

*the*  
**FLYER**



**SHEBOYGAN  
CHRISTIAN  
SCHOOL**

Scholarship | Discipleship | Citizenship

**SHINE**  
SHINE



FALL 2022





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*The Flyer* is a publication of Sheboygan Christian School. The purpose of *The Flyer* is to keep you up to date on everything that is happening in our school and to unify our greater school community.

Please contact the SCS Development office if you would like to update your contact information or if you know of someone who would like to receive *The Flyer*.

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**Design & Layout** | Laura Hartgerink, Signify, LLC

## From the Desk of Ann Steenwyk



*“Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord rises upon you.*

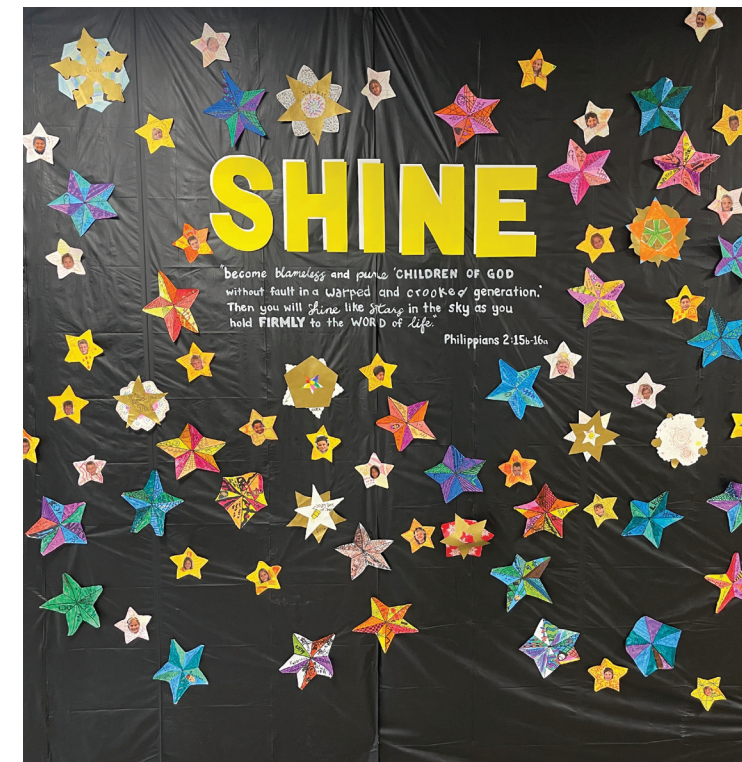
*See, darkness covers the earth and thick darkness is over the peoples, but the Lord rises upon you and his glory appears over you.*

*Nations will come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your dawn.”* —Isaiah 60: 1-3

Isaiah had a big job. Not only was he called to proclaim judgment on Judah, but he was also assigned to share hope and comfort, prophesying about the Messiah. Just as in Isaiah’s day, we are a people living in a dark world yet holding on to the hope of our sovereign Savior. At SCS, we are teaching students how to navigate in the midst of darkness through shining the light of Jesus. They have reason to shine – Jesus is Lord and Savior!

Our theme this year is SHINE, based on Philippians 2:15b-16a. Because the gospel is central in our school, students are daily considering their roles in bringing light into the darkness. In the month of September, we learned how to shine brightly as Community Builders, within the classrooms, within the whole school, and within the community. We are building community in our b1 groups and in our mentor/mentee relationships (teachers and students alike!) In October, we learned how to shine our light as Creation Enjoyers and Order Discoverers. We’ve studied God’s creation, engaged in scientific investigations, and are figuring out how to code. In November, we are shining our light as God Worshipers and learn how elements of worship glorify God and bring us closer to Him. We have reason to worship because He died for us, conquering the darkness. Through all of it, we discuss with our students how we are bringing glory to God by being Image Reflectors, reflecting His light. When our light shines brightly, not only are we separated from the darkness, but we also draw others to Him. We want nations to be attracted to Him because of our ability to reflect His light. Please join us in shining Christ’s light in a dark world!

Shining for His Glory,  
**Ann Steenwyk**  
Head of School



## Mission

In partnership with the Christian community, Sheboygan Christian School uses a biblical perspective to integrate academic excellence with Christ-centered learning, preparing students’ hearts and minds for service in God’s world.

## Vision

Sheboygan Christian School will impact the world, both near and far, for Jesus Christ.

## Core Values

- Pursues Academic Excellence
- Develops the Christian Mind
- Cultivates Spiritual Growth
- Encourages Biblical Self-Image
- Builds Strong Social Bonds
- Involves the Supporting Community
- Serves the Greater Community



# From the Board



## SHINE!

**...so that you may become blameless and pure, “children of God without fault in a warped and crooked generation.” Then you will shine among them**

**like stars in the sky as you hold firmly to the word of life. And then I will be able to boast on the day of Christ that I did not run or labor in vain. —Philippians 2:15b-16a**

Influence is highly valued in our world. That’s true in business, in our communities and our schools. Even in social media, we call those with a strong following, “influencers.” Most of us want others to see us favorably. We want to matter. And sometimes, trying to impress others or striving to fit in means trying to be something we’re not. In other words, we have to pretend because we’re not made for the task.

But when God gets ahold of us and draws us to Himself, it’s different. When He calls us to follow Jesus, He doesn’t

merely ask us to “look the part.” God brings the goods! We can live differently because, when we trust Him, He actually begins healing us and making us the people He wants us to be, from the inside-out. Philippians 2:15b – 16a reminds us that we are called to “...become blameless and pure, ‘children, of God without fault in a warped and crooked generation.’” And He calls us to “shine...like stars in the sky!” We can act differently, showing the world God’s love and goodness because, by His power, we become different.

We have an amazing opportunity at SCS! We get to learn about God’s plan for us—what it means to live as those He loves in His world. We get to practice showing that love to people all around us who desperately need Him! And we can do that because, even though we are imperfect, we can live in His power as people who know what it means to be forgiven and free!

As a member of the SCS Board of Trustees, I have the privilege of serving on a committee that’s focusing on discipleship—helping our staff, students and families to better understand what it means to sincerely follow Jesus and to help others to do the same. And we are pursuing that goal because we are called by God to show the world something different. We are called to BE different. We’re called to SHINE!

We invite you to pray with us for our school this year, asking God to give us the ability to be bright lights that reflect His love, faithfulness, and goodness so that everyone around us will see Him more clearly. And we look forward with great excitement to see how He’ll answer that prayer!

With you,  
**Torrey Zimmerman**  
*Member, SCS Board of Trustees*



## NEW STAFF – A SHINING EXAMPLE OF GOD’S FAITHFULNESS

This year, our school community hired a record 15 new teachers. We are thrilled with this group of amazing Christian educators. Here’s what some of them had to say after just a few months of service at SCS:

*“I have been very impressed with the dedication of our students, parents, faculty, and staff.”*

—Josh Gross, Middle School History and Bible Teacher

**“SCS is a welcoming community who has their priorities straight. The school values Biblical instruction, encourages students to be leaders, and provides ways to show Christ’s love to the greater community.”** —BRIAN WHARNABY, HS SOCIAL STUDIES TEACHER, ASSISTANT ATHLETIC DIRECTOR

**“I WAS SURPRISED AT THE WIDE RANGE OF STUDENTS WE ARE ABLE TO SERVE HERE AT SCS. I WAS IMPRESSED AT THE SERVICES AVAILABLE, SUCH AS A SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGIST AND SPECIAL EDUCATION.”**

—Nicole Ongna, 5th grade teacher

*“Being a parent of SCS students, I already felt connected to this incredible community. After working at SCS for this first semester, I have such a deeper appreciation for all that goes on “behind the scenes” to create such a loving and welcoming environment for our students, families, and staff. This culture of SCS is truly one of grace, collaboration, and grit. I am so humbled to be a part of such a dedicated and hard working team.”* —Amanda Hildebrand, High School Business and Computer Science

**“This is my first teaching experience at a Christian school. I have been very pleasantly surprised at how often teachers will ask students if they can pray with them.”**  
—KELLY RITSMAN, SPECIAL EDUCATION, MS/HS

**“I’m surprised (in a wonderful way) by how intentional and seriously committed the school is to the Christian worldview aspect of the educational program here.”**  
—Anna Whartnaby 2nd Grade Teacher





## CAPITAL CAMPAIGN UPDATE

John Warmus, *Director of Finance & Advancement*

Consider with me what God has done through our school community over the past 12 months!

# Building Hearts *and* Minds

**FALL 2021:** we completed **Phase One** of the building project connected to the Building Hearts and Minds capital campaign. We nearly doubled our footprint at 929 Greenfield Ave, adding over 40,000 square feet to our 48,000 square foot high school campus. For the first time in the history of our school (dating all the way back to 1898!) we had preschool through grade 12 all under one roof on a daily basis!

**FALL 2022:** we completed **Phase Two** of the building project connected to the Building Hearts and Minds capital campaign. While much “quieter” than Phase One, this was a critical phase to build space for our growing school. We were able to add 5 more Middle School classrooms in the new Middle School Pod.

What has changed since we started all of this? In a word: Growth! For years, this community has prayed for school growth. We’ve prayed for a sustainable model that allows us to plan for the long term health and well being of our school community – not just staying open for one more year. We’ve prayed that God would bring us mission-fit families who deeply value our Christian education and community. God has answered those prayers in immeasurably more ways than we could have asked or imagined! We’ve grown from a P-12 school system on two campuses with 229 students in the fall of 2014 to 505 students in the fall of 2022! This represents an unprecedented 120% growth in our student body over an 8 year period.

While we are thrilled with this growth, we are mindful of managing the growth in a way that protects our mission and our community. Our board of trustees has wisely limited this growth in order to accomplish just that. We hired a record 15 excellent new faculty members this year in order to keep our faculty/student ratio in line with our community’s expectations and our educational standards.

**WHAT’S NEXT?** Our steering committee is regularly meeting to consider **Phase Three** of the Building Hearts and Minds Capital Campaign, focusing on expanded middle and high school space and offerings. We view this next phase as the culmination of the groundwork that we have already laid in the first two phases. After Board consideration, if approved, we will be ready to share these plans with the association at our spring/2023 Association meeting on May 9th.

## HOW CAN I GET INVOLVED?

### Three ways!

- 1 Pray.** Please pray for our school leadership. Specifically, the Steering Committee and the Board of Trustees as we strategically and prayerfully consider God’s will for our school community in these critical next steps.
- 2 Financially contribute.** We will have more details of what you can financially support in Phase Three, but we are absolutely still taking donations for Phase Two. We’re a very green office: if it’s green, we’ll take it! :)
- 3 Come and visit.** Our favorite way to share the vision of where God is taking our school community is to walk around with community members during a school day. You really can’t appreciate everything that God is doing here until you see it for yourself. I would love to schedule a time to personally meet with you on campus individually, or with a group.



## NEW MIDDLE SCHOOL OPENS WITH DEEP HOPE

**“It is our deep hope that we love God, growing and persevering in community for His glory.”**

Powerful words that are lived out in our middle school hallways every day. Before the school year began, our middle school team of teachers gathered to reflect on our deepest hope, our ultimate goal that we wanted to see in our students as they also practice math facts, study texts, and review events in history. The resounding message was that loving God was the most important priority for our students this year. This has always been true, but even more pressing in a time when our world’s culture wants to tell us that love is something we can define.



Are we doing this perfectly? Certainly not. But do we have kids striving to persevere for His glory in community? Yes. Go watch a girls volleyball game and you will see athletes striving to play their best in honor of their Savior. Join us on our annual field trip to Camp Y-Koda and you will witness groups of middle schoolers working hard to complete a nearly impossible challenge, getting a group of 15 kids across platforms without a single foot hitting the ground. Enter the classroom and you’ll see kids close-reading to analyze characters, persevering when the text is challenging or the writing in response doesn’t come easily. Walk through our new common space to view 8th graders collaborating on a weather forecast simulation, having to compromise and brainstorm the most effective way to teach their class. Loving God, growing and persevering in community for His glory...not being done perfectly, but it is our deep hope every day in middle school.







**Coaching for Transformation (CfT) challenges the principles and practices within Christian school athletics to provide alignment from administrator to athlete so that the deep hope of each school is realized**

**through a transformative experience for athletes, coaches, and the wider community.**

Sheboygan Christian School (SCS) was one of 12 schools nationwide that was invited to take part in a Coaching for Transformation pilot program in partnership with Dordt University and CASE (Center for the Advancement of Christian Education) during the 2020-2021 academic year. After working through the year-one CfT developmental process, SCS has now created, and begun implementing our own unique “game plan” for intentionally, transformatively, and consistently incorporating a faith focus in/through our athletics programs.

As you may have seen on our gym wall, and heard about in conversations with SCS coaches or student athletes, our Athletics Department vision is:

**“For physical training is of some value, but godliness has value for all things, holding promise for both the present life and the life to come.” —1 Timothy 4:8**

And our four Transformative Principles are:

- 1** **COMPETING**
- 2** **ENCOURAGING**
- 3** **HUMILITY**
- 4** **TRAINING**

We have already seen some excellent examples of how CfT is making a positive impact in our athletics programs, and we have (God willing) exciting plans to continue to implement our CfT game plan in the days, months and years ahead.



## COACHING for TRANSFORMATION

Recently, we had the privilege of hosting Coach Bill Harmsen at SCS, as he came to do a site visit and meet with our administrators, high school coaches, and student athletes. Coach Harmsen is the head women’s basketball coach at Dordt University, and he also serves as the Director of Program Development with CfT. We received a glowing report on how CfT is being implemented at SCS, and also picked up some neat ideas that we can look to incorporate moving forward.

In addition to the work we are doing at SCS, I have also been blessed with the opportunity to take CfT to several other schools while serving in a CfT “captain” role. Two schools that I am working with are Grove City Christian near Columbus, Ohio, and Bethlehem College, which is the largest Christian school in New Zealand. It is so encouraging to see athletics programs having such a deep faith-filled impact with our brothers and sisters in Christ at other Christian schools, both near and far.

Coaching for Transformation has been a wonderful blessing that has helped our SCS athletics programs develop intentional, transformative, and consistent ways that we can implement our faith focus in/through our athletics programs. We thank God for the progress that has been made thus far, and we look forward to continuing to go “further up and further in” while implementing our CfT game plan, and using the athletics “classroom” as another way to prepare students’ hearts and minds for service in God’s world.

Thank you for your ongoing support of SCS Athletics. God bless each of you, and GO EAGLES!

**Shane Hansen**  
*Director of Athletics*

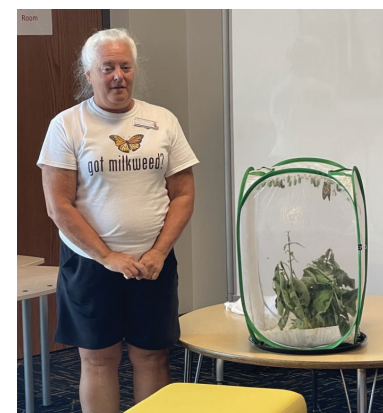
**[CFT] HAS HELPED OUR SCS ATHLETICS PROGRAMS DEVELOP INTENTIONAL, TRANSFORMATIVE, AND CONSISTENT WAYS THAT WE CAN IMPLEMENT OUR FAITH FOCUS IN/THROUGH OUR ATHLETICS PROGRAMS.**

## SCHOLARSHIP

### TEACHING FOR TRANSFORMATION

#### Fred the Caterpillar

Why do we study science? That’s a question the 2nd graders began the year thinking about. Because it’s fun, because we learn things, because we have to? All are true, but the main reason we study science is that we can learn more about the Creator by studying His creation. And we did...with the help of Fred.



#### Monarchs and Milkweed

Remember when you were a kid, and there seemed to be lots of monarch butterflies around? The reason you don’t see as many now is because their numbers are decreasing, rapidly. As of July 2022,

monarchs are considered endangered. Habitat destruction has led to the production of less milkweed. And the monarch butterfly lays its eggs on the milkweed plant... ONLY the milkweed plant. Hence, less milkweed, less monarchs.

There are four stages in the monarch butterfly life cycle: the egg, the caterpillar (larvae), the chrysalis (pupa), and the adult butterfly. This cycle, from egg to adult, takes about a month. The monarch lays her eggs on the milkweed plant. Why? Because it’s the only thing her offspring will eat (talk about a fussy eater!). About four days later, a minuscule caterpillar emerges and immediately starts eating. After two weeks of eating milkweed, the caterpillar grows to nearly three inches long. It then forms into a chrysalis. This stage is where the God Amazing Artistic Design really happens, when the monarch transforms from a caterpillar to an adult butterfly. After 10-14 days, a beautiful butterfly slowly emerges, and within a few hours, it’s ready to fly away and start the cycle all over again.

And it’s all thanks to milkweed!



Fred was a caterpillar brought in by one of the second graders. With the help of her mom and grandmother, Fred had a pretty great set-up in our classroom. We observed him as a caterpillar and were excited when he made his “J” one Friday afternoon. By the weekend, we was in his chrysalis. We kept an eye on him for the next weeks, knowing something amazing was taking place inside that chrysalis, something God had devised. That taught us about the Creator. On a Wednesday afternoon, Fred came out of his chrysalis, a beautiful butterfly. On Thursday morning, we reflected on what this experience taught us about God the creator. Then we released Fred. He circled the blacktop, and then flew away (although we are sure we spot him regularly here at school and at our homes, too!). What a wonderful experience we had as creation enjoyers and God worshipers, knowing that all the care and love God put into creating a butterfly, he also put into creating us!







**For the past 22 years, seniors at Sheboygan Christian have been going on a retreat to Silver Birch Ranch. The purpose of this retreat is to hopefully bring together the senior class as well as bringing individual students closer to the Lord.**

During this year's retreat, we participated in many activities at Silver Birch. Horseback riding, ziplining, trap shooting, and archery are just some of the activities we were able to do. When the weather got warmer, we were able to get out on the water; swimming, tubing, wakeboarding, water skiing, and climbing the inflatable. It provided many opportunities for everyone to try things they have never done before, as well as work together to get to an end goal. An example of this is when we participated in team building activities. We worked together to do things like get a ball down a track into a cup, or keep a ball in the air for an extended period of time.

Pastor Stephen Marris from Word of Grace Church shared God's word with us. The way he spoke to us was very personal, intimate, and real. He was a very down to earth



person and he also knew how to connect with us and make everything he said relate to us and our high school experience. Some points that really stood out to us were bringing sin into light, and how if we don't deal with our sin it will only grow. As a class we feel we have grown closer and we all had fun with each other whether it was tubing and swimming or playing games in the canteen. We feel this trip is an important part of each person's senior year and is one of the many ways we can grow closer to God. We are very grateful for this opportunity and hope as more classes go on this trip, they will grow as much as we did.

**"TUBING, AND ZIPLINING WERE THE BEST PART OF THE TRIP"** —Kenneth Lee

**"I ENJOYED BEING ABLE TO SPEND TIME GETTING TO KNOW MY FRIENDS BETTER AND I ENJOYED SEEING THE SUNSET"** —Rachel Kowitz

**"MY FAVORITE PART OF SENIOR RETREAT WAS PLAYING BOARD GAMES AT NIGHT WITH THE WHOLE CLASS"** —Noah Heinen

**"MY FAVORITE PART OF THE RETREAT WAS WHEN OUR WHOLE CLASS PLAYED GAMES TOGETHER THE FIRST NIGHT"** —Caleb Hendrikse



## CITIZENSHIP

One of our first units in HS Business Foundations was studying the nature and type of businesses. One specific area of focus was analyzing and comparing for-profit businesses to nonprofits in our own community. It was during this section that students were challenged to research two local non-profit organizations and report the following:

- 1) Name of the non-profit in Sheboygan County?
- 2) Who in the community do they help?
- 3) How do they help (clothing/food/shelter/education/other)?
- 4) What are the opportunities for us to serve/volunteer?
- 5) Contact information for serving/volunteering

The second phase of the assignment was to select one of their organizations and create a one page poster for all High School students to access that would provide the details above. Our students did an INCREDIBLE job with this assignment and created beautiful and eye-catching posters that are now on display for all HS students to find new ways to serve our community.

It was inspiring to see how many students took this assignment to heart and researched companies that meant a lot to them personally. Our Deep Hope in Business Foundations is to **"Love God and love others in all we do in our personal and professional lives"** and this project has clearly demonstrated the servant hearts here at Sheboygan Christian. When asked how they were impacted by this project, several of our Business Foundation students responded with the following:

*"This work was important to me because the Early Bird Charity Foundation is a great nonprofit to support because they help so many families and provide so much for the community. I think we should all support this non-profit because it does so many charity funds to help support families and needs around the Sheboygan Community."* —Ashlee Bailie (Sophomore)

*"It is important to know and support them so that we can be aware of ways that we can help our community."* —Nate Alsum (Senior)

**"By knowing the ways you can support your community through non-profits we can help better God's kingdom in our own cities."** —Amie Burgard (Sophomore)



*"I think it is so important to be a part of and help out at a non-profit organization because there are always areas to help out. As a Christian we are called to reach out to those who need it the most and we are called to be servants. Helping out a non-profit organization is an awesome way to act in the way we are called to here at Sheboygan Christian School."* —Caleb Hendrikse (Senior)

*"It is important to know and support our nonprofit organizations in Sheboygan County because they are helping those who are in need. We are in a school and community here at Sheboygan Christian where we can take the things we have for granted but there are those out there that don't know where their next meal is going to come from. When we are able to support our nonprofit organizations we are giving to others who don't have the materials and supplies they need. We are helping make a difference in their lives for the good. We are able to show God's light and love to those who have yet to hear it and help them in their times of darkness."* —Lizzy Johnson (Sophomore)

*"It is important so we can leave a mark of what Sheboygan Christian high school looks like."* —AJ Kerwin (Senior)

*"We need nonprofits to support those in need. Otherwise they don't have much."* —Jackson Kiel (Sophomore)

*"This work was important to me because it helps give opportunities to students to help out their community and also get service hours for school."* —Madalyne Lee (Sophomore)

*"Nonprofits are important to me because they help people who need help and are not as fortunate."* —Elijah Wright (Sophomore)

**"...if we know who needs help, we can show God through our actions and help organizations that go along with what God tells us to do."** —Addison DeBlaey (Sophomore)





# SHEBOYGAN CHRISTIAN S C H O O L

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## UPCOMING EVENTS



### SCS CHRISTMAS FEST

**Saturday,  
December 3  
5:30-8pm**

Join us for a whimsical night of family fun and giving! Take a

stroll through our enchanting Christmas tree forest while enjoying Christmas music and sipping on a hot beverage. Enjoy the brand new community chili cook-off and bid on your favorite tree to take home and be ready for Christmas! Send the little ones off to play or to watch a favorite Christmas movie while you shop for a wreath decorated by our very own High School art students, or cozy up to one of our toasty fire pit areas.

## Stay Connected with SCS



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*Please bring a new unwrapped toy for our Toys For Tots drive.*