



EAGLE NEWS

The monthly newsletter for East Linn Christian Schools



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Imago Dei Made in the Image of God

Janelle Detweiler, Superintendent

During our exit meeting last spring I shared with the staff a list of, what I consider to be, the greatest threats facing our students.

First, is the significant decline in adherence to a biblical worldview by the church. Second, is the cultural shift that has gone beyond rejecting biblical truth to embracing and even celebrating the opposite. Lastly, the extreme effort underway to completely eliminate gender.

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IMAGO DEI - MADE IN THE IMAGE OF GOD

Janelle Detweiler, Superintendent

Barna Biblical Worldview Amongst American Pastors

Biblical Worldview Defined as

1. Absolute moral truth exists.
2. The Bible is totally accurate.
3. Satan is a real force, real agent
4. A person cannot earn their way into heaven.
5. Jesus Christ lived a sinless life on earth.
6. God is all knowing, all powerful, still rules this universe today.

BELIEVED TO BE TRUE

Lead pastor	41%
Associate pastor	28%
Teaching pastor	13%
Children's pastor	12%
Executive pastor	4%

This comes from a recent survey published by the Barna Research Group. It depicts the percentage of ministers who hold beliefs that align with a Biblical worldview.

It's based on answers given in response to a set of Biblical worldview questions.

Exchange Godly for Ungodly

Romans 1

Men suppressed the truth and exchanged the truth for lies:

1. Worship images resembling mortal man, birds, animals and creeping things.
2. Worship of the creature (self) rather than the creator.
3. Exchanged natural relations for those that are contrary to nature.
4. Sacrifice children for personal gain.



While listening and watching the events leading up to the supreme courts ruling on abortion, there were individuals publicly chanting messages about killing babies.

Officials were openly lobby for abortion- using the financial impact on society as a reason to support abortion.

Natural Identity



Parents losing custody of children for refusing to allow them to begin gender reassignment therapies before puberty.

"Good parenting" today includes parents listening to gender experts who recommend transition by "stages," with no age barriers.

Two-year-olds can be given a new name if they decide to identify with the opposite gender.

Children (age 14) allowed to undergoing a gender transition surgery, which can sterilize the teen.

UND panel says 'gender ideology' is a real and present danger

Numerous parents seeking to enroll have shared with me experiences of their children being asked questions about their gender and/or sexual preference at school.

When I began my career in education (1994) this kind of conversation with a student would have been considered gross irresponsibility. Definite grounds for dismissal!

In thinking about all of this I was reminded of a passage in 2 Timothy where Paul says, For the time is coming when men will not tolerate wholesome teaching. They will want something to tickle their own fancies, and they will collect teachers who will pander to their own desires. They will no longer listen to the truth, but will wander off after man-made fictions. For yourselves, stand fast in all that you are doing, meeting whatever suffering this may involve. Go on steadily preaching the Gospel and carry out the full commission that God gave you. In reading on, I noted something I hadn't noticed before. At the end of the chapter Paul says, do your best to get here before winter. Winter is a term often associated with dark or difficult times. He is warning them to come now before the weather is too bad and they can't make it. I think most Christians anticipate difficult times ahead. The reality is we are in a spiritual battle. The enemy wants us to believe we are "nothing". As Christians we know we are made in the image of God. We have been fearfully and wonderfully designed, with His unique characteristics. We have a God-given purpose and a future hope found in Jesus. Our students need to hear this message. In order to understand who they are, they need to know whose they are.

In an effort to prepare our students for "winter", we've chosen Imago Dei - Made in the image of God as our Tft- Habit of Christian Living to focus on campus-wide this year. Our desire is for our students to embrace their God-given calling and live as God intended them to, with purpose and hope!

2022-2023 EAGLE WELCOME WEEK!

Even though Identity in Christ is our theme this school year, community building continues to be a focus. We are onboarding 18 new employees this fall and nearly 70 new students. As mentioned in the July newsletter, we are keenly aware of the impact large scale enrollment poses. We've dedicated considerable time this summer to purposefully prepare well. We want to welcome all of the new students and families, while at the same time ensuring our school's mission and values are preserved. With this in mind, several teachers and parents volunteered to work with the leadership this summer to specifically plan the first week of school.

Welcome Week emerged from these efforts. Messages in preparation for Welcome Week will be posted on social media as well as emailed to families in the days leading up to the first day of school. Stay tuned!

[Click here for the Welcome Week Schedule & more information!](#)



SPORTS UPDATES

Kenny Gerig, Athletic Director

We are only a few days away from the start of the high school fall sports season. Volleyball will begin practice on August 15 from 12:30-2:30 with their first game scheduled for August 25 at Blanchet. Their first home game is August 31 at 6:00 against Jefferson. High school soccer will also begin practice August 15 from 8:00-10:00am and 6:00-8:00pm. They will open the season on September 1 at 4:15 with a home game against Western Christian. Cross country will begin practice on August 16 at 2:30pm. They open the season on August 26 at Wilsonville HS. Middle school volleyball and soccer practice will begin August 29.

We have two more sports camps coming up. Volleyball camp is coming up August 15-17 from 9:00-noon. It is open for 1st-8th grade. Soccer camp is on August 22-24 from 6:00-8:00pm. It is open for K-8th grade.

FUNDRAISING OPPORTUNITY: Our sports programs have the opportunity to work crowd management at this years OSU football games. Any athlete 16 years or older, coach, or parent may work and the athletic department will get \$15.50 per hour worked per person. I have committed to bringing a minimum of 15 people per game, but we can bring more than that if we want. I have designated each game as a specific sports emphasis day. Any player, coach, or parent from the designated sport will have 100% of their earnings go to that sports program. Any athlete who works but does not play that specified sport will have their earnings divided between the sports they play. Any seniors who do not play a sport may work any of the games to raise funds for the senior class if they would like. In order to work the games, everyone must fill out a simple background check and do a required training one week before working a game. I will be providing a couple of training sessions prior to school and a couple after school start. I am tentatively planning one training session on August 19 at 10:15am (after soccer practice) and one on August 24 at 5:30 (after volleyball practice) in the library. The work dates are 9/3 vs Boise St. - soccer; 9/24 vs USC - baseball; 10/15 vs WSU - boys basketball; 10/22 vs Colorado - girls basketball & golf; 11/12 vs Cal - volleyball; and 11/25 vs Oregon - track & cross country.

PRESCHOOL PREPARES TO WELCOME NEW STUDENTS

Krista Wolgamott, Preschool Director

We are excited to welcome preschool students back to school very soon! Our enrollment is not yet full, so we have the ability to welcome even more students into preschool in the next few weeks. We've had some staffing changes this summer. Miss Monica is transitioning over to help in Elementary this year, so Chelsea Freeman will be the full-time assistant in Mrs. K's 4 year old class. Mrs. W's 3s class will be welcoming a new assistant: Stephanie Deckert! We wish Miss Crossan well as she continues her college studies at Corban University. Welcome to the team Stephanie!

Mrs W will be reaching out to new families to schedule classroom visits before school starts. This is a great time to bring in school supplies and ask questions of your child's classroom teacher. If you have a returning preschool student, plan to visit your child's classroom at our Back to School event on September 1st.

CHROMEBOOKS REMINDER

Jen Dix, Technology Director

ATTENTION ALL MIDDLE SCHOOL AND HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS: This year we will be requiring that every student use a school owned chromebook instead of using their own personal family chromebook. If you used your own personal chromebook in the past you will no longer be allowed to use that device and must use a school owned device. Please make sure to stop by the technology office during back to school night so that you can receive your chromebook.

CAMPUS IMPROVEMENTS

In preparation for the new school year many improvements have been made to the campus:

- Two classrooms have been added to the elementary school.
- An additional classroom was created inside the library to accommodate an additional high school class and provide an area for independent study.
- A new parking lot for high school students and staff was added to the north side of the campus to alleviate traffic during drop off and pick up.
- The cafeteria portion of the kitchen/cafeteria project is near complete.
- An upgrade was made to the video surveillance system that will allow law enforcement to observe the campus prior to arriving in the event of an emergency.
- Several school buildings have been painted.
- The parking lot was sealed.
- The first phase of a safety fence installed along preschool property line



JOIN THE FUN! UPCOMING SPORTS CAMPS

Volleyball Camp

Students entering 1st - 8th Grade
August 15th - 17th, 9:00 am - Noon
Sign up here: [Volleyball Camp](#)

Soccer Camp

Students Ages 5-13 yrs
August 22nd - 24th, 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm
Sign up here: [Soccer Camp](#)



SAVE THE DATE!

August 12th

6:30pm

*A Night at the Ballpark
Senior Class Fundraiser*

September 1st

1pm-6pm

*Back to School - Open House
(5:30pm - Senior Parent Meeting in Mrs. Pool's
Classroom MOD5)*

September 6th

First Day of School

September 6-8

Eagle Welcome Week!

CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

Jon Bartlow, Chaplain

The spiritual witness of ELC is paramount to our survival as an institution, and critical to spiritual growth and discipleship of a host of young people who are in our charge. The world is dark and the darkness seems to be more and more pervasive by the day. At times it seems hopeless and Jesus said as much when he rendered a verdict on men in John 3:19 "And this is the judgment: the light has come into the world, and people loved the darkness rather than the light because their works were evil." But what does this mean for us as believers? Are we to take on the world's political and social system with the intent of being victorious over it? I sure hope not. We can't win on that front. The Apostle Paul tells us that our battle is not against flesh and blood, but against principalities and powers in the dark realm and not human beings (Eph 6:12). The scriptures also tell us that God's Kingdom was not cut out by human hands and yet it will fill the earth (See Daniel 2:44-45). That means it is not part of the political system.

Instead Paul tells us that while we must renounce disgraceful ways, we need to know that the truth of the Gospel is veiled to the unbeliever (See 2 Cor 4:1-6). Translation; They are impossible to persuade. So what do we do if political action won't change the culture, and calling out sin publically won't wake people up and prevent the destruction of the wicked? 1 Peter 1:12 gives us a simple answer: "Keep your conduct among the Gentiles honorable, so that when they speak against you as evildoers, they may see your good deeds and glorify God on the day of visitation."

If just being a good man or woman does not seem like doing enough, there is something more we can do to reach the deaf and blind in our midst. We can relate to them while neither accepting their views or sitting in silence regarding God. In Acts 17 Paul found a perfect way to do this in Athens. He related to their feeble efforts to cover all the religious bases so they didn't offend even one of the pantheon of false gods they served. He discovered they believed in an "unknown god" and he told them who that was. Some scoffed of course, but others heard him. God who is about building his own kingdom opened their eyes to the humble truth Paul was telling them. And what was that truth? He told them that he knew the unmet desire of their hearts. He knew that "unknown God" and he then proclaimed Him faithfully to them. That is all we need to do. Everyone without Christ knows instinctively that something is missing. But they don't have the will or awareness to find God because they are blind. We need to proclaim the "unknown God" they need. He will do the rest.

We can start this practice at home by diligently teaching our children God's WORD as he has called us to (Deut 6:6-9), praying with them to this God who will seem unknown to them early on, but who will become personal as He grows in their hearts. And then we let them see us as parents doing the same with others; living humble and Godly lives and proclaiming God and letting Him do the transforming of hearts and lives. It is really that simple.

I am so glad to be starting another year at East Linn Christian. And I am glad your children are here with all of us on staff. Let's take every opportunity proclaim the "God, who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ." (2 Corinthians 4:6)

2022-2023 WELCOMES NEW STAFF

We are excited to have several highly qualified individuals joining the East Linn staff this year! Their bios can be viewed below!

- [Catherine Clarkson - MS/HS Math Lab and Study Center](#)
- [Jamie Ream - 4th Grade Teacher](#)
- [John Denham - Bible Teacher](#)
- [Kaydence Strait - Middle School Social Studies](#)
- [Megan Eddy - Academic Advisor / Health Teacher](#)
- [Samantha Hutchins - 3rd Grade Teacher](#)
- [Sara Gilliam - 5th Grade Teacher](#)
- [Christine \(Tina\) Tressel - Director of Student Support](#)
- [Jeana Graham - Elementary Music](#)