI where he taught at Racine Christian. During that time we had our first child, and I taught at Kenosha and Racine Christian Schools. We spent our last 58 years in Michigan where Howard taught Bible for 40 years. I taught off and on for 10 years and many days as a substitute teacher. I ended my working years as an office manager in a doctor's office. Upon retirement we spent many days traveling. We took six-week trip out West and five-week trip out East. Sharing these trips with our best friends was great. We spent part of each day hiking, enjoying the scenery, and fixing our meals. God has been very good to me. I am blessed with four married children, 14 grandkids and two great grandchildren. I now await the arrival of two more great grands. One is being born in Lithuania

(where the parents are missionaries) so I may need to wait awhile to see him/her. Howard passed away on July 4, 2020 after a battle with lung and brain cancer. We both loved the Lord and await the day when we shall see each other and our Blessed Savior! P.S. Mrs. DeJong – my not most memorable memory is having a nervous stomach and my parents taking me home at your wedding reception as our 1st and 2nd grade class was singing as part of the program, and I blew it! But we all loved you dearly as a teacher. Who would have thought that one! Theresa (Nieuwenhuis) (1965) Hiemstra.

TESTIMONIALS

WHAT CHRISTIAN EDUCATION HAS MEANT TO ME IN MY LIFE... BY DIANA (VANDER VEEN) (1961) BROMELAND

I wanted to share with those of you reading this some recent insights into the value of my Christian education. I was raised in a God fearing Church attending family and because the church started a school, that was where I learned the three "R's", reading, 'riting and 'rithmetic. As soon as I entered high school, I realized that our grammar school had quite high standards; anyone who learned to read the King James version of the Bible could read and comprehend anything! Even though I considered myself a mediocre student, I was able to skip the first-year math courses and study hall, and take extra electives in high school, which in the end did me no good because I changed schools, and they didn't do early graduation even though I had enough credits to graduate at the beginning of my Senior year. Anyway, besides the ability to read well, ethics, and honesty contributed to a successful career, and I believe these attributes came from being raised and educated in a Christian

environment. Another personal success that I attribute to my "Dutch" upbringing has been the ability to understand people speaking in broken English. In the work place, I was frequently called upon to "translate" for an employee or customer with a strong accent, German, Hispanic, Vietnamese, Japanese, and even the occasional Dutchman. I believe listening to Grandpa Keyzer and his peers all those years made it much easier for me to understand and relate to people trying to make themselves understood. So, add empathy to the list. The biggest asset from my childhood has come from a combination of a Bible reading Father and a Christian education. That asset is Bible knowledge. My Dad read a portion of the Bible at every meal, every day so I know what's in the Bible. In school, we studied Bible maps, the trek of the Israelites thru the desert, and the routes of the apostles so I know Bible history. We studied and made models of the tabernacle and the temple. I have been amazed at how many people, even those raised attending Church and Sunday School have no idea about the Bible except for a few of the "stories". So, thank you to those inspired to teach and those who support Christian education. After my Dad died in 1989, we transferred our church membership to Immanuel UCC in Walworth. I joined the Adult Bible study class. The leader of the class moved out of state shortly thereafter, and the class asked me to be their leader because of my "vast knowledge of the Bible". It was then so many years after the fact, that I realized what a wonderful gift Christian Education had been. I continued teaching the class for many years. I also taught confirmation classes for a while. But the best was yet to come. I got a phone call on a Saturday night that the pastor had suddenly been taken ill, they

couldn't find a replacement on short notice and would I lead the worship service on Sunday morning. The board member that called me was in my Sunday School class, and he had confidence in me. After several hours of pure panic, I tweaked my Sunday School lesson for that morning into a sermon and led the service. It was amazing! Once I got up there and started talking, all of my nervousness was gone. I spoke with another pastor about it; he said that I wasn't nervous because I was passionate about what I was sharing. I believe he was right; I am quite passionate about my faith, and it is an amazing experience to share it from a pulpit! After I retired from USG in 2009, I attended the UCC Lay Academy for the 2011 and 2012 sessions. I am now a certified Lay Minister. I fill in and lead the service whenever necessary. In 2019, our minister became ill with cancer, so I filled in a lot for him; I even conducted a couple of funerals. We have just now hired a new pastor so I won't be needed for a while, but the board of Deacons (I'm also a Deacon by the way) has asked me to fill in if he needs a Sunday off. So here it is 60 years later, and I'm just beginning to realize and appreciate the value of a good solid Christian education. Have you seen those T-shirts for babies that say "Be patient, God isn't finished with me yet"? I wonder if they make those in adult sizes... May the Peace of Christ be with you.

2022 CLASS WRITE IN:

FOR THOSE WHO GRADUATED FROM 1965, 1966, 1967, 2000, 2001, 2002, 2010, 2011, and 2012, we will be accepting class updates by March 1, 2022. We welcome anyone to write in at any time. We always look forward to hearing from you.

REMEMBERING MATTHEW J. BUNKER, DCS CLASS OF 2005



Matthew J. Bunker, age 28, went home to his Lord and Savior Jesus Christ on June 26, 2020 while climbing Mount Rainier, Washington. Matthew was born in Charleston, SC on August 2, 1991 to Joe and Carolyn Bunker. His family moved to Delavan, WI when he was five, just in time for Matthew to start Kindergarten at Delavan Christian School. Matthew attended DCS for nine years and made many strong Christian friendships there. While at DCS, he also developed a love for exploring the outdoors and began thinking about serving in the military. After graduating from DCS, Matthew attended Faith Christian High School where he continued his thirst for learning and earned an appointment to the United States Military Academy at West Point, NY.

During his childhood, Matthew loved the outdoors and honed his skills by navigating the woods near his home and the wilderness surrounding his family's remote cabin in Michigan's fell in love with digital photography when his family bought their first digital camera shortly before a camping trip to Yellowstone. He was soon spending endless hours taking and editing pictures for his high school yearbook and later

for the West Point newspaper and the Howitzer yearbook, as well as for friends. https://www. matthewbunkerphotography.com/

Matthew graduated from West Point in 2013 with a Bachelor's degree in Economics and was commissioned a Second Lieutenant in the U.S. Army. After completing the Basic Officer Leaders Course at Fort Benning, GA, Matthew was assigned to the 8-1 Cavalry at Joint Base Lewis-McChord, Washington as a Recon Scout. During his service, he served as a Platoon Leader, an assistant S3 operations officer, and finally as the Company Executive Officer for B/8-1 CAV. After five years active duty, Captain Bunker made the difficult decision to separate from the Army.

After leaving the military, Matthew took a gap year to travel the Pacific Northwest in his camper truck. Having lived in the PNW for the past four years, he had developed an intense love of climbing mountains, trail running, and backcountry skiing, all while taking pictures. He became a part-time mountaineering quide assisting groups to summit some of the Pacific Northwest's most iconic peaks. Never to leave a challenge behind, in 2019, Matthew ran the FatDog 120 race in British Columbia and completed the 120-mile race with 28,000 feet of elevation gain in the top 10% of runners.

About a year after leaving the Army, Matthew called his dad and spoke of how God had designed us for work. He felt called to return to the work force to better use his God given gifts. A few months later in November of 2019, Matthew was excited to be hired by Deloitte as a WorkDay Consultant. He remained based in Seattle, where he could continue to explore the mountains in the Pacific Northwest.

His friends have told us that Matthew served as an inspiration and epitomized what it meant to pour yourself into others. He was a deep thinker and had an extensive library for a young man. His family found his several Bibles to be well read. He was active in his local church, and regardless of who he was with, Matthew was known to often turn a conversation to Christian topics. A close West Point friend summarized his life by naming an award after Matthew that stated "Captain Matthew Bunker was an Army officer that pushed the limits of physical and mental endurance. He was an accomplished runner. skier, mountaineer, and leader. His passion didn't stop at summiting, skiing, or running around mountains, but continued on in helping others to realize their physical, mental, and spiritual greatness too."

As much as Matthew loved the backcountry, he loved the God who created it the most. As he stood on top of mountains and took pictures, Matthew was always in awe of God. With a deep faith in Jesus Christ as his Lord and Savior, Matthew invested in his church and community. Matthew also gave generously to Christian ministries, including Delavan Christian School, which helped mold him into a faithful steward and Christian man.

Matthew is dearly missed by his entire family, including his parents, Joe and Carolyn Bunker, and his sisters Callie (2008) and Catherine (2010), and her husband Ben Machen. We continue to trust in Christ and know that His purposes are always much larger than ours.

Matthew's body will remain interned in the Carbon Glacier. at the base of Liberty Ridge, Mount Rainier, Washington, but his soul will live forever with his Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

Upper Peninsula. At age 14, Matthew

ALUMNI COMMITTEE FISCAL REPORT

\$1,359.25

Financial Report 2/28/20 - 4/1/21

Receipts

\$2,735.00Alumni Fund - Open
\$380.00Alumni Fund Newsletters
\$100.00Alumni Fund Tuition Assistance
\$70.00Alumni Fund General Operations
\$1,170.00.....Parent/Friend
Drive - Open
\$260.00.....Parent/Friend Drive
- Newsletters
\$150.00Parent/Friend Drive General Operations
\$60.00US Bank Service

\$4,925.00 **Disbursements**

\$706.00. Swift Print
\$439.29 Delavan Postmaster
\$3,655.00 Delavan Christian
School
\$60.00 US Bank
Service Charge

Charge

\$4,860.29

Summary

\$1,359.25Balance as of 2-28-20 \$4,925.00Receipts \$6,284.25Total \$4,860.29Disbursements \$1,423.96Ending balance as of 4-1-21

Expense of May 2020 Newsletter

\$706.00Swift Print \$439.29Delavan Postmaster \$1.145.29Total Cost

31st Annual Alumni Fund Drive

\$2,735.00......Alumni Fund - Open
\$380.00.....Alumni Fund Newsletters
\$100.00.....Alumni Fund Tuition Assistance
\$70.00.....Alumni Fund General Operations
\$3,285.00.....FINAL

Parent/Friend Drive 2020-2021

\$1,170.00 Parent/Friend
Drive - Open

\$260.00 Parent/Friend Drive
- Newsletters

\$150.00 Parent/Friend Drive
- Newsletters

\$1,580.00 FINAL

Funds Available

\$1,423.96FINAL

As noted in last year's Alumni Newsletter, we exceeded the 24-page limit set as a guideline for the last few years in our new format. We ran an additional eight pages and so with printing and postage running an additional \$577.80 which was donated. This was additional to what is noted under the Expense May 2020 Alumni Newsletter. Normally at 24 pages we estimate about \$1,100.00. Our readership has grown immensely through the years. We want articles to keep coming in and so appreciate hearing from you. The extra cost will not stop us from expanding our size of the newsletter. But if you enjoy reading it and want to help out, that would be greatly appreciated. This is a small cost when shared by so many as it is sent all over the USA and other countries in order to keep in touch as well as promoting DCS. Your gifts are much appreciated for Delavan Christian School. Approximately 350 copies are sent out by US mail and the other 550 are hand delivered via DCS. DCRC, or car delivery in Walworth County. Through the years our list grew from Alumni to Alumni parents. former and current teachers, and friends connected to DCS. We are grateful for each one of you! There is a "Tie that binds us together."

DCS FALL AUCTION

Join us this fall on Nov 6, 2021 at the DCS Fall Auction. It is thanks to you and your donations that our children can continue to learn in Christ! Please call DCS at (262) 728-5667 or email info@delavanchristianschool.org for more information!

IMMEDIATE NEEDS FOR DCS

PRAYER

Prayerfully remembering DCS throughout the school year would be greatly appreciated.

SPREAD THE WORD ABOUT DCS

Sharing with others what DCS has meant for you and your family is very important.

SUPPORT FUNDRAISERS

Keep up-to-date www.DelavanChristianSchool.org www.Facebook/ delavanchristianschool www.Instagram/ delavanchristianschool

While we seriously attempt to proofread our draft of the newsletter before printing, please accept our apologies for any errors or missed articles that may have occurred.

SPREAD THE WORD ABOUT DCS

Sharing with other what DCS has meant for you and your family is very important.

KEEP UP-TO-DATE

www.delavanchristianschool.org www.Instagram/ delavanchristianschool Facebook.com/ delavanchristianschool We are most humbly grateful for the many gifts Delavan Christian School receives throughout the year. They are showered through people who pray and participate in many activities throughout the pages of this newsletter. Some are known and others are unknown, but our Heavenly Father sees and receives the glory.

BLESSINGS

Memorial gifts by families in honor of their loved ones to bless Delavan Christian School in which we humbly say thank you to these families.

- \$8,620.00 MATTHEW BUNKER (2005) MEMORIAL
- \$6,900.00 ROGER AND JOYCE KOK MEMORIAL
- \$10,315.00 FRANK LOS (1960) MEMORIAL
- \$30,915.00 to the DCS Endowment Fund MATTHEW BUNKER (2005) MEMORIAL

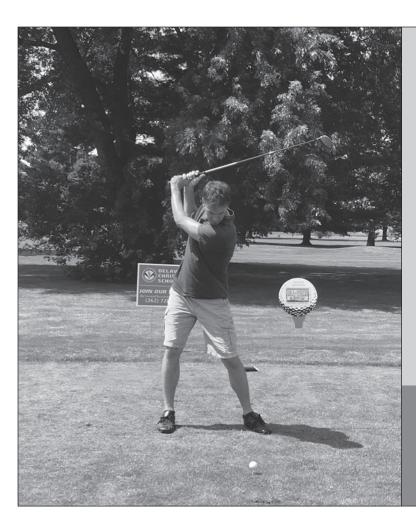
A very special thank you to **Matthew Olson of Signalfire** for his donation of service to the layout of the newsletter before going to press. This is enormous each year and grateful for his help in our 9th year of working together. Also to his staffer, **Jodi Heisz** in working with me on the layout. We are thankful for their willingness and expertise. We also thank **SWIFT PRINT** for printing our newsletters the last 31 years. It is wonderful working with your staff. Special thanks to my daughters; **Terri Hackett (1985)** and **Amy Martin (1996)** for being on call to assist me with the database in address and name changes and when I'm stuck with technology. I could not do it without their help to come to my rescue! Thanks to my husband **Don (1961)** for being flexible with my schedule and being the taxi driver to deliver our hand carry newsletters in Walworth County where possible. Thanks to everyone who submitted articles and pictures for this newsletter. It was greatly appreciated.

STAY IN TOUCH WITH YOUR DCS FAMILY!

TO EVERYONE: Please mail all information any time of the year, but no later than **March 1, 2022** to our email **woodenshoedt@charter.net** or mail to:

DCS Alumni Newsletter c/o Don Hiemstra 511 Herman Street, Delavan, WI 53115





ANNUAL DCS GOLF OUTING

JULY 31, 2021

Visit www.DelavanChristianSchool.org for updated information.

Delbrook Golf Course 700 South 2nd Street, Delavan, WI

For sponsorship or registration, please call Chris O'Niel at (262) 661-3169.



Delavan Christian School Alumni Association c/o Don Hiemstra, 511 Herman Street Delavan, WI 53115