

Mission Statement >>>

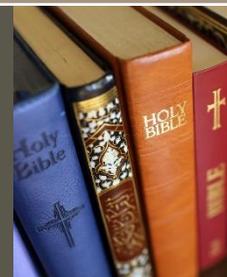
Our aim is to assist parents in educating covenant children in accordance with God's Word as we confess that in the Three Forms of Unity, to equip and assist them in developing their individual gifts and talents for a joyful life of responsible stewardship to God's glory.



www.harvestschool.ca

Principal: James Meinen

Connection



"Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen."

Hebrews 11:1

School Board >>>

Chairman: Jordan Kruisselbrink
Vice Chair: Joanie Vis
Secretary: Meaghan Hutten
Treasurer: Neil Post
Maintenance: Pete Groeneveld

Teaching Staff >>>

Grade 1-2 – Mrs. M. Kruisselbrink
Grade 2 – Mrs. J. Vantol
Grade 3-4 – Miss E. deHaan
Grade 5-6 & Principal – Mr. J. Meinen
Grade 7-8 – Miss A. Hutten

Support Staff:

Mrs. B. Spanninga
Mrs. L. Kruisselbrink
Kindergarten: Mrs. Marg Spanninga &
Mrs. Cathy Scheper

Education Committee >>>

Chair: Joanie Vis
Vice Chair: Jan Antuma
Secretary: Lindsay Hutten
Member: Janelle VanTol

Public Relations Committee >>>

Chair: Henrietta Groeneveld
Secretary: Meaghan Hutten
Member: Rachel Sikkema

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rachelsikkema@harvestschool.ca

From the Board

End of December already... 4 months of the school year are completed! What a wonderful time of year it is, celebrating the birth of our Saviour Jesus Christ! With two weeks away from school, students and staff will have a well-deserved break and hopefully the flu is behind us and we can start 2023 with everyone back in class.

This fall was an exciting time with lots of activities, which were highlighted by the many positive reports that were shared at the November membership meeting. Another shout out goes to all those involved with the online auction. What a tremendous success and blessing to our school! Although the Harvest Foundation couldn't present in person, it was good to hear in their video report that they continue to grow and can continue to financial support our schools. We can see the Lord's faithfulness in this kingdom work. High school is also a topic our society has been investigating recently. We recently had a well attended town hall to discuss our high school options and we seem to be gaining some traction in this area. More details will follow in the new year.

A big 'thank you' again goes out to our kindergarten teachers. With the birth of Lydia's newest little girl, we are blessed to

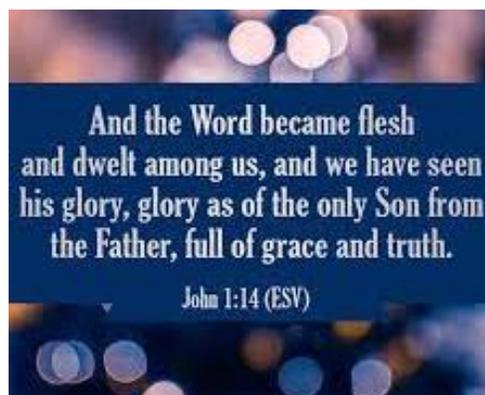
have Cathy Scheper step into this room of little personalities and cover Lydia for a time.

On the board front, we are looking forward to typical Jan/Feb tasks such as discussing and reviewing staffing needs and preparing contracts. We also hope to carve out some time to dig into strategic planning.

Please continue to pray for our school; the staff, students, volunteers, board, Ed. Com and other various committees as we work together to fulfill our Christian mandate. We hope everyone has an enjoyable break, remembering the true meaning of Christmas!.

On behalf of the Board

Jordan Kruisselbrink, Chair
boardchair@harvestschool.ca



Treasurer's Report

As we draw near to the end of the year of our Lord 2022 we can reflect once again on His goodness. Another year of covenantal education draws to a close and we have much to be thankful for. What a blessing to have such a wonderful institution where our covenantal children can get taught in His ways.

From the treasure's perspective, as the year winds down, we can report that our needs have been provided for as well. We've seen some new and returning donors whose donations help to offset the costs to our parental members, and

we've recently received funds from both the Harvest Foundation and the Golf tournament.

The approved budget for this year was projecting a small deficit and some membership changes have resulted in some further challenges to our income. Currently we are running at a deficit, so if there is the ability to donate extra at this time,

please consider doing so. As a note, 2022 receipts can only be provided for income that is deposited in our account by the year end, so if paying by cheque keep this in mind as December 31 is on a weekend.

If you have any questions feel free to contact me at any time.

Neil Post, Treasurer
treasurer@harvestschool.ca

DONATIONS ALWAYS GRATEFULLY ACCEPTED!

Please ensure that any 2022 donations are received before December 31 in order to be receipted in February 2023.

Please send e-transfers to treasurer@harvestschool.ca

See www.harvestschool.ca for rates



>>> From the Public Relations Committee

Year end greetings from the PR committee! We are so blessed to end this year with much thanks. A reason for thanks is that the PR has added a new member, Ashlea Groeneveld. We are very thankful for her willingness to be a part of the committee as the committee retirement schedule requires us to add a new member. We also are very thankful for Rachel Sikkema, for these past few years, she has been a real encouragement and help to the PR committee. Thank you, Rachel.

Recently we had a meeting with ECHS PR rep, Ilse VanderMuelen, it was a great time to hear about her work on their committee. It was a real gift to be encouraged and inspired to continue what we are doing and things that we could grow in.

Last week, you hopefully received a Christmas card in your church mailbox, we are so thankful for all the

members of Harvest. We pray that God continues to bless our membership and our school. God is faithful and we can see His kindness and faithfulness to us and to Harvest. May you reflect on His goodness in your life this Christmas season.

Blessings to you in the New Year!

Ashlea Groeneveld
Henrietta Groeneveld
Meaghan Hutten
Rachel Sikkema
publicrelations@harvestschool.ca

From the Education Committee



The education committee has been working on developing core values for our school. We also review new curriculum and provide constructive criticism on current curriculum, we look into different books and programs when things need changes, like adding coding to our math curriculum or finding new textbooks because ours are no longer in print. An exciting thing we get to do is classroom visits where we get to visit the classes while the students are there and see our staff using their amazing talents to teach our children. We also meet with the staff members and encourage them to continue to strive for excellence in their role through professional development. The last open house was a great display of professional development when Erica was able to share about teaching French. For someone who used to not like French at all she has done amazing work developing and improving the French program here at Harvest. Another area of development and improvement here at Harvest is the technology, prepping and planning for Chromebooks. Anne has been working so hard this summer and fall updating email addresses, researching internet security, setting up accounts and learning and becoming familiar herself with chromebooks for an un-techie person she has done fabulous work!! The students have been so excited using their new chromebooks and it simplifies connecting their school work to homework without the trouble of trying to find the ever elusive, often forgotten, sometimes broken USB key 😊.

We would also like to take a minute to thank Lydia for her work in preparing kindergarten for the remainder of the school year and for teaching for the first half. We wish you the Lord's blessing

as you take some time in your home to raise another beautiful covenant child, this is also an amazing task given by our heavenly Father. Marg will continue to teach kindergarten for the mornings, she has really enjoyed stepping into this role and being part of the school will only help to encourage the growth and development of her skills as a kindergarten teacher. We would also like to thank Cathy Scheper for her willingness and eagerness to step into the role of kindergarten teacher for the afternoons on Tuesday and Thursday. Cathy has been a regular volunteer in Harvest for many years and her love of children shines as she spends time in the school helping. We wish her the Lord's strength and blessing in this new task.

In our desire to support staff as a school community we had developed an HR committee. A lot of work was done to improve contract writing and awareness of the needs of our staff. We also did a principal review to provide constructive criticism to our fearless leader in his task and encourage him towards excellence and growth as well. It has been a great learning experience and has certainly helped but we have decided to merge the HR committee back into the education committee to make the best use of the resources of a small community and with a small school and staff it is very manageable to cover these tasks in one committee.

There have been many ups and downs through these last few years, we have had growth, where we were bursting at the seams of our building and now we have some smaller numbers and through all of this our children have been blessed with faithful, Biblical, God-glorifying education. The Lord has blessed us with an incredible staff

here at Harvest, staff who constantly strive to improve their curriculum and find more ways to teach about God through all areas of education.

At Harvest our children learn the wonder of our God in how He created the intricate bodies when they dissect frogs in science. They learn God is an artist in the creation around them when they go on class trips and learn about colours and different forms of art and create art themselves. They learn to praise God with their voices during choral and memory work and really at any and all possible times throughout the day. They learn about language and poetry and writing and how they can use these things to love and serve and encourage the community around them with making cards and making posters and poems for Remembrance Day. They learn about God being a God of order and seasons and times, how God created all of us unique and with feelings, emotions, gifts and talents, and how we are all created in His image. And they learn about His Word, they learn to love the stories and psalms, they learn about the life of Jesus and Paul's missionary journeys. And through all these things that they learn a foundation is built that they will carry with them into high school and post secondary school and beyond. In this way the staff has gone above and beyond their task in assisting parents and we couldn't be more thankful for them! We are excited to continue to work together as children of God striving to educate His covenant children to the best of our ability and to His glory.

On behalf of the Ed Com,

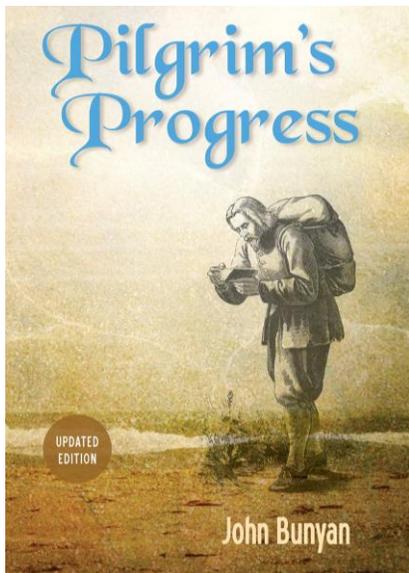
Joanie Vis

educationcommittee@harvestschool.ca

»»» From the Principal

It has been wonderful getting back into a normal school year, with sports, intramurals, assemblies and lots of classroom learning. In addition to all the fun activities of a regular year, this year we have the added bonus of students having the opportunity to take part in a major musical! This spring Harvest hopes to perform Pilgrim's Progress. Our senior students have been busy auditioning for parts and come the new year our whole student body will be busy learning the music for the play.

I have had the opportunity to read the script many times over with grade 5/6, and what struck me about this classic novel is how fitting it is in 2022. Being timely hundreds of years after being first published (it was published in 1678) is quite impressive! The novel's timeliness is particularly evident in the accusations Christian and Faithful face when professing Jesus as the only means of salvation:



Mr. Loves Things:

I clearly saw these men suggest that their so-called Prince wouldn't approve of our Lord Beelzebub. They were very disrespectful and tried to raise up traitors to join them.

Mr. Arrogance:

Mr. Loves Things is right, Lord Hategood. You know we are a very tolerant society. You know how we always let everyone do what makes them happy. The prisoners, however, dared to suggest that there is only one way to be happy. One way to be saved by following their Prince.

Hategood:

Preposterous! What do you have to say for yourselves? And I must warn you, we will not tolerate intolerance! We want only want love here.

While there is nothing new under the sun, it is also clear there has been a shift in our society these past few years away from the Christian foundation that once undergirded our society. LGBTQ+, critical race theory, and woke culture seems to have permeated the public and catholic school systems making these places often openly hostile and intolerant to those who follow Jesus Christ. This has really underscored the blessings of having a school like Harvest where all the curriculum is built upon the foundation of God's Word!

This shift in our culture has also led to a renewed focus to discuss

high school options for our children moving forward. I sometimes get asked the question, is a Christian high school really that important for my child? Isn't eight years at Harvest enough? For those mulling over such questions, I really encourage you to read the "Why Choose Harvest" section on our school website. Here is an excerpt from the first part of the "Why Choose Harvest" page:

If you are a Christian parent this is a question you may have asked or felt challenged with. We encourage you to reflect on these further questions:

1. Are my children's teachers telling them the truth?
2. What type of life equipping wisdom will my child be taught at school?
3. Is school helping, or hindering, me as a parent to strengthen and encourage my child's faith and values?
4. Who are the major influences in my child's life? Are they helping, or hindering, my role as a parent?
5. Is school preparing my child to be an ambassador of Christ?

Christian schooling matters! It is my prayer that God will bless our efforts to support parents in that endeavor as we seek options for high school.

The shifting culture has not only been the catalyst for parents in our community seeking alternatives for our children, but it has also led many parents across Canada to look at other schooling options for their children.

Continued on next page...

From the Principal continued...

CARDUS (an Ottawa think tank) recently published a paper that looks at some trends in independent schools here in this province, that I think reflect a trend of dissatisfied parents with the public system school offerings. Here are some interesting highlights from that CARDUS paper.

Firstly, independent schools are growing quite dramatically. In 2014 Ontario had 954 independent schools and today we have 1,445 independent schools. That is a 51% increase!

Unsurprisingly with increasing school numbers, we have a similar

trajectory of rising student numbers. The latest figures available for student numbers come from 2019 and show almost 150,000 students are in independent schools in Ontario. That is a sizable number for our province!

About half of the students are in religious schools and the other half are in a variety of schools (top tier schools, credit focused schools, special emphasis schools – think Montessori or Waldorf type schools, and college/university preparatory schools).

What is clear from the CARDUS study is many parents across our

province are not happy with our current public education system. Many are choosing to spend a significant amount of money to send their children to a school that better suits their needs. It is clear there is a desire for parental choice in education in our province. Currently our League of Canadian Reformed Schools is working to promote that message to Ontario government. I presently serve on the Government Contact Committee (that works under the League) and it is great having studies from CARDUS to share with our elected officials. Parental choice in education matters!

In The School

Here in the school, we see God's blessings in providing us with the needed staff for the current year. In a time when there is a significant teacher shortage across Canada, having a full complement of staff is something to be very thankful for.

There have, or will be, a few adjustments with our staffing this year due to a couple of maternity leaves. Mrs. Van Andel wrapped up her teaching at the start of December and we have been blessed to have Mrs. Cathy Scheper step in to teach afternoons in kindergarten. Mrs. Van Tol is also expecting, and

some adjustments will happen with grade 1/2 this Spring. We pray that God will watch over both mothers and their babies and praise Him for the gift of life!

Looking ahead to the new year, many of our students are looking forward to *February Clubs*. February clubs tend to be a highlight for our students, and the success of these clubs largely depends on many volunteers coming in to lead workshops. If you are interested/willing to lead a workshop (these run for three Friday afternoons in February) please contact a staff member. Clubs in the past have included, board games, crocheting, making

race cars, baking, a whole variety of art project clubs, and winter fun (sledding/skating/hiking).

To close, the staff would like to express our appreciation for the wonderful support we receive from you! We are blessed to have so many volunteering weekly in the school, having others volunteer to drive, others volunteer on various committees and others pass on words of encouragement and support. Thank you for this! On behalf of the staff, I would like to wish everyone a merry Christmas and the Lord's blessings in 2023.

James Meinen

principal@harvestschool.ca



>>> *Grade 5/6 Frog Dissections*

After grade 5/6 learned about all our different organ systems, we had an opportunity to see most of these organ systems firsthand when we took part in frog dissections. The dissections served as a great review of what we learned in our human body unit where we saw that we are indeed fearfully and wonderfully made.



Church History Interviews ~ Gr 3 & 4

>>> In Church History, Grades 3 & 4 were studying why the church is called the body of Christ. We learned that God gives different gifts to each of the members of the body so that together the many members can work together, support each other, and glorify God through our Head – Jesus Christ.

We finished off our unit by interviewing a few members from our local church. Students asked about the different tasks in the church, how members can help each other, and a bit about the history of our church here in Owen Sound. Over coffee, tea, and some delicious treats, we learned much about how the Lord has blessed our church over the years and cares for her through to today.

We hope you enjoy reading our reports!

By Reese T. Hutten

My Interview with Nana and Papa

On Tuesday, November 15, I had an interview with Nana and Papa. Katie and Noey were in my group. We talked about stuff in the church service and stuff like that. We asked a lot of questions. Then we started talking about the history of the church too. Nana and Papa guessed when the church got its name. They guessed 1996 but then they realized there was a sign that said 1992. They said there was about 65 people in the church. Before they went to our church, they went to a place called the Presbyterian Church. They didn't know how long it took to build the church. They didn't know who helped build the church; they were not there.

When they first came to the church, they said they didn't know anybody there, but a kind lady and man came up to them and shook their hands. All of the back pews were roped off. The first minister was Rev. Feenstra, and he still sometimes preaches to us. At that time there were, at least they guessed, 2 or 3 elders and 1 deacon. The services then were mostly the same only they didn't say, "our help is in the name of the Lord..." they also didn't say, "Amen, Amen, A-A-A-Amen," at the end. Now that was the history of the church, now back to the beginning of my interview.

Before the church service some of the things you need to do are, get dressed, making bulletins, eat, and things like that. There are some jobs that happen while the church service is going. Some of these are collecting money, playing piano, opening doors, turning on lights and heat.

Some things that happen throughout the week at church, at home, or at school that help make the body of Christ healthy: home visits, helping each other out when you need help, cooking for each other, that kind of thing.

Some ways members in our church continue to build and strengthen relationships with each other: praying for each other, making meals, visiting each other, having Bible study, having coffee together, prayer meetings, even grade 3/4 meetings!

Then another question was, "have you ever felt Christ's care and love for you through His body? How?" and Papa answered, "Nana was sick, and people kept on bringing meals and helped out a lot."

We also talked about how elders and deacons show us that Christ cares for us and loves us. They show us Christ's love and care by keeping in touch, helping each other, helping the poor, and visiting the sick. Members of the body share in each others' joys and sorrows by, praying for people, visiting each other, helping out with things, and listening to people, and sending cards to each other.

God gives gifts to everybody to bless the members of the body. Some of the gifts that you could find in our church are preaching, teaching, playing piano and other instruments, and listening.

Our church shares the gifts we have been given with our surrounding community by giving money to community services, going to the cenotaph, inviting people to the church and other special events.

I also asked, "what are some ways that I could use my gifts to bless others in the church?" Then Nana said, "I know! You can write this in all capitals: BE KIND TO EVERY BODY because that is what being a Christian is all about because Jesus died on the cross to save us. Jesus loves us."

One of the special memories that Nana and Papa shared were children in the school singing for concerts. They really liked it when we sang.

There are so many special things about being a part of the church.

By Levi Van Andel

The Body of Christ in Owen Sound

There are some things to do in the week that we need to get done for Sunday. The minister has to study. The church needs to be cleaned. The deacons and elders need to have meetings. The grade 7's and up need to go to Catechism. Somebody also needs to make the bulletins.

On Sunday, the ushers hand out the bulletins. The deacons collect the money. Someone needs to play the piano. The people need to go to church!

There are many talents in the church so that we can help each other. Some people can carry heavy stuff. Some people can be friends with other people and others can comfort people. The minister can share God's word with everyone. Some people can sing for others. Some people can make meals for people. Some people can go to people's houses. We can all love each other. God cares for all of us, and we care for all the church.

By Liam Sikkema

The History of Our Church

I interviewed Mr. and Mrs. Wildeboer. Levi, Keene, and I interviewed them. I am Liam Sikkema. I want to talk about the church's history. At first the church had 120 members. The church started in 1992. It took 7 months to build it. Mr. Wildeboer even helped to build the church. Rev. Feenstra was the first minister. There were 2 elders and 1 deacon. Mr. Wildeboer was the first deacon. Even the first church service was on Christmas Day. Now 30 years later, the congregation has 320 members and 8 elders and 4 deacons.

There are many ways that members of the church helped each other in the past and still help each other today like, doing piano lessons, teaching kids how to sing, becoming deacons and elders, joining in the joy of others in baptisms and weddings, and building the people up.



By Keane deGelder

My Interview

I interviewed my grandma and grandpa about the body of Christ. The church was first built in 1992. Fun fact: did you know that my grandpa was the first deacon? It took 7 months to make the church. It took Barry's Construction, church people, and Landmark to make the church. The church had its first church service on Christmas Day.

Elders care for us and guide us through visits with people, talking to us, and reading the Bible to people when they do home visits.

We can all help each other by talking to each other, being nice to each other, and sharing in the truth.



By Allison Kruisselbrink

The History of Our Church

In the beginning of the church there were 18 families and 89 members. Before the church was made, most of the 87 members went to worship in Chatsworth (there were 2 babies born after the church was built). The church was made in 1992 on July 5th. My grandma remembered that the first Sunday was Christmas Day. The official opening was February 7th, 1996.

When the church started there were 2 elders and 1 deacon. The services were still the same as they are now. Today, our church has 346 members. When the church first started, the mayor came to visit our church. Today we have 4 deacons and 8 elders. In the first bulletin, the nursery had Jordan Kruisselbrink and Lee-Ann Groeneveld: my parents weren't even married!

The church has changed a lot over the years, but God is always with us!

By Elizabeth Doan

The History of the Owen Sound Church

I want to talk about the history of the Owen Sound Church. The Canadian Reformed Church of Owen Sound was instituted on July 5th, 1992. In the beginning there was 89 members. It took 8 months to build the church. Then it officially opened on February 7th, 1997. One day that Mrs. Kruisselbrink remembers is Christmas Day 1996. The consistory had 1 deacon and 2 elders. The services then were the same as they are now, but our church has definitely grown!

By Sarah Mulder

The Body of Christ in Owen Sound

On Tuesday, November 15th, we interviewed people. Me, Alli, and Elizabeth interviewed Mrs. Kruisselbrink. The first thing we talked about was the body of Christ. The first question was, "what are some of the jobs in the church?" Some of the jobs are, doing the board at the front of the church, making the bulletin, being elders and deacons, and some Sundays they set up Lord's Supper and Baptism.

Then we went on to question 3: "what kind of things happen throughout the week in a church?" We learned that there is Bible study and Catechism in the church during the week.

Then we had a snack and carried on. Then we went to question 5: "Have you ever felt Christ's care and love for you through people in the Church?" We talked about receiving cards and meals and caring for people who have lost a family member. These are just some ways that members of the church show Christ's love to each other.





By Noelle Hutten

The Owen Sound Church

I interviewed my Nana and Papa with Reese, and Katie. We asked all the questions. We talked a lot about how we can use our talents in the church. My Nana said, “write in all capitals: BE KIND TO EVERYONE even the people you don’t like because that is what being a Christian is all about because Jesus died on the cross for us and because Jesus loves us.”

The church was built in 1992. There were 65 people in the church. It took 1 year to build the church. The first minister was Rev. Feenstra.

There are many things to do before church like: getting dressed, eating, making bulletins, but the most important thing is to be there. The people are what make a church a church.

By Katie I. Spanninga

The Body of Christ in Owen Sound

I interviewed Mrs. Hutten and Mr. Hutten. We talked about the way that our talents bless others in the church. They said to be kind to everybody even people you do not like because that is what being a Christian is all about.

There was 2 elders and 1 deacon when the church first started and 18 families and 89 people. Today there are 78 families and 284 members in our church. We sure grew a lot!

By Griffin Meinen

Some Ways to Help the Church

A way to help the church is that you could visit or pray for someone. If someone was sick you could cut their lawn or give them a card.

One very important thing is to be kind to everyone, even if you don’t like them because that is what being a Christian is all about because Jesus died on the cross for us. To be nice, you could invite someone to a special event.

I interviewed Mr. Hutten and Mrs. Hutten. We had a good time. Since I wanted Mr. Hutten and Mrs. Hutten to have more baking, I didn’t have any so our guests could have more.

By: Savannah Selles

By Janine Van Andel

My Interview with Mrs. Kapteyn

The church works together in lots of different ways. On Sunday there are jobs to do like opening the doors, livestream, handing out the bulletins and lots of other things. In the week lots of things happen like, Bible study, visiting, assemblies at school, and meetings.

There are many ways that people can share in each other's joys and sorrows like baptism, or a funeral, or visiting, hugging, praying, and much more.

There are lots of talents in the church like singing, playing the piano, art, cooking, cleaning, and much more. We can use these talents to glorify God and serve in the church.

Now I want to write a little bit about the history of the church. Before the church was built, the congregation met in Chatsworth. There were 12 families in the church at the time. The first minister was Rev. Feenstra. He sometimes comes and preaches today. The first Sunday, there were lots of visitors in the church. My Dad went to Chatsworth when he was a kid, and his family was camping.

I had a good interview with Mrs. Kapteyn. We talked a lot about the church and different ways that we can work together and the history of the church.

For Church History, I interviewed Mrs. Kapteyn to learn about the church life and when our church was younger.

On Sunday there are many jobs that need to be done. Some of these jobs are doing the live stream, playing the piano, babysitting, passing out the bulletin, and opening the doors. There is also the host family who greets everyone, and someone has to preach.

Throughout the week Bible study happens where members can learn more about God.

The church has many gifts that the members can share with others and each other. The church gives money to the Pregnancy Center and to the poor. There are also many things that church members can do to make others feel loved. We can give cards, give hugs, talk, and visit.

I could share my talents by listening, talking, making pies, babysitting, and cooking.

Some special memories that she (Mrs. Kapteyn) has are getting married and when the church just started. When the church started there were only 12 families. The church was built on July 5th, 1992. Rev. Feenstra was the first minister to preach. There were lots of home visits to make everyone feel comfortable in the new church. It was a very joyful time!



By Jason Medemblik

My Interview with Mrs. Kapteyn

My interview with Mrs. Kapteyn was good and fun. She told me many things about the church. When our church first started it was in 1992. The first minister was Rev. Feenstra.

Elders and deacons show that Jesus cares and loves us by doing home visits and asking questions of how you are doing. Everyone in the church shares in each other's joys by praying.

I also asked Mrs. Kapteyn about herself. She gets her energy by boxing. I get energy by doing karate.

For a snack, I had a cupcake and for a drink, I had tea. It was a good interview.

By Mischa Groeneveld

The History of the Owen Sound Church

I interviewed my Grandma Moo with Rebekah, Joelle, Milo, and me. The Owen Sound Church started on July 5th, 1992. Before the church was built my grandma went the Presbyterian Church in Chatsworth.

It took 8 months (from May to December) before the church was built. Before the church was built, there was nothing only grass and weeds. When they were building the church Landmark Designs, Barry's Construction, and all the members of the church helped. Christmas Day was the very first service in the new building and the Endeman twins were baptised.

There were some challenges to get to know everyone and to get a minister. There were 18 families and 89 people in the church when it first started. There were 2 elders and 1 deacon, and the minister was Rev. Feenstra. Today our church is much bigger than it was back then.

By Milo Spanninga

My Interview with Mrs. Groeneveld

When I interviewed with Mrs. Groeneveld, we talked about the body of Christ and the members of the church. My mom cooked some lemon squares. They were yummy so we ate them! Yummy!

We talked about how people can help each other in the church. We can pray for the ministers. We can read the Bible for others and tell others about the Bible. If people are sick, we can bake for them or work for them. We can also care through phone calls and visits. We can also go to people's houses to celebrate their birthdays.

We can all share our gifts and talents.



By Rebekah Antuma

History of the Owen Sound Church

The Owen Sound Church was made July 5th, 1992. I interviewed with Mrs. Groeneveld to learn more about the beginning of the church. When the church started, there were only 89 people in the congregation. The congregation met in the Presbyterian Church in Chatsworth.

Barry's construction built the Owen Sound Church. It took 8 months to make the church: May through December. There was only grass and weeds on the property.

The first Sunday was Christmas Day. That same day the Endeman twins got baptised. The first minister was Rev. Feenstra. There were 8 elders and 4 deacons.

By Joelle Groeneveld

The Body of Christ in Owen Sound

My interview was with my Grandma Moo. And in my group was Rebekah, and Milo, and Mischa. The Church was built on July 5th, 1992. There was 89 members in the church when it was built. Christmas day was the first service, and it was baptism for the Endeman twins. Our church building was built from May to December 1994; that's what my grandma thought.

Today there are 284 members in our church. Some of the jobs in the church are playing piano, host family, babysitting, and Bible study leaders. There are 8 elders and 4 deacons today in our church. Their job is to collect the money and to listen to the minister and make sure he is preaching from the Bible. They also care for the members of the church.

Members of the church can care for each other in many ways. If one person is sick, you can bake for them, make cards for them, sing to them, clean their house for them, visit them, pray with them, or mow their lawn and pull out their weeds. The body of Christ is how Jesus cares for us.

Harvest External School Review Report

Last year Harvest had a school review from the League. Thanks again for all those who took part in the review process by filling out surveys and attending the town hall. The review was very helpful for the Board in identifying strengths and weaknesses and assisting us in our five year plan for the school. Below is the summary of that review.

Areas of Strength

1. Very supportive community; a good parental school.
2. Strong, experienced, and positive staff that model Christian values in teaching and interaction with students. Staff are enthusiastic, competent, dedicated, cohesive and seek to establish close relationships with each other and with students. Staff help students focus on God-centred education.
3. Classroom atmosphere controlled, calm, with a respect for the teacher
4. Excellent humble and experienced principal
5. High quality of teaching with special care and concern for students.
6. A committed board that understands financial implications of decisions.
7. Positive Christian atmosphere and learning environment where students can thrive.
8. Positive student body who show care and concern for each other .
9. Good communication between home and school.

Areas for Further Growth

1. Increased board communication with the membership especially in the area of future upgrades of facility and adding K and/or gr 9 and 10 to the school
2. Maintain a positive image in the Owen Sound community.
3. Increase membership for non-tuition paying community members.
4. Clearly identify what the roles and boundaries are of the church and the school in the building, so that either the school or the church can move ahead with plans they may have for the building
5. Develop and keep an updated 5-year plan with attainable steps to meet the larger goals of this plan
6. Establish a 5-year plan for growth and maintenance of facilities as part of point #4 above
7. Investigate the use and place of technology in the school's program and curriculum
8. Update IT tools in the school

