



Grace Notes

Overheard.....

After the family picnic and the scavenger hunt a boy from Denmark said... **I can't wait for Monday!** When questioned why, his answer was, **"School!"**

From the wife of a couple in their 70's who are first time host parents.... **"I cannot believe that these two boys are so appreciative of their school and being here in the US. I really love these boys and so does my husband."**

From a German student.... **"I am amazed at how nice the teachers are here. In Germany the teachers and the students are at war. I would never want to be a teacher there."**

From a 5th grade student... **"I got the best teacher this year! Actually, God gave her to me."**
After a few minutes the teacher walked by, greeted the student by name and wished them a great weekend. The student's response... **"See what I mean?"**

As part of a writing assignment from a new Elementary student.... **"You wouldn't believe how great this school is. Even the older kids are under control."**

Two international students exclaimed at lunch, **"These are the best hamburgers I have ever had!"** One later admitted that they had never had a hamburger before.

A new to GCS Foster Grandparent remarked, **"This place is like a country club compared to other places I've worked."**

From a new Elementary student, **"The hot lunch is good and my teacher is purfickt (sic). The Princel is alsom so fare (sic)."**

From another new student, **"Even though it's the beginning of the year, I can't wait to come back next year!"**

A volunteer from Youth for Understanding remarked to me that, **"I can't believe you have found so many wonderful host families! Everyone is so nice!!"** In agreement, I added, **"I know truly wonderful people!"**

In referring to Pastor Daves book **"A Shepherd's Story"**

"I read it again! Just feeling so grateful now for my GCS experience. That's the place I knew about God and all those awesome people, I'm feeling so blessed by these words, and I miss you Mr. Hall."

Those of us who have been involved at Grace Christian School can sometimes forget how unique and special we are. Seeing the genuine surprise and delight from those new to our community reacting to our spirit of Christian community has been inspiring to me. One additional comment I heard recently sums it up, **"Grace Christian School rocks!"**

In His Service,

Administrator

Special upcoming dates:

11/22	Craft Fair
12/09	Christmas Concert 7pm
01/09	Ski program starts
02/28-3/07	Mission trip to Guatemala
04/25	Silent auction

Have you seen our new “Happy” video? Make sure you check out our YouTube channel– go to www.youtube.com/gcsvt. The video showcases students of all ages throughout the entire school! We also feature Mr. Underwood doing some crazy dance moves! The video acknowledges and celebrates that true happiness is revealed in God’s Word and is the source of joy in our lives.

There were 85 GCS folks who headed to Mid-Vermont Christian School for a special CLEW kickoff. A group called AXIS ministered to us and challenged us to not only focus on unanswered questions but to look at the real issue: unquestioned answers. Using technology and current trends we learned about different world views and realized the importance of knowing what we believe and why. We spent an overnight at Singing Hills Retreat Center and enjoyed songs around the bonfire and had the opportunity to get to know others better, including our teachers!

Fundraisers that don’t cost you a dime

Are you like me when a fundraiser comes your way? I usually think, “Oh my goodness, I have to spend more money on something I have no need for!” Let’s face it, we all want to support the ones we love but sometimes we just don’t have the money for the extras in our budget.

Grace Christian has found some fabulous ways to help support the school while doing your everyday shopping!

*Register at Target.com/TCOE and earn money for Grace when using your Target credit card.

*Utilize our SCRIP program: Use gift cards instead of cash to benefit our school! You can support our school with your everyday shopping! Check out www.glscrip.com to see if they carry cards to the locations where you do business. The process is easy! Once a month, near the 15th of each month, we place an order. The cards generally arrive within one week. This may be a new concept to get used to but, the businesses give our school between 2%-21% of basically free money. If you wish to order online, call the office at 802-447-2233 for the enrollment code.

*Purchase Hannaford and Price Chopper cards at Grace and we get up to 5% given back to us, with no cost to you!

*Bring your unwanted clothes to our clothing shed located in the back of the school.

*iGive.com You shop. Your charity (GCS) gets money. For free!

*Amazon smile allows a portion of your purchase to be designated to GCS.

Please consider utilizing these money generating “fundraisers” to impact the lives of our young people....our future.

Global Impact

Our new logo shows Grace impacting the globe under the cross of Christ. Not only do we train up our local students to go and reach the world, we bring in students from all over the world fulfilling the Great Commission in reverse. This year we have seven foreign countries represented in our student body, providing a global experience throughout the community. Our international student program places students in Christian homes, where they attend church with their host family and attend Grace Christian School. They experience the love of Christ first-hand and have 10 months to learn about God’s word and ask questions about being in relationship with Him. They share with us different cultures and customs and expand our knowledge of this amazing world God has created.

Thank you to all the host families who have opened their hearts and homes to these students from all over the world. One worker from a placement agency commented that she could not get over the number of wonderful host families we were able to find in the Grace community. She was amazed that everyone was so nice. In agreement I answered, “Grace people are wonderful people!”



New and Improved

This summer Grace Christian School unveiled a new logo. We wanted our logo to represent the worldwide impact for Christ our school has. This global impact is realized by the school itself, our alumni and staff who serve Christ all around the world, and our international student program. Currently we have 30 international students from 7 different nations at our school.

We have some other exciting new improvements at our school as well. As you first walk into the school, you may notice that the lobby has had a facelift. This facelift includes a new sitting area for students complete with a new granite countertop and stools. There is also a TV with rolling announcements on it for parent information. There is a prayer wall for Grace Grads who are serving in our nation's military. Our playgrounds have also had improvements. The elementary playground is now enclosed by a beautiful fence. The early education playground has a "racetrack" encircling the island of trees. It is so much fun to watch the children zooming around the track on the bicycles and tricycles!

Our school has also gone tech forward. We currently have 2 Mimio smart boards to help teachers engage students in dynamic lessons. We have also supplied our teachers with iPads to give them much needed technology at their fingertips. Lastly, we have moved to optional e-texts and a bring your own device policy, where students can have their textbooks electronically on a tablet, smartphone, or laptop. Our school is always changing, but one thing remains the same, our goal of partnering with parents to offer an academically rigorous, Christ centered education.



Teacher Spotlight - Jessica LaPorte

My name is Jessica LaPorte and I am the new third grade teacher at Grace Christian School. I am originally from the area, but I grew up in New York, Maine, and Missouri. While I was at Cedarville University, I went on my first mission trip to teach elementary classes in Kosovo. It changed my life and gave me a passion for sharing the Gospel through education. I returned the following year and I was hooked! I was able to complete my student teaching at Bingham Academy, an international school in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. After graduating from university, I spent four years teaching at Yongsan International School in Seoul, South Korea. I moved for two years to Highlands International School in La Paz, Bolivia. Through my time working overseas as a missionary, I have been able to travel to 30 countries around the world. I love sharing about the world with my third graders this year! When I returned to the United States, I was drawn to Grace Christian by the shared passion to spread the Gospel to the ends of the Earth. Now, I live in Hoosick Falls with my dog. Thank you so much for the warm welcome I have enjoyed at Grace!



We're on the web
www.gracechristianvt.org

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***"Continue to grow in the grace and
knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus
Christ."
II Peter 3:18***

***Grace Christian School admits students of
any race, color, national or ethnic origin***

Presort
Standard
Bennington, VT
Permit #73

Alumni Corner

My name is **Casey Greene '14** and I graduated from GCS in June. This fall I started at Houghton College. At first I wasn't going to go to Houghton at all, but they were very generous and gave me academic scholarships, need based scholarships, and another scholarship just because I asked. Now that I've been at Houghton a month I can see that this is the right place for me. It is neat to look back and see how God orchestrated everything to be sure that I came to the right school.

Jaime Cameron'11 graduated Valedictorian (of the associate degree program) and summa cum laude from SVC with her RN-ADN. While attending SVC she won the application of Holistic Nursing award, the Academic Excellence in Nursing Associates degree and made the President's list. Currently she is working full-time as an RN for Dr. Albus (SVMC Pulmonary) while also continuing to pursue her BSN at SVC.

We are overjoyed to say that three of our Alumni, **Seth Green'08**, **Cody Teal '11** and **Ryan Morse'12** have all returned safely from their overseas deployment this year. Sgt. Seth Green (Army) returned safely from Afghanistan, Cody Teal (Army) returned safely from Kuwait and Lnc. Cpl. Ryan Morse (Marines) returned safely from Romania.

Ali Elwell'09 has completed her associates degree in Early childhood Education and a Bachelors in Political Science. After completing her Bachelors in '13, Ali went on to work as an AmriCorps VISTA* volunteer coordinator and Food Bank manager at Emmaus Inc. After much prayer and consideration Ali will be attending Wesley Theological Seminary, located in Washington, DC. She will be pursuing a Masters of Divinity with a concentration in Youth Ministry.

Congratulations to **Erin Joy Lloyd'07** on her marriage to Rey Lopez!
The couple reside in Orlando, FL where Erin teaches 1st grade at Central Florida Christian Academy.



