

Central CABLE



**KNOWN
PERSONALLY**

**DISCIPLINED
INTENTIONALLY**

**CHALLENGED
ACADEMICALLY**

CENTRAL MINNESOTA CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

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The Journey Continues

My wife and I had the chance to get away over the weekend for her birthday. We had a great time going for walks, sharing great meals, relaxing, and just spending time together. When we got home I went downstairs to grab something and opened the door to our storage room only to find the floor covered in water (groan). We wasted no time and got busy grabbing stuff and bringing it into the garage to dry out. We eventually got it cleaned up and under control. We laughed as I humorously reflected with her that the most amazing part about the experience was how nice we were to each other! We actually cooperated, spoke kindly, and smoothly worked together to clean it up. It's amazing how differently you react to stressful situations when your tank is full.

Unfortunately, life doesn't always give us the luxury of working through stressful situations with a full tank. And, this point in the school year finds students, teachers, and parents, running tired. It becomes easy to complain about someone, snap at your loved ones, or lack the motivation to finish strong.

One of our teachers often jokes that the last few weeks of school are like being 100 miles from home after an extended road trip. Everyone is tired of being in the car and sick of each other and just wants it to be over. Get me out!

But sometime after, stories begin to be told of the memories that were made and laughter is shared over the good times that were had. Pictures remind us of the awesome sights and unique adventures that we experienced along the way. We feel satisfied and accomplished and think: "It was worth it."

Continue next page...

As we finish this school year, let's remember that we are working out our vision in real-time: Surrounded by our (imperfect) community of believers, where God's presence is (not always felt, but faithfully) evident, our (tired) students will (search and) find their calling in God's world through an exceptional education (that involves critical thinking, problem-solving, homework, tests, projects, and a lot of emotional and mental engagement) delivered from a Biblical (thank God!) worldview. Our students will be known (the good and bad) personally, disciplined (understanding that sanctification is a long hard process) intentionally, and challenged (often to the students' chagrin) academically.



Jon De Groot, Superintendent

Graduation 2024

Join us in honoring the achievements of our graduating Class of 2024 on Friday, May 24 at 5:00pm in the Central Event Center. We celebrate their incredible journey through High School and all their accomplishments. We join in the anticipation as they prepare to embark on the next chapter of their lives. We give God all the glory and thank Him for all He has done in the lives of our seniors!

Class Verse: "Being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus." Philippians 1:6

Class Flower: White Stock



Our mission is to provide a Christ-centered, quality education to equip students for a life of service.

Student Council Cereal Drive

Our High School Student Council a school wide cereal drive for the Kandiyohi County Food Shelf during the month of March. The whole student body collected a total of 371 pounds of cereal. The 7th Grade class collected the most cereal boxes and delivered them to the food shelf!



Central Minnesota Christian School



Our 4K students performed their Spring Fling Program for their family and friends on April 24 & 25. Thank you to Mrs. Van Otterloo for all the work that she put in with our two 4K sections. The students worked hard memorizing and singing songs. Guests were invited to the 4K classroom for cookies after the program.



Teacher Appreciation

As we approach Teacher Appreciation Week, May 6-10, it is essential to spotlight the dedicated educators who shape the minds and hearts of future generations. Teachers are the unsung heroes of our society devoting countless hours to nurturing young minds and instilling essential values. Beyond their teaching academics, they serve as mentors, counselors, and role models, guiding students through challenges and celebrating their successes. Thank you for your unwavering dedication, passion, and commitment to shaping a brighter tomorrow. Feel free to share a heartfelt “thank you” note, or a small gesture of appreciation to show our teachers the recognition they deserve.



Elementary School Teachers
Stephanie Runia, Marit Rheinheimer, Laura Rosen, Lori Braem, Vince Vander Pol, Hilda DeBoer, Laura Brouwer, Lisa Jerve, Katie TeBrake, Jamie Duinink



Elementary School & Academic Support Teachers
Pictured: Becky Graves, Becky Berry, Cindy Van Otterloo, Laura Zimmer, Heidi Link
Not pictured: Barb Ahrenholz, Heather Link



Middle School Teachers
Pictured: Megan Wolfe, Kevin Wassenaar, Sarah Brouwer, Heather Daugherty, Travis Vander Woude
Not pictured: Christine Hoekstra, Travis Berry



High School Teachers
Pictured: Mindy Groen, Cari Bulthuis, Jimmy Buehler, Brandon Rothstein, Devin Veenstra, Scott Buteyn, Rhonda Slagter, Kourtney Schwitters, Amber Brouwer, Lorna Cook, Jessica Bulthuis
Not pictured: Emily Setrum

Administrative Assistant Appreciation

April 24 was National Administrative Assistant Day and we want to say thank you to our Administrative Assistant team, Cassie Slagter, Moriah Brower, Melanie Vander Ark, and Janey Landberg. We want to recognize all that you do for our school. Your efficiency, attention to detail, and the support you give in assisting our students, staff, and constituents are greatly appreciated!



High School Human Anatomy & Physiology

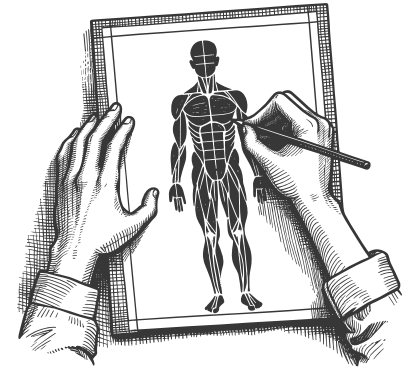
Human Anatomy and Physiology at Central focuses on studying the structures and functions of the human body. Many of the students who chose to take this course did so because they are exploring the potential of pursuing a career in an Anatomy-related field. Throughout the school year, we have had the privilege of hosting a variety of professionals in these fields as speakers, sharing about their careers. They tell the class about their educational background, the financial cost of training and possible salaries in the workforce, why they chose their field, what a day at work consists of, the types of patients that they most often work with, the joys and challenges that they experience, and most importantly how their faith in Jesus and their Christian worldview affects what they do.

- Mrs. Jessica Bulthuis

Thank You

We want to say a big thank you to the following presenters who gave up their time to invest in educating our students:

- Kara De Groot, APRN (Family Practice and ENT Nurse Practitioner)
- Melissa Mulder, EP (Exercise Physiology)
- Dr. Nic Marcus, DDS (Dentist)
- Jill Blom, LDA (Dental Assistant)
- Tami Greenwaldt, LDH (Dental Hygienist)
- Dr. Scott Abrams, MD (Medical Director for Correctional Medicine, CentraCare)
- Dr. Jane Wrede, PhD, APRN, FACNM (Certified Nurse-Midwife)
- Dr. Daniel Cook, DVM (Veterinarian)
- Andrea Larson, APRN (Cardiology Nurse Practitioner)
- Tessa Erickson, RN (Labor and Delivery Nursing/Nurse Home Visitor)
- RaeJean Bulthuis, MLS, ASCP (Laboratory Sciences)



Student Reflections:

“I have seen how she values her work because of what God says about the people she works with. She views her patients with love through God’s eyes, treats them like a child of God, and approaches every situation with compassion. She has motivated me to make my mark in God’s kingdom by being empathetic towards people and loving them with the love of God even when it is hard.” - Anonymous A&P Student

“I have seen his compassion for people - even people that are hard to love. He has motivated me to have more of a servant's heart.” - Anonymous A&P Student

“I am challenged by how he gives care equally to people who have a very wide variety of experiences, worldviews, and daily challenges. He treats them all the way Jesus would treat them - with honesty and compassion.” - Anonymous A&P Student



Earth Keepers

The 5th graders have been learning about Earth's structure and the ways God designed for it to change over time through natural events. Students visited Sibley State Park and listened to a presentation at Central to learn about ways that they can manage and take care of God's Earth.



REAL NEEDS

Nate Duinick visited the 5th grade classrooms to discuss various issues that Central has on campus due to both nature and human activity.



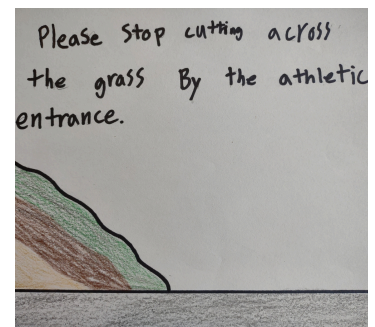
REAL PEOPLE

Students learned about earthquakes and volcanoes occurring around the world. Classes prayed for various communities that have been impacted by natural disasters.



REAL WORK

To spread awareness of the needs, students created Public Service Announcement videos and posters to encourage our school community to help.



FLEX ACTIVITIES ARE A DEEPER LEARNING TOOL WITHIN OUR TEACHING FOR TRANSFORMATION FRAMEWORK THAT ALLOWS OUR STUDENTS TO ENGAGE IN REAL WORK THAT RECOGNIZES AND IMPACTS THE REAL NEEDS OF REAL PEOPLE IN OUR COMMUNITIES.

Elementary Student Discipleship



Parent Newsletter * May Issue



We started the month of April with our last Flock day of this school year. Groups walked around town looking for different parts of creation and enjoyed the beautiful world God created for us.

We finished off the morning gathered together to sing praises to our God.

The next week our small groups talked more about the throughline Creation Enjoyer and worked together to make the display shown below, which can be found under the Elementary Chapel bulletin board. In chapel, we heard from Lyn and Kerry Christoffer as they shared about wood ducks and the amazing way God created them. If your child hasn't told you about how the baby ducks get out of their houses, you should ask them if they remember!



We ended April talking about being an Earth Keeper and different ways we can help take care of our Earth even as elementary school students.

We look forward to May and wrapping up our school year. We will reflect on all we have learned and discuss our last throughline, Community Builders. In the last week of school, we will finish out the year with a little competition and fun field day!

This Month's Theme Verse

"I have given them the glory that you gave me, that they may be one as we are one: I in them and you in me. May they be brought to complete unity to let the world know that you sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me."

John 17:22-23

Board Minutes for

Central Minnesota Christian School

Monday, April 29, 2024

7:00pm

Members Present: Joe Vander Ark, Paul Leverington, Heidi Graves, Matt Hoekstra, Jason Ver Steeg, Lanne Roelofs, Christy Groen, Luke Mulder, Ryan Moorlag, Jon De Groot

Devotions: Lanne R started the meeting by reading scripture from Ephesians 4 regarding Unity in Christ and opened with prayer.

1. Approval of Consent Agenda MSP
 - a. Board Committee Reports
 - b. Leadership Team Reports
 - c. Minutes from March 18, 2024 board meeting.
2. The Board discussed confidential staffing and student discipline issues.
3. Jason VS presented a document that was prepared by the Governance Committee that outlines the process for Board Committee assignments and officer elections. A survey will be sent out to 24-25 Board Members to gauge interest in and suitability for various positions.
4. The future of the New to You task force was discussed.
 - a. Since most of the “tasks” have been completed, the charter will be refined to follow up on the one remaining item of potential transitioning of the legal status of the New to You organization to a separate 501c3.
 - b. Going forward, a separate advisory committee will be used to support New to You issues, including School Superintendent, Store Director, Finance Director, Advancement Committee Chair, and Finance Committee Chair. Up to 2 additional outside advisors would be allowable.
5. Annual Meeting Debrief
 - a. All Board Members present had a chance to discuss key takeaways from the Annual Meeting.
6. Roundtable
7. Action Items were discussed
8. Lanne R closed in prayer
9. Next Board Meeting May 20, 2024
10. Meeting Adjourned.

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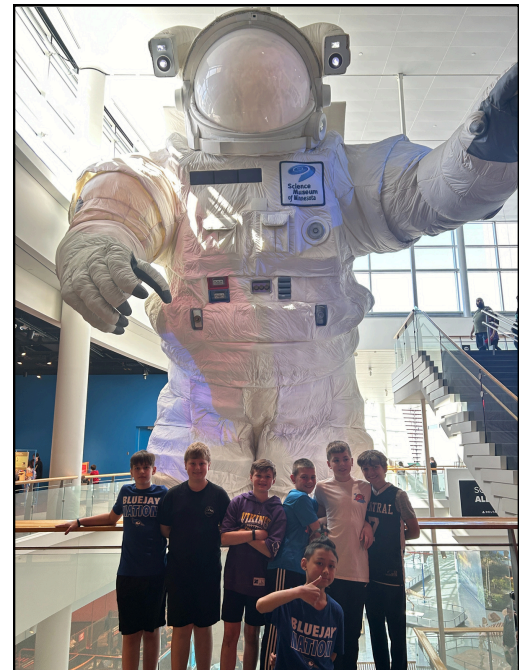
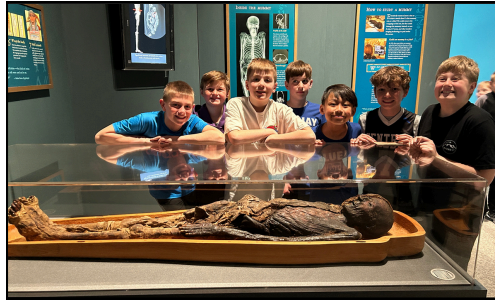
MSHSL Visual Arts Contest

On April 24, Mrs. Setrum, Maggie Setrum, and Elzie Wassenaar attended the MSHSL Visual Art Contest in Redwood Falls. Central artwork being displayed and judged was from Hannah Graves, Ashlyn Brouwer, Maggie Setrum, and Elzie Wassenaar.

There were 10 schools that participated, with a total of 80 artworks. Ashlyn Brouwer and Maggie Setrum received a “Superior” distinction and earned a medal. Maggie’s drawing was selected as 1 of 10 Best in Show to advance to the Perpich Center for Arts Education on May 11, 2024.

5th Grade Science Museum

The 5th Grade class enjoyed a day at the Science Museum of Minnesota on April 10. The ancient Maya exhibit brought to life many items the students read about in ELA earlier this year, and the omnitheater star show took us to some of the amazing wonders of the universe. They also explored exhibits about the Mississippi River, fossils, space, the human body, indigenous civilizations, and much more!



School Lunch Hero Day

Behind every satisfying school lunch is a team of dedicated individuals, the school lunch ladies. As we celebrate School Lunch Hero Day on May 3, we want to spotlight these ladies who play a commendable role in fueling our students' bodies and minds. Thank you for your commitment to nourishing our students and the invaluable contributions you make to our school community.



Pictured: Jane Wubben, Justina Meyer-Hillers, Cheryl Wersinger, Jayne Asche
Not Pictured: Jan Damhof, Sue De Groot, Carole Negen, Joy Schwitters, Patci Slagter, Mavis Zimmer

Grandparents Day

We are thankful for all the Grandparents & Special Visitors who attended Grandparents Day on April 26. Grandparents & Special Visitors play an invaluable role in shaping our families and communities. They hold a special place in our hearts, offering wisdom, love, and cherished memories that enrich our students' lives. Guests were invited to visit and participate in a variety of different activities with their students.



The Year in Review

By: Our Student Body President, Tim Brouwer

Hello everyone! My name is Tim Brouwer, and I am this year's student body president. My job, alongside the Student Council, has been to grow student culture with different events and parties. Last year was a struggle for school parties as many were canceled due to weather, but this year was one of the best.

We kicked off the year with our fall party where we played powderpuff football and peachfuzz volleyball. This is where guys play volleyball and girls play football while the opposite gender coaches the ones playing. This newer party idea has been quite a hit at Central and produces a lot of excitement going into the year. Another party we had was our Christmas party where we played bunko and ate pancakes made by our teachers.



Spirit Week is a fan favorite and allows students to dress up and come to school in funny costumes. At the end of the week, there was a dodgeball tournament that the entire high school participated in to win a pizza party and movie. The Seniors dressed the best and won the dodgeball tournament leading to them winning Spirit Week and a pizza party.

One of the fan-favorite events is Valentine's Day, where we played a new game involving the entire High School. Students had to win rock, paper, scissors against other students and teachers in order to win necklaces. Whoever had the most necklaces at the end of the day won \$50 and a basket full of candy. Our lunch that day was chicken kiev, considered to be the best lunch of the year.



Our Spring Party plan is an Arcade Night with games, dancing, tournaments, and huge prizes such as a new TV. This is a new idea and the student body is extremely excited. A consistent part of students' lives is our squad time every morning. Squad time is a 15-minute meeting between students from grades 9-12. It is an amazing opportunity for students to grow in relationships with younger or older students, grow their faith, and have fun.



Throughout the year there have been a few different events and fundraisers involving the High School that allow us to give back to the community, such as cleaning up Willmar parks and fields, a cereal drive, and a leaf raking day where we raked people's yards. Student growth is the most important thing at this school. All the teachers and students encourage each other to grow in their faith and their relationship with God through serving and their day-to-day efforts.

Dordt Choir Festival

Thirteen high school choirs from six different states—Iowa, South Dakota, Minnesota, Wisconsin, Colorado, and Michigan—participated in the Dordt University Choir Festival. Choirs range in size from 23 members to 140 members. Between 13 school choirs, the mass choir totaled 750 members. The festival included clinics for each choir, solo and ensemble clinics, a massed choir rehearsal, and an evening concert featuring performances by each of the visiting choirs, all Dordt choirs, and the massed choirs. Choral Composer, Dan Forrest, also served as composer-in-residence for the festival. The evening concert included two of his pieces, which he accompanied.



Small Group Ensembles

Congratulations to Gabby Pederson!
Gabby performed a flute solo on Saturday, April 6, in Benson at the Section 3 Solo and Ensemble Contest and was awarded a superior rating for her work!



Thank You

for your service!



Join us in saying thank you to Michelle Schwitters, who has served as our Director of Advancement for the last 6 years. Her heart for the school and "blue blood" remains steadfast, however, the time has come for her to take a step back and attend to other things. She has served our school faithfully and we thank her for all she has given to Bluejay Nation.

May Day Baskets

Groups of Elementary Students embarked on a heartwarming initiative, handcrafting May Day baskets and joyfully delivering them throughout Prinsburg and at CopperLeaf.



THE 42ND ANNUAL LEGACY DINNER

The Central Leadership Team, students, and the Legacy Dinner main committee would like to say, “Thank you!” to those that attended the event on April 19, 2024. Your unwavering support, continued investment in our school, and the decision to make a stand for Christian Education is a gift that does not go unnoticed. We are also grateful for the 40+ Table Hosts and Hostesses whose creativity led to a beautiful event, the Freshman Class servers, parent kitchen helpers, technology support, and setup assistance. Thank you for serving in this way.

This year’s 125 attendees experienced an engaging evening with First Liberty general counsel, Nathan Shackelford, who shared stories from his experiences defending religious liberty and how this non-profit is proactively advocating on the front lines in legal battles involving Christian Education. Attendees were encouraged as they learned that Christians in America, despite the current cultural climate, have more religious freedoms than ever before. Nathan also shared his testimony with our Middle School and High School students in a Friday afternoon chapel. He encouraged our students to listen to God’s voice as they combine their passions and gifts to determine God’s plan for their lives.

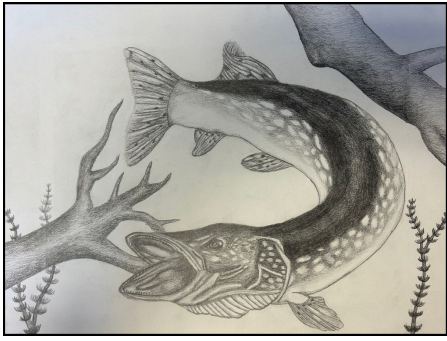
Mindependent CEO, Tim Benz, reminded guests of the support that this organization gives Central as a member school at the state level with the Department of Education while speaking so highly of the “rare jewel” that Central is to our constituents and the importance of investment in this treasure.

Superintendent, Jon De Groot, shared four needs that the fundraising efforts of the evening would support: trophy cases for Central’s Fine Arts and Drama departments, new volleyball nets for our Athletic Department, photo preservation for the treasured photos of yesteryear, and supporting a gathering area for students.

A special thank you to emcee, Jimmy Buehler, who kept the evening rolling with humor and a heartfelt response, as a Central teacher and parent, to those who continue to financially support Central. Because of the generous support of our donors, the 42nd Annual Legacy Dinner was able to raise \$27,875!



Central Art Gallery



Joey Graves, 9th



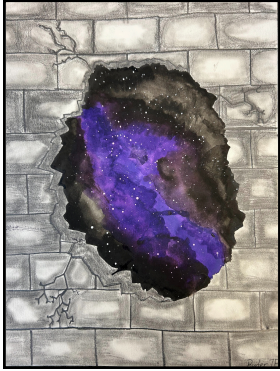
Hannah Graves, 12th



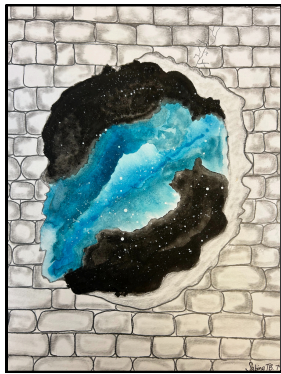
Ashlyn Brouwer, 12th



Lucas Jerve, 5th



Ryder Punt, 7th



Sabine TeBrake, 7th

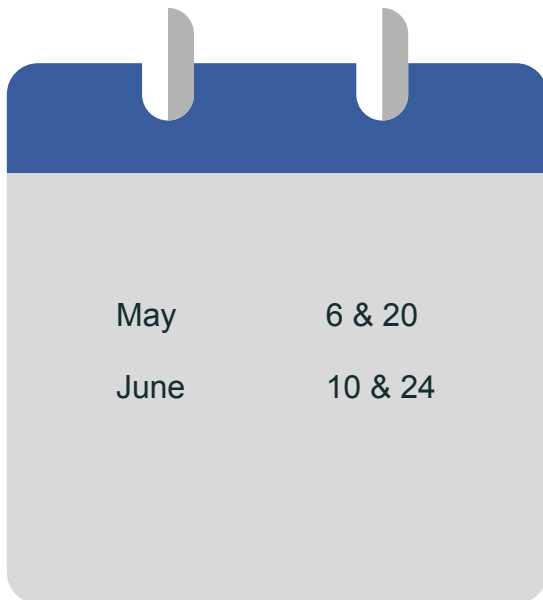


Jessa Buteyn, 4th



Penelope Grussing, 5th

Schedule for TRIP



Save the Dates

May 3	Prom
May 14	HS Pops Concert
May 15	Awards Day
May 22	Last Day of School
May 24	Graduation
June 29	Freedom Fun Days Celebration
July 17-28	All School Gyms Closed
August 12	New Family Orientation Athletics Orientation
August 15	Open House/School Pictures
August 21	First Day of School

New to You News

The Monthly Minute

April

Number of items processed:

26,231

Sell-through rate:

63%

Total Sales:

\$82,988

Compared to last year:

\$81,955

Total Volunteer Hours:

412

Volunteer Hours last year:

727

Contribution to Central:

\$12,000



Praise and Opportunity:

April was a tough month but staff and volunteers have persevered!

THANK YOU so much to those of you especially, who stepped up to help as we were short hands just as our busy spring season starts up. What a triumph, to again break the month's record!

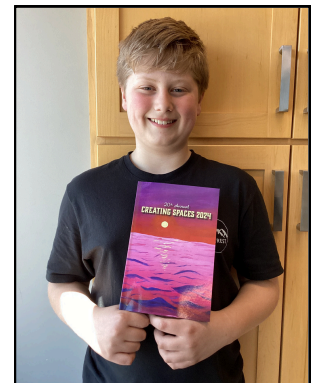
God is SOOOO GOOD!

If you are looking for some summer fun - volunteering can be a blast! Join us!

Creative Writing Contest



Congratulations to Owen Rheinheimer, 5th grade! Owen's poem "Ice Hockey" was awarded 2nd place in the 5th/6th Grade poetry category of this year's Creative Writing Contest. The contest is open to all 3rd-12th Grade students in southwest and west central Minnesota and is organized annually by the SWWC Co-op and SMSU.



Central CABLE



MISSION

To provide a Christ-centered, quality education to equip students for a life of service.

VISION

Surrounded by our community of believers where God's presence is evident, our students will find their calling in God's world through an exceptional education, delivered from a Biblical worldview. Students will be known personally, disciplined intentionally, and challenged academically.

VALUES



Better Together - God created us in his image to live in Community. Therefore, we honor and care for the well-being and success of all. We value encouragement and helpful communications while speaking the truth in love. We celebrate the individual gifts and character of each member and provide an environment for them to struggle and grow. (Rom 12:4-5; Gen 1:27; Col 3:12-14)



Building Trust - We strive for Excellence in our character and proven-ness in our work. We do our best to earn respect by exceeding expectations, maintaining high standards, challenging complacency, and aiming for full potential. (Matt 12:12; Titus 2:7)



Being Transformed - We value whole-person Growth and practice continuous improvement through learning, personal reflection, and Christian development. We are open to new ideas and seek God's kingdom dream for our lives and the world. (Rom 12:2; II Cor 5:17; Ps 51:10)



Bridging The Gap - Through Service, we identify needs and address them. We see God-possibilities and obediently follow the Spirit to make them our reality. In humility we give of ourselves, investing in the cause of Christian education and thus, the future. (I Peter 4:10; Col 3:23, Is 58:10)



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