

February 2026

FOOTSTEPS OF FAITH

Newsletter of Aberdeen Christian School



Love never fails

1 CORINTHIANS 13:8

Dear ACS Families,

At Aberdeen Christian School, we are grateful for the opportunity to partner with parents in educating students to glorify God. As we continue to lean into our **Faith and Family First Initiative**, we remain committed to coming alongside families to nurture both the hearts and minds of our students. We desire to train godly generations of spiritually alive servant leaders, grounded in truth and prepared to live out their faith with confidence.

As we move through February, we look forward to meaningful connections with families during **Parent-Teacher Conferences on February 12-13**. Conferences are a valuable time to connect with your child's teacher, celebrate growth, and discuss progress and goals for the second semester of the 2025-26 school year.

We are also preparing for **Spring Assessments and State Testing opportunities** that will take place later this spring, with assessment days beginning in **March**. Specific assessment dates and times will be shared soon, so families can best prepare and support students in doing their best on assessment day. We appreciate your partnership in helping students arrive well-rested, encouraged, and ready to do their best.

Looking ahead to the **2026-27 school year**, continuous enrollment is now underway for all current ACS families. This process allows us to plan effectively for staffing, scheduling, and classroom needs. If your child will not be returning for the 2026-27 school year, please notify the school office by **March 27**, as this information is critical for planning purposes.

Families interested in **tuition assistance** for the 2026-27 school year should plan to complete their **TADS application by May 31**. Timely submission helps us best support families seeking financial assistance.

In April, we will host our **Grade 8 Transition Meeting** and conduct **registrations for students in grades 7-12**. Additional details and dates will be shared in the coming weeks—please stay tuned for more information.

Thank you for your continued partnership, prayers, and support of Aberdeen Christian School. We are thankful for the families God has placed in our community and for the opportunity to walk alongside you in the education of your children. As we continue this journey together, we are reminded of the importance of guiding students with wisdom and faith and the eternal influence this education provides, as reminded by Proverbs 22:6, *“Train up a child in the way he should go; and when he is old, he will not depart from it”* (NIV, 2011).

Blessings ACS Community!

Dr. Sombke

Reminder



Parent-Teacher Conferences

- February 12th: 4:30pm-8:30 pm
- February 13th: 8:30am-12:30 pm



There will be NO SCHOOL on February 13th and February 16th



Applications for new board members are due in the school office by February 15th. Please inquire with Dr. Sombke if interested.



The annual Association meeting will be held on Thursday, March 26th at 7:00 pm in the chapel. We will be voting on the 2025-2026 budget and electing school board members. You must be an Association member to vote—forms are available at the door or from the school office.



Online Spirit Shop IS OPEN!

Get your gear to cheer on our students and show your school spirit!

www.promoplace.com/acsspiritshop



Please Pray

We appreciate your prayers for the students, faculty, families, school board, and the community of Aberdeen. May ACS be a bright light to others!



ACS is blessed to not only shepherd and educate our amazing students, but also to serve with them in service to God and others.

The February Senior Spotlight is on ACS senior, Lily Dinger.

For her senior project, Lily is planning and organizing a Toy Drive to help restock and replenish toys for our local church nurseries!

Please see the poster on the right for information on how you can help!

Thank you, Lily, for your service and gift to our community churches! We pray blessings over your senior year.



February is Career and Technical Education (CTE) month, and we wanted to give a shout-out to our very own teachers who are teaching state-approved CTE courses and CTE programs at ACS! CTE courses are designed to prepare students for both college and careers after high school by combining academic knowledge with technical skills and hands-on, real-world experiences. Mr. Palmer and Mrs. Leonhardt have completed the necessary endorsements which allow us to offer Capstone Programs in multiple Career Clusters. Thank you for investing in our students and their futures! We are so thankful for the gifts and dedication you share with ACS!



Help out the churches that take care of our kids	
<h2>Nursery Needs</h2> <h1>TOY DRIVE</h1> 	
We want to collect toys for local church nurseries in the Aberdeen area.	
We are looking for toys in good condition for kids ages 0-5 years.	
DROP-OFF LOCATION Aberdeeen Christian School	DROP-OFF LOCATION Northwestern Community Church
Text/call Lily Dinger (701) 527-4564 or email lilydorange08@gmail.com with any questions	



ACS will be attending the 10th Annual NSU Teacher Job Fair on February 10th. The focus of this event is to allow NSU students an opportunity to interact with school districts from around the state. This is also a great opportunity for ACS as we have the opportunity to meet, visit, and share what we love about Aberdeen Christian school with upcoming candidates in the education field.

LOVE LIKE THAT

“Observe how Christ loved us. His love was not cautious but extravagant. He didn’t love in order to get something from us but to give everything of himself to us. Love like that.”

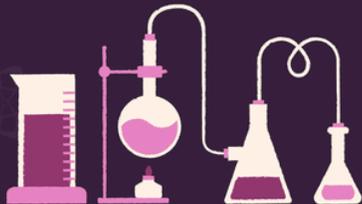
Eugene H. Peterson

SCIENCE Fair

6th Grade Explores the Wonders of Science

Date : February 26, 2026
 Time : 1:00 – 3:00 PM
 Venue : ACS Gymnasium

Join us for an exciting Science Fair where young minds explore the wonders of science through experiments and demonstrations.



You are invited to attend our Second Annual Science Fair! The 6th grade students have completed their science experiments and will have them displayed in the gym from 1:00-1:45 pm. At 2 pm, the 6th grade will present a program with demonstrations for your enjoyment. Awards will follow.

WAYS TO GIVE

We are so thankful for our generous donors, who make it possible for this ministry to continue to be a growing presence in the Aberdeen community. All gifts are tax deductible. Thank you for considering a gift through one of the following:

- Direct gift to ACS by cash or check
 - Gifts through the Foundation:
 - Endowments and charitable bequests
 - Crop through AGTEGRA
 - Cows, bulls, stocks, life insurance, farm equipment
- Contact Rodney Johnson
 (605) 252-0842
- S & S Auction (% sales to ACS)

School Board Members

Linda Shoup, Karen Edwards, Becky Kaiser, Betsey Dinger, Michelle Ramirez, Larry Inches, Steven Schaeffer, Mandilyn Flihs, and Jen Schaeffer. Terms ending on June 30th include Becky Kaiser, Karen Edwards, and Larry Inches. Thank you all for your service to ACS!

The Feb. meeting will be held on the 16th at noon at the school.



DEBRA DARGATZ CUSTODIAN



- **HOMETOWN**
Aberdeen, SD
- **FAVORITE SEASON**
Summer
- **FAVORITE SNACK**
Dark chocolate and hummus
- **FAVORITE HOBBY**
Exploring National Parks

- **DO YOU COLLECT ANYTHING?**
I use to collect recipe books

MRS. RACHEL AMAN KITCHEN COORDINATOR



- **HOMETOWN**
Redfield, SD
- **FAVORITE SEASON**
Spring
- **FAVORITE SNACK**
Popcorn
- **FAVORITE HOBBY**
Being outside

- **DO YOU COLLECT ANYTHING?**
No :)



ACS

4 Day Week!

STARTING FALL OF 2026 AT ABERDEEN CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

ACS recognizes that one size does not fit all, and we are committed to supporting each family's unique needs!

Accepting enrollment year round!

CONTACT US

605.225.2053

www.aberdeenchristianschool.com
school_office@aberdeenchristianschool.com

Come GROW with us!!!

Faith and Family **FIRST**

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- Prioritize family-school partnership
- Cultivates deeper discipleship and community engagement
- Expands flexibility for families and staff
- Delivers strong, targeted academic support
- Supports hybrid homeschooling, co-ops, and flexible scheduling