

WHAT YOU SHOULD KNOW

Deadline for
Re-registration for the
2008-2009 School
Year is April 1st, 2008

Deadline for
Membership
Scholarship forms are
due April 1st, 2008.

Visit our Website
www.ccsderry.org

Suggestions? Email Us:
ccsrequests@yahoo.com

MARCH CALENDAR

High School	14
Drama	-
Performance	15
Winter Sports Program	18
3rd Quarter Grades Close	20
Good Friday No School	21

APRIL CALENDAR

Elementary Parent Conferences 3:00-6:45 PM	1
No School Ladies Day Apart	4

Easter Anticipation

Have you ever tried to see Easter from God's perspective? I don't mean the commercialized Easter of today, although I am sure God grieves over our materialism. I mean the very first Easter. Omniscience has its advantages and disadvantages. God knew that His perfect plan would be victorious, but He also knew that Jesus would have to die a violent and painful death. A death that would separate the Father and Son for the first time in eternity. Yet, knowing all that would have to be done to His Son, He knew it was the only way that His people could be redeemed. So as mere mortals how could we even have a glimpse of what Easter was like from God's perspective? Could you even imagine sending your child to be scourged, spat on, mocked, and nailed to a cross? Only to then turn your face away from your child as they died? Why would an omniscient God ever do such a thing?



Spend some time this Easter reflecting on Revelation 21 verses 1-7. In particular verse 3 where scripture says, "Behold, the tabernacle of God is among men, and He will dwell among them, and they shall be His people, and God Himself will be among them ..." This gives us a clue to at least what God's perspective might be with respect to Easter. If you recall in Matthew 27:51, the **moment** that Jesus gave up His spirit, the curtain to the holy of holies was torn in two from top to bottom. Do you think God was ready to remove that curtain? No doubt about it. God has provided us with a perfect plan, He desires to dwell among His people in perfect fellowship, and He has loved us in a perfect way.

It is hard to imagine that an omniscient and timeless God could anticipate the arrival of His people, yet it is this very reason that He gave the ultimate sacrifice, He loves us and wants to spend eternity with us. In view of God's perspective, how are you going to spend Easter? Have you accepted God's plan and yielded to it? If you have, spend some time reflecting on what God would have you do to prepare for Easter. If you haven't accepted God's plan, turn this newsletter over and read how you can.

Social Networking

For parents, it can make you shiver. For anyone under the age of 30, it is how they communicate. Social Networking (MySpace, Facebook, Xanga, Orkut, blogging, texting, etc..) is the 21st century's version of the telephone. The only difference is that instead of Aunt Mabel at the telephone company hearing your conversation, the whole world can hear your conversation. I for the life of me don't know why anyone would want to put all of their vital statistics on a webpage for all of the world to see, yet I am over 30 (ok I am over 40), and by default am not suppose to get it. That said, as a parent we need to become knowledgeable regarding social networking and in particular come up with rules to play by.

There is a great video on www.bluefishstv.com called TMI (Too much information), where a young lady sits down next to a total stranger and starts telling him everything about herself, including the exact date when her family will be away on vacation. It seems silly, but yet the very information that is being posted by naive users of social networking sites can easily forget that it isn't just their best friends that can view their webpage but it could potentially be thousands and even millions of people. (continued)

"Sin" is a religious term to describe that which is against God's law.

The Bible tells us that "all have sinned and fallen short of the glory of God" (Romans 3:23). That simply means that all of us break God's law. And we do so daily. God's highest command is to love Him with all our heart, soul, and mind (Matthew 22:37-38). So whenever we fail to do this, we are breaking His commands, that is, we are sinning.

To make matters worse, the Bible tells us that "the wages of sin is death" (Romans 6:23). In other words, to break God's commands is to earn death--physical death and spiritual death. If we reject God, the giver of life, what else can we expect? It is only by His mercy that we are alive today. But someday we will each die physically, and then we will face God's judgment and His wrath (Hebrews 9:27).

BUT there is Good News! God sent His Son Jesus Christ to die for our sins, to die in our place. "But God demonstrated His own love toward us in that while we were sinners Christ died for us" (Romans 5:8).

Jesus lived a sinless life, a life fully pleasing to God. He deserved eternal life. Yet He chose to die on the cross. He took our sins upon Himself and died physically and spiritually. Yet, being God in the flesh, Jesus rose from the dead, defeating death and Satan. And now He offers us eternal life. All we must do is place our faith in Him, not in our works or our church, and receive His gift of eternal life (Ephesians 2:8-9). The gift is free but we must choose to accept it.

Would you like to place your faith in Jesus Christ? If so, here is a simple prayer you can pray:

Lord Jesus, I realize that I am a sinner. I realize that my sins have separated me from You and that all I deserve is death. But right now, I place my total trust in You, realizing that You died on the cross for my sins. I ask you to forgive me and to help me walk in obedience to You. Thank You, Lord, for dying for me and for giving me the hope of eternal life. I intend to live my life as a "thank you" gift to You. Amen. If you prayed that prayer and meant it in your heart, the Bible says that you have eternal life. "For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son that whosoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life" (John 3:16).

We would encourage you to let us know of your decision so that you can begin to grow in your faith.



Social Networking (cont.)

Is it ok to post a picture of a friend? A classmate? A teacher? Without their permission, even if the picture seems benign? Probably not. What about web-bullying? Have you seen what this can do to a person? The news media is full of tragic events caused by web-bullying.

Parents, it is time for us to get up to speed and read a book or attend a class on social networking. There are many great seminars on the topic and we need to be at least as knowledgeable as our children. Pastor Lightner has a list of books that are useful on this topic, just ask for a list (danny.lightner@ccsderry.org)

Students, go over the guidelines of the web with your parents and set up rules to live by. You wouldn't want a future employer to find "something" on a webpage that you wouldn't tell them about in an interview. Remember once it is on the web, it could potentially be out there for a very long time.

Interested in more? Email Us: ccsrequests@yahoo.com

Profiles in Service

Staff : Mr. & Mrs. Jamie & Robynne Pigeon

This March marks one year since God brought us back to Calvary. He has been doing some amazing things in both of our lives this year. We are both thankful! He not only has changed Mr. Pigeon's heart showing him that he needed to be back at Calvary, but through an extraordinary chain of events Mr. Pigeon is now the Plant Manager here and Mrs. Pigeon is now the 5K teacher. We can clearly see how God was and is working each step of the way. He has made things possible that we could not have imagined in our own human understanding. There have been many things that we have had to take by faith and God has proved himself more than faithful! We each have a verse that has come to mind over and over again throughout the past year. Mr. Pigeon's verse is 'I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me'. Mrs. Pigeon's verse is 'Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make your paths straight'.

We are both 1990 CCS graduates (yes, we were high school sweethearts!). We have been married for 16 years and we have a 6 year old girl named Katie. This past summer at VBS, she "put Jesus in her heart and he is not coming out!".