



Santiam Christian Schools News Publication

THE EAGLE EYE

HOME OF THE EAGLES



photo by: Skippy's World Photography

Eagles Capture First Ever Football State Championship!



photo by: Jessica Smith

Home-Grown Principal! Peter Ness Steps into a New Role

AN INSIDE LOOK:

- 2 SUPERINTENDENT
- 3 NEWS BRIEFS
- 4 SPORTS NEWS
- 5 FACULTY FOCUS
- 6 NEWS BRIEFS
- 7 ALUMNI FOCUS/ALUMNI NEWS
- 8 LEAVE YOUR MARK
- 8 COMING EVENTS



Greetings and Appreciation

The 2011-12 school year is now well underway. It was a great start with 664

students from preschool through 12th grade. We are already beginning the 2nd quarter and are headed toward Christmas. Grandparents Day, Homecoming, and the auction were a great success. Thank you to all of you who helped make each of these events spectacular.

Fall Activities

Congratulations to our coaches, athletes, and fans on an outstanding fall season. They have been an excellent spiritual witness, gained significant life-learning experiences, and enjoyed incredible successes. Our football team brought home our very first football state championship. The volleyball team won their league championship and our girls' soccer team advanced farther than ever before. SC's top-notch drama program has given its first performance at the Majestic Theater in Corvallis; and FFA is actively engaged in various competitions.

Annual Gifts

As we approach the end of this calendar year, several of you have contacted me regarding giving opportunities at Santiam Christian. We are so grateful to those who have invested in this ministry. Your dollars provide such things as tuition assistance, computer upgrades, and science equipment and help fill in the gap between actual educational costs and current tuition. Your support is deeply appreciated as you partner with us to train and equip the next generation.

New Teaching Staff

This year brings some wonderful new additions to our SC teaching team. Their love for Jesus, knowledge of their subject area, and desire to make a difference in students' lives is an exciting combination.

New Library Building

On September 9 of this year, a dedication and ribbon cutting ceremony was held for family and friends of Santiam Christian Schools. We are currently utilizing the first floor and our experiences can be summed up in one word . . . AMAZING! We are so grateful for God's miraculous provision.



New Football/Soccer Field

This fall our teams have been blessed with the incredible miracle of a new pro-turf athletic field. Not only is it beautiful, it has had a significant impact on our ability to host multiple events during the course of a week. This debt-free facility is another example of God's hand on our school.

Ministry Involvement

Over the summer and into this fall many of our students have been involved in ministry opportunities like Camp Attitude and the Dominican Republic team. What a joy it is to see our students learn first-hand the application and living out of their faith. At Santiam Christian, we believe in the absolute truth of God's Word and that the principle found in Matt. 22:37-39 is foundational to impacting our culture. "Love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with your entire mind...and the second is like the first, love your neighbor as yourself."

What an impact our students can have on our culture when they love God with their whole heart, soul, and mind, and love others the same way that God loves us!

With grateful appreciation,

Stan Baker, Superintendent

Capital Campaign – New Building

The first floor of the almost 40,000 square foot academic center was completed for the first day of school. It is beyond our "wildest dreams!" Thank you to all the families and friends who have given in support of this effort.



Construction is currently underway to complete the second floor and have it ready for next September. The elevator will be installed during Christmas break and excitement is beginning to build. We are building on a cash-available basis and everything that has been built so far has been completed debt-free. However, we are not finished. We need your help! As you can see from the Financial Summary below, we are approximately \$536,000 short of finishing and equipping the building with furniture, fixtures, and equipment.

There are several ways you can be a part of the miracle!

- Year-End Gifts
- Capital Pledges
- Buy-a-Brick (See page 8)
- Sponsor a Square Foot \$150
- Sponsor Specific Materials*
- Sponsor an Entire Room*

Financial Summary

Budget for 2nd Floor	\$ 1,266,000
Cash & Pledges on Hand	\$ 980,000
Remaining Amt. for Building	\$ 286,000
Furniture, Fixtures & Equipment	\$ 250,000
Yet to Raise to Move in Debt Free	\$ 536,000

*Please call us if you would like more information or you are interested in sponsoring a room or materials. Call 541-745-5524, ext. 244.



Second floor construction



Real Live Missionary Experience

Teachers, Eric Peterson and Tracy Bartholomew, took a group of fourteen students to the Dominican Republic to work with Students International (SI) in mid-October. This was Santiam's second outreach with SI whose goal is to provide students an opportunity to communicate in Spanish, to participate in the local culture, and to understand the connection between community development and ministry. Construction, medicine, occupational therapy, social work and education were some of the ministry sites in which SC students gained hands-on experience.

Rachel Maupin and Vicki Kreger had the opportunity to work in a Dominican hospital and work side by side with American missionaries and nationals. They assisted in two births and saw firsthand how a local hospital was run. They noticed that many of the expectant mothers came to give birth with little or no prenatal care. Vicki, who plans to enter the medical field, is now considering the possibility of serving in a poverty stricken country.



Vicki Kreger

Excellence in Writing

Look into any classroom on the Santiam campus this fall, and you will find students throughout the school doing the same thing. They are using key word outlines, quality adjectives, strong verbs, and are banishing boring words. They are learning to "write with excellence." After careful research and hours of training, all writing teachers are implementing a new writing curriculum called Excellence in Writing. The program was established over 70 years ago, and the schools that have adopted it have seen astonishing results in writing performance.

The program offers a clear and sequential method of teaching writing that is easily learned and easily applied. Even though it has required changing much of their curriculum, teachers have said the program is effective, simple to use, and fun. It has also allowed the school as a whole to evaluate and coordinate the writing curriculum between the grades, and to ensure that students will be building on the same concepts each year.

"The best thing about teaching the Excellence in Writing curriculum is the reaction from the students," said fourth grade teacher, Misty Herbert. "They love it! Every day they enjoy writing and are excited about it. Wow! This is a drastic change, but the best thing is the vast improvement in the quality of their writing. In just three months, they have achieved a higher level of writing that is much more descriptive and insightful. This curriculum has exceeded my expectations. I think we will see remarkable progress and benefits each year!"



Misty Herbert



Thumbprint: The Santiam Thumbprint is a brief look at the unique students and staff – and this time, an alum – who set us apart.

Santiam graduate, Brian Herling ('96), was recently in jail in Wenatchee, Washington, but it's not what you might think! Brian is a teacher at an alternative high school and one of his students was jailed on gun charges last September. The student was very close to graduating, and Brian didn't want to see that hope die. He arranged to visit the young man and challenged him to finish the few remaining chapters of math. The young man was shocked at the personal attention - something he had rarely experienced from a teacher. He even wrote a letter to the local newspaper commending him for his support.

"This young man has a great deal of potential," said Brian "and I wanted to help him focus on a life after jail." Brian is encouraging him to graduate and attend a community college.

Brian and his wife Krista live in Wenatchee where he teaches math at Westside School. They have two boys Cory (4), and Noah (1), and are expecting twin girls in early spring. Be sure to read the story about Brian's twin sister, Allison on page 7.

Be a Part of a Miracle!

Please prayerfully consider your financial gift. Please enclose your gift in the attached envelope or contact the Development Office for ways in which you can help!



541-745-5524, ext. 244



photo by Bruce McCain from SmugMug

Eagles Capture the State Championship!

Just two seconds! Hardly enough time to blink, but that's all the Eagles needed to make Santiam history as they won the 3A state football championship at Hillsboro stadium on December 3. When the Dayton Pirates tied the game with a little over a minute left, the Eagles, who had held the lead most of the game, fought back. Teamwork and gutsy plays by Grant Schroeder and Alex Hovelsrud brought the ball to Dayton's 29 yard line where Jeff Hendrix kicked a record 47-yard field goal, giving Santiam Christian its first ever state football championship.

Santiam fought hard throughout the playoffs, intercepting three Nyssa passes to win 18-14 in the quarterfinals and

defeating Cascade Christian, 56-36 in the 3A state semifinals at Cottage Grove. This was the third time the Eagles have made the finals, and the memory of losing last year made them even hungrier for a victory.

"Our motto this year was 'Expect to Win' – and we did," said Coach David Lange. "We weren't overly confident, but this resonated with the boys and they were willing to do the tough work to be #1. This team had the right spirit and a good heart," he added. "We became a true family, a brotherhood, supporting and encouraging each other throughout the season."

Volleyball – 4th in State

The girls' volleyball team was first in league and worked their way to state where they finished fourth. A five game match against Cor-



bett, ending in a nail-biting loss of 17 – 19, dashed their dream of a third-in-row championship, but the girls fought back fiercely the next day, winning against Vale and Valley Catholic, both in demanding five game sets. Coach Kim McLain said this team had more fight in them than any team she has ever seen.

Coach Kim McLain was selected as the 3A state coach of the year for 2011 and Sara Almen was named to first-team all-state.

Soccer

The girls' soccer team made history as they advanced further in state than any other Santiam soccer team by finishing third in Special District 3. A last minute goal by Caitlin Fettig in a home

game against Dayton kept their hopes alive for a district championship, but a loss to Blanchet Catholic brought the season to an end. Coach Bishop was proud of the girls for coming as far as they did.

Playing home games on the new Santiam soccer field was one of the highlights of the season for the boys' soccer team. Coach Reinhardt said his hard working team improved their record from last year for an overall finish of 5-7-3.



Abbey Roberts

Cross Country

Jacob Howard set the season record for cross country with an 18:56 finish in the 5K. The team enjoyed the new home course which included a trail behind the new sports field.



Almen and Hendrix Sign to Play with OSU

Sara Almen and Jeff Hendrix donned OSU caps as they signed letters of intent to play Division I sports for OSU. Sara will join former SC teammate Tayla Woods on the Beaver volleyball team, and Jeff will play outfield for the baseball team. Both are accomplished athletes who have won awards in multiple sports.

Jeff, who is the first boy at SC to sign with a Division-1 school, helped pitch the SC varsity baseball team to a state championship in 2010 and was first-team all-state infielder in 2010.

Coach Matt Nosack is confident that Jeff will find success at OSU. "They will get a tremendous athlete," he said, "and he will get to earn his degree while being a part of one of the best baseball team environments in the country."

Sara helped lead the volleyball team to back to back state championships in 2009 and 2010 and a fourth place finish at state this year. She was named to first team all-state for the second year in a row. Coach Kim McLain said, "She has what it takes to be a great athlete but that alone did not get her to where she is today. Her desire to give all that she has, to learn and to strive for excellence, makes her who she is today and what she will be in the future."





Peter Ness Steps into a New Role



When Peter Ness, the new elementary principal, walks around campus you might notice students eagerly waiting to give him a “high-five.” That has become his trademark greeting, and he has never found a child that doesn’t warm up to a high five. “When I give your children a high five,” Mr. Ness explained at the parent meeting, “it is my

way of telling them I love them.”

Mr. Ness grew up in Oregon and graduated from Western Oregon University in 2002 with an education degree in K-12 physical education and health and is currently finishing research for a master’s degree in educational administration at George Fox. He married Kimberly (Schloeman) (‘98) in 2001 and they have four boys. Caleb is seven and is in first grade at Santiam, twins, Jeremy and Kamran are five and Jordon is two.

Mr. Ness initially thought public education was his calling, but when his mother-in-law, Karen Schloeman, mentioned that

a position was open at Santiam, he applied. His first interview with Mr. Starr changed his perspective and a passion for Christian education began to grow. The environment at Santiam drew him in. While many of his colleagues from WOU were complaining about their first-year experiences, he felt supported, loved and encouraged. That passion is now a part of who he is.

As a teacher, Mr. Ness enjoyed the direct classroom interaction with students. He taught health, anatomy & physiology, weight training, and junior high PE. He felt his classroom influence was effective and rewarding, but God was calling him to have a greater influence at SC. The idea of administration had been suggested to him during his college years, but at that time, the classroom was his focus. However, as he watched the Santiam administrators guide the school in fulfilling its mission, he realized how crucial the leadership is in creating the direction and atmosphere.

Teachers and students alike are enjoying their new principal. “Mr. Ness came in with an open attitude and really listened to us,” said Becky Borg, a fifth grade teacher. “Even though he clearly had a vision for the elementary school, he valued what we already had in place.”

“I am inspired to continue the great legacy that SC has developed over the past decades,” said Mr. Ness. “While academics will continue to be a strong focus, I would like to see a greater emphasis on spiritual growth. Santiam has always been about partnering with families. The more we become family; the stronger Santiam Christian is going to be.”

New Teachers

Several new teachers joined the Santiam staff this fall, including some very familiar faces.



Tracy Kneibuehler is teaching geometry, Algebra 2 and honors Algebra 2. Tracy earned a BS in electrical engineering from OSU and received her teacher licensure from WOU. She previously worked for 17 years as an electrical engineer at Wah Chang and Hewlett-Packard. She has also taught math at South Salem High School. “I have seen through my daughter’s experience at SC,” said Mrs. Kneibuehler, “that this is a special place where students and staff treat each other like family.”



Jared Callis (‘07) graduated from Santiam Christian in 2007, and earned a BS in education at Western Oregon University. Two weeks after graduation, he married his wife

Michelle, whom he met at Western Oregon. He is thoroughly enjoying teaching PE at Santiam Christian and is glad to be able to impact student’s lives in the same way his teachers at SC did for him. He is also currently coaching jr. high wrestling



Another SC graduate, **Heidi Grosenbach (‘84)**, who was in an aide position last year, is now the preschool lead teacher. Heidi graduated from WOU with a BA in education. She taught 2nd grade at SC for several years. Her daughters, Rischelle and Makenzi attend the elementary school.



LaRee Roth graduated from Corban University with a BS in science and math. She teaches health and anatomy & physiology. She and her husband Timothy (‘96) live in Lebanon.



Misty Redlin is teaching elementary music. She attended Dawson Community College in Glendive, Montana and received her Youth Ministry Certificate in 2002. She completed her Lay Ministry Certificate in 2004, and in 2010 took online music classes at Berkley Music College. She taught 8th grade music in Montana and has taught voice and guitar lessons for 8 years.

Touching the Nations

Written by: Steve Bittner



Wesley Shi (China), JB Bordenave (France), Simon Meemken (Germany)

The Santiam Christian influence extends far beyond the borders of our campus north of Corvallis. SC graduates live and work across the globe. Santiam students have recently been involved in on-going projects in China, Dominican Republic, Ukraine, and Uganda. International students from around the world come to our campus to be educated, learn about U.S. culture, and experience life with Christ-following families. This year, we started the school year with 34 students from a variety of nations, and it appears we will end the year with several additional students!

In recent years, Santiam Christian has welcomed international students from Albania, Russia, Turkey, Germany, France, Mexico, China, Chile, Korea, Japan, Vietnam, Taiwan, Colombia, Latvia, and Denmark. These students attend Santiam ranging from one semester to up to six years, receiving a strong education and exposure to the Biblical philosophy that is the foundation of Santiam Christian School.

Not only is our school enriched by the presence of these wonderful people; but many of the students, as well as their families, are forever changed. Due to the influence of Santiam students and the ministry of outstanding host families, a large percentage of students return to their families and countries with a radically different worldview, changed forever!

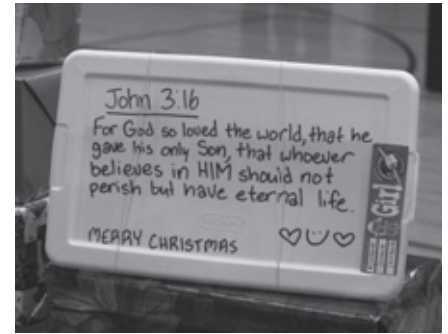
Santiam is providing strong support for these international additions to our student body via an English Language Lab class taught by Linda Nimmo. Barb Hoffman leads a lively "Introduction to Christianity" class where students are clearly presented with the basics of the Christian faith. In some of their regular academic classes, first and second year students' classes have an ESL designation providing an additional level of support as they adapt to a U.S. system of education.

Many of our international visitors integrate fully into the life of the student body and participate in athletics, drama productions, student government, and even Homecoming Court! This year's Homecoming King was Wang Tuo, otherwise known as Paul Wang, from Southern China. Paul came to us his tenth grade year and will graduate this coming spring.

Our school is greatly enhanced by these visitors! If you have questions, or are interested in hosting a student, please feel free to e-mail Steve Bittner: bittners@santiam.org.

Operation Christmas Child

This year, Santiam Christian students and their families, under Jill Martinson's direction, donated 425 boxes to Operation Christmas Child. With nearly 400 families at our school, this was a great representation of our school family. "The great compassion and generosity that was demonstrated through your effort," she said to the students, "will go a long way toward demonstrating God's love to many, many children and their families. Please continue to pray for the child that will receive your box."



Shoebox ready to go



Loading the boxes

Operation Christmas Child is a project operated by Samaritan's Purse where churches, schools, and other organizations collect shoeboxes filled with toys, school supplies, personal items, and other gifts. These boxes, accompanied by the message of God's love and

salvation, are then distributed as Christmas gifts to needy children around the world. Miss Martinson encouraged the grade school to get involved about ten years ago, and for the last two years, the junior high and high school have joined in as well.

Fun Family Events

Homecoming ended on a high note with victories for Santiam soccer and football teams.

Both boys' and girls' varsity soccer teams played Jefferson at home and the football team defeated Salem Academy, 63-7. During the half-time celebration, Paul Wang and Molly Bartholomew were crowned as king and queen of the homecoming court.



Molly Bartholomew and Paul Wang

Grandparents Day was held on October 21, and was a wonderful opportunity for grandparents and many other special guests to get a glimpse of the younger Santiam community.

The annual auction took place on October 29, with a fabulous meal provided by our very own chef, Carl Madison, the new head of the high school food services. Esther Knaupp made a presentation on the history of the remodeling and construction on campus, finishing with the amazing story of the new library, science and community building.



Allison Herling Ruark – World Changer

On a recent trip to Africa, Allison Herling Ruark ('96) visited homes that were almost bare of furniture and bed-

ding due to the poverty of AIDS. She saw tiny, old grandmothers caring for a houseful of children because of AIDS." "It shouldn't be this way," her heart cried out, "This is not what God intended."



Allison with delegates at a Nigerian conference

Allison's dream of living and working in Africa began while she was a senior at Santiam Christian – a dream that has led her on a spectacular journey. She and her twin brother, Brian Herling ('96), grew up in Saudi Arabia where their father Derald Herling was an engineer for the oil business. They came to Santiam as freshmen.

Allison earned a BA at Williams College in Massachusetts. Pre-med was her plan, but during a trip to Africa, she discovered the field of public health and was drawn to the idea of researching and preventing disease rather than merely treating patients. When she completed a MS at OSU in public health, her plans initially did not include working in AIDS prevention. However, a defining moment came while reading about the church's role in Uganda's success against HIV/AIDS. It hit her that the church needed to join the battle, and she wanted to help identify and respond to the dynamics that cause AIDS to spread.

In 2004, Allison moved to Washington, DC where she worked for several AIDS prevention organizations, including one which took her to Malawi, Mozambique, and Haiti to coordinate a US-government funded AIDS program being implemented through community-based organizations and churches.

From there, Allison became a research fellow at Harvard. She worked on the AIDS Prevention Research Project with Edward C. Green whose writings first awakened her interest in AIDS. They co-

authored a book, *AIDS, Behavior and Culture: Understanding Evidence Based Prevention* (West Coast Press, 2011) which argues that success in ending the spread of AIDS will come, not through technology, but from changes in human

behavior. Her work has been published in numerous academic journals and publications, including the *Journal of the American Medical Association*, and she has given presentations to meetings of the Global Health Council and the International AIDS Conference, among many others.

Allison is married to Joel Ruark, a man she describes as a "multi-talented guy" - an engineer, an accomplished musician and a theologian with a masters from Gordon Conwell. They are expecting their first child in February. She is currently a consultant for the World Bank's Global HIV/AIDS Program and serves on the board of Christian Connections for International Health. Last year she began a PhD at Johns Hopkins School of Public Health.

Next fall, the Ruarks will move to South Africa where Allison will conduct research for her PhD on marriage in southern Africa, exploring how the church, the public health community, and others can help people form relationships that are faithful and long-lasting to help prevent the spread of AIDS. "God intended for husbands and wives to have life-giving relationships," she says, "not to give each other deadly diseases; for children to grow up in loving families, not to watch their parents die and live in grinding poverty and neglect."

Class Reunions

Class reunions are exciting and fun. Did you know that when you plan your class reunions around the date of the Alumni Blast, activities and food can be planned for you?

If you are interested in planning a reunion, please call or e-mail the school. We will gladly provide you with names, addresses, dates, etc. Be sure to visit the alumni area for reunion news on Santiam Christian's website at: www.santiamchristian.org.

Attention Class of '92 Grads

We are planning a 20 year reunion on Saturday, June 30, 2012. More details to follow. If you are interested in helping or have ideas to share, please e-mail Julie (Hill) Biancheri at juliebiancheri@yahoo.com.

Alumni Keep in Touch With Us on Facebook!

Send us your new contact information, updates, and stories for publishing in this section by joining "Santiam Christian Alumni" on Facebook. We will keep you informed of all the current events at SC.

Alumni News ('00) Lisa (Misek)

and David Shielee of Gig Harbor, WA, are the proud parents of Natalie Isabella, born November 1, 2010. Dodi Misek, former 6th grade teacher at SC, is the proud grandmother.



Britni Steiling ('07)

and Michael D'Elisa were married on August 6, at Kibble Ranch in Lebanon, OR. They live in Eugene, OR, where both of them work for Northwest Christian University. Britni is assistant director of campus ministries and also works for Hosea Youth Ministries providing spiritual guidance to homeless teens.



Abby Olson ('07) and Eric Weekly were married on August 20 at the home of Abby's parents in Albany, Oregon.

NONPROFIT ORG
 U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
 SIPRINT



Buy a Brick - Reserve Your Spot Today! Limited Number Available

The Heritage Plaza, which will mark the path between our newest buildings, will be filled with messages of memories, congratulations, and celebration from students, parents, alumni, and loyal supporters. Imagine seeing your custom brick(s) commemorating your support of the Santiam Christian Schools! These will be a lasting memory where you can leave your mark for the future.

Here's your chance to be a part of the excitement by purchasing a commemorative brick for the Plaza. All sizes can be engraved with your family names or company logo.

- 6 x 12 brick = \$250
- 12 x 12 brick = \$500
- 24 x 24 brick = \$1,000

For more information, contact the Development Office today!
 541-745-5524, ext. 244
development@santiam.org

COMING EVENTS

JH & HS Christmas Concert	Dec 12
Elementary Christmas Program	Dec 13
Christmas Break	Dec 17 – Jan 2
Junior Players - But Why Bump Off Barnaby?	Jan 27, 28 & 29

THE EAGLE EYE
HOME OF THE EAGLES

Administration

Stan Baker, Superintendent
 Wilbur Starr, HS Principal
 Steve Bittner, JH Principal
 Peter Ness, Elem. Principal
 Anthony Baugher, Athletic Director
 Joanna Haugen, Business Admin.

Editorial Board

Susan Canfield, Writer, Editor
 Sami Beam
 Peggy Fletcher
 Steve Roderick
 Stacy Rogers, Layout
 Joanna Haugen

*Photos: Rolf McEwen, Kathy Winnett, Esther Knaupp, Jessica Smith, and Bruce McCain (SmugMug).
 Sports & Events Photographer: Kris Reichmuth (Skippy's World Photography)*

Subscriptions to The Eagle Eye are available to alumni, donors, and friends of Santiam Christian Schools at no charge. If you would like to be included or removed from our mailing list, please contact us at: 541-745-5524, ext. 244 or development@santiam.org