



The Class of 2013 at their senior retreat at Big Sky Bible Camp on a chilly October day.

## Because of You . . .

### *Academic Excellence + Biblical Worldview = Education for Eternity*

You who faithfully support Valley Christian School, both in prayer and finances; remind us of Paul's words to the Philippians. "I thank my God every time I remember you. In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now" (Philippians 1:3-5).

VCS exists because of the generous support of people like you; people who understand the importance of Christian education and

believe in the mission of VCS; "so that in all things He might have the supremacy" Colossians 1:18.

You understand that by investing in the discipleship of today's children, we are able to prepare and send forth the godly leaders of tomorrow. It is these children, who will be the next generation of legislators, parents, missionaries, and business people. They are history makers in the making.

So it is with great joy that we

remember each of you for making this possible. Because of your faithful support, VCS continues to "partner with parents in raising godly children". It is because of you, we are able to combine excellent academics with a Biblical worldview to create an education that truly has eternity in sight.

Thank you for your partnership with Valley Christian School; for your investment in the children of today, the godly leaders of tomorrow.



# Music Machine - Over 25 Years and Counting

This year's First Grade Program had a second generation actor, Mr. Brent Reimer. He first performed in the Music Machine *m-a-n-y* years ago as a student and this year he played the part of Herbert's father.



The brightly lit Music Machine teaches the fruit of the Spirit in an amusing and lasting way.



**“But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control.**

**Against such things there is no law.”**

**Ephesians 5:22-23**



The first graders learn that the fruit of the Spirit is the work of the Holy Spirit in us, and that we can't achieve them on our own.

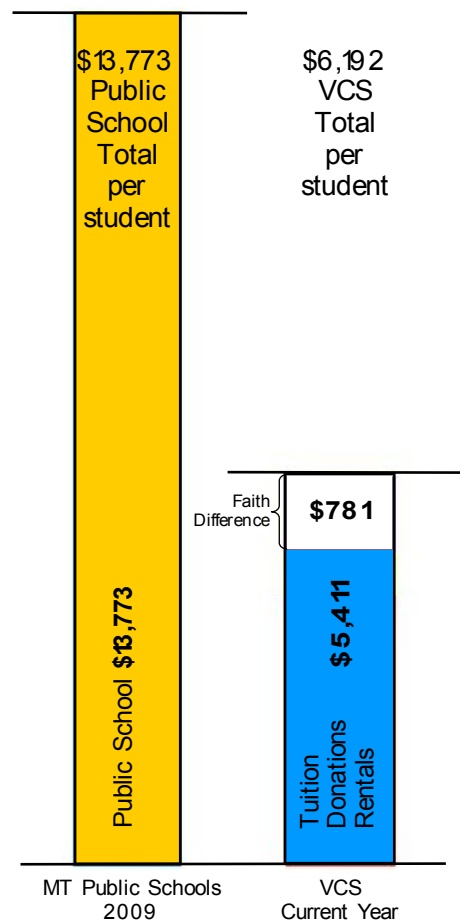
The students spend nine weeks studying each fruit of the Spirit, as well as, the corresponding definition, verse and song.

Our prayer is that God will work in the lives of the boys and girls, producing His fruit. God's goal is to do that in all of us. No one tires of hearing the truth of God's Word presented in such a delightful and entertaining manner.



# Faith Challenge Celebration

## Cost to Educate One Student



Sources: Annie E. Casey Foundation & EdWeek.org

**"You will keep in perfect peace him whose mind is steadfast, because he trusts in you. Trust in the Lord forever, for the Lord, the Lord, is the Rock eternal."**  
Isaiah 26:3,4

As usual, the Faith Challenge Celebration focused on the Word of God and God's faithfulness throughout all generations beginning with the Scripture above.

Many hands work together to provide the lovely table decorations and desserts, the video testimonial, the live musical performances, and the data presentations. The body of Christ working in unison to bring God glory is a beautiful sight to behold.

Mr. Martineau, Superintendent, presented the educational costs of public education versus VCS (at left). While the financial differences are readily apparent, it is the character

development that really tips the scales in favor of Christian education; a truth that the founding Fathers espoused over 200 years ago. "Our Constitution was made only for a moral and religious (Christian) people. It is wholly

inadequate to the government of any other." J. Adams, 2nd US President.



VCS continues on the quest of presenting a biblical worldview accompanied by excellent academics in order to educate for eternity.

Thank you to all who helped, whether in time or money. The Faith Challenge Celebration is designed to bring glory to God, and that was certainly accomplished in 2013, once again.

Since the Faith Challenge Celebration on March 12th until the end of April, Valley Christian School has received \$50,592 as a result of this Celebration!

To God be the glory, great things He has done. So loved He the world, that He gave us His Son. Amen.



## Calendar Details - Don't Miss These!

**June 22nd**  
**Saturday**

**Alumni Basketball Tournament**

Contact: vcseaa@gmail.com



**July 25th**  
**Thursday**

**VCS Family Barbeque**  
All welcome!  
6PM



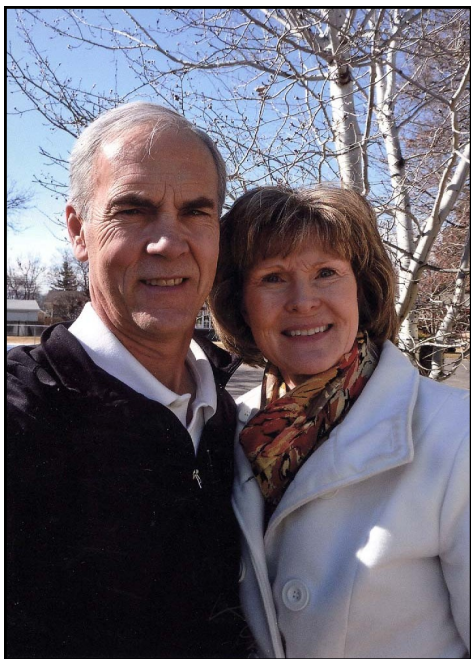
**August 26th**  
**Monday**

**First Day of School!**  
Pre-K through 12<sup>th</sup> Grade  
8:20 AM





# The DeGroot Family



Tom and Jenny DeGroot taken 2013.

By Jenny DeGroot

Our family came to Valley Christian School in the fall of 1990. Our oldest son, Ryan, was entering sixth grade and our second son, Neil, was entering third grade. Our two younger children, Doug and Brooke, would follow in years to come. We told the superintendent that we would clean toilets until Jesus returned if that was how we could earn the money to have our children at the school.

Instead, God blessed me with the

opportunity to use my degree in education as a kindergarten teacher! I later taught first grade, and now, 22 years later, I teach our preschool class!

Over the years I have grown in my understanding of what it means to have a ministry rather than just a teaching job, and to this day I am continuing to learn how to make God's Word preeminent in every part of the curriculum and every moment of class.

I heard continually from our superintendent the cautionary reminder that, as Moses said in Exodus 33:15-16, "If your Presence does not go with us, do not send us up from here . . . what else will distinguish me and our people from all the other people on the face of the earth?"

It has been such a privilege to come alongside so many parents and work with them in directing their children's hearts toward Jesus! And what a blessing it has been

for Tom and me to watch all of our children's teachers do the same for them! We have watched our four children graduate from VCS and grow into adulthood with a firm foundation in God's Word



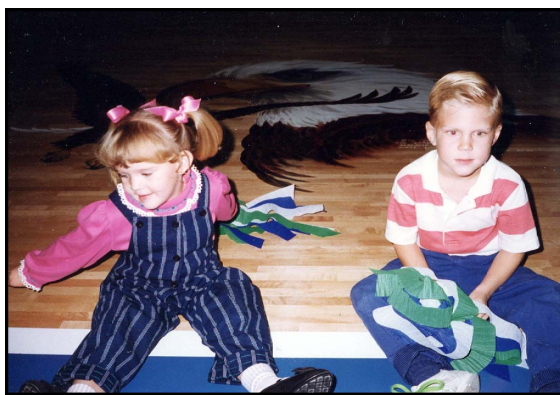
Performing before the Kindergarten Program are John Elsen, Chet Owings, and Neil DeGroot (VCS 2000 graduates).

and who they are in Christ.

Through victories and trials, during all of our years at VCS, we have continued to be so grateful for that steady voice for Christ in our children's lives.

Now, with families of their own, our two oldest sons are beginning to send the next generation of DeGroots to VCS!

Next year, Tom and I will rejoice in God's faithfulness as three of our grandchildren join their grandma at school!



Brooke (2007 graduate) and Doug (2005 graduate) cheering VCS basketball.



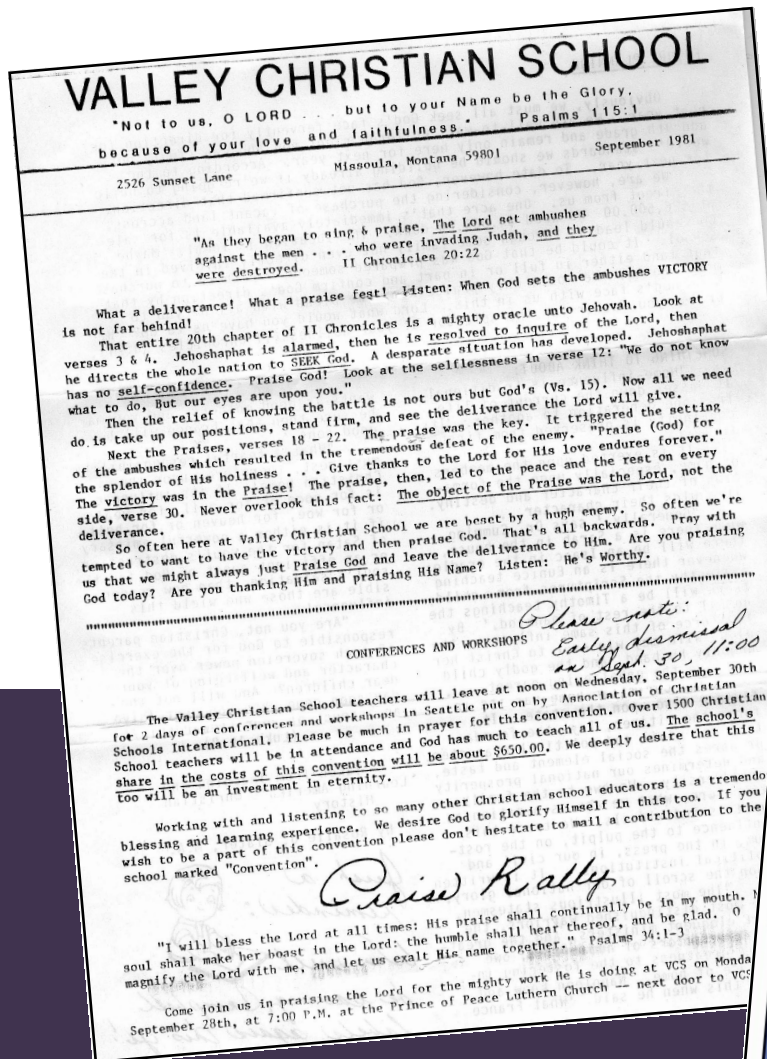
Jenny's first class of Kindergartners in 1990.



Another generation of DeGroots!



# Remember When . . . Then and Now



**September 1981**

**Students: 170**

**Teachers: 11**

**Academics centered on the pre-eminence of Christ.**

**Budget: \$252,215**

**Seeking God for deliverance in all areas of life.**

**Graduates: 0**

**K - 5 School**

**Facilities square footage: 8,000**



**December 2012**

**Students: 226**

**Teachers: 32**

**Academics centered on the pre-eminence of Christ.**

**Budget: \$1,325,102**

**Seeking God for deliverance in all areas of life.**

**Graduates: 642**

**Pre-K - High School**

**Facilities square footage: 69,000**

# Trevor Olson Memorial Scholarship

“Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances;



**Trevor Olson**

**October 20, 1991–July 2, 2011**

On July 2, 2011, the world as we knew it, was changed forever. It was as if we had been punched in the stomach and couldn't catch our breath. "Trevor and Tanner are gone!" We will never forget those words. In the days and weeks following the tragic car acci-

dent of these tow-headed, close-knit cousins, we experienced the depths of sorrow like we never had before! Trevor was our 2<sup>nd</sup> "son" and a "brother" to our son, Andrew. They had been almost inseparable since they were babies, with our families being closely intertwined. Words cannot even begin to express everything that has happened since then, but what we realized right away was that God was the ONLY one who would get us all through this trial!

The most comforting thing throughout this time was the knowledge of Trevor's spiritual condition. We all knew that he was immediately in Heaven, with his precious Jesus! Besides being born into a loving Christian home, Trevor had the opportunity to attend Valley Christian School from K through 8th grade and soaked up everything like a thirsty, little sponge, as did Andrew.

As parents, we gratefully watched our boys grow up learning the Word of God

and being taught by godly, caring teachers. And they had fun doing it! They were filled with joy and learned to not only love God, but also learned how to really pray! Valley Christian gave them a solid foundation to grow on!

We will be forever grateful for the sacrifices made by all of their teachers and volunteers! So, when we were thinking about how to honor Trevor, it was obvious to us that a scholarship at Valley Christian would be our first choice. It is our prayer that this annual scholarship will be a true blessing to the students and allow them to learn more about Jesus, hide the Scriptures in their hearts and go on to make the world a better place! That is certainly what Trevor Olson did!

In Christ's love—  
Chuck & Jodie Schmautz

(The Schmautz family invites you to join them in blessing VCS students by donating to the Trevor Olson Memorial Scholarship Fund.)

## First Scholarship Recipient - Daniel Zink

By Tammy Zink

Several years ago, while trying to maneuver the public school system, I heard the Lord tell me to call Valley Christian School. My response to Him was "I cannot afford Valley Christian". His response to me was that He did not ask me if I could afford to send Daniel to Valley Christian, He told me to call. A year later, I called and Daniel was enrolled here.

It was the best decision (and act of obedience) we have ever made for Daniel. I cannot describe the changes in him in the last three years: his growth, maturity and self esteem. But most amazing is his relationship with His Savior. I love that my son's education is wrapped around a solid Biblical foundation.

This scholarship is a financial blessing as well. We are honored and humbled that Daniel was even

considered for this scholarship. It makes financial sacrifices worthwhile to know Daniel is being immersed in the gospel, he is being taught of God's steadfast love and that the condition of his heart is as important as the academic education that he is receiving. Overall, he is taught that Jesus is the cornerstone of our lives. *Philippians 4:19 "And my God will meet all our needs according to his glorious riches in Christ Jesus"*.

We are grateful that Trevor's family chose to share a part of him with us. I understand that Trevor loved the Lord and was a light to all who knew him. With this scholarship, his light continues to shine: still a true gift and a great blessing.

*"And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him and have been called according to his purpose. For those God foreknew,*

*he also predestined to be conformed to the likeness of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brothers. And those he predestined, he also called; those he called, he also justified; those he justified, he also glorified."*  
*Romans 8:28-30.*



Daniel Zink & parents gratefully receive the first Trevor Olson Memorial Scholarship.