



# Pathways

Show me your ways, O Lord, teach me your paths. Ps. 25:4

A Newsletter for Holden Christian Academy

November 21, 2014

## Principal's Corner

This past weekend my husband and I flew to Detroit to visit Gordon, a dear friend, who has an aggressive brain tumor. Gordon and his wife Cindy have been close friends of ours since our twenties. He has always been the fun, risk taker of our group of closest friends. He's the active, spear-fishing, snorkeling, bocci playing nut on the beach who loves people, talking, playing and being onto the next big thing in his business. Gordon is a visionary. He is always figuring out how things work, planning for the next opportunity, and excited about something. He's spontaneous and even waltzed with me in the grocery store one summer day when we were the ones assigned to go buy dinner for the whole crew!

Gordon has been fighting cancer for the past year and a half, however I'm not sure that fighting is really the right word. You see Gordon is quite excited about the coming adventure of heaven. Although only 59, happily married and close to his sons, daughter-in-law- and grandbaby, he admits that if it wasn't for them he'd be even more excited about going soon. He told us that he recently realized he is screwing up our plans of retiring together and felt badly for us but not for himself. He said what he really feels like saying is ...I'm outa' here suckers! Things that once held great importance in his life are now taking a back seat. Giving up his sporty car and having his wife do all the driving is no problem for him. The world is fading, but glory is on the horizon and Gordo is on to the next big thing...the biggest and best of all.

On Monday, I told Gordon how much he was ministering to me now, allowing me to witness up close and personally the reality of his faith. I came to Christ in college. My major motivating factor was a deep-seated fear of death. Just like Dane Burk, Gordon has no fear. Both are men of faith and that faith IS solid. It has blessed and encouraged me to see that within the pain, loss, grief, and vulnerability of illness they both experienced peace and a vibrancy of faith. Dane's faith is now sight. There is still time for God to work a miracle in Gordon's life, but honestly, I think he'd be a little let down if God healed him now. Although the rest of us would sure like it!

Monday was the third time we said goodbye to Gordo, wondering if it would be the last. My husband prayed for him/us and asked God's blessing on our next visit- whether soon or after a time of interruption, knowing that one way or another we'd see each other again. It was real and it was good. How do people live without faith? I honestly don't know. Life on planet earth is exciting, fun, hard and very fast. It seems like a short time ago we started HCA and now we have children of our first students here! It is easy to get absorbed in the daily stuff of life but God uses pain, sickness, and death to remind us of what really matters.

This Thanksgiving I am especially thankful for what really matters-

- The reality of God in my life
- The certainty of His Kingdom
- Time with family and friends
- The continuation of relationships, even if interrupted by years on earth
- The comfort of the Holy Spirit
- The faith and nurture of the next generation
- God using the likes of us in the lives of others

My prayer is that we can all enter into the lives of those we visit this Thanksgiving in a real and precious way. I pray that we can all let go of past hurts and issues and see how little they matter in light of eternity. Then we will be able to put on love like a cloak, and share it with all around us.

Joyfully In Him,  
Susan Hayward

*May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in Him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.*  
Romans 15:13



*Happy Thanksgiving*

### *Our Mission ~*

To challenge children to a lifetime of learning, working in partnership with families, to integrate Biblical truth with academic pursuits.

Holden Christian Academy  
508-829-4418  
[www.holdenchristianacademy.org](http://www.holdenchristianacademy.org)



## Mark Your Calendar!

Nov. 24	Freedom Trail field trip Gr. 5-8
Nov. 25	EcoTarium field trip Gr. K-2
Nov. 25	Anyhow orders due by 1 p.m.
Nov. 26-28	NO SCHOOL—Happy Thanksgiving
Dec. 1	Christmas Shoppe donations begin
Dec. 2	Anyhow orders ready for pick up after 1 p.m.
Dec. 8-12	Scholastic Book Fair
Dec. 12	Christmas Shoppe
Dec. 12	Donations for Belarus orphans chocolate due
Dec. 18	Christmas Program 7 p.m.
Dec. 22-Jan.2	Merry Christmas! NO SCHOOL

### Weekly:

Parent Prayer Group ~ Thursdays ~ join parents in praying for HCA from 8:20-9:00 in the Holden Chapel Prayer Room.

Fridays after lunch: Ice cream \$1 each. Proceeds will benefit our field trip fund.

## Christmas Program Dec. 18, 7 p.m.

HCA is blessed to be able to present a Christmas concert. As we hear that mentioning Christmas is no longer allowed in many local schools, we count our blessings that we get to proclaim Christ in Christmas! Mark your calendars and invite your family and friends for this celebration.

## Scholastic Book Fair Dec. 8-12

This is a great opportunity for gifts, but also to get ready for the read-a-thon coming in February!

## Music Lessons Term 2

There are limited additional slots available for music lessons. Please contact Judy Bleau in the school office if you would like a registration form or more information.

### **PRAYER (Psalm 68:19)**

Prayer requests may also be submitted in writing and our Parent Prayer group will cover these requests in prayer. There is a prayer request box in the office; confidentiality will be maintained as requested.

- For our families to enjoy their time away from school celebrating Thanksgiving and counting blessings.
- For our Annual Fund, that former and new donors will faithfully support Christian education.

### **PRAISE & THANK YOU**

- Thank you to all who helped with the Thanksgiving re-enactment! We couldn't have done it without you.
- Thank you for sending in items for Chapel this Monday, food for Holden Chapel's Thanksgiving baskets, and donations for Operation Christmas Box.

## *Principal's Book of Excellence celebrates...*

### *Kindergarten*

Brenden, for letting Jesus' light shine through him by being kind to a friend who was not being kind to him.

Lydia, for making her teacher beautiful pictures to decorate her walls.

Max, for waiting very patiently for his nasauimp ingredients paper during Center Time Switch.

Olivia, for being the first one to bring in a recipe that was used at home with herbs.

### *Grade 1*

Alexi, for taking time to pick up outdoor clothing left behind on the playground

Matthew, for volunteering to help a friend without being asked.

### *Grade 2*

Abby, for showing kindness to her classmates, giving up turns with an instrument during music, and helping students with their math.

Erik, for faithfully doing his job emptying the trash even when other kids thought his job wasn't that important. He helped Mr. Tom and kept our class clean.

Jacquelyn, for bringing in All About Me letters that the class used for Operation Christmas Child.

Madelyn, for faithfully feeding our class pet for the whole term, remembering to do it without being asked.

### *Grade 3*

Adriana, for taking time to pick up outdoor clothing left behind on the playground, and for being a good sport when she didn't get her award last week :-)

Frankie, for continued diligence in giving her best to school work.

Liam, for doing morning work without being told.

### *Grade 4*

Madelyn for her wonderful enthusiasm in Spanish class.  
Steven, for consistently holding the door open for others.

### *Grade 5*

Abigail, for using her splendid wit to keep the mood upbeat when our work gets hard.

Breanna, for consistently helping her classmates when they need a helping hand or support.

Katie, for brightening another person's day with a wonderful poem.

Tobias, for always being a reliable "go-to" guy for answers in History class.

Victoria, for reminding her classmates to do their class jobs at the end of the day.

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*Principal's Book of Excellence continued...*

*Grade 6*

Jeffrey and Logan, for each being conscientious about school work.

Olivia, for perseverance and hard work.

Garret, KK, Logan, and Morgann, for supporting Plimoth Preview day by giving guided tours of the Mayflower.

Kaitlyn and Morgann and Sarah, for each being a good friend.

*Grade 7*

Cameron, for his compassionate and sensitive heart that cares deeply when others are struggling and for offering to help.

Charlotte, for adding enthusiasm and wonder to our already inquisitive class.

David, for his perseverance and determination to make positive changes as the term closes.

Debbie, for demonstrating a servant's heart by doing extra kitchen work during our classroom cooking time.

Dylan, for taking time to think before he answers and responding with careful and considerate words.

Elu, for enthusiasm in school, a desire to learn, and great application of what she is learning.

Erin, for the patient and gentle way she carries herself and for how she models those characteristics for those around her.

Grace, for her joyful heart that brings laughter and fun to the classroom.

Hannah, for how she patiently and gently interacts with her classmates and bears with each one in all circumstances.

Joshua, for his thoughtful insights and inquisitive mind which motivates his classmates and teacher to think outside the box.

Katie, for "diving in" to school with focused attention and a desire for learning that is a blessing to her teachers.

Naomi, for her attentiveness in class with insightful questions that spark great discussions and lead the entire class to think more deeply and critically.

Nate, for being "on the line of scrimmage" (prepared) when it's time for class to begin and ready for the next transition in a timely fashion, and for taking the hand-off and running the full length of the field on Plimoth Day 2014.

Ryan, for his servant's heart in continuing with Student Council and faithfully using his talents for the Lord.

Sebastian, for striving toward consistent preparedness and attentiveness in class.

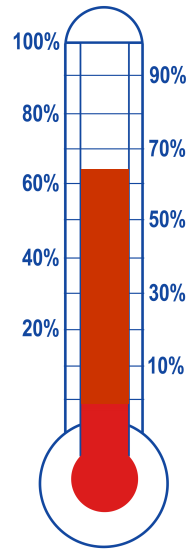
*Grade 8*

Aidan, for being a tremendous help during Student Council meeting making 31 shoeboxes for Operation Christmas Child

Annabelle, for bringing joy and laughter to every class!

Deven, for completing his classroom jobs every day with a thoroughness that all should follow!

The entire class for actively participating at the leadership conference and exhibiting leadership skills that honor the Lord!



## Annual Fund 2014

Current  
Donations  
and Pledges:  
\$7,145

Last Year's Total:  
\$11,375

### WELL CHILD and ILLNESS POLICY

*addendum to Parent Student Handbook*

It is our desire at Holden Christian Academy to provide the healthiest possible environment for our students, so we kindly ask that you DO NOT bring your child to school if he or she has any of the following symptoms:

- Green or yellow runny nose
- Persistent coughing
- Discharge from the eyes
- Fever
- Vomiting
- Diarrhea
- Unknown or contagious rash
- \* Any communicable disease

If a student has a contagious illness such as conjunctivitis (pinkeye) or strep throat, he/she **must** be on antibiotics for a **full 24 hours** before returning to school.

If a student has been vomiting or had a fever, he/she should be **sickness or fever free for at least 24 hours** (without fever reducing medication) before returning to school.

In the case of chicken pox, a student cannot return to school until all lesions are dried and scabbed over. This usually takes about 5 days; however, each case will vary.

By way of reminder, here is our current **Dismissal Due To Illness Policy**:

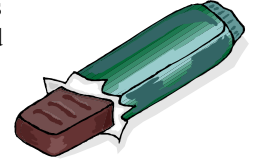
Any student who becomes ill while at school will be sent home at the discretion of the staff.

If the student has a fever of 99.6 or above, he/she will be sent home.

*Thank you for your cooperation and partnership in striving to keep illness at HCA to a minimum.*

## The Gift of Chocolate

In the month of December it has been our tradition to collect money for buying chocolate for orphans in Belarus. HCA has a long-standing relationship with a mission to orphans in Belarus through our friends and coworkers in the Kingdom, Olga & Yasha Goncharenko. Olga started Spring of Revival Ministry many years ago as a single woman. Today they serve hundreds of orphans in several different orphanages. The traditional Christmas present for Belarussian children is a box of chocolates. For the orphans it is a special treat and if Olga doesn't provide it then the kids will get no gift! Every year we raise funds so Olga can purchase the chocolates.



We pray you might give generously and provide the funds for at least one child (\$5.00). All money for chocolate should be sent to the office by December 12. Please make checks payable to HCA.

## ANYHOW Program Returns to HCA!

We are bringing the program back due to popular demand; families requested we bring it back especially for the Christmas season of gift-giving. Buy shopping cards through HCA, and a percentage of the price of the card is credited to us from the retailers participating in this program. You can buy shopping cards to stores you shop at already, including grocery, gas, clothing, online and entertainment. Seventy-five percent of each credit will be credited to the family's tuition account, or the family may choose to have their credit applied to another family's account, HCA's financial aid fund, or next year's tuition. Twenty five percent of each credit will be retained by HCA for administrative and fundraising costs, including shipping. *What's the catch?* You just have to plan ahead!

### Get started today!

- \* Visit [www.ShopWithScrip.com](http://www.ShopWithScrip.com) and use enrollment code [AD779DF213848](#)
- \* Sign up for PRESTOPAY, a direct debit from your checking account; this is the easiest and most efficient form of payment. Alternatively you can send in a personal check or checks, made payable to HCA, once you've placed your online order.
- \* Order online\* and pay online, or send payment to the office for the full face value of the cards.
- \* Send your enrollment form to the office, along with payment if you haven't already paid online.
- \* Your FACTS payments will be adjusted to reflect your credits each month. If you have paid in full, you will receive credit toward next year's tuition.

\*In order to streamline the program this year we prefer that all orders are placed online. If you do not have online access you may send in a retailer list (available in the school office) as an order form; be sure to highlight the cards you would like, and include your name on the form.

### Can other people order?

- \* Anyone can order through you; just include their order and payments with yours, then you will be responsible for distributing the cards when they come in.
- \* Any staff member or community member who places an order will have their credits made to the HCA Financial Aid fund.

### Necessary Details...

- \* Payments for Anyhow orders are not tax-deductible because participants receive dollar for dollar value.
- \* Anyone writing a nonsufficient funds (NSF) check will incur a fee equal to the fee charged by HCA's bank.
- \* The vendors & percentages are subject to change due to holiday and seasonal special promotions as well as changes dictated by the vendor.
- \* In no way does Holden Christian Academy or the ANYHOW program endorse the participating stores. You must make your own decision whether to purchase from each store.
- \* Each store has their own policy on change back from certificates. Find out before paying for your purchase.

### Anyhow schedule 2014-2015 school year

<u>orders due by 1 p.m.</u>	<u>order pick up after 1 p.m.</u>
November 25 .....	December 2*holiday delay
December 2 .....	December 8
December 9 .....	December 15
December 12.....	December 19 *extra order for Christmas
January 20 .....	January 26
February 3 .....	February 9
February 24.....	March 2
March 10 .....	March 16
March 24.....	March 30

**The first order is due before Thanksgiving, NEXT TUESDAY November 25 by 1:00 p.m.**