



"E" is for the Eagle that recently soared into our preschool PE class.

## **You Make it Possible!**

From all of us at Valley Christian School, we want to extend a large **THANK YOU** to all our faithful supporters. As a donor of Valley Christian School, you have chosen to support what we do here. You understand and value the importance of providing children with a quality academic education infused with a Biblical worldview. You see, as a supporter, you really are serving as a necessary foundation for

this ministry.

We wish you could see first-hand the impact your donations have on the lives of our students; many of whom have come in as wide-eyed preschoolers and then before you know it, are seniors. Young adults who are equipped academically and spiritually to go out into the world as pillars of faith; to be the "salt and light" the world so desperately needs. If you were to look at VCS

alumni, you would see several are serving in local ministries, many are in world-wide mission fields, while others are employed in various occupations (doctors, business owners, engineers, and more).

As you support VCS, you are like a stone that is thrown into a lake creating ripples. You are investing in the lives of students today, equipping them to go out and impact our world for Jesus.





The stories shared by the young and young-at-heart are precious.



On November 20th, grandparents were specially invited to take part in the learning process at VCS.



Love is a vital part of the learning environment for all generations.

## Grandparents' Day 2012

✝ "But the plans of the LORD stand firm forever, the purposes of his heart through all generations."

Psalms 33:11



Who better to guide the generations than those who have tasted of God's faithfulness & love!

God's design of the generations is celebrated at our annual Grandparents Day.



Relationships like this enrich lives beyond what we can comprehend.

# Parent/Teacher Fellowship (a.k.a. PTF)



At VCS, parents, teachers and administrators worked together to form the PTF in 2006. Our goal is to come together to bless VCS through work projects, times of fellowship and occasions of affirmation.

In its lifetime, the PTF has raised several thousand dollars through its annual Candy Cane Christmas Craft Fair, the Butter Braids and chocolate sales, and

Spectators have an easier time using the bleachers with the handy stairs provided by the PTF. Pictured left: President Candace Wiley, Vice President Julie Dybdal, and Secretary Susan Keddy-Jones are a delight.

the Silent Auctions.

The funds raised have helped finance the replacement of the playground equipment, remodel of the Copy Shoppe into the Eyrie, replacement of the auditorium carpet, addition of stairs & handrails to the gymnasium bleachers, upgrading the sound system in the gym, and the recent purchase of rectangle and round tables. Future plans include remodeling of the high school restrooms.

VCS families make up the PTF. It is because of, and for, them that we continue to do what we feel the Lord has called us to: Bless VCS.

## Volleyball Discovers the Power of "TEAM" Work

By Kaylee Velin, #21

The Lady Eagles had a very exciting season. The girls worked hard all season and it showed in the games. The team's unity was some of the best we have had in a long time. Not only that, but the emotional maturity of the team was a strength as well.

When the team lost a game, we rallied together and moved past the loss which taught us greater teamwork. Each player held the others accountable for attitudes, win or lose, in order to continue playing our best game.

The Lady Eagles ended their season with a 9-5 conference record. The District tournament, hosted by VCS, proved we were a true competitor when we finished in 4th place after several very close matches!

Even though the team will be losing three seniors, next year's team will continue to improve and build upon the lessons learned this year.

Look for great things to come from our year of connected growth!



The 2012 District 9C Volleyball 4th Place Finishers!  
Thanks, Coach Gary Roberts,  
for a great year of personal and team success!

## High School Basketball Schedule

First of four game times listed. Both boys & girls teams play each time. Call the office for updates.

### December:

11th Tues. @ Phillipsburg 2:30  
15th Sat. @ Seeley 1:00  
18th Tues. @ Drummond 2:30  
21st Fri. Home w/Darby 12:00



### January:

4th Fri. Home w/Victor 2:30  
5th Sat. Home w/Lincoln 1:00  
10th Thurs. @ Alberton 2:30  
11th Fri. Home w/Two Eagle 2:30  
15th Tues. Home w/Phillipsburg 2:30  
18th Fri. Home w/Seeley 2:30  
22nd Tues. @ Darby 2:30  
25th Fri. Home w/Drummond 2:30  
31st Thurs. @ Victor 2:30

### February:

1st Fri. @ Lincoln 2:30  
5th Tues. @ Two Eagle 2:30  
7th Thurs. Home w/Alberton 2:30  
2/13-16 Districts @ Frenchtown  
2/20-23 Divisionals @ Hamilton  
2/28-3/2 GBB State @ Belgrade  
3/7-3/9 BBB State @ Bozeman



# You are invited to attend . . .

## December



**Band/Choir Concert**  
5<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> Grades  
Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> 7 PM



**Band/Choir Concert**  
High School  
Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> 7 PM



**Geography Bee**  
5<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> Grade  
Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> 2 PM



**Alumni Luncheon**  
Friday 21<sup>st</sup> Noon  
Basketball games that day, free admission for alumni! RSVP.

## January



**Science Fair**  
8<sup>th</sup> Grade  
Friday 18<sup>th</sup> 10-2 PM



**Spelling Bee**  
5<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> Grade  
Friday 25<sup>th</sup> 2:30 PM

## February



**Dessert Show**  
High School Band, Choir & Art Classes  
Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> 7 PM

## March



**Daniel, Darius, & DeLion Program**  
5<sup>th</sup> Grade  
Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> 7 PM



**Music Machine**  
1<sup>st</sup> Grade  
Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> 7 PM



**Americanism Program**  
Kindergarten  
Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> 7 PM

## April



**State Presentations**  
4<sup>th</sup> Grade  
Friday 12<sup>th</sup> 9 AM



**Band Concert**  
5<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> Grade  
Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> 7 PM



**Choir Concert**  
7<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade  
Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> 7 PM

## May



**Food Fair**  
3<sup>rd</sup> Grade  
Friday 17<sup>th</sup> 9-11 AM



**National Honor Society Induction Ceremony**  
Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> 7 PM



**Preschool Program**  
Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> 7 PM

# Shurley is not a New Student

By Karen Moore, 4th Grade Teacher

My goal for language arts was to train my students to write and speak clearly and cohesively. In 2005 I met a home-school family that used the Shurley English curriculum. I was amazed at the ease with which they rhythmically asked a set of specific questions to classify sentences. As I learned more about the Shurley Method, I saw that it also taught a very clear method for improving and editing writing.

When VCS added The Shurley Method to our basic elementary curriculum, it quickly proved to be a winner as our students' grammar, sentence structure, and later writing skills improved. Parents and visitors are amazed when they hear the question/answer flow and see the students label sentences. I see the difference as my students write paragraph responses for reading stories; then as they move on to 3-6 paragraph reports. Their paragraphs make sense as they focus

on one topic.

Their sentences are more colorful as they add more description with their words. The basics become rote as they check for capitalization and end marks. I am very pleased with the Shurley curriculum because it gives me tools to teach my students to communicate well in the world God has placed them.



# Diane Clawson Celebrates 31 years at VCS

By Diane Clawson, Longtime VCS Teacher

**Ecclesiastes 3:12,13** "I know there is nothing better for men than to be happy and do good while they live. That everyone may eat, drink, and find satisfaction in all his toil, this is the gift of God."

VCS has been God's special gift to me. I accepted the "job" to teach English and begin a German language program at VCS 31 years ago. In His infinite grace, God turned this "job" into a lifelong ministry, during which my faith and love for the Lord greatly matured. Under former Superintendent Earle Reimer's discipleship, I learned to love God's Word, study it, and apply it daily to my life. I gained an under-

standing of the terms "Christian worldview", "education for eternity" and what it means to be a Christian teacher. What a privilege to look forward to entering the classroom each day, confident that I was exactly where God wanted me to be. I still delight in the students and staff, who have become my closest friends, my brothers and sisters in Christ.

I have finally retired after 31 years, 13 Germany trips, and many classes later. God's timing and plans are perfect and

I look forward to what each new day holds.

Thank you, God, for calling me to VCS. Thank you VCS School Board, administration, staff, parents and students for allowing God to use you in my life. A special thank you to my husband, James, for supporting me in the ministry all these years. All of you have truly blessed me and, although I will miss our daily contact, I'll not be far away. Look for me wandering the hallways or room 6, cheering in the bleachers, hunting birds in the fields with Jim, or visiting our family on the West Coast. Gottes Segen. Auf Wiedersehen!

**"I accepted a teaching job, God gave me a ministry."**



Cultural experiences like getting lost in Germany build perspective of God's divine direction.



Rachel King & Diane Clawson have built a strong friendship that extends way beyond the classroom.



Ministering with puppets is one of the many ways to teach God's Word in Germany.

## Auf Wiedersehen Fraue : My Teacher, Mentor, Friend

By Rachel King, Alumnus

When I was fourteen years old I nervously walked through the door labeled "Ende gut alles gut," without a clue as to what that meant. I entered a room covered with a sea of posters, pictures and German themed paraphernalia. I was in that classroom to learn how to speak German.

I learned how to conjugate German verbs, the difference between Dativ and Akkusativ and the very essential lyrics

to "Ich wasche mich." At seventeen, I traveled with Frau Clawson as a member of the Germany 2002 team and was infected with what is commonly referred to as the "travel bug."

Frau Clawson taught me how to explore, to seek adventure. She taught me the power of grace. She encouraged me to pursue my passions. She challenged me when I felt insufficient. She taught me the importance of prayer. She taught me how to be mentored and how to be a mentor.

In the past ten years I have spent six summers with Frau Clawson, visiting a total of eight countries. I will cherish the memories made having coffee at the Adlon Hotel, meandering through the streets of Eisenach and our endless conversations from the topics of theology, boys and how to be a teacher.

Having Frau Clawson as a teacher, mentor and dear friend has significantly changed my life and helped make me the woman I am today.





# Business to Education Connection



By Dave Traver,  
VCS Board  
Member

At this time,  
you may have  
already heard  
about the

Valley Legacy Fund. There are many facets to the Legacy Fund and I would like to share about one of our new and exciting components of the program.

Our committee is developing a Business Sponsorship Program where companies will be offered packages of benefits that reflect four distinct levels of sponsorship. The packages will include, but are not limited to, recognition:

- at sporting events
- at concerts, plays, & programs
- in publications
- and within our own advertising.

The goal at all levels is to provide promotional value that exceeds the amount of advertising dollars spent. We will be approaching not only those businesses that have shown interest in VCS in the past, but also companies whose businesses could benefit from who we are and what we do here at VCS.

We see the Business Sponsorship Program as a win-win situation. Firstly, to create a new and significant revenue source for our school. And secondly, to introduce VCS and what God is doing here to the larger business community.

The business sponsorship model has been used by other private schools with much suc-

cess. We are confident that VCS will succeed as well and are excited to move forward in this vision.

If you would like to know more about our Business Sponsorship Program or would like to be a part of our visionary team, please contact me or VCS's Development Director, Lanette Bohlken by contacting VCS.



The Business Sponsorship Program will strengthen our community as it strengthens education.

## The Allen Family

By Linda Allen, Class of '89

I started school at VCS in the 5th grade (I was Kauffman then). It was the third year that the school was in operation. I attended VCS all the way through school until I graduated.



I am so thankful to my parents for making the sacrifices needed to keep my brother and me at Valley Christian. I know it couldn't have been easy at times. They did what they needed to make sure there was enough money to pay tuition. I will always be grateful to them, even more so, now that I am a parent of school age kids.

When thinking about where we would send our kids, I really wanted to have our kids attend VCS. Randy went to public school and wasn't too sure about spending the extra money for a

private school education. I prayed that if it was God's plan that He would provide the money and give Randy the desire to send them. We agreed to at least start Brenden for Kindergarten. Just a few months into the school year, Randy felt that God was telling him VCS was the school not only for Brenden but Abby as well.

In the following years, we have been glad we have had our children at VCS and want them to remain here. We believe the benefits are life-long. We have watched our children grow so much as individuals because they have been at VCS.

We are trusting God that they will graduate from Valley Christian School in 2018 and 2020.

The Allen Family—Brenden 7<sup>th</sup> grade and Abigail 5<sup>th</sup> grade.