



# The Heritage Legacy

## From Mr. Pauli



Heritage Christian Academy staff was blessed to attend the ACSI Mid-America Convention this fall hosted in Eden Prairie. The key-note speaker was Dr. Bruce Lockerbie, Chairman of PAIDEIA Inc., an institutional consulting firm that is dedicated to excellence in all areas of leadership, development, education, and higher learning. Dr. Lockerbie challenged our staff with topics such as what defines a Christian school, preparing mature Christian disciples, and the unity of all truth. The last few minutes of his closing address might have been his most challenging as he recited a list of essentials for Christian school educators that included: reading biographies, professional journals, editorials; enrolling in a graduate class for knowledge, not just credit; teaching to the brightest mind of your classroom; living your biblical worldview and teaching like Jesus taught: utilizing parables and asking lots of questions. HCA staff continues to digest and look for ways to implement Dr. Lockerbie's teachings.

As you may recall, prior to my assuming the office of president, a survey of all HCA parents was conducted. Due to the timing of the survey, it was decided that we would report its findings when I'd had time to familiarize myself with HCA culture. I want to thank you for your participation! As we partner with parents at HCA, we desire parental input. Among the overwhelming number of positive comments, there were several areas that need to be addressed. Let me share some recurring themes that were consistent throughout the survey and strategies that have been put into place or enhanced as a result of the collected feedback.

### Communication:

- HCA School and Foundation Chairs have included articles within this issue of the Legacy. This is something both boards have done in the past and will do regularly in future issues of the Legacy. For a complete list of members' names on both boards, please see the link on the Daily Bulletin.
- Staff continues the ongoing efforts to communicate readily, openly, and respectfully with parents.
- 84% of survey respondents indicated that their preferred method of communication is electronic. As you know HCA has been eliminating paper communication for the past several years; it is gratifying that so many of you support that effort.

### Finances:

- Given the current state of our economy, financial concerns are shared by administration and parents alike. Vickie Ramsier, Director of Business and Finance, invites you to contact her and welcomes a personal visit to discuss any financial concerns. Contact the main office at 763-463-2200 to set up a time.

### Dress Code:

- Dress code issues are a challenge for every administrator. This year the secondary school has conformed to the elementary dress code, which has been well received by secondary students.

### Professional Staff Development:

- Everyone knows that staff is the key to an excellent education. HCA's committed staff made our calling to the Academy clear for my wife and me. One way we continue to strengthen HCA is by fostering the development of a "Growth-Focused Faculty Culture." Strategies utilized to continue this are ACSI conventions and training, teacher-in-service days, continuing education, and mentoring programs.

### Good Governance

- Good Governance means identifying and articulating corporate values. In scripture, it is clear that God is a God of order. It is the challenge of administrators, staff and parents to follow this order in a Christ-like manner. The policies and procedures of the Academy exist to insure proper order and it is our task to communicate fairly, openly and lovingly to the HCA community.

The saying that it "takes a village" to raise children is true. Our desire is to continue to strengthen the parent/teacher relationship. Your input is always desired as we look for areas of improvement at HCA. Please continue to pray for the Academy as we balance the needs of families and students, faith and academics in a Christian environment.

Your brother in Christ,

David J. Pauli

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## *Report from The HCA Board of Trustees*

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Our Bylaws state that the purpose of Heritage Christian Academy is to provide a broad liberal arts education for Christian students in a secular world. We strive through academics to prepare our students with knowledge to their world, their faith, and the Bible. In providing our students with a quality Christian education, it is our hope that when they are tested by the world they not only are unshaken in their faith, but they also present a clear and uncompromising witness of the saving grace of Jesus Christ.

HCA, formerly Medicine Lake Lutheran Academy is a wholly owned subsidiary of Grace Free Lutheran Church. What started as a "one room" school with twelve students in 1981 has now grown into a KD-Senior High School with well over 500 students and over 70 faculty and staff members. HCA is represented by nearly 90 different churches. We are so thankful to God for His blessings and provisions over these past 28 years.

We recognize how much each family represented at the academy has made many sacrifices in order to send students to HCA. We are so thankful to each one of you who have made Christian education a priority. We are also grateful to the Lord for His provision of our new President, Mr. David Pauli. As most of you know through previous communications, David, Kristin and their four children Stacia, Jace, Kaden and Mace moved here from Lincoln, Nebraska this past summer. David had been in Administration and most recently as High School Principal at Lincoln Christian.

The HCA Board members include Dr. Francis Monseth, Mrs. Renee Westman, Mr. Bruce Kuehl, Mr. Todd Westlake, Mr. Carter Dreblow, Dr. Peter Dyrud, Mr. Mitchell Johnson and myself along with HCA President David Pauli. Please join us in praying specifically for HCA's students, faculty, staff, administration and those who need the Lord's touch and healing hand upon them as we begin this 2008-2009 school year. Please direct your questions or comments to [samueldyrud@comcast.net](mailto:samueldyrud@comcast.net)

Sincerely in Christ,

Samuel Dyrud



## *Thank You & Welcome!*

On behalf of the School Board, I would like to express sincere appreciation to the following members who have resigned from service on the Foundation Board:

Kristin Thompson, Beverly Enderlein, and Sue Furry.

We eagerly welcome Jim Parkhurst and Terri Lee, who have recently joined the Foundation. The School Board is very grateful to the hardworking members of the HCAF, who tirelessly serve in the capacity of supporting the school through fundraising efforts.

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## *HCA Banquet*

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The HCA Foundation invites you to be their guest on **November 8th for the HCA Banquet**

If, due to an oversight on our part, you did not receive an invitation, please contact Julie Herman at

763-463-2223,

or

[jherman@heritagemail.org](mailto:jherman@heritagemail.org).

It is our desire that ALL Academy parents receive an invitation to this lovely event.





*Students and staff gathered near the HCA flag pole along with students across the country for a time of worship and prayer.*

## CONNECT

See you at the pole  
9.24.08

*Speak for your servant is listening!*  
-1 Samuel 3:10



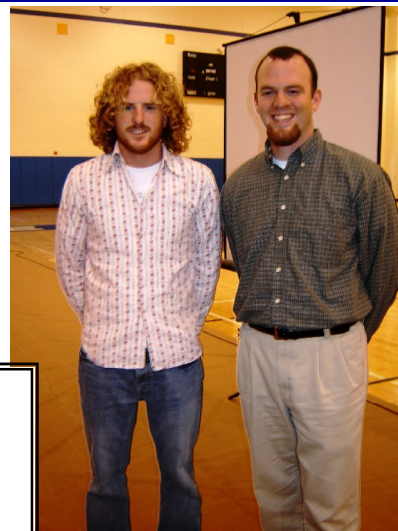
### *Secondary School Highlight from Mrs. Butler*

I was thrilled to receive our annual report from the Educational Testing Service reflecting the achievement of our graduates on the ACT college entrance exam over time and an indication of the extent to which they are prepared for college level work. The five-year trend report reveals that our average ACT score has steadily improved over the last five years, rising more than four points from our 2004 average, and that *HCA students exceeded the state averages on every measure of college readiness* reported including College Biology, College Social Science, College Algebra and College English Composition. In fact a full 100 percent of the students tested from HCA exceeded the readiness benchmark in College English Composition and are extremely strong in Math and Science. **Best of all, the Composite score for all four measures for HCA was 30 percent above the state average. Yes, I said 30%!**

This supports the publication Mr. Pauli and I referenced during last month's Orientation Programs. Minnesota Monthly's September issue: TOP HIGH SCHOOLS. 101 high schools were highlighted, including 34 public schools. **Heritage not only made the list, but of the schools reporting test scores, we ranked in the top five out of 34 with the other schools reporting average tuitions double what it costs for an education at HCA.** Our scores outpaced every public school listed, including Edina, which was highlighted as the top public school in the state.



## SPW-Spiritual Life Week



Secondary School students enjoyed Spiritual Life Week, Oct. 6-10, with a full week of spiritual celebration and encouragement! Supported by Australian worship leader Steve Perry, Speaker Jason Holt challenged all to mature in their commitments to the Lord, abandoning themselves to HIS will. Mr. Holt is the Director of Youth Ministries with the Association of Free Lutheran Churches.



## Alumni News

- Olympic hopeful **Paul Dyrud, '04** was featured in a magazine article in the *The Lutheran Ambassador*.
- **Steffany (Ward), '02**, and Nathan **Moen**, were married June 14, 2008
- **David, '03** and Whitney **Franz** were married on August 16, 2008, in Valley City, ND.
- **Heather Pagelkopf, '08** has earned the designation of AP Scholar by the College Board in recognition of her exceptional achievement on the college-level Advanced Placement Program Exams. Heather is the only student who qualified for the AP Scholar Award by completing three or more AP Exams, with grades of 3 or higher. Heather is currently attending Northwestern College in Waldorf, IA.
- **Rachel Butler, '08**, St. Olaf College, has been selected to participate in the Great Conversations Program and the Philharmonica Orchestra.

### Watch for news of the following HCA '08 Athletes:

- **Autumn Beasley**, Bethel University, MN-Basketball
- **Brian Campbell**, Gustavus Adolphus College, MN-Soccer
- **Stew Herman**, Northwestern College, MN-Basketball
- **John Hirte**, Covenant College, GA-Tennis
- **Jake Traen**, Covenant College, GA-Soccer

For more HCA Alumni Highlights please go to the daily bulletin and click on the Alumni link: <http://heritage1.dyndns.org/bulletin/1004>

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## ***HCA Foundation Update***

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Greetings from the Heritage Christian Academy Foundation! This has been an exciting and busy year for the Foundation as we gear up for our fall banquet on November 8<sup>th</sup>. Come and hear Mr. Pauli's vision for the future, enjoy the comedic routine of Bill Arnold from Triple Espresso and share in the food and fellowship of an evening together at Golden Valley Country Club. Your invitation will be in your mailbox very soon. Please RSVP quickly as seating is limited. We hope to see you there!

The HCA Foundation was created 3 1/2 years ago to lift the fundraising burden from our teachers, staff and administrators so they can focus on delivering a world class Christian education to our children. The Foundation is an all-volunteer board comprised of parents, alumni and other friends of the academy with a heart for our school. We are an active, working board that meets once to twice a month to conduct the business of the Foundation.

The near term priorities of the Foundation are to run our annual fund and capital campaigns and to raise funds for employee assistance, scholarships, and special needs that go beyond the normal HCA budget. Thanks to the generosity of the HCA family, we have raised nearly \$900,000 towards our first capital campaign and have been able to provide funds for all of the above listed priorities. In the long term, the Foundation strives to ensure that our tuition stays affordable, that our employees earn a fair wage and that our school will remain financially secure for generations. To make sure we achieve these goals, the Foundation is continually exploring new fundraising strategies such as grant writing and profit sharing from private businesses.

A primary responsibility of the Foundation is to provide a coordinated and strategic approach to our fundraising efforts. In past years, fundraising happened continually throughout the year and it was not uncommon to ask for donations at school events such as grandparents' day. Now, we strive to have our fundraising come through one primary "ask" per year as part of our annual fund/capital campaign. We believe this approach gives our benefactors an opportunity to plan their giving in a more thoughtful manner without feeling like they are constantly being asked for donations.

Even though we have eliminated the majority of little fundraisers throughout the year, we do occasionally supplement our annual fundraiser with social event fundraisers like the auction or golf tournament (although this year we are not hosting either of those events). We will also occasionally have fundraisers where a product is made available for purchase if there is a perceived benefit to HCA families. Going forward, these fundraisers (such as Sally Foster) will be restructured so that the opportunity is made available without pressure to participate. Finally, we allow our students to raise funds for the HCA mission trip since this is an important outreach ministry of the academy and raising support is an important part of the overall experience.

Each of us feels it is a privilege to serve HCA through the Foundation board. We want to thank you for your ongoing generosity and for helping to make HCA the wonderful, loving place that it is.

If you have any questions about the HCA Foundation or would like to get involved in any way, please contact Roy Wetterstrom, Foundation Chairman, at [roy@remdamar.com](mailto:roy@remdamar.com).

Have a blessed fall!

The HCA Foundation Board

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## ***Congratulations***

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Congratulations to HCA Senior Brooke McDonald, who has been named National Merit Scholarship Semifinalist by the National Merit Scholarship Corporation. Brooke received this honor after earning high test scores on her PSAT exam.

The National Merit Scholarship Corporation awards three types of scholarships:

- \*National Merit Scholarships of \$2500
- \*Merit Scholarships, which are granted by a business sponsor
- \*Merit Scholarships, which are granted by colleges, and are awarded to students attending respective post-secondary institutions.

In order to be named a finalist, Brooke must undergo an extensive application process, including achieving a high score on her SAT college entrance exam. Semifinalists will receive notification of their status in February, 2009.

## Dates to Remember

### **NOVEMBER**

- 2** Daylight Savings Time Ends (Fall Back)
- 3** Middle School Winter Sports Begin
- 7** All School Band/Orchestra Concert
- 8** 6:30 p.m. HCAF Banquet
- 11** TBD: PTEF
- 12** KD/KDG Conferences (School in Session)
- 13 & 14** PARENT/TEACHER CONFERENCES No School KD-Grade 12
- 17** High School Varsity Girls Basketball Practice Begins
- 24** High School Varsity Boys Basketball Practice Begins
- 26** Teacher In-service No School KD-Grade 12
- 27 & 28** THANKSGIVING BREAK No School KD- Grade 12

### **DECEMBER**

- 4** 7:30 p.m. Secondary School Choir Concert
- 11** 7:00 p.m. 5th Grade Musical (Lifechurch, Maple Grove)
- 13** Barnes & Noble HCA Fine Arts Day
- 17** 1:30 p.m. M/W KD Christmas Open House
- 18** 1:30 p.m. T/TH KDG. & T/TH KD Christmas Open House

**19** 1:00 p.m.: M/W KDG. – Grade 5 Classroom Open House and Christmas Programs

1:30 p.m.: M/W KDG Christmas Open House

### **DECEMBER 20-JANUARY 4 CHRISTMAS BREAK JANUARY**

- 5** School Resumes
- 12** Middle & High School Students Information Night
- 19** MARTIN LUTHER KING DAY No School KD-Grade 12
- 20** 7:00 p.m. Community Information Night
- 23** Secondary/Elementary School: End of Semester I
- 26** Elementary School: Third Quarter Begins Secondary School: Semester II Begins
- 31** Homecoming Hall Decorating

### **FEBRUARY**

#### **FEBRUARY IS MISSIONS MONTH**

- 2- 7** Secondary School Homecoming Week



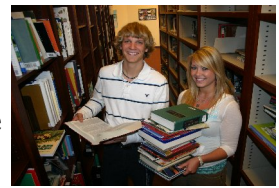
Have any news about alumni,  
current staff or students, great  
photos past or present?  
Send your submissions to

[jherman@readytochangetheworld.org](mailto:jherman@readytochangetheworld.org)

### **HCA Character Qualities:**

#### **Servant:**

Through their education HCA students have gained a measure of wisdom, and know that the accumulation of wisdom should never cease.



***READY TO CHANGE THE  
WORLD!***



## **HERITAGE CHRISTIAN ACADEMY**

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