



Footsteps



Toward a Better Tomorrow

Volume 14, No. 2

A periodic publication of FJS, designed to keep you aware of FJS facts and faces

Winter 2013-2014

Thanksgiving Feast of 2013

By Diane Aviles

FJS held its annual Thanksgiving Feast on November 27 on a cloudy, rainy day.

This year Miss Detweiler

planned the activities and she had a lot of great ideas. She had the upper school kids and a teacher sit at each table with their group of lower school students.

These groups were competing to be the best group.

For the first activity each child got a pipe cleaner and then those



Bean Art activity

at the table had to agree on what they were all thankful for this year. Once the group agreed on a theme, they had to make a display with the pipe cleaners and

make one picture. Some chose the theme of family, life, friends, and food.

Next, students had a bean art activity where they had a piece of



Students dressed up as Pilgrims and Indians (from left to right) Arianna Hartzler, Adina Allert, Vanessa Bedoya

paper and drew a picture of what they were thankful for, then used glue to put different colored beans on the paper. Clothes and food were a big muse for most children.

The last game was a guessing game, where students needed to act out a certain word that they were given. Words like "parent," "giving" and "appreciation" were hard words to act out. It was funny to try to figure out what the word was while watching the action of a fellow student.

After all the activities it was time to eat, and all the food was great. Miss Jen was in charge of getting all the parents to

bring food and there was a lot of food. There were three turkeys and two trays of rice, mashed potatoes, stuffing, corn, salad and dessert. We had a very original

thanksgiving lunch with the whole school and some parents and other family members who came to enjoy the day with the students.

It was a very good day even though it was a gloomy one.

2nd Quarter Honor Roll

A Honor Roll (93%-96%)

Kaylah Wharwood (3rd)

Logan Herschberger (4th)
Jaedon Mast (4th)

Abigail Allert (8th)
Shianne Hartzler (8th)

B Honor Roll (85%-92%)

Amaryllis Rodriguez (3rd)
Deborah Vega(3rd)

Heidi Bu (4th)
Jackson Good (4th)
Benjamin Schwartz(4th)
Keanna Wharwood (4th)

Arielle Allert (5th)
Zachary Hartzler (5th)

Isaiah Vega (7th)

Felicia Feliciano (8th)

A.J. Vasquez (10th)

Be a Spring Promo Event Sponsor

Invitations to the 2014 spring promo event are complimentary. However, friends of FJS are invited to help underwrite the cost of the meetings through sponsorships.

Sponsors are needed to cover the costs of the tech equipment and webcasting of the FJS event, the costs of the dinners at Der Dutchman in Plain City, OH event and the costs of the dessert buffets in Delaware and Kansas.

Sponsors receive a tax-deductible receipt for their donations and are listed on the master program to be distributed at each event.

If you are interested in helping sponsor the spring promotional events, contact FJS at 718-235-5493 or email <fjs@fjschool.org>.

The **Footsteps** is a periodic publication of:

Followers of Jesus School

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And the things you have heard me say in the presence of many witnesses entrust to reliable men who will also be qualified to teach others. 2 Tim. 2:2 (NIV)

FJS is a ministry of Followers of Jesus Mennonite Church.

FJS to Webcast Spring Promo

FJS is inviting friends of the school to learn more about its ministry through a complimentary informational program to be webcast on Tuesday evening, March 25, 2014, to locations across the country.

The event will provide an opportunity for guests to see and hear from FJS students and families and introduce new friends to FJS.

A dessert buffet will be held at Greenwood Mennonite Church in Greenwood, Delaware and in Hutchinson, Kansas at Center Amish Mennonite Church. In Plain City, Ohio, a dinner meeting will be held at Der Dutchman.

The first part of the evening will include informal sharing by FJS families and, hopefully, greetings from the outlying regions to FJS and the other regions through video chat.

The second part of the evening will be a three-quarter hour program featuring music and testimonies by FJS students and alumni, an informative video, and a short message.

Opportunity will be given at the end of the evening to sign up as a Prayer Warrior or Tuition Partner or donate to the ministry of FJS.

There is still opportunity for other communities to participate in the evening. Interested persons should contact FJS by calling 718-235-5493 or emailing <fjs@fjschool.org>.

To register for one of the events, contact FJS or the regional representative below.

Greenwood Mennonite Church,

Greenwood, DE

Contact: Daniel Yutzky

TEL: 302-422-5952

Email: MaryAnnYutzky@gmail.com

Der Dutchman, Plain City, OH

Contact: Kevin Stutzman

TEL: 614-560-0276

Email: truebuckeye@juno.com

Center Mennonite Church

Hutchinson, KS

Contact: Marvin Miller

TEL: 620-921-5421

Email: marvinlmiller@juno.com

Half-Year Celebration

By Shianne Hartzler

FJS's annual Half-year Celebration was on Monday, January 27, 2014. It was planned by Student Council. Every hour on the half hour Student Council had an activity or snack for all the students.

At 9:30, each class was given a Mad Minute which they had to do in half a minute. The next activity was at 10:30; the lower school was given half a picture and they had to finish drawing it. The upper school was given a mad libs to fill out. The winners of the mad minute and half

picture from each class got a piece of candy.

At 11:30 everyone got to choose half a donut. A half a cup of hot chocolate with whipped cream and

marshmallows on top was given out at 12:30.

Then there was a fire drill at 1:30 and everyone went outside. Once they all came back in, everyone went to the basement. Student Council explained

their games and everyone played "Fire on the Mountain" and "Ship, Shore."

At the end of the day when the children were asked if they had a good day, they all said they had fun.



Students playing fire on the mountain

Christmas Program

By Lisbeth Landau

On December 12, 2013 at 7:30 p.m. FJS held its annual Christmas program where the students got to show their family and friends what they had been practicing since the beginning of the school year.

The program started with some of the piano students playing as people started taking their seats. Then the candlelight processional began where the entire student body came in holding an electric candle and fell into place to sing two songs. Richard Schwartz prayed and the program went on.

The first and second graders



First and Second graders in the "Christmas Alphabet"

were led by Linda Herschberger. They performed two songs. Then they performed a little skit. The first song that they sang was "Baby Jesus" and next they sang "Christmas Is the Time to Love." The little skit that they performed was called "A Christmas Alphabet."

The third and fourth graders performed a play led by Linda Gavin. The play was called "Christmas Around the World." In the play there were multiple songs that were performed by Ms. Gavin and the students. Ms.

Gavin sang "Silent Night" in French and the students sang "Feliz Navidad" in Spanish. They all sang "RuRu, the Bright-Nosed Kanga" which was a song making fun of Rudolf the red-nosed reindeer. Then last they all sang some traditional Christmas carols.



Fifth and Sixth graders singing "O Beautiful Star of Bethlehem"

The fifth and sixth graders were led Elizabeth Rodriquez and Leslie Nazario. They sang "O Beautiful Star of Bethlehem."

The upper school choir was led by James E. Gochnauer.

They sang three songs: "The Russian Carol," "Coventry Carol," and "A Faithful Shepherd Is My Lord."

Throughout the program there were many of Mr. Miller's piano students playing songs they have been practicing. They played before performances and in between sets. They all did an amazing job playing their pieces.

During intermission, an offering

was collected in place of a fall fund-raiser selling chocolates. The total was over \$1,200 which was twice as much money as last year's chocolate sales.

At the end of the program the whole school came together and sang two songs "Fear Not, Fear Not, O Ye Shepherds" and "Go Tell It on the Mountain."

After that there were finger foods for everyone to share. All of the parents were very impressed with the performances. The children were very happy that they got to show their families what they learned. People said that the choir was beautiful.

The Christmas program of 2013 was a wonderful experience and it turned out great.



Whole School Choir

Basketball Tournament in PA

By Joshua Allert

Every year there is an opportunity to participate in a basketball tournament hosted by Faith Mennonite High School in Lancaster, Pennsylvania. The tournament dates were January 17-18 and this year FJS chose to participate. On the team were Joshua Allert, Desmond Cox, Joseph Lopez, A.J. Vasquez (FJS students), Mike Vaughn, Jonathan Guillaume, and Angely Germosen (Boys Camp).

Part of the FJS team went down on January 17 for a trip to the tabernacle at the Mennonite Information Center in Lancaster and the rest of the team went down the same afternoon.

The first game was at 7:00 p.m. against the JV

team of Terre Hill High School, and FJS won that game. The next game was at 9:00 p.m. against the varsity team of Faith Mennonite, the defending champions from last year. It was a close game but, unfortunately, FJS lost that one.

The team then lodged over night at Mr. & Mrs. Kenneth Beiler's home in Lancaster. Because they had lost the second game, the next game was at 8:00 a.m. It was a very early game and the team did not eat breakfast. FJS lost that game as well.

They came back from the game tired and sore to enjoy Mrs. Beiler's delicious breakfast of sausage and pancakes. They were happy to have won their first game in several years.



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Mark Your Calendar

February 17 No School, President's Day
 February 20 MACSA Bible Quiz-a-thon
 February 27 MACSA Bible Quiz-a-thon
 March 12-14 MACSA Bible Quiz Retreat
 March 28 End of 3rd quarter
 April 1-3 NYS EIA, Grades 4 & 8