

Reveal

Jenison Christian School Education Foundation Newsletter

Glenn Bulthuis and the Toneddeafs with Special Guests

He's back! For a return tour, Jenison Christian School Education Foundation welcomes back Glenn Bulthuis on Saturday, April 25. The Special Guests are members of our very own JCS Concert Band joining Chris Hansen's horn section for a few numbers. Concert is once again at Jenison Center of the Arts (8375 20th Ave, Jenison, MI 49428) starting at 7:00pm. All proceeds benefiting JCSEF. Sponsorship opportunities are available. Please contact Liz Wiersema.

Buy tickets online:

jpsarts.com (click on tickets)

\$20.00 Reserved Seating

\$15.00 Groups of 10 or more

\$30.00 Preferred Seating
& pre-concert meet and greet
with Glenn at 6:00pm.



Glenn Bulthuis and the Toneddeafs

Play the Music of The Beatles, Simon & Garfunkel, Peter, Paul & Mary, Stevie Wonder, Bob Dylan, James Taylor, Bruce Springsteen, and some Glenn Bulthuis favorites

Saturday, April 25th, 2020 at 7:00 p.m.

Jenison Center for the Arts • 8375 20th Avenue • Jenison, Michigan 49428

Tickets on Sale Now!!!

\$20.00 Reserved Seating • \$15.00 Groups of 10 or more

\$30.00 Preferred seating & pre-concert meet and greet with Glenn at 6:00pm

Call (616)-667-3602 for tickets

or buy them on line at: jpsarts.com (click on tickets)

www.glennbulthuis.com

Proceeds to Benefit
JCS
EDUCATION FOUNDATION



February 2020

*Glenn Bulthuis and the
Tonedeafs Return to JCS*

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Psalm 78:4, 6 "We will tell the next generation the praiseworthy deeds of the Lord, His power, and the wonders He has done...so the next generation would know them, even the children yet to be born..."



Principal Tim Paauw

A Principal View

This past week I brought dinner to visit with a couple who were temporarily living at Brookcrest Rehab & Life Center in Grandville. As we enjoyed some warm Fazoli's pasta dishes at a round table, we were joined by another resident and we found ourselves talking about times past and how each one at our table (besides me, of course) remembered being a child of the Great Depression. I was fascinated as I learned all three attended Christian schools in a time period where families struggled to afford even keeping shoes on their children's feet. I wish I had recorded the stories I heard that evening.

One moment that I will never forget, a joy-filled lady next to me shared, "I have lived in Jenison my whole life. I grew up in a home on Baldwin street when it was still a gravel road. I was in the first group of students that ever attended Jenison Christian School in 1930 when it opened!" This was before she realized I am the Principal of JCS. As we spoke, I couldn't help but wonder if she was in the photo of the first group of 31 students with one teacher that took place on the front steps of the church where this first group formed a school. I knew right where I had the photo in the archives file back at JCS and was heading there next for a night meeting. I politely asked her if I could return and show her the photo of herself, as one of the inaugural students for the school community that I've come to love and hold dear. In case you are wondering,

(Continued on page 3)

Teacher Reflections from the 80's and 90's

We have been asked to reflect on our years at Jenison Christian School during the 1980's and 1990's.

You will notice that many changes have taken place since that time. The structure of the school, curriculum, staff, technology, etc. Nonetheless, God's faithfulness has always been present at JCS.

In the academic arena we saw additions. Preschool was a bonus because it brought families to Jenison Christian, giving a positive light and thus many continued on as students at JCS. We also started our Pre-Kindergarten program in the early 1990's, and offered all-day Kindergarten. During this time, we saw many advancements in Kindergarten learning, with a focus on teaching kids to read before they graduated. The tradition of Kindergarten graduation continued through this time, and still continues today. It's a time-honored tradition to see these young learners walk down the aisle at Baldwin Street CRC in their graduation caps and Sunday best.

During our time we had focus groups in the Jenison and Hudsonville community regarding adding a 9th grade to Unity Christian High School. That was a unique year because we graduated two classes, 8th and 9th graders, as they would leave Jenison Christian School and move onto Unity Christian High School, and some went to a high school of their choice.

Curriculums through these decades continued to enhance education. We saw changes in math, handwriting, reading, science, art, music, etc. During this time, we did not have computers – a big change from today! Because of this, part of our curriculum was focused on penmanship. It is refreshing to hear a recent story of 8th graders still taking time to write their spelling words in cursive. The music program involved band instruments, but no guitars or jazz band.

Another big change that took place was in our middle school, which was located where Mel Trotter Thrift Store, Dollar Tree, and Rebounderz are now. The middle school was moved to the Greenfield building (our current location, formerly a Greenfield address), where it remains today. An addition was added to the existing building to house the middle school. This included enlarging the gym and other rooms.

At the time we were teaching, we began busing with Jenison Public School. Along with busing, we partnered with JPS in speech therapy, hot lunch, and other areas.

The playground also experienced changes over the

decades. Teachers would often play Red Rover, Tag, or Mother May I with the kids. Perhaps from these games, we went from a gravel playground to grass for safety reasons, and added some playground equipment for different kinds of free play.

As you see many things changed in JCS during these two decades. One interesting note was that the office moved three times, when the school was still the 'Greenfield' building. Initially the office was down by our current preschool classes, then moved to the current teacher's work space, and ended where it is today. Moves like this meant change, which was OK. But, the one thing that hasn't changed through it all, praise the Lord, is God's faithfulness through these many years.

A reminder of His faithfulness is a standing stone at the outside office entrance to the school. It is a visual to remind us of our heritage, the purpose for which we exist and God's faithfulness.

Sincerely, 1980's-1990's Former Kindergarten Teaching Team,

Barb Bloem, Marty Bruins, and Crick Fles

Grandparents' Society

We enjoyed our First Grandparents' Society last fall with Principal Tim Paauw, Executive Director Liz Wiersema, and Foundation Board President Amanda Williams and a few grandparents that signed up for the Society. We discussed the vision for our school and thoroughly enjoyed each grandparent's introduction and the stories of their grandchildren here at JCS.

If you are a Grandparent of a JCS student, please join our society by emailing your contact information to Grandparents@jenisonchristian.org.



Auction



Each year, more than 550 people from the community gather for an exciting evening that features both a silent and live auction. It's a lively event where we celebrate God's work in our lives and raise funds that allow our school to make important upgrades to technology, classrooms, playgrounds and educational materials.

How can you help?

1. Pray for the evening, that we may raise the funds we need and that God be glorified in all we do.
2. To make the event a great success, we need donations! Nothing is too small of a donation. Do you have a special trade or skill and could donate your time? Do you have a condo, timeshare, cottage, camper that could be auctioned off? Do you like to cook or bake? We love homemade desserts featured at our Decadent Dessert Table, which can also be purchased to enjoy at home! Any new items lying around your house you won't be using? We'll take them off your hands!
3. Attend the auction, bid on items and help us raise money for the school and our kids.

The 2020 auction will be held on Sat, March 14 at JCS Gym. Doors open at 4:00pm. On the Border will cater dinner from 4:00-6:00p (\$10 per person, 5 and under free). Silent Auction begins at 4:00p, with the live auction starting at 6:30p. We hope to see you there!

If you have anything you wish to donate or have any questions, please contact Jodi Mitchell (616-328-1720) or Andrea Westdorp (auction@jenisonchristian.org).

Planned Giving

In addition to your cash gifts today, the Foundation and future of JCS would be greatly blessed by your consideration of planned gifts. Last year we learned of 11 planned gifts to Jenison Christian School. Knowing this builds the community of JCS, and provides a secure financial future for the school and future kingdom builders here. JCS can receive gifts in various forms: through your will or trust, life insurance, retirement plan assets, charitable gift annuities, charitable remainder unitrust or annuity trust, or life estate agreements. If you have any questions about planned giving to JCS, or first steps in creating a will or trust, please call the JCS office - (616) 457-3301.

A Principal View *(Continued from page 1)*



Front Row, left to right: Mildred De Went, Loraine Piers, Norma Brinks, Florence Buikema, Ruth Kleinjans, William Brinks, Harold Vander Laan. 2nd Row: Geraldine Kleinjans, Nelva DeWindt, Ruby DeLeeuw, Angie Kleinjans, Harold Hopp, Gerrit Visser, Kenneth Northouse. 3rd Row: Helen Brinks, Lellie Roo'n, Edna Zylstra, Bernice Northouse, Thomas DeWitt, Roger Northouse, Elmer Kleinjans. 4th Row: Minnie DeLeeuw, Lucy DeLeeuw, Edith Zylstra, Casey Sterk, Gilbert DeLeeuw, Julian Piers, Marvin Visser, Cornelius Rynsberger, Mrs. J. C. Bruggink, Teacher, William VanderLaan, Al DeWitt.

I did pull out the photo when I got back to the office and found Ruth in the front row as the third child from the far-right side. A black and white photo that is etched into the history of this extraordinary school community suddenly came to life for me. Ruth was one of the youngest in the photo as she was only in first grade (that first year our school started with only first through eighth grades in place).

God has blessed the efforts of this school community with something far more extra-ordinary than any of us could imagine. When families enrolled 31 students during the Great Depression to form a Christian school community, who would have imagined that ninety years later the school would have 4,560 graduates around the world doing amazing things in God's kingdom! Perhaps you are part of our largest graduating class of 137 in 1976, or maybe someone who just started this year in this unique Christian school community. Either way we want you to know you hold a special place within this school. You are an important member of our future too as we seek to continue sharing God's Word and God's World with students as they learn and grow! We want to carry the tradition of excellence in Christian education forward. We celebrate the stable and growing enrollment trends that we have been experiencing over the past five years in our preschool and elementary and believe these are exciting times to be at JCS! If you know a JCS alumni, please pass along this newsletter to them and encourage them to share their contact information with us so we can send them future publications. We'd love to Reveal what is ahead of us at JCS.

JCS News

Preschool Enrollment for 2020-2021

We had a very successful Early Childhood Open House on January 16, 2020! Over 100 families visited JCS and 87 students are currently enrolled in Preschool for the 2020-2021 school year. If you are still considering signing up for preschool, you can stop by the office to pick up an enrollment form or email our Preschool Director, Hannah Stob, at hstob@jenisonchristian.org with any questions. Here are our 2020-2021 preschool options:

3's Preschool: 2 days a week (M/W or T/Th - \$815) or 3 days a week (M/W/F or T/Th/F - \$1,175)

4's Preschool: 2 days a week (M/W or T/Th - \$950), 3 days a week (M/W/F or T/Th/F - \$1,275), or 4 days a week (M/T/W/Th - \$1,500)

Please consider sharing with your family and friends if they have young children.

Upcoming Events

- Feb. 17 Family Skating Party**
Monday 6:30-8:30pm at Terry Hall
- Feb. 21 Family Ski Day**
Friday 10am-5pm at Caberfae
- Mar. 6 Mother and Son Night**
(Daddy and Daughter Night was Winter Ball - Jan 25)
- Mar. 7 Ping Pong Tournament**
Saturday 8:00am at JCS Gym
- Mar. 14 School Auction**
Saturday 4pm-10pm at JCS Gym
- Mar. 20 & Mar. 21 8th Grade Play**
Friday & Saturday
Old JPS Auditorium
- Apr. 24 Grandparent's Day**
Friday 9am-noon
(Preschool T/Th - April 23)
- Apr. 25 Glenn Bulhuis Returns Tour**
Friday 7:00pm at JCA
- May 2 Family Fun Night - Saturday**
- May 15 Eagle Walk - Friday**
- May 22 Elementary Field Day - Friday**

Music Department

Upcoming Concerts

- Feb. 6 EOCS Band (7th & 8th)**
7:00pm at Fair Haven Church
- Feb. 16 3rd & 4th Grade Choir Concert**
5:00pm at Baldwin Street Church
(Evening Service)
- Mar. 26 Celebration of the Arts (All Grades)**
- May 12 Spring Concert (5th-8th)**

JCS 90th Birthday Article Follow-up:

While our first edition was in print last November, we learned of Grace Meyer's death on November 9, 2019, just a few months shy of her 102nd birthday. She was in good health until the end, with her earthly body declining quickly in the last few days of her life. With our Christian sympathies to her family and friends, we thank God for her life and prayers over our school.



"And we know that in all things God **works for the good of those who love Him, who have been called** according to His purpose."

Romans 8:28