

DECEMBER 2025

FOOTSTEPS OF FAITH

NEWSLETTER OF ABERDEEN CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

God is With Us

This is the first and greatest truth of Christmas. God is with us. The Bible says, "The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us" (John 1:14). We do not work our way to God but in Christ, God comes to us. If you've ever felt like God is indifferent or uncaring toward you, remember the story of Christmas. Remember that God pursued you in Christ, and He continues to do so. We do not worship a distant God but rather a dwelling God – the God who makes His home among us, the God who is Immanuel, the God who is with us!

From: hopefortheheart.org

To all of our ACS families, staff, and friends - May the glory of our Savior's birth fill your heart with peace and love this Christmas!

~ACS Office

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)

Reminder



Family Information/Future Planning Meeting ACS Chapel at 3:30 p.m.



CHRISTMAS BREAK

School office closed from Dec. 22nd - January 4th

School resumes Jan. 5th



ACTIVITY PASSES

Basketball season is underway! Passes can be purchased at the office.

Rates

Student: \$25

Individual: \$40

Family: \$100



Online Spirit Shop IS OPEN!

Get your gear and be ready to cheer on our students!

WWW.PROMOPLACE.COM/ACSSPIRITSHOP



LEADERSHIP LETTER

Merry Christmas, ACS Community!

As we approach this blessed Christmas season, my heart overflows with gratitude and joy. This time of year invites us to reflect on the many hands and hearts that keep the mission and vision of Aberdeen Christian School alive and thriving, and to celebrate each precious member of our ACS community.

Christmas Blessings at ACS:

Kitchen Volunteers

To those who serve so faithfully behind the scenes — preparing meals, cleaning up, and caring for our students' physical needs — thank you. Your service is a tangible expression of Christ's love, and your faithful work nourishes not only bodies but hearts.

Substitute Teachers and Classroom Teachers

Whether you step in occasionally or lead a classroom day after day, you shape our students' minds, hearts, and spiritual lives. Your dedication to Christ-centered education models ACS's commitment to spiritual and academic excellence, and your influence extends far beyond school days.

Staff and Faculty

From office workers to support staff, athletic director to educational assistants— every one of you plays a vital role. You keep the school running smoothly and provide a stable, loving environment where students can flourish academically and spiritually.

School Board Members

A special word of gratitude is due to our School Board — a dedicated team of volunteers who give their time, wisdom, and prayerful leadership to guide ACS. These individuals willingly gather to seek solutions, turning challenges into transformational opportunities that strengthen our mission and support our long-term vision. Their commitment reflects deep stewardship, faith, and love for our students and community.

Parents and Church Partners

Your support, prayer, encouragement, and partnership make this ministry possible. Thank you for entrusting us with your children, for walking with us in Christian education, and for reflecting God's love throughout our wider community.

Scripture beautifully reminds us of the unity and diversity of God's people, "For as in one body we have many members, and the members do not all have the same function, so we, though many, are one body in Christ, and individually members one of another." Romans 12:4–5. Though each of us serves in different ways, some seen, some unseen — we are all part of one body. Every role matters. Every contribution counts.

At ACS, our mission and vision call us to train godly generations of spiritually alive servant-leaders who will impact the world for Christ and advance His Kingdom. This becomes reality because of you; each member of our community using your God-given gifts faithfully and joyfully!

As we enter this Christmas season of joy and celebration, let us take time to:

- Thank God together for each person He has placed in our community.
- Encourage one another; even a simple word of thanks can make a lasting impact.
- Serve joyfully and humbly, remembering we are one body called to build one another up.
- Share the love of Christ, reflecting His character and compassion to our students, families, churches, and community.

ACS prays, please join me:

Heavenly Father, we thank You for the gift of community at Aberdeen Christian School. Thank You for each person who serves, seen and unseen, and for the unique ways You have equipped them. Knit our hearts together in unity, humility, and love. Help us to use our gifts faithfully, to serve joyfully, and to glorify You in all we do. May this Christmas season be filled with gratitude, hope, and a renewed commitment to Your mission. Amen.

From my family to yours — Merry Christmas and blessings in Christ,

Dr. Sombke



ABERDEEN EXCHANGE CLUB YOUTH AWARDS

Each month, the Aberdeen Exchange Club sponsors these awards, which are decided upon by the students teachers. **The Youth of the Month** award is given to a high school student and is based on students involvement in school activities, community involvement and classroom performance.

The Young Citizen Award is given to a middle school student who demonstrates exemplary citizenship, great attitude, offers service to others, good leadership, and sportsmanship.

NOVEMBER:

YOUTH OF THE MONTH WINNER:

Iszabell Helm, 12th grade

YOUNG CITIZEN AWARD WINNER:

Nora Fliehs, 8th grade

DECEMBER:

YOUTH OF THE MONTH WINNER:

Daniel Opdahl, 12th grade

YOUNG CITIZEN AWARD WINNER:

Reagan Jett, 8th grade

TEACHER WISH TREE

It's time to fulfill some wishes!! The 'Teacher Wish Tree' hosted by the ACS Student Council is back! If you desire to bless a teacher this holiday season, please copy the below link into your browser to check out their wish lists! Thank you, Student Council for organizing this special project for our staff and teachers!



www.wishsite.net/wishlist/7qha3518



Student council has also put together '12 days of Christmas' to help get our students in the Christmas spirit. This has included fun dress-up days, acts of kindness, a food drive for the Salvation Army, clothing drive for Aberdeen Foster Closet, among many more! Thank you to our Student Council and advisors for planning and encouraging school and community spirit!



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 December Senior Spotlight is on ACS senior, Shawnteah La Croix!

For her senior project, Shawnteah helped to update and improve the office area this summer by painting!

We are thankful for your time and service to the school- the room turned out great!
We pray blessings over you and your senior year!

CELEBRATING ACS

A KNIGHT OUT

On December 6th, we celebrated Aberdeen Christian School with our staff, students, families, and friends at our 5th annual Knight Out! It was amazing to hear the testimonies from current students on how ACS has impacted their lives and also from a few alumni on how they are discipling others now outside of ACS.

A big *'Thank You'* to the committee members, volunteers, and students who spent many hours preparing for this evening. Of course none of it would have been possible without our generous Foundation Partners- thank you for your generosity and support of our mission!

We would also like to recognize all the individuals, businesses, and classes who donated to our silent auction! With the help of all those who attended, and separately from our Partnerships, we were able to raise over **\$24,600** that evening through our silent auction, Special Project, and general donations. Please see [page five](#) for the Special Project that we are still raising funds for!

ACS Chaplain, Greg Fred, visits with past alumni Matt Rohrbach and Andrew Brennan and current students Asher Keller, Loyall Smith-Wade, Jett Johnson and Simon Voorhees.



The 3rd grade class with the Nerf basket they donated for the Knight Out silent auction.



ACS Chaplain, Greg Fred, visits with current seniors Iszabel Helm and Rylee Hepper during A Knight Out.

MR. HUNTER BAUER

PK-12 P.E. | 7, 8TH GRADE BIBLE



HOMETOWN

Aberdeen, SD

FAVORITE SEASON

Fall

FAVORITE SNACK

Fruit snack, Oreos

DO YOU COLLECT ANYTHING?
No

FAVORITE HOBBY

Farming, hunting, spending time with family



MS. TEVAN BRYANT

4TH GRADE



HOMETOWN

Sioux Falls, SD

FAVORITE SEASON

Fall

FAVORITE SNACK

Cheese, meat & crackers, cookies, any chocolate

DO YOU COLLECT ANYTHING?
No

FAVORITE HOBBY

I love to cook and bake



VANTASTIC

★★ FUNDRAISER ★★

Our school is in need of a new van for trips, activities, and safe student travel. Join the mission!

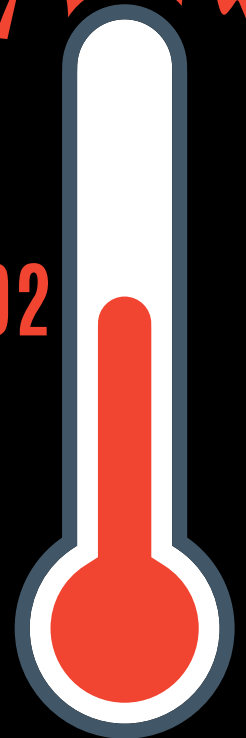


\$45,000

**THANK YOU TO ALL WHO
DONATED TO OUR SPECIAL
PROJECT AT OUR
KNIGHT OUT EVENT!**

\$20,792

**We have \$24,208
left to raise!!!**



WILL YOU HELP US REACH OUR \$45,000 GOAL?

WAYS TO GIVE

• **Donate online to our Zeffy account:**

<https://www.zeffy.com/en-US/donation-form/van-tastic-fundraiser>

• **Cash/Checks can be given
to the ACS front office**