

EXCELSIOR NEWSLETTER

Excelsior Classical Covenantal Community

May 2008

www.excelsiorclassical.org

Our Graduating Seniors

We are pleased to feature our three graduating seniors for this year. We pray that God will richly bless them as they pursue their future endeavors.

(see pages 2 and 3)

Recommended summer reading lists:

3rd-6th graders:

The Outcast, Rosemary Sutcliffe.

The Eagle of the Ninth,

Rosemary Sutcliffe.

The Lantern Bearers, Rosemary
Sutcliffe.

7th-8th graders:

For the Temple, G.A. Henty.

Beric the Briton, G.A. Henty.

9th-12th graders:

City of God, St. Augustine.

End of Year Program

The end of the year program and party will be at Ballard Park starting at 5:00 p.m. on May 16. We will have pizza for supper. Please let Sandy know by May 9 how many people from your family plan to attend. It would be better to overestimate than under if you're not sure. There may be a small charge for the pizza. Please bring a two liter drink per family.

Teachers – be prepared to have a presentation from your class. Please let Misty Snyder know what you plan to do for the program.

New Board Members

John & Misty Snyder
We are grateful for their willingness to serve on the Excelsior board.



Camie Crowe

From Parents:

God gave many of you the wisdom to home school as soon as He blessed you with children. Perspective with many situations in our lives, God had to whack us over the head to lead us into home schooling - and I am so grateful that He did. If Caitlin had not had a problem with reading we probably would have continued with public school, and what a loss that would have been for my children. I am so thankful that we had Excelsior to turn to for support as I would not have wanted to attempt this endeavor alone. To each of you that have taken your time to teach Camie - bless you. She has gained much under your tutelage. As we send her off into the world, I sometimes wonder if we have done enough; but I know we have grounded her in her faith, we have taught her that God controls everything from beginning to eternity and now we must show our trust in God as we let her go.

Again, thank you to our Excelsior founders, the Fradenburgs and the Cramptons. Thank you to each family because we are all in this together and our children benefit greatly from our covenantal community. As I look at the younger children at school each Friday, I hope Excelsior will continue to grow and improve as we raise our children in the nature and admonition of the Lord.

From Camie:

I would like to thank everyone at Excelsior for the years that you have invested in my education. I am so glad that my parents made the decision to take me to Excelsior. Without you I would not be the young lady that I am today. You have been both a parent and a teacher to me. Without you I would not have the understanding of the world through a Christian's view, nor would I have the strong relationship that I have with God.

These last six years have allowed me to pursue other interest besides school. Specifically it has allowed me to pursue my love of horses. It has also allowed me to travel and to develop into a well rounded individual. I have accomplished more than I ever thought I could.



My teachers stretched me and pushed me, but it was all worth it.

Thank you again for guiding me, teaching me, and helping me develop in God's word. But most importantly, thank you for preparing me to face the world from God's perspective.

ACCS Conference June 26–28

Recovering Truth, Goodness, and Beauty
June 26–28, 2008

Renaissance Austin Hotel

This is a **wonderful** opportunity to learn all you can about classical education! We've attended this conference as a group in the past and have been so blessed. This year's theme is *Recovering Truth, Goodness, and Beauty*.

Here are the expenses involved:

Registration cost - \$160 if we register before April 30th

Hotel - \$149 per room - up to 4 people in one room

Flights - in the \$200 range from Jackson

Would someone that is planning to attend like to organize a group of interested parents? Please contact Penny Moeller - 841-7871.

Matt Chunn

From Yonea:

In reflecting all the ways in which Excelsior has enriched our family is difficult, however several benefits stand out in my mind. Although my children may not see Dr. George Grant as a benefit (but I trust they will someday) he has helped shape their Biblical worldview through studying the events throughout history. I also value the godly influence of the other teachers as they instruct in their areas of expertise. The reading of great books has formed a lasting impression on the hearts and minds of our family. Last, but not least, are the friendships developed with like-minded believers as we covet together to educate our children.

From Matt:

Excelsior Classical Community has been a great help to me. Not only has it made me a better person through the valuable lessons I've learned, it has helped prepare me for college. The assignments have taught me to set short and long range goals, and the teachers have helped me to learn accountability.



Logan Green

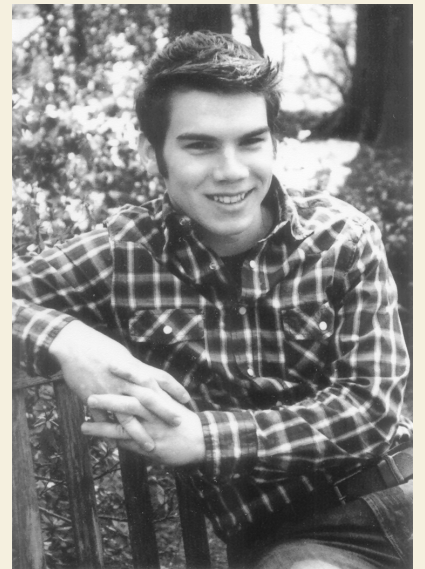
From Parents:

Excelsior has been a profound answer to prayer for our family. As Logan entered his high school years, we knew that we would need a different approach to education than we had used before. We wanted him to be challenged academically and stimulated intellectually, and knew he needed the discipline of the accountability that a classroom setting and other teachers could give. We had admired the time-honored success of the classical approach and saw in it a superior foundation for education. When we learned of Excelsior, we were very encouraged at the prospect of having these benefits for all our children. Pursuing these studies in the company of other like-minded Christians who see the imperative of a truly Christ-centered education has been a tremendous blessing.

Logan entered Excelsior as a sophomore. We have been thrilled to see him thrive in the classical curriculum which has developed in him a love of study, investigation, and thinking, as well as a passion for great literature. We have seen marked changes in Logan as he has grown into manhood and in his walk with the Lord. He has become much more self-motivated and responsible in his work and personal affairs over the course of these three years, and is equipping himself for college work and his life calling. Logan hopes to return to Excelsior next year as a "second-year senior" to wrap-up the Gileskirk cycle (Christendom should give him one last chance as a boy to wear some armor and wield a sword), after which he plans to pursue a college degree.

From Logan:

Excelsior has been an excellent format which has been beneficial in multiple ways. Interacting with teachers in a classroom situation has been great experience in preparation for college. Over the past three years I've grown a lot in understanding how to learn, and my study habits have improved drastically. One advantage that I appreciate very much about the Excelsior format is the personal interest the teachers have in each student's welfare and growth. I've learned much, not only academically but spiritually.



Preparing for May...

May Headmasters

May 2nd - Alan Becker

May 9th - Steve Chunn

May 16th - Kevin Smith

May Clean-Up

May 2nd - Snyder family

May 9th - Green family

May 16th - Hill family

Adult Study Group

(High school students welcomed and highly encouraged to attend)

Amusing Ourselves to Death, by Neil Postman

"We were keeping our eye on 1984. When the year came and the prophecy didn't, thoughtful Americans sang softly in praise of themselves. The roots of liberal democracy had held. Wherever else the terror had happened, we, at least, had not been visited by Orwellian nightmares.

But we had forgotten that alongside Orwell's dark vision, there was another - slightly older, slightly less well known, equally chilling: Aldous Huxley's Brave New World.

What Orwell feared were those who would ban books. What Huxley feared was that there would be no reason to ban a book, for there would be no one who wanted to read one.

Orwell feared we would become a captive culture. Huxley feared we would become a trivial culture

In 1984, Huxley added, people are controlled by inflicting pain. In Brave New World, they are controlled by inflicting pleasure. In short, Orwell feared that what we hate will ruin us. Huxley feared that what we love will ruin us.

This book is about the possibility that Huxley, not Orwell, was right." From the Forward to Amusing Ourselves to Death.

When: mid-June

Where: TBA

Why: This is a very important work reflecting on core changes to our culture based on the way we spend our free time. Don't miss it!

Contact Shelley Crampton for more info - 840-1923.

Lunch:

May 2nd - Danver's

May 9th - Chick-fil-a

May 16th - Wendy's

Please leave your completed order form and money in the box labeled "LUNCH" in the foyer of Bldg A. a week before the lunch you're ordering.

