



News & Notes

Volunteerism: How Can We Be the Hands and Feet of Jesus at Freeman Academy?



Small town communities, churches, relief organizations, and private schools are dependent on the “spirit of volunteerism.” Celebrations, fundraisers, and basic functions of these organizations THRIVE on the energy and willingness of constituents who believe in the continued presence of these institutions. Freeman Academy is no exception. Its entire history is marked by extraordinary acts of volunteerism as recorded in *Many Hands, Many Hearts, Many Minds*, our written/recorded history:

In 1923, students hauled sand and each male student was allotted a ten foot span to dig a trench for the foundation. Volunteer workers brought five cement mixers and 30 men with teams and a large group without teams arrived to construct the foundation of “The Gym.”

30,000 man-hours of labor were donated to the construction of Pioneer Hall in 1948-49.

Each spring, the Freeman community volunteers thousands of man-hours to put on Schmeckfest activities!

Why do these people work so hard? They believe in the mission of Freeman Academy to provide quality Christian education for their children and for others in the greater rural area of southeastern South Dakota. When we participate in any type of Christian mission, we are the hands and feet of Jesus.

It is important to understand that tuition charges at Freeman Academy cover only about one-half of the costs to educate our students. Therefore, we need to “make up” the difference through donations by churches and individuals and by holding fundraisers which require **many volunteers** who coordinate and implement successful, enjoyable events. Just as in 1923 and 1948, we still need the sacrificial time of our parents, students, staff, and constituents. Satisfaction of a job well-done becomes gratifying because we become part of something bigger than ourselves.

My work in the development office includes organizing successful fundraisers that are led by parents who believe in the mission of Freeman Academy and want their children, and others, to continue to have this opportunity. Everyone’s schedules seem packed to the brim, but a Christ-centered education for our child is another bit of “insurance” that should be worth the effort! Please join others in becoming the hands and feet of Jesus as we participate in the mission of Christian education!

Vernetta Waltner

Enclosures



- October Activity & Menu Calendars—subject to change
- 2009-10 Instrumental Calendar
- 2009-10 FA Calendar of Events
- FA Food Survey—**please return to FA office by October 15, 2009**
- 2009-10 Student List
- FA Telephone Extensions
- Dental Information
- July 30, 2009 Board Minutes



October 2009

When nothing seems to help,
I go and look at a stonemason
hammering away at his rock
perhaps a hundred times without
as much as a crack showing in it.
Yet at the hundred and first blow
it will split in two, and I know it
was not that blow that did it – but
all that had gone before.

Jacob A Riis

The seed on good soil stands for
those with a noble and good heart,
who hear the word, retain it, and
by persevering produce a crop.

Luke 8:15, NIV

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Ways to Support Freeman Academy Through the Business Community

Program Name	How to Sign Up	Freeman Academy Receives	You Receive
TARGET CARDS—Take Charge of Education	Complete an application at a Target store or at www.target.com	1% of your Target Visa or Target Credit Card purchases made at a Target store or at target.com . ½% of your Target Visa purchases anywhere else.	Satisfaction that you are helping Freeman Academy's current fund.
General Mills Box Tops	Bring your box tops to the collection basket located in the Ad Building entrance.	Money to purchase items for classrooms, gym class, etc.	A well-supplied school.
Land o'Lakes Milk Jug Caps	Bring milk jug caps to the collection basket located in the Ad Building entrance.	Money to purchase items for classrooms, gym class, etc.	A well-supplied school.
Campbell's Soup Labels, etc.	Bring qualifying point labels from various Campbell's canned goods.	Points are totaled and teachers can purchase classroom items.	A well-supplied school.

Community Service Day

Every fall Freeman Academy staff and students venture into the community to work for others. Community Service Day will be held November 11. This is one way we model Christian service without financial benefit for ourselves. The students should come prepared to work outdoors raking leaves, tidying up yards and doing light jobs for residents of the community.

All students should report at 8:30 a.m. in the Dining Hall that day. A 10:00 mid-morning snack and a 2:30 afternoon snack will be provided for students. Parents interested in preparing hot drinks and a morning snack should contact Pam Tieszen at 925-4237, ext. 228 or ptieszen@freemanacademy.org. Arrangements have

already been made for afternoon snack. Noon lunch will be served as usual.

Our work is offered as a gesture of appreciation to this community for its support of Freeman Academy. If you are aware of any constituents or community members who need fall work done at their homes, please forward that information to our office at 925-4237 by November 4. Alternate bad weather date will be November 13.



Scholastic Book Fair

Freeman Academy will host its fourth *Scholastic Book Fair* on October 12 - 16. This is a great way for you and your child to buy excellent books at a minimal cost. It also helps raise money for our school library to purchase additional books for all students. The majority of the books are for grades 5 – 9.

We will set up the book display in the Home Ec. Room during this week. The book fair will be open at specific

times which will be posted in the school.

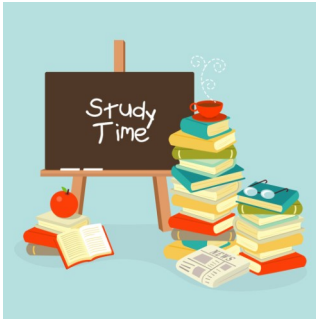
We invite you as parents, grandparents and adults to come visit and see the wide selection of books that the Scholastic Book Fair has in its display.

These books make excellent Christmas and Birthday gifts!

More information will be coming home with your child.

Cindy Graber - Librarian

Notes & Reminders



School Directories

Mid to late October, student/parent directories will be printed (one directory per family). When you receive it, please check

your family's information and e-mail Cindy Boese (cboese@freemanacademy.org) with changes or corrections. If any family would like to receive the directory by e-mail, rather than a hard copy, please notify Cindy by October 25.

School Postponements and Cancellations

In the event of inclement weather or other emergencies, school postponements and cancellations will be announced on WNAX radio (570 AM), KSFY TV, KELO TV, and KDLT TV. The close line is also published on the KSFY and KELO web sites. The decision to postpone or cancel school is made by the President of the Board and the Superintendent/Principal. Late starts allow students and staff more time for safe travels.

Remind your student drivers to allow extra travel time even on late start days. Remember to create an emergency plan with your children in the event of any early dismissal due to inclement weather.

Parent-Student-Teacher Conferences

Mid-term for first trimester is October 8. Mid-term report cards will be available at conferences Friday, October 16, 10:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m. All conferences will be held in Pioneer Hall. Parents of students in grades 5 and 6 will receive appointment times from Mrs. Schrag. Parents and students in grades 7 – 12 have no set appointment times and are asked to limit your conference to 5 minutes per teacher per student. If you need a lengthier conference, please schedule an appointment for an in-depth meeting with that particular teacher on another date. Your cooperation in these matters is much appreciated by the teachers and other parents. Pam Tieszen will be at MSC Administrator meetings in Goshen at that time and will be unavailable at conferences.

Counseling Services

Counseling services are available on campus Thursday mornings, and appointments can be arranged

through Lewis and Clark Behavioral Health, 1-800-765-3382. These services are free of charge pending paperwork by parents.

College Scholarship Information

College scholarship information is available online through the Freeman Academy website this year. Any additional applications that become available will be put on our website for students and parents to download. Look under 'Resources' and then 'Student' or go directly by typing this address into the toolbar <http://www.freemanacademy.org/studentresources.html>.

State Sport and Music Events

State reimbursement guidelines for state-level sports and music events are set up differently. The SD High School Activities Association reimburses the school for hotels and meals (\$4.00 per meal) during state basketball, volleyball and track events, but golf and cross country are not covered. The State Soccer Tournament, which is not sanctioned by the SDHSAA at this time, does not cover hotels or meals, and those expenses are passed on to parents.

It has been Freeman Academy's practice to cover hotels for state music events, but not meals. We do ask parents to reimburse the school for any extra nights when music events have taken place at a distance and extra nights are needed.

PSAT/NMSQT Testing Scheduled

Sophomores and juniors will be taking PSAT/NMSQT tests on Oct 14. Contact Nathan Epp for more information.



Bus Drivers Needed!!

Freeman Academy is in NEED of more bus drivers to chauffeur large groups of students and coaches/teachers to athletic events and field trips. Several of our drivers have "graduated" with their children and would be grateful if others would take their place! **Drivers need a Class B CDL** with a passenger and air brake endorsement. The school will pay for the cost of the tests. If anyone is interested, please contact Nathan Epp at 925-4237, ext. 233 or nepp@freemanacademy.org.



Music Department News

New to the FA Vocal Classroom

Rebecca Murtha will be completing her student teaching coursework here at FA and in Mitchell. Rebecca attends SDSU and plans to graduate with a major in vocal music education and a minor in chemistry. She plans to be on campus in the afternoons and will work with the concert choir, grade 9-12, and the grade 5-6 choir. If you see her on campus, please give her a warm welcome.

Auditions

Vocal auditions are well under way for the various honors choirs. By the time you receive this, we will be finishing the South Dakota ACDA Jr. High Honors and Elementary Honors auditions. Thank you for your continued interest in having students audition for these various outside opportunities. Also, many thanks for assisting your child in preparation for the auditions by helping them or supporting them through private lessons.

World Music Drumming in Grade 5-6 Music Class!

We are excited to be drumming again in the fifth and sixth grade music class. World Music Drumming is a curriculum that has caught on fire in the US the past 5-10 years. Students learn about respect, teamwork, listening, complementing, creating, focus and equality while having a blast drumming. We also become more informed about other countries. Currently we are learning about Africa, African instruments and rhythms.

The fifth and sixth grade will be participating in the October 22 Instrumental Fall Concert with their Drum Circle! Parents, please have them wear black pants and a black shirt or blouse.

Chamber Choir in Concert with Hesston College

The FA Chamber Choir will be joining the Hesston College Bel Canto Choir in concert on Friday, October 16, at the Salem-Zion (North) Mennonite Church. The choirs will rehearse together at 4:30 p.m., pizza supper at 5:30 p.m. and concert at 7:30 p.m. The FA students will host the college students overnight. Be looking for a letter with more information about this.

NOTE: Due to the early rehearsal, Amy Hofer Vetch will be available from 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. for Parent/Teacher Conferences.

Church Visits

Sunday, October 18, the Freeman Academy Music Department worships with Hutterthal Mennonite Church. Students should wear choir attire and be ready for vocal warm-ups at 9:00 a.m. Service commences at 9:45 a.m. Students are expected to stay through the service unless they have church obligations in their home church. Hutterthal Mennonite Church is located west of Freeman on Highway 44 at the following address: 27473 437th Ave.

Future church visits are scheduled for November 8 at the Salem (South) Mennonite Church in rural Freeman and January

24 at Salem-Zion (North) Mennonite Church also in rural Freeman.

All-State Chorus and Orchestra, Rapid City

Each year Freeman Academy participates in the SD High School All-State Chorus and Orchestra. Each school is invited to participate in this event and is allowed to bring a certain number of vocal quartets based on school size. Freeman Academy is allowed to bring one quartet (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, and Bass).

Vocal auditions for this took place September 28 where a quartet was selected to represent Freeman Academy. An alternate quartet was also selected in the event that a student is not able to attend, is selected to participate in the orchestra, or becomes ill or ineligible. Letters will be sent to the parents of the students selected with additional information in early October.

This concert will be held Oct. 31 and is open to the public. Tickets can be purchased at the arena convention center.

Studio Subscription Series

The 2009-2010 season is off to a great start. We opened our season with **Tina and Lena** from Minnesota and laughed our way through the evening. Our next concert features the **Rawlins Piano Trio** based out of the University of South Dakota, **Sunday, October 11**, at 4:00 p.m. The trio consists of piano, violin and cello.

Founded in 1987, the Rawlins Piano Trio has distinguished itself as a leading American chamber music ensemble. Tickets for the single event are \$12/adult and \$6/student (K-12). FA students receive free admission. A dessert reception will follow the concert. If you have any questions about the concert or the series, please feel free to contact Amy Hofer Vetch at 605-925-4237, ext. 240 or ahofer@freemanacademy.org.

The Best Christmas Pageant Ever

"The Herdmans were the worst kids in the whole history of the world." The opening lines of the play *The Best Christmas Pageant Ever* by Barbara Robinson set us up for an entertaining and thought-provoking show put on by the FA students in grades 9-12 on **November 7 and 9** at 7:00 p.m. The Herdmans bully their way into church, becoming the main characters in the Christmas pageant and retelling the story in an unforgettable way.

The script was adapted from the children's book "The Best Christmas Pageant Ever" and is a great show for young and old alike. Bring a friend and your family and prepare to laugh out loud, gasp, see yourself in a character, and watch how the Christmas story can transform even "the worst kids in the whole history of the world."

Concert Attire for Students in Grades 5-8

All students should wear black pants and black dress shirts. Contact Donna Ries or Amy Hofer Vetch with any questions or for more information.



Development News

Benefit Auction – November 21 at 6:00 p.m.

Freeman Academy's Annual Benefit Auction is scheduled for Saturday, November 21 in the Pioneer Hall Dining Room. This informal, fun-filled evening starts at 6:00 p.m. with a pork loin supper and opportunities to bid on items in the Silent Auction or purchase raffle tickets. At 7:00 p.m. the live auction begins with Wieman Auction donating their expert services.

Each class at Freeman Academy will be assembling a "theme basket" as part of the live auction. A pizza party prize is awarded to the class whose basket brings the most money! Check with your students to help promote their baskets at the sale!

The committee (Gary Tschetter, Bonnie Young, DelVonna Wentz, Linda Graber, Kerwin Graber, Wayne and Kristi Hofer) requests donations of NEW or GENTLY USED ITEMS or antiques/collectibles and/or specialty items to present for silent or live auction. Cash donations and VOLUNTEER HELPERS are also needed! If you have an item to donate or need more information, please contact Gary Tschetter at gltschetter@hotmail.com or 925-7901 or Linda Graber at 925-7400.

Boxtops, Bottle Caps, and Labels!

Faithful constituents and parents continue to fill our collection container with General Mills Box Tops, Land O'Lakes Milk Jug Caps, and Campbell's Labels! We are in need of a new coordinator to clip, package, sort, and mail these items for credit and/or cash back to the school. It is a job that can be done at home and maybe you can recruit a family member to assist! This opportunity does qualify for tuition reduction hours. Please stop by the school or contact the FA Business Office at 925-4237 to express your interest!

Turner County Fair Final Report

THANK YOU to each and every person who put in time and labor at the Freeman Academy Taco Stand at the Turner County Fair in August! We are especially grateful for those who took the initiative to make a call to Barb Yoder and schedule a work time. Even though we needed to purchase two brand new deep fat fryers, we still made \$13,000 in profits.

Bobcat Passes for Prospective Students

The Enrollment and Development Offices have once again distributed Bobcat Passes to families with prospective students for Freeman Academy. If you are aware of someone that was missed or a new family that should be included, we welcome your input. Please contact Bonnie Young at 925-4237, ext. 225 or byoung@freemanacademy.org.

Coffee & Conversations Begins October 28

The public is invited to come for coffee and a time of informal discussion about Freeman Academy monthly beginning October 28 at 10:00 a.m. in the Frontier Hall Lounge. Parents, grandparents, alumni and community members are included in this time of sharing with Development Director Vernetta Waltner and other faculty and staff! Reminders will be published in local church bulletins and the Courier. Hope to see some of you there!

Tuition Reduction Hours

The fiscal year's first quarter ends September 30. Please submit accumulated tuition reduction hours (July 1-September 30) to the business office by October 10. This includes hours worked at the Turner County Fair booths. If you've only worked a few hours, you may wait until January to report them with the next quarter.

Anita Neufeld

Athletic Department News

Fall Sports Banquet

The Fall Sports Banquet will be held Monday, November 16, at 7:30 p.m. with a potluck meal. **Parents of seniors, juniors and sophomores** should bring a main dish, and **parents of fifth through ninth graders** should bring a dessert. This event is for **ALL**

families that have students participating in volleyball, cross country and soccer.

Contact Nathan Epp at nepp@freemanacademy.org or 925-4237, ext. 233 for further information.



Upcoming Events

* Subject to change

October

- 1 Hesston College Rep 1:30 pm CH
Soccer @ James Valley Christian (JV 3 pm; V 5 pm)0
TVC VB Tournament @ Hurley TBA
- 2 **Early Dismissal 12:50; NCA Teacher Work Day**
- 3 TVC Volleyball Tournament @ Baltic tba
- 5 Wellness Lunch Bunch
VB @ Marion 6:15 pm
- 7 Communications Mtg. CH 10:00am
Brandon Valley on campus (tent)
Cross Country TVC @ Irene 3:00 pm
Dev. Comm. Mtg. MH 7:00 pm
- 8-10 **State Soccer Tournery in Aberdeen**
- 8 **First Trimester Mid-Term**
Vermillion Planning Days for Juniors
MS VB @ Centerville 5:00 pm
VB @ Centerville 6:15 pm
- 9 Enrollment Steering Comm. mtg. DH noon
Brandon Valley on FA Campus (tent)
- 10 VB @ G-V Tournery TBA
- 11 **Studio Subscription Series "Rawlins Piano Trio" PH 4 pm**

- 12-17 Book Fair
- 12 **Pastor Appreciation Day @ FA**
- 13 **Early Dismissal 2:50 pm; Staff mtg. MH 3 pm**
FHS All-State Chorus Extravaganza 8:30 am – 1:30 pm @ FHS
Pvt Reser VisCtr 1:00 pm
MS VB v Hurley ~ Home 5:00 pm
VB v Hurley ~ Home 6:15 pm
- 14 **PSAT testing (gr. 10-11)**
Cross Country Region Meet TBA
- 15-17 MSC Administrators' mtg. in Goshen, IN
- 15 VB @ Marty Indian 6 pm
All State Orchestra Auditions in SF
- 16 **No School ~ Parent/Student/Teacher Conf.**
DH 10:00 am – 6:00 pm
FA Chamber Choir w/ Hesston College Bel Canto @ Salem Zion Menn Church 7:30 pm
- 18 FA Instrumental/Vocal at Hutterthal Mennonite
- 19 MS VB @ G-V 6:00 pm
Finance Comm Mtg MH 7:30 pm
- 20 VB @ Mitchell Christian 6:30 pm
- 21 Lake Area Tech College Rep CH 2:40 pm
- 22 **7-12 Band & 5-8 Vocal Concert PH 7:30 pm**

- 23 5/6 Gr. & Humanities Field Trip to Watertown
- 24 **State Cross Country Meet @ Rapid City TBA**
MS VB TVC Tournery @ Viborg 9 am
- 26 Augustana College Rep CH 2:15
VB v O-R-R ~ Home 6:30 pm
- 27 Local Oral Interp Competition CH 6:00-9:00 pm
- 28 Coffee & Conversation FH 10:00 a.m.
- 29 **Prayer Meeting CH 6:30 pm**
Board Meeting MH 7:00 pm
- 30-31 All-State Chorus & Orchestra in Rapid City
Pvt Reserv PH

ADM Administration (Classroom Building)
CH Chapel
FH Frontier Hall (dormitory)
MH Music Hall
PH Pioneer Hall
SH Sterling Hall
VisCtr Visitor Center
Arbor Aboretum
Amph Amphitheater

Calendar Reminders

- October 2** **Early Dismissal: 12:50 (lunch is served)**
(Freeman Public School dismissal may differ)
- October 13** **Early Dismissal: 2:50**
(Freeman Public School dismissal may differ)
- October 16** **Parent/Student/Teacher Conferences: 10:00 a.m.—**
6:00 p.m. DH
- October 22** **7-12 Instrumental and 5-8 Vocal Concert 7:30 p.m. PH**

FREEMAN ACADEMY

*Where Faith & the Arts
Bring Learning to Life*

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Online Parent Gradebook Access

Parents are now able to access students' grades and attendance records online. A unique username and password will be given to parents interested in accessing the gradebook and attendance portal. The following link can be copied into a web browser to open the portal: <http://www.freemanacademy.org:81/jmc/JMC CGI 0910.dll?module=Parent>

To request a username and password, please email Nicolle Hofer Timmerman at nhtimmerman@freemanacademy.org.