

Thoughts from your neighbors at Calvary Christian Schools

By Tom Kapanka

Eagles' Nest Preschool is a part of the program at Calvary Christian Schools on Kendra Road. Lead teacher Julie Kapanka oversees the pre-kindergarten. Some time ago, Mrs. Kapanka's mother had come to visit for a week, and a substitute covered the class while Mrs. Kapanka dropped her mother off at the Grand Rapids airport. When Mrs. Kapanka came into the preschool, her 20 students were playing at various stations. One of the smiling four-year-olds looked up and said, "I can't believe you did that."

"Did what?" she asked.

"Came late to school — you're the teacher." She smiled and explained where she had been and added, "Isn't it amazing that my mom had breakfast with me, then got on a plane and flew all the way to Kansas — very far away — in time to have lunch with my dad?"

"Wow," gasped the boy innocently. "She sure is gonna be sweaty after all that." (Mrs. Kapanka assured the class that the plane does most of the work.)

Hearing "kids say the *darndest* things" is one of the joys of a school setting that has a preschool, elementary, middle and high school all in one facility. It's also an obvious advantage to many families. About half of the families at Calvary Christian Schools (CCS) enroll more than one student, and about 70 percent of those homes have children in more than one of the school levels on campus.

There are many other advantages to our whole family approach to education. Having a team of K-12 teachers who understand the philosophy and mission of the program from start to finish allows us to better focus every aspect of the curriculum, which is fully accredited through North Central Association (NCA) as well as the Association of Christian Schools International (ACSI). This is, no doubt, part of the reason our students as a whole consistently score well above national averages on Stanford Achievement Tests and the ACT; and each year more than 85 percent of our graduates continue on in college.

Having all the grade levels on one campus also gives some of our high school students the opportunity to serve as teacher's aides in the elementary wing. Every semester, more than a dozen students add this experience to their resumes. Through the years many of them have gone into careers directly related to this positive experience.

CCS enjoys being a part of the Fruitport community. We like the small-town atmosphere; and in recent years, we've had lots of fun participating in the Old Fashioned Days parade. It may be of interest to note that CCS is not just a school; it's a community within the community, a hub of friendships, faith, and families. Our students come from more than a dozen different school districts and three-dozen different churches. Our families reside on nearby city streets and farm roads as far north as Fremont, east to Coopersville, and south to West Olive. In that sense, CCS is a school based less on geography than on the common ground we share. We arrive at school from all directions, but strive to walk together in one. That is the essence of our partnership with the homes we serve.

School should be a place where ideals and values are taught, not mocked. Education means nothing if it does not bring meaning and hope and purpose to the young lives entrusted to their teachers' influence. Along with solid academics, students with an understanding of our relationship to God and others can more fully enjoy life's blessings and responsibilities as productive members of the community and world.

CCS would like to thank Fruitport and Fruitport Community Schools for being wonderful neighbors and partners in making our community a better place within the context of our mission statements. Last Friday, our elementary school hosted a "Thanks a Million" mobile pantry truck, and it was a great experience for everyone involved, as we were able to distribute 205 boxes of food to the many people who are in need during these difficult times. That is what community is all about. We consider it a privilege to be one of Fruitport's educational opportunities.

For more information about Calvary Christian Schools, call (231) 865-2141. •

Edward Jones named to Fortune's best companies

(Submitted by Edward Jones)

For the second year in a row, Edward Jones has ranked number two overall and number one among large companies in *Fortune Magazine's* annual ranking of the "100 Best Companies to Work For in America." The ranking appears in the February 8, 2010 edition of *Fortune*.

This is the 11th year Edward Jones has appeared in this prestigious ranking. These rankings include eight top 10 finishes and consecutive number one rankings in 2002 and 2003.

The *Fortune* "100 Best" ranking is employee-driven, with two-thirds of the scoring based upon how randomly selected employees respond to an anonymous survey designed to measure the quality of workplace culture. The remainder of the score is based on in-depth analysis of company benefits and practices. •

Linda Rae's CRAFT CASTLE

5638 Holton Rd. • 231-828-4799
Hours: Tues-Sat 10-6, Sun 1-5
Closed Mondays



Save with
FAN Money
& Coupon



We Do Beautiful Custom Florals

We have Wishing Wells, Mailboxes - Churches, Screens for Backdrops, Floral Arrangements, Tables and chairs available for Rental

WE'RE PROUD TO BE A PART OF THE COMMUNITY.

Days like today really do bring everyone in our community closer together. That's why we wanted to say thanks.

Thanks for all the fun. Thanks for the memories. But more than anything else, thanks for letting us be a part of this incredible place we're proud to call home.



Michael Sabo, AAMS®
Financial Advisor

384 North Third Ave., Suite C
Fruitport, MI 49415
231-865-3868

www.edwardjones.com Member SIPC

Edward Jones
MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING™

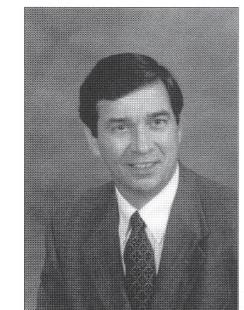
June 19-26

KICK OFF WEEK

B i b l e
Teacher

Dr. Bill Rudd

We are excited to have Dr. Rudd, one of our most popular speakers. He is the Senior Pastor of Calvary Church, a growing and thriving body of believers in Fruitport, Michigan. He and Gloria, his wife of 36 years, have four children and four grandchildren. Dr. Rudd is a gifted pastor, a leader in the West Michigan community, and an effective communicator of the Gospel.



W o r s h i p
Leader

Michael Popenhagen

See Summer Worship Leaders page.

F e a t u r e d
Mission Organization

CHIEF



For the past twenty-seven years, CHIEF has provided discipleship training, evangelism outreach, and a practical helps ministry for approximately 300 Indian tribes in the Americas and Mongolia. Represented by Tom and Huron Claus.

S a t u r d a y

Concert Artist

\$8 - Indoor Seating
Free - Lawn Seating

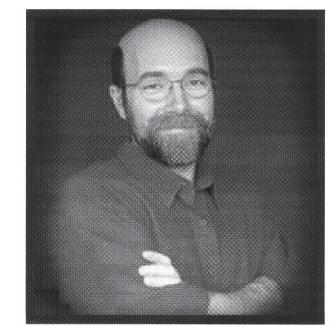
Special Event:

Baseball Camp &
Volleyball Camp

See special events page

Michael Card - June 19

An accomplished musician and songwriter with 19 number one songs, numerous Dove Awards, and the prestigious RIAA "Top 365 Songs of the Century" honor for "El Shaddai," Michael Card is perhaps best known and appreciated for the tedious research and Biblical scholarship which support the themes running through his songs. Many of Card's songs are written from the first-person perspective of Peter, detailing the apostle's growing realization that despite his own character flaws, Jesus did and would use Peter to accomplish His purposes.



For more information about this and other events check with
Maranatha Bible and Missionary Conference, 4759 Lake Harbor Road,
Muskegon, MI 49441-5299, 231-798-2161
email: info@maranatha-bmc.org • web: www.VacationWithPurpose.org