

# The Perspective



**Christ Our Rock**  
LUTHERAN HIGH SCHOOL

*Where Faith and Knowledge Grow!*

Volume 6, Number 4

June 2010



*The Christ Our Rock Class of '10 graduates are, front row, FROM LEFT, Carson Fuehne, Nate Holm, Caitlin Schnitker, Trina Hermsmeyer, Molly Wilson, Ryan Lape and Ben Adams; back row, FROM LEFT, Nathan Schefelker, Zach Hahn, Jon Harre, Tyler Allison, Jamie Klein, Jacob Twenhafel and Shane Campbell.*

## ***Presenting the Class of 2010!***

**C**hrist Our Rock Lutheran High School matched last year's record graduating class, with a total of 14 students receiving their diplomas at commencement exercises on May 28. The Christ Our Rock graduating Class of 2010 included Ben Adams, Tyler Allison, Shane Campbell, Carson Fuehne, Zach Hahn, Jon Harre, Trina Hermsmeyer, Nate Holm, Jamie Klein, Ryan Lape, Nathan Schefelker, Caitlin Schnitker, Jacob Twenhafel and Molly Wilson.

The graduates represented all four surrounding counties (Marion, Clinton, Washington and Jefferson), and all 14 graduates have plans to attend college this coming fall. All together, the graduates have notched more than \$290,000 in scholarship monies that have been made available to them.

Following an invocation by Rev. Joshua Theilen, seniors Tyler Allison, Jamie Klein and Jon Harre gave the Bible readings for the ceremony. CORLHS Executive Director and Princi-

pal Curtis Wudtke gave the commencement address, followed by various recognitions and announcements.

Trina Hermsmeyer, class salutatorian, gave her address, followed by valedictorian Nathan Schefelker. A video presentation showing the seniors in various stages of their lives and displaying numerous pictures of the graduates throughout their high school years was also shown.

English instructor Patti Heard presented memories of the class, followed by the awarding of diplomas by Association Board of Directors' President Gerard Bohlmann. Before each diploma was awarded, Mr. Wudtke read information about each student, including the Bible verse that he or she selected as his or her graduation verse. The parents of the graduates met each student immediately after he or she crossed the stage, congratulating them with a big hug and moving their tassel.

After the ceremony, the graduates greeted the over 300 guests. Congratulations graduates!



# Awards Night Highlights Student Honors

Christ Our Rock Lutheran High School family gathered in the gym on May 12 for the Sixth Annual Awards Night, which is our opportunity to recognize the academic and extracurricular achievements of the students.

*Here is a partial list of the awards given:*

**Exemplum de Christus** —Sophomore Joseph Lentini received one of the evening's highest honors, bestowed upon the student who best exemplifies Christ throughout the year.

**Student of the Year** — Junior Brett Hanenberger was selected as the Student of the Year. This award goes to the student who has achieved the highest level of academic achievement.

**Silver Stallion Spirit Award** —Senior Molly Wilson received the spirit award, which recognizes the most school spirit displayed during the year.

**Discipleship Awards** (selected by their peers, these students have demonstrated care for others and for God). Recipients were Hayden Klockenga, freshman; Lydia Brandt, sophomore; Brett Hanenberger, junior; and Carson Fuehne, senior.

**Outstanding Students** (selected by faculty, these students have demonstrated persistence in academics, service to others and a Christian attitude). Recipients were Caitlin Fuehne, freshman; Quincy Knolhoff, sophomore; Emily Droste, junior; and Carson Fuehne, senior. Sophomore Brandon Huggins earned Most Improved Student honors.

**Athletic Honors** — Nathan Schefelker and Sarah Lentini earned Athletic Honors recognition, awards given

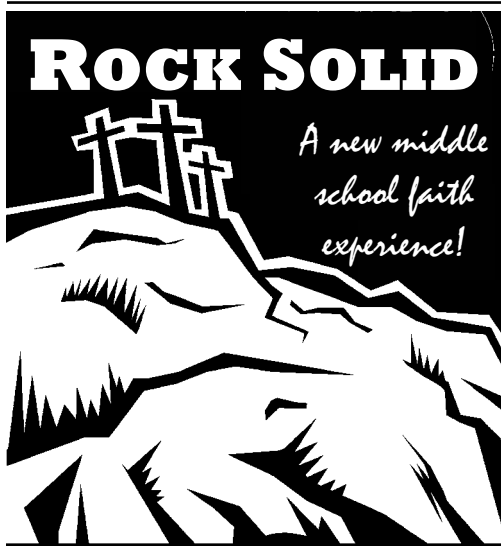


Top honors during the May 12 Christ Our Rock Lutheran High School Awards Night went to, FROM LEFT, Joseph Lentini, recipient of the Exemplum de Christus award; Molly Wilson, Silver Stallion Spirit Award winner; and Brett Hanenberger, who was named Student of the Year.

to the male and female athletes who have best demonstrated desire, teamwork, and above all, a Christ-centered attitude.

**Athlete of the Year** — Ryan Lape and Caitlin Fuehne garnered Athlete of the Year honors.

Senior Ben Adams received the Centralia Sunrise Rotary Award while Irvin Funeral Home's Eagle Award went to senior Carson Fuehne. Various department awards were also announced during the evening, as well as recognition of student involvement in the various extra-curricular activities.



**July 26-30**  
**1:00-3:30 PM at CORLHS**  
**Register now by calling**  
**226-3315**

Take a break from the summer blahs and amp up your faith through this interactive, fast-paced experience. The week will include . . .

- Tons of engaging activities,
- The energized music of the CORLHS praise band,
- In depth studies of God's Word and what He says about building ourselves,
- Lots of great food,
- Cool presentations and fired-up speakers,
- Time with old and new friends!

Rock Solid is open to any students entering 5th through 8th grades. Cost is only \$10 per participant and includes a t-shirt! Registration is due by July 12!

**WE NEED YOUR HELP** to make Rock Solid the best faith-building encounter possible. Please consider . . .

- Telling others about this event (We have space for 96 students and would love to max out in our first year of providing this experience.)
- Make a donation. We need help in covering our food and other expenses.
- Help transport students. Work with your church to provide rides for the students who desire to attend.
- Volunteer to work during the week. Call us at 226-3315 for more info.



This year's Silver Stallions baseball team included, front row, FROM LEFT, Jacob Twenhafel, Nate Garrison, Kyle Hahn and Hayden Klockenga; back row, FROM LEFT, coach Mike Shaffer, Nathan Schefelker, Lukas Mueller, Jamie Klein, Brandon Ramsour, Brett Hanenberger and assistant coach Dale Wagoner. Not pictured is team member Ryan Lape. The Baseball Stallions won their season opener against Mulberry Grove, but finished with a 1-16 record for the season.



Ryan Lape, LEFT, and Nathan Schefelker, CENTER, take swings at the ball, while Jacob Twenhafel, RIGHT, remains ready for the next play as he covers first base.

## CORLHS Chapter Holds First FFA Banquet

*Chapter fields Section 21 officer for second consecutive year.*

For the second year in a row Christ Our Rock Lutheran High School has representation on the FFA Section 21 officer team. Sophomore Tyler Pokojski was elected Section 21 Sentinel at the May 13 Section 21 banquet held in Nashville. The CORLHS FFA Chapter, the first private school FFA charter in Illinois, was also awarded the Silver Certificate for its participation in the Career Development Events for the 2009-10 school year!

The Christ Our Rock chapter has also again earned the Century Challenge Award, an honor accorded to schools where 100 percent of the agricultural class enrollment is also members of the FFA chapter.

On May 1, the CORLHS FFA members had their first chapter banquet, held in the school gym. The award ceremonies and other special recognitions followed the fried chicken meal catered by Jeff Taylor.

Freshman Hayden Klockenga received his Greenhand Degree

*Continued on Page 4*



Shown FROM LEFT, are Jennifer Heinzmann, FFA Adviser, Brett Hanenberger, Ben Adams, Trina Hermsmeyer, Jon Harre, Caitlin Schnitker, Hayden Klockenga, Emily Droste and Tyler Pokojski.

# Board Restructuring Complete

The Association Board of Directors (ABOD) for Christ Our Rock Lutheran High School will soon undergo significant changes. At the April meeting of the ABOD, a number of by-law changes were approved. The most noteworthy of these changes reduces the number of directors on the board.

After a long process that included research, many discussions, the formation of a special "Board Restructuring Committee" and input from area pastors and supporters of CORLHS, it was concluded that the efficiency and effectiveness of the ABOD could be maximized if the number of directors was reduced.

Presently, the ABOD includes two representatives from each of the eight association congregation plus two pastoral directors and up to four members at large. This means the ABOD could have 22 members (There are presently 19 as a few positions are vacant). Beginning July 1, the ABOD will include one representative from each

association congregation and one pastor, with the four members at large remaining unchanged. This means the maximum size of the ABOD will now be 13.

Executive Director Curtis Wudtke stated, "I think this is a very positive move for the future of Christ Our Rock. I love working with the volunteers that serve on the Association Board of Directors. These are dedicated individuals who give of their time to lead this ministry. Making this change brings our governing board in line with best practices for non-profit organizations." Wudtke added that the board took this process very seriously and only adopted the changes after much consideration and prayer.

Other by-law changes simply bring the by-laws into communion with actual practice, recognizing that the CORLHS administration and staff now complete some of the duties originally given to board members or officers. The CORLHS by-laws can be viewed at [www.christourrocklhs.org](http://www.christourrocklhs.org).

## *FFA Banquet (Continued from Page 3) ....*

and was the recipient of the Star Greenhand Award. Chapter Degrees were awarded to chapter president Caitlin Schnitker, chapter vice-president Trina Hermsmeyer, treasurer Tyler Pokojski, secretary Emily Droste, sentinel Jon Harre, chaplain Brett Hanenberger, and chapter member Ben Adams.

The Star Farmer Award was presented to Emily Droste. Brett Hanenberger received the top Scholarship Award. The DeKalb Senior Award was presented to Trina Hermsmeyer for her superior record of scholarship, leadership and agricultural work experience. Recognition of Career De-

velopment participants were as follows: Brett Hanenberger in Job Interview, Tyler Pokojski, Emily Droste, Hayden Klockenga, and Ben Adams placing 9<sup>th</sup> in Soil Judging, Brett, Caitlin, Tyler, Hayden, and Emily in Agronomy, Tyler in Livestock Judging, Hayden, Emily, Caitlin, Jon, and Ben in Dairy Judging with Emily placing 4<sup>th</sup> and team placing 8<sup>th</sup>, Tyler placing 2<sup>nd</sup> in Ag Business and 4<sup>th</sup> in Ag Mechanics.

A special presentation of recognition was given for the newly developed Advisory and Alumni members Dave and Karen Droste, Mike Hanenberger, Bonnie Heinzmann, Sheila Lueking,

Jerry Rakers, Tim and Cassie Schnitker, Chuck Simpson, and Ralph Twenhafel. Supporters of the Agriculture Program and FFA Chapter were also recognized and awarded certificates of appreciation.

Trina Hermsmeyer presented the Honorary FFA Degree to Eddie and Verdell Hermsmeyer for their extraordinary support of the FFA Chapter. The final award of the evening was presented to Agriculture teacher and FFA advisor, Mrs. Jennifer Heinzmann, as she ends her two years of service at CORLHS.

# Stock Gifts Bypass Capital Gains Tax

Even though capital gains tax rates are at a historic low, individuals and charities both receive significant benefits when individuals donate stock. If you are considering a contribution to any charitable organization, a gift of stock provides two major benefits. First, there can be a charitable deduction for the value of the stock. Second, the charity does not pay tax on the sale of the stock and you, therefore, bypass the capital gains tax.

For example, if a person sells a share of stock and then gives that money to charity, the person must pay capital gains tax on the sale of the stock. Only the amount after paying the capital gains tax will then be available for a gift to charity and thus a

lower charitable deduction for the person.

Alternatively, if a person transfers a share of stock directly to the charity and permits the charity to sell the stock, the capital gains tax is avoided. The donor makes a larger charitable gift and receives a charitable deduction for the full fair market value of the stock.

Besides the advantage of avoiding capital gains tax, two other fairly common reasons for making a substantial gift of stock are that you may have sold an appreciated asset with a large capital gain or you have a high yearly income. In either instance, you may want to offset that gain or substantial income with a charitable de-

duction through a gift of stock. Because you receive both the charitable deduction and a capital gain bypass, there is a double benefit for your gift of stock.

Chad Knolhoff, Director of Advancement for Christ Our Rock, states, "Contributions don't have to only come from cash. I work with individuals to find the best means to give to ministries. Gifting stock is simply one creative way to maximize the potential of a gift. We are able to assist the process of stock gifts to CORLHS or your congregation."

## Spring Drama offered mystery, laughs



Christ Our Rock students performed two pieces for the spring drama. A short comedy, *Amy Goes Army* (ABOVE and TOP RIGHT) preceded the main feature, Agatha Christie's *Mousetrap* (BOTTOM RIGHT).



## WW2 Veteran

World War II veteran Clifford Watts, grandfather of sophomore Quinn DeBernardi, came to share his experiences with the sophomore U.S. History class in May.



## Track and Field

# Sports



The 2009-10 Silver Stallions track team was comprised of front row, FROM LEFT, Beth Watkins, Kortney Price, Megan Pick and Rebekah Lape; back row, FROM LEFT, Ben Adams, Laura Pick, Caitlin Fuehne, Quincy Knolhoff and Vince Lentini. Not pictured are team members Ryan Junidi and Sarah Lentini.

CLOCKWISE from top: Laura Pick in the long jump; Caitlin Fuehne tackles the hurdles and Vince Lentini races against competitors in the 800 m run.



## CORLHS Track and Field Program Ends Season Ready for Next Phase

In just its 3<sup>rd</sup> year, the CORLHS Track & Field program is showing signs of a very competitive future. Even though they are a very small team as far as the number of participants, they are making our presence known at meets. The team is scoring points in just about every meet including IHSA Sectionals. The girls team placed 9th out of 17 teams in their IHSA Sectional. Beth Watkins qualified for IHSA State by placing second in the discus at Sectionals. She did not place at State but gained valuable ex-

perience to lead the team for another run at it next year. Only two of the twelve athletes are graduating.

Coach Knolhoff states, "I have seen maturity in our athletes. Track is not always a glamorous sport. Each race is a physical and mental push to do your best. It is not fun being exhausted and gasping for air after you cross the finish line. But, our athletes have grown in appreciation and satisfaction of achieving a goal. They work hard in practice and it pays off with all of them setting personal records in

times and distances."

Coach Kasten says "One of my favorite parts of coaching here at CORLHS is seeing how our students work together, build each other up, and help each other do their best. It is awesome to see this in any sport, but it is not always found in Track & Field. I am very proud of our students' accomplishments and their attitudes and behaviors at track meets and at practice."

The team is coached by Mr. Ben Kasten, Mr. Darren Dinkelman, and Mr. Chad Knolhoff.

## CORLHS Team Places Third at Sectional WYSE Competition; Fuehne advances to State

Twelve students from Christ Our Rock competed in the Worldwide Youth in Science and Engineering (WYSE) Academic Challenge sectional competition, held March 12 at McKendree University in Lebanon.

The entire team had placed sec-

ond at regional competition at Kaskaskia College, and placed third in the sectional level in their category of schools with 300 and under enrollment. Senior Carson Fuehne earned a second place ribbon in Math, allowing him to compete at state finals in Champaign-Urbana.

Those competing for Christ Our Rock were Dylan Antonsen, Dorothee Belli, Lydia Brandt, Quinn DeBernardi, Emily Droste, Carson Fuehne, Brett Hanenberger, Trina Hermsmeyer, Ryan Lape, Vince Lentini, Nathan Schefelker and Beth Watkins.

# Sterling Evening Tops Goal

Christ Our Rock Lutheran High School held its sixth annual Sterling Evening Dinner and Auction on March 20, netting a total of \$49,500 for the school's operational fund and surpassing last year's event by more than 20 percent.

"What an incredible evening!" said Principal and Executive Director Curtis Wudtke, who said he was hoping only to match last year's total given the current state of the economy. "We obliterated our goal!" said Wudtke, noting last year's total of \$41,000.

The annual event drew a record crowd of more than 420 people to bid on nearly 445 silent and live auction items. Area auctioneer Bill Windler and crew conducted the auction. "This was our largest auction yet," said Wudtke. "It was exciting to feel the positive atmosphere of the event and watch it unfold as an incredible success."

During the live auction, Christ Our Rock volunteer students would emerge from the sidelines to cheer



and present small gifts to anyone who bid at or above retail value for any auction item.

"It's our small way of showing appreciation for those bidders," said Wudtke. "And the audience always seems to delight in the enthusiasm and boisterous nature of our student volunteers."

This year saw the return of last year's Heads or Tails event. Participating guests stood up and indicated heads or tails on a coin toss. Correct guesses allowed a person to remain in the game until there was a single person standing. That person, David Mueller of Okawville, won a 32-inch LCD television, which he then donated back to the live auction.



CORLHS students, PHOTO AT LEFT, bring out gifts to high bidders; patrons line up during the buffet dinner, RIGHT, and pass in front of the beautiful ice sculpture cross.

# Student Leadership Team

It was a busy spring for the CORLHS Student Leadership Team and the clubs and guilds that they lead.

The Service Club, led by Brett Hanenberger, spent their Easter Break giving the baseball bleachers a new coat of paint. This group also hosted a garage sale to benefit Shriners Hospital and to help purchase new computers for CORLHS. Finally, they held their third Blood Drive for the year in early May. They would like to thank all who gave at this year's blood drives.

The Social Club, led by Jessica Snyder, planned the annual Prom and did a fabulous job in making this another special event for the CORLHS students and guests.

The Spiritual Life Guild, led by Carson Fuehne, continued their student-led Thursday morning Bible Study and helped with morning devotions.

Tyler Allison and the Support Guild continued to assist with the CORLHS lunch program.

Members of the Student Leadership Team for next year will be Brett Hanenberger, Jessica Snyder, Emily Droste, Dustin Krieg, Caitlin Fuehne and Ellie Rueter.

Save a life! Donate blood!  
**American Red Cross**  
**Blood Drive at CORLHS**  
**Monday, July 12**  
**12-4 p.m.**

# Hoffman Wins Annual CORLHS Bible Trivia Night

Young Bible scholars from area parochial schools competed on April 30 for top honors in CORLHS' second Middle School Bible Trivia Night.

Trinity Lutheran School in Hoffman walked away with the

winning score of the evening, followed closely by two teams from New Horizon Christian School in Centralia. Other schools represented included Trinity Lutheran-Hoyleton, and Trinity-St. John of Nashville.



Pastor Krenz, RIGHT, poses with the first place team from Trinity-Hoffman.

# Christ Our Rock

## LUTHERAN HIGH SCHOOL

9545 Shattuc Road  
Centralia, IL 62801

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Visit [www.christourrocklshs.org](http://www.christourrocklshs.org) to learn more  
about Christ Our Rock Lutheran High School.  
Phone: (618) 226-3315

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*Molly Wilson and Jacob Twenhafel, RIGHT, were named queen and king of the CORLHS 2010 Prom. ABOVE, Macey Smith, Nathan Scheffeler and Jessica Snyder enjoy the 2010 Prom. Retiring king Ben Adams, LEFT, photo at top left, poses with Dyan Antonsen and incoming king, Jacob Twenhafel. Newly-crowned queen, Molly Wilson, bottom photo, CENTER, enjoys the dance with friends Caitlin Schnitker and Trina Hermsmeyer.*