

VIGOROUSLY ACADEMIC 🐄 BEAUTIFULLY DIVERSE 🐄 THOROUGHLY CHRISTIAN

Winter 2022

End of a Rehoboth Era

Beloved Alumni and Staff, John and Emily Lee, Retire

hen Tom Dale and Sally Ann Lee became Christians, they knew they were going to raise their children as followers of Jesus. Even though Tom would be gone all week at the uranium mines, he would insist his family spend Sundays worshiping together with other believers. When the "peyote people" moved into their area, he moved his family to a 20 acre farm near Shiprock, New Mexico where they could be closer to other Christians. It was in Shiprock that the Lee family attended the Christian Reformed Church under the leadership of Pastor Vander Stoep and his translator Samson Yazzie, father of Elmer Yazzie. Samson and Tom were clan brothers and not only worshiped together but went on hunting expeditions for each other. Their families became close.

Because Pastor Vander Stoep's children benefited from Rehoboth Christian School, he encouraged his parishioners to also send their children to Rehoboth. And so John Lee, as a sixth grader, along with his siblings, began their journey at Rehoboth as boarding school students in 1954. The dorm was his "home away from home" until he graduated from high school in 1961.

While John had many highlights of living in the dorms, one of the greatest was meeting a beautiful girl from Zuni named Emily Chimoni.



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While Emily had not grown up in a Christian family she did attend the Zuni Mission School. One staff member, Winibelle Gritter, always encouraged Emily in her faith and encouraged her to go to Rehoboth School even when Emily was attending Zuni High School. She even arranged for Emily to come to Michigan for the summer of 1959 so that she could work to make enough money to pay the tuition at Rehoboth. After working at a butter and egg company in Michigan, owned by the Gritters, Emily was able to attend Rehoboth and moved into the dorms for her junior and senior years of high school. Emily remembers sharing about her faith at the Rehoboth Christian Reformed Church in an evening service her senior year. While some students were supportive of her public profession of her love for Jesus, she remembered some snickers from others who were critical of the Christian faith.

In 1962 John T Lee and Emily J Chimoni were married. Together they celebrated their identity as Native people-Zu-



The Lees served 22 years as Dorm parents starting in 1973 until Rehoboth's dorm program ended. Pictured here with their daughters, Marla and Darla.

ni and Navajo. They brought together two families who shared legacies of industriousness and generosity. John worked as an interpreter and evangelist. They then moved to Grand Rapids, Michigan where he went to RBC (Kuyper College) and Calvin College (University) while Emily worked at a Christian rest home. They enjoyed their time in Michigan and had fun learning about the Dutch culture of

West Michigan. They came back with a love for "olle bollen and banket."

In 1973, John and Emily Lee became Rehoboth dorm parents. God used their Rehoboth dorm years to prepare them to serve for another 22 years of dorm parenting. He used their work in churches and schools to prepare them to walk alongside students both spiritually and academically. Besides parenting their own 2 daughters, John and Emily became parents to hundreds of middle and high school children. Their task was to create a family atmosphere where students were to treat each other like siblings, to encourage them in the development of their faith, and to help them be successful students. The Lees were so thankful that students from the Navajo reservation, the Zuni Pueblo, and other tribes could



Rehoboth high schoolers Emily Chimoni and John Lee went on to spend most of their lives and careers serving at Rehoboth.

have the Rehoboth Christian education that they had experienced. They were disappointed in 2000 when the decision was made to close the dorms that had made a Christian education accessible to so many.

After the dorms closed, John and Emily continued to live in Rehoboth. John wore many hats; being a Navajo language teacher, a custodian, a bus driver and a food service worker. Like many, in the past couple of years, John and Emily were prevented from being involved in the school because of the Covid pandemic.John has continued one task which he has done on behalf of the school during many of his years at Rehoboth. Every morning he walks a one-hour route throughout the 700 acre campus and prays. He prays for the school and for the community. He prays that God will provide and protect and that all will know His love. He praises God for the words and actions of parents, teachers and pastors that have shaped the life journey of those attending and serving at Rehoboth Christian School and the Zuni Christian Reformed Church.

Save the Date

Retirement Celebration for Elmer Yazzie John & Emily Lee Angela Barker Friday, May 27, 2022

Bob's Comments

s you read through this newsletter, I hope that you join ${f A}$ me in praising God for how beautifully He has worked through alumni, volunteers and students here at Rehoboth Christian School, all pointing to the diversity within God's creation. His children have such a wide variety of gifts and passions which the Lord uses wonderfully to shape us into His service. The examples in this newsletter of a firefighter, a business owner, an RN, a director of a mission agency, and



a Rehoboth sponsor, all give evidence of our great God at work. Praise our God who is working through our alumni, staff, students, volunteers, and supporters who all become part of the Rehoboth family.

Trusting God's Story, Bob Ippel Executive Director

Change

or four years, I have had **F** the privilege of working in God's Kingdom as the K-8 principal at Rehoboth Christian School. Filling this job was clearly the result of God opening doors. This year, our family has again seen God opening doors for new opportunities to serve Him. **Door 1:** Since 2014, we co-owned a business in the Gallup community called The Water Store. When our business partners moved out of state this year, we decided to try continuing to run the store on our own.

Door 2: We have lived on a 15-acre plot of land south of Gallup for the past 5 years or so. We've enjoyed gardening

and raising chickens so that we can sell eggs. Over the past year, we discovered a grant opportunity that will provide high tunnel hoop houses to our garden setup. **Door 3:** My wife Kari ('01) has been homeschooling our kids for the past years. We chose this option when we were adopting our daughter Dibora from Ethiopia and soon realized that homeschooling was the best option for our family. During these past homeschooling years, I've missed out on having the time to participate in our childrens' schooling and Kari and I discussed what it might look like to do that together. Door 4: God has given Kari

and me a deep passion for hospitality. Prior to covid, our family has invited many staff members, church family and others to our home for meals. We have a weekly small group composed of some of our neighbors where we eat, pray and study God's word together. When we bought the property, God had given us the word "retreat" which meant to us that this place, out in the quiet of the forest, would provide a place of rest for others. As these doors opened, it seemed that others were closing; as we wondered how we could run a business, raise a lot of food, continue with homeschooling our kids, and offer hospitality all while I was working full-time as a principal at Rehoboth. We diligently prayed about where God was calling us to focus

our energy and efforts. God made it clear that it was time to step out in faith. So as a family, we will run a business together, farm together, learn together and offer hospitality together. In doing so, we are excited to see where God will use us in our community. How will the store or the farm build connections that we may have missed out on otherwise? How will God use us to be his light through hospitality? What are the financial implications of all of this? We don't really know the answers to any or all of these questions, but we are excited to step out in faith and relearn how to rely on God fully.

The downside of this change is that I will be leaving my position at Rehoboth. How do you leave a dream job? I love the students, the staff

and the families. I love that people in this community and around the country are supporting and praying for this place. Leaving Rehoboth will be challenging, but I also know that God will be faithful in the kingdom work he has called us and Rehoboth to. I am excited to see how God will continue to invite children into his story through the incredible staff at RCS. And I am also excited to see what He has in store for my family.







Throughline image: Children of God by Elmer Yazzie

Doctor on Call

Alumnus Becomes Director of International Medical Organization The Luke Society

by Dan Breen

mong the Lord's infinite toolbox of attributes is the trait of persistence. He'll keep knocking on a door, pounding, if necessary, to get His message delivered. For Dr. Brent Van Andel, the repeated messages added up to a clear calling to become the Luke Society's new executive director, a role he took over in August when Dr. Wrede Vogel retired after 22 years in the position.

"I experienced what it was like to have a call. I've never experienced anything like it, hearing God's voice," Van Andel, 49, said. "There have been times in my life where I've sensed God speaking, but never like this, over and over, just persistent." Van Andel comes to the Luke Society from New Mexico where he spent the last 17 years as a family practice doctor in Española.



He's just the third person to hold the executive director role since the Luke Society was founded in 1964. Dr. Peter Boelens was the first executive director from 1978-98.

"Pete designed the process and Wrede refined the process of working with directors," Van Andel said.

The initial seeds, which eventually led Van Andel to joining the staff in Sioux Falls, were planted nearly seven years ago. Over the course of the next several years, three different staff members, on separate occasions, mentioned he would be a good fit in the Luke Society central office. Despite his love and admiration for the Luke Society, his

Dr. Brent VanAndel

answer was not "no," but instead, "not yet." But he never let the idea fully escape his mind. The Spirit used some not-so-subtle messages from Scripture, his pastor and friends to remind him about "being available to be used by God." He could only tune out the calling for so long. He remembers being outside hanging Christmas lights in 2020 when the Lord put on his heart the words from Jeremiah 1:7, "You must go to everyone I send you and say whatever I command you."

"We need to realize it's His work and He is in control," Van Andel said. "In the Luke Society, we come alongside people who are called, and we're in different places and different circumstances. In order to help people, it's important to have that feeling of calling yourself."

Medicine and missions has long been an interest for Van Andel. He remembers being intrigued by the human body in seventh grade, and being in awe of how everything worked together. As a sophomore in high school, his parents, both teachers, decided to take something of a sabbatical year and teach in Nigeria. It opened up his eyes to the vast needs overseas.

The excitement of the new position doesn't come without challenges. Several were already waiting for him when he started, including: the COVID-19 pan-



Discussing the plan for a new clinic in Rafe, Dominican Republic with Dr. Belarme and Dr. Jose Luis Guerrero.



At Quilotoa Lake, near Luke Society ministry in Riobamba, Ecuador

demic and travel restrictions; political instability in a number of Luke Society countries; upcoming transitions with ministry directors and regional coordinators; and investing in the next generation of supporters.

Van Andel is confident that listening to the Lord and being obedient to Him will help the Luke Society persevere through every hardship. And he's excited to watch that plan unfold.

"When you follow Christ, there's no better place to be," he said. "There's no place in the world I'd rather be right now. There's nothing else I'd rather be doing, and that gives me great joy." (Reprinted with permission from the Luke Society. Edited for length.)

Spelling Bee Finalist!

wo of our Rehoboth Christian Middle School students competed in the McKinley county-wide spelling bee on Wednesday, January 19. While the first and second place winners were decided quickly in the bee, there was a spell-off for third place with both Liam Christensen (7th) and Caitlyn Bitsilly (6th)



from Rehoboth competing in that round. After a couple more rounds Caitlyn ended up winning third place! This qualifies her to compete in the virtual New Mexico State Spelling Bee in March. The top three spelling champions, including Caitlyn, received recognition at the county school board meeting held on January 31.

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The Rise of Uncle Joe

An Alumnus' Fresh Take on Navajo Fashion Gains Hollywood Attention

hen she graduated from Rehoboth in 2005, Jessica Joe was a Gates Millennium Scholar heading to Hope College in Holland, MI to become a physical therapist. But then came an Introductory Art class during her freshman year, and everything changed. "I fell in love with art immediately, and I knew that this is what I wanted to do with my life," says Joe. That meant a journey back to New Mexico where she started creating art and researching more about her areas of interest, like fashion. "As I was starting out, my grandmother, Louise Musket, was very supportive. She always encouraged me and believed in me."

Those efforts propelled Jessica to share her work in the seasonal art shows at UNM in Albuquerque where she was also managing a specialty toy store. Eventually, she knew this could be more than a hobby, and her company—Uncle Joe Designs—was born. "In my



clothing design, I like to modernize traditional, Native silhouettes and make them accessible and affordable for everyone." That work, featured at the Railyards Market in Albuquerque, caught the eye of a costume designer from Netflix who purchased some of Joe's pieces to feature in the 2020 Netflix series, Messiah.

Jessica Joe

Since then, Jessica has received two offers to appear on the hit TV show, Project Runway, but the timing didn't work out due to the pandemic and the fact that she was at home caring for her ailing grandfather. "I would love to be on Project Runway someday and make it to the top four or five. I know that would boost my business and give me the confidence to take my designs to the next level. Then I could truly live up to what my grandmother saw in me." In addition to building her brand, Joe has been working part time at Rehoboth this year, leading and mentoring the after school student custodial crew at the high school. "I've always loved young people, but getting to know these kids has been nothing short of awesome." You can find Uncle Joe Designs online and on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter.







Jessica Joe has had her designs featured on the Netflix show, "Messiah," and has also had two opportunities to appear on the show, "Project Runway."

"Hot Shot" Hero

Rehoboth Grad Puts Life on Line Fighting Fires

Aron Pinto, an athlete and lover of the outdoors, graduated from Rehoboth in 2009 not quite sure what career path he should pursue. In 2011, that all changed. Aaron's sister Sharon Pinto was the Regional Director for the BIA Department of Interior which oversaw, among other things, the wildfire fighting division of the Navajo Nation. Knowing her brother's passion and sense of adventure, Sharon suggested that Aaron give fire fighting a try. He immediately fell in love with his new occupation.

He loved the thrill of fighting non-contained fires, sleeping out in the wilderness for two weeks at a time, carrying his equipment for miles into the mountains and the camaraderie



of being a part of a crew. He also was thankful for an income that could support his expanding family. While being away from home was a drawback of the job, the lengthy periods of time off at home were a benefit.

On June 28, 2016 Aaron Pinto and five members of the

Navajo Hotshot Crew were fighting the 46,000 acre Cedar Fire on the Fort Apache Indian Reservation when a large fire whirl formed around them. In response to the fire whirl's intense heat,

Aaron Pinto: Firefighter

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flying ash and woody debris, Aaron and his fellow fighters quickly deployed their emergency fire shelters to hopefully provide the needed protection. Thankfully, Aaron and the rest of his crew survived this 30

Aaron and his crew emerge from their fire shelters right after getting caught in a large "fire whirl" while fighting the Cedar Fire in Fort Apache. It was a close call, but everyone survived.



minute ordeal which he later described as "like being in an oven."

Aaron needed to take a season off after this frightening experience. However, Aaron knew he did not want that nightmare to paralyze him. By 2019 he had joined the Navajo Scouts where he still works today in the area of wildfire fighting. Aaron believes that God spared him for many reasons including his role as father. He takes delight in watching his second grade daughter who attends



Aaron, with his wife, Chelsea, receives the Valor Award for demonstrating unusual courage involving a high degree of personal risk in the face of danger.



Aaron in action

Rehoboth Christian School as she learns about God, becoming excited about her faith and expressing her desire to pray. He prays that he can continue to trust God's Story of love and provision.

In 2017, a year after fighting the Cedar Fire, Aaron received the Valor Award from the Department of Interior at a presentation in Washington DC.

Congrats To Chief Manuelito Scholars

The Chief Manuelito (Hastinn Ch'il Haajiin) scholarship is a prestigious Navajo Nation scholarship that recognizes high achieving high school students. Recipients are awarded \$7,000 per academic year for college. Students must meet several criteria including completing high school courses in Navajo language and Navajo government then maintaining a 3.0 GPA and earning at least 12 college credits per semester in college.



Congratulations to Pete Garcia, Grey Tutt, and Jessica Triplett from the class of 2021 as recipients of the Chief Manuelito scholarship.

Alumni T-Shirts

Designed by Fashion Designer Jessica Joe ('05). Read about her on p.5!

Buy Online: https://www.rcsnm.org/ advancement/alumni/



Dress Up Days



2022

The homecoming dance took place on Saturday evening and the theme was Winter Olympics. The decor was "snowy" and there was confetti everywhere! Masks were part of the "dress." It was decided to forgo choosing a king or queen. Thanks to Mr. Homan for DJing and Mr. Meester, Miss Wright, and Miss Wuestewald for chaperoning.

Pep Rally





The four High School grades competed in three games: The Balloon Pop Relay, the Plunger Pull Relay, and the Blankets race. The Seniors won all three games! To honor homecoming traditions, the event was held in the Keith Kuipers Gym.

The Court



Mazey Day & Tyler Bonaguidi



Lane Etsitty & Emma Egan



Kaleb Vail & Atara Damon



Isaac Zwiers & Kora Zylstra

TAYLOR CONNECTS with RCS

future teachers, but in their calling as Christian

by Carol Sisson, Ed.D., Taylor University

Thank you to the wonderful staff and students of Rehoboth Christian School and Zuni Christian School who we were privileged to partner with for 23 days in January. This past month provided an amazing opportunity for 21 Taylor University Education students and my husband and I to get a glimpse of the faithful and joyful school-based ministries of Rehoboth and Zuni Christian Schools. I truly believe that God clearly led us into places and situations that

were unknown to all of us, as a way to see how He is and has been working in the lives of His people. You hosted us in your comfortable dorm where we made and shared delicious meals, planned lessons and played games, and debriefed experiences; and where we laughed, prayed, shared and teachers. My students daily commented about how they were seeing how teaching w as lived out as a ministry, in trying to teach with excellence and purpose, as well as in loving and supporting students, fellow staff members and families. You shared about the complex and interesting cultures of the communities, and showed us another aspect of the mosaic of God's kingdom. Our thinking has been broadened and our perspective matured as we learned more of the history, art, faith, service, and food related to the cultures that were so lovingly represented. Thank you

I have seen so much love and grace during my time here. The attitudes of the students in my class have inspired me to choose joy each morning. My experience at Rehoboth has excited me beyond belief for my future as a teacher. –Mallory Robertson, Taylor Student for the chance to experience the beauty of God's creation, through hikes, trips, walks, bus rides, and drives, where we saw sunrises and sunsets, breathed clear crisp air, and saw more blue skies in a month than our area of Indiana gets all winter. You invited us into your chapel and allowed

processed what we were learning and how we saw Christ each day. You opened your classrooms to help our students experience full school days serving alongside your grace filled, patient, hardworking, committed, and positive teachers and staff. I had the privilege of watching my students grow in not just their skills and confidence as



A Taylor student assists in the Elementary.

our students to lead worship, shared some of their testimonies, and encouraged students in their spiritual walks. Finally, thank you for how you shared your students, who showed love, curiosity, grit, and a desire to learn. The first day of class, my students felt overwhelmed with learning names and schedules, as well as the idea of spending so many days in classrooms. It took less than two days for them to start knowing and praying for the kids they quickly began to love. Thank you for helping us see the way God is working each day at your schools, and the heart that He has for people that He loves so deeply. We had a marvelous month and were not ready to leave. We all learned and saw Christ through pain and reconciliation, kindness, traditions, COVID challenges, "attack" mud, service, and transformative teaching. We have been blessed, encouraged, and strengthened through our time with you. Thank you for your hospitality.



With many teachers and subs sick during the Omicron wave, the Taylor students filled in at a crucial time.

God knew that Rehoboth would need extra hands in January 2022. The omicron variant impacted both staff and the regular substitute teachers like never before during the Covid pandemic. Many students and staff were weary from masks, testing, illness and the loss of loved ones. The arrival of the Taylor students was at just the right time! They subbed, taught lessons, led chapels, assisted with small groups and brought much needed energy and enthusiasm to help rejuvenate the school. Thank you, Taylor University, for being God's instruments of shalom at Rehoboth!

—Bob Ippel, RCS Executive Director

Not the First Pandemic Rehoboth and the Flu of 1918

The past two years have been very difficult for the students, families, and staff of Rehoboth Christian School because of the Covid-19 epidemic. Our school faced a similar challenge 100 years ago. While Rehoboth Hospital was located on the campus at that time, the mission staff and the boarding school students had few resources to deal with the flu epidemic that struck the student body with deadly force. Here are some memories found in the Rehoboth archives that reflect on living and working at the Rehoboth Mission during that time.



Jacob Bosscher's Memoir

The old Rehoboth hospital

The big flu epidemic of 1918 has set in and we are in for a serious time. It was November and the flu was raging on the reservation. People were dying even as they traveled horseback on the trail. Soon it reached Rehoboth; Gallup was already full of it. It struck the mission full force. All of our 88 students came down with the flu, except for one girl, Mary Johnson and one boy, Marinus Williams. We lost four children- two boys (Robert Peshlaki, Robert Bolt) and two girls (Tuli Heshi, Catherine Murphy). All the mission employees also came down with the flu except Rev. JW Brink and Miss Bertha Rosbach, the boys matron who were able to remain healthy and worked hard to attend to the needs of the sick. The mission house was turned into a temporary hospital, since the Rehoboth Hospital had several cases of typhoid fever. We contacted a member of the board in Denver who sent some medical staff to help us out. Unfortunately after being present in Rehoboth for just four days, they also came down with the flu. Gradually our strength returned and the place gradually returned to normal.

Marie Vander Weide's Journal

While no additional deaths were recorded, Marie Vander Weide noted that the flu continued to impact Rehoboth students in the following years.

-March, 1922 - 26 girls down with the flu (enrollment 110)

—March , 1923 - This past week I had as many as 35 boys in the dorm sick with the flu, but thank God that no life was taken. Things are getting better but there are still 28 in bed. (enrollment - 115)



Almost the entire school body came down with the flu and four students died.

Feb 12, 1926 - Twenty-one of my boys are down with the flu, nine are at the hospital and I am taking care of 12.
Feb 17, 1926 - Thirty-nine boys sick with the flu

The Spanish flu pandemic of 1918, the deadliest in history, infected an estimated 500 million people worldwide—about one-third of the planet's population—and killed an estimated 20 million to 50 million victims, including some 675,000 Americans. The 1918 flu was first observed in Europe, the United States and parts of Asia before swiftly spreading around the world. At the time, there were no effective drugs or vaccines to treat this killer flu strain. Citizens were ordered to wear masks; schools, theaters and businesses were shuttered and bodies piled up in makeshift morgues before the virus ended its deadly global march.

Call the School Nurse!

While the Covid-19 pandemic has upended education in many ways, and created many questions, probably the greatest impact at Rehoboth has been on the job description and hours of our school nurse. Long hours dealing with Covid replaced the few hours formerly allotted to keep immunization records up to date and to screen for hearing and vision. This year RN Jasmine Newman has patiently and calmly guided Rehoboth through efforts to keep students and staff healthy. The ability to finally provide testing at school has greatly lessened the interruption of education. Jasmine has recruited a group of volunteer nurses to help her as they have tested up to 90 people in one day. While Rehoboth did not have a hospital on campus as during the Spanish Flu in 1918, we celebrate the importance of the school nurse as we endure the Covid pandemic of this century.



Gifts Given in Memory & Honor

In memory of Owen Aukeman

Mr. and Mrs. John and Helen Schoolland Mr. and Mrs. Bob and Deanne Bolt Mr. and Mrs. Paul and Linda Kalkman Mr. and Mrs. Jason and Sian Zylstra

In memory of Ruth Bandstra Mr. and Mrs. Charles and Lori Worst

In memory of Francis and Hilda Bates Mr. and Mrs. Russell and Viviene Tallbull

In memory of Paul Bouman Cascade Fellowship CRC

In memory of Margie Branderhorst Mrs. Betty A. Nikkel

In memory of Paul Bremer Mr. and Mrs. Peter and Patricia Tigchelaar Cascade Fellowship CRC

In memory of Dr. James Cook Mr. and Mrs. Dan and Janet Dixon

In memory of Dr. and Mrs. P.Y. and Joanne (Heyns) DeJong Mr. and Mrs. Jim and Corinne Hentges

In memory of Harry De Young Mr. Bruce D. Keuning

In memory of Ruth Frost Mrs. Ruth Ann Trowbridge

In memory of Carolyn Harkema Cascade Fellowship CRC

In memory of Jacob and Kathryn Hekman Ms. Carole Miller

In memory of Cheryl Hellar Cascade Fellowship CRC

In memory of Ken and June Holtvluwer The Holtvulwer Family In memory of Jean Huizenga Mr. Henry Huizenga

In memory of Ruth Ippel Ms. Helen Zylman

In memory of CWO2 Pilot Christopher Johnson Ms. Jill Bromenschenkel Mr. and Mrs. Roger and Marthann Bruins

In memory of Alan S. Klein Mr. Robert D. Klein In memory of Bernard Koops Dr. and Mrs. Robert and Esther Koops

In memory of Harry and Gladys Link Mr. and Mrs. Eugene and Chery DeBoer

In memory of Jessie Martin Mr. William J. Martin

In memory of Martin James Martinus Mr. and Mrs. William and Shirley Martinus

In memory of Bill Mulder Cascade Fellowship CRC

In memory of Barb Newman Mr. and Mrs. Ralph and Carol Honderd

In memory of David Paul Cascade Fellowship CRC

In memory of Colleen Polinder Rev. and Mrs. Jerry and Cori Vreeman Mr. and Mrs. Sherman and Phyllis Polinder

In memory of Mina Polinder Mr. and Mrs. Sherman and Phyllis Polinder

In memory of Ron Rozema Cascade Fellowship CRC

In memory of Gerrit "Sis" Rozenboom Mrs. Betty A. Nikkel

In memory of Rev. Robert Ruis Mrs. Iva Ruis

In memory of Agnes Scheenstra Slump Mr. and Mrs. Albert and Rika Scheenstra

In memory of Lorraine Tapahonso Gleason Ms. Sue Tapahonso **In memory of Dalbert Temple** Mrs. Jean Temple

In memory of Tony Templeman Mrs. Janice Templeman

In memory of Henry and LaVerne Triezenberg Dr. and Mrs. Steven and Laura Triezenberg

In memory of Orley Van Dyke Mr. and Mrs. Robert and Sheila Schippers

In memory of Edwin Visscher Mr. and Mrs. Larry and Carol Homkes East Saugatuck CRC Mr. and Mrs. John and Doreen Vink

In memory of Rena Wilderom Ms. Linda G. Philo

In memory of Sarah Jane Winston Mr. Clifford McCormick Ms. Patricia Grosvenor

In memory of John and Ena Witte Warren and Ina Burmeister

In memory of Nick and Deloris Wolterstorff Mrs. Ronda A. Wolterstorff-Van Drunen

In memory of Roger Woolley Mr. and Mrs. Jason and Sian Zylstra Mr. and Mrs. Randy and Beth Zylstra

In honor of Martin and Ruth Cunninham Mr. and Mrs. Edward and Tara Cunningham

Gord Bodes 80th Birthday Mr. Kenneth Diekevers

In honor of Marie and Phil Huizenga, and David Huizenga Mr. and Mrs. Eugene and Susan Corbett

In honor of David Huizenga Mr. and Mrs. Eugene and Susan Corbett

In honor of the Kamps Family Mr. and Mrs. Eugene and Susan Corbett



In honor of Bruce and Betty Matthews Mr. and Mrs. Donald and Joyce Braschler

In honor of Melvina Musket Rev. and Mrs. Jerry and Cori Vreeman

In honor of Philip and Betty Kamps Mr. and Mrs. Philip and Marie Huizenga

In honor of David VanderHart Mr. and Mrs. Gary and Joan VanderHart



Thank you Volunteers!

Long Term

Lois Harvey Deborah Yellowhorse Wes Brower Paul Brink Jack and Cindy Ippel

Short Term

Randy and Beth Zylstra Paul and Ke' Oester Lily Dekker Sharon Systma Barbara Terborg Nancy Dykstra Lori Pegues Linda Accomando Barbara Freyenberger Ken and Vera In't Veld Jerri and Sherri Van Groningen Paul and Trudi Ippel

Volunteer Groups

Mary Hardin Baylor University Taylor University

Advancement Needs

Update on Tuition Assistance

Through February 1, 2022, we have received gifts and pledges towards our Tuition Assistance Fund totalling \$1,724,934. This represents 93% of our budgeted need of \$1,850,000 for this current school year. Please consider a gift in the coming months to help us with the remaining need of \$125,066. We are grateful for the generosity that has been shown to our school and community so that we are able to provide tuition assistance to all families that apply. 81% of our families will receive over \$3,749/student this school year!

Campus Planning

Campus planning is well under way with a team comprised of AMDG Architects from Grand Rapids, Michigan, and LAM Corp of Gallup, New Mexico. Catalyst Partners from West Michigan is also helping with the planning process. We look to best steward our resources through energy efficiency while assessing the feasibility of using solar power as a renewable energy source and also helping to reduce our operating expenses.

A team of Rehoboth staff and community members is working to map our Rehoboth trails, with the hope of having a trailhead and wayfinding signage in place by the fall.

Work is currently being done on eight different project areas for our campus planning. We are working on the budgeting of these projects and will then begin gathering input on the priorities and best direction forward to continue to build out our school campus over the next ten years.

Keith Kuipers Gym Project

The Rehoboth School Board has approved the concept of a renovation of the Keith Kuipers Gym, one of our oldest buildings currently used on campus. The Kuipers Gym is used not only for school activities but is also utilized in many ways by our surrounding community. The primary upgrades that are needed for this facility are restrooms and concessions spaces to serve both those that use the gym as well as our track and soccer complex. An area for indoor baseball and softball training programs is also planned. We are currently in the design phase and hope to share the budget and financial need very soon. The estimated range of cost for this project is \$250,000 - \$300,000.

General Endowment Update

The first parcel of land (2.5 acres) from the 650 acres that had been donated to Rehoboth in 2016 has been sold. Approximately \$347,500 from the proceeds of this sale were placed into the Rehoboth General Endowment Fund. As more land is sold our General Endowment will grow and the annual distribution into our operating fund will increase. This school year, \$133,853 was distributed from our General Endowment to provide funding for our operating needs.

Endowed Scholarships

Over 200 of our school families have received the Maroon and Gold Grant funded through our endowed scholarships. These funds have helped to offset the tuition increase for this school year. An additional 33 families received our LYNX Scholarships which are also funded by family endowed scholarships, providing for more financial assistance. What a difference it makes for the students and their families in our community that there are so many who have made the decision to establish endowed scholarships. We encourage you to consider how establishing an endowed scholarship could be a meaningful opportunity for you to give to Rehoboth as well. Please reach out to Ken Zylstra, Director of Advancement, for more information.

Questions? Concerns? Want to Help Out?

Donations and Advancement

Ken Zylstra, Director of Advancement kzylstra@rcsnm.org (505) 488-3900

Dave Sytsma, Advancement Officer dsytsma@rcsnm.org (616) 283-4495

Campus Hostess, Volunteer Coodinator, Sponsorship Program Deanna Benson

dbenson@rcsnm.org (505) 726-9603

December 2022. Blessings to you, Arlynna.



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Alumni, we would love to hear from you! We welcome you to share your milestones and accomplishments with us. Connect at: https://www.rcsnm.org/advancement/alumni/ cember from the University of Arizona. She is now working towards her mas-

ter's degree in legal studies at the University of Arizona and hopes to finish in

We are proud of you!

transforming our world! We start right here with Arlynna Mitchell, class of 2015. Arlynna received her bachelor's degree in Public Health this past De-