



HIGHLAND CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

PARENT NOTE – March 16, 2026

“Scripture Follower”

II Timothy 3:16-17

SCHOOL NEWS:

- **Re-Enrollment:** Re-enrollment packets for current K-7th grade students are due **TODAY**. All items within your re-enrollment packet must be completed in order for your contract to be submitted. **Failure to complete and submit the re-enrollment contract and packet by March 16, may result in the loss of a seat.**

A few troubleshooting tips for re-enrollment:

1. You CAN submit the enrollment packet without uploading your tax documents.
 2. You CAN submit without uploading immunizations records.
 3. If you forgot your username, please reach out to Amy Wieringa or the school office. **DO NOT CREATE ANOTHER ACCOUNT.**
 4. You need to use a desktop or laptop computer. Please make sure pop-ups and redirects are enabled.
- **Budget Meeting: TONIGHT-** HCS parents and community members are invited to learn more about the 26/27 Budget and planning process at 6:00pm in the HCS gym. We hope to see you there!
 - **HCS Listening Sessions:** Our last Listening Session is this Tuesday, March 17 from 5:00-5:50 pm. To sign up, please complete the following [Sign-Up Genius Form](#).
 - **Late Start:** This Wednesday, March 18, is a late start day. Drop-off begins at 9:40 a.m. and classes begin at 10:00 a.m. Before care is available. Buses will run about 1.5 hours later than a regular school day.
 - **K-5 Spring Program:** We invite you to join us for our K-5 Spring Program this Thursday, March 19 in the HCS Gym. Our K-2 program will start at 6pm, and the 3-5 program will start at 6:45pm. Please enter through the gym door (Door F). Doors will open at 5:35pm.

Please note two items:

1. Families with only a K-2 student will be asked to vacate the gym at 6:30pm to make room for 3-5 families.
 2. Please remain seated for the duration of each program. Excessive movement causes disruption to the performances.
- **March Madness Bracket Competition:** We'd love to see you participate in Highland Christian's 2026 March Madness Bracket Competition! To enter, [complete your ESPN bracket](#) by Wednesday, March 18. The winner will receive the HCS traveling trophy, a \$100 gift card (to the place of your choosing - through TRIP), and will join the ranks of Nathan Aardsma, Anne Spoelman, Darla Kinkade, Kobi DeVries, and Leah Luttjeboer!

Rules:

1. One Submission Per Person (This can be anyone associated with HCS - student, staff member, parent, grandparent, alumni, etc)



2. You Must List Your Full Name (Not Nickname)

*Staff, Board Members, Alumni, Community Members, Donors, Parents, Students, and Supporters of HCS are allowed to participate. Feel free to forward the link to anyone that may be interested in participating and associated with HCS! It would be great to beat last year's participation record and have more than 219 entries! Go Huskies!

● **March Saturday Serve : Hammond Riverside Christian School Work Day**

This month we are partnering with others doing work at Hammond Riverside in anticipation of its opening this fall. At the work day, projects will be assigned to small groups. There are a variety of indoor and outdoor projects that will be happening at the new school. Your support is greatly appreciated and will help families in North Lake County experience the blessing of a Christian Education. Your involvement will make a direct impact in the lives of so many children and families. Thank you!

Date: Saturday, March 21

Time: 8:30 - noon (Come when you can and stay as long as you can)

Place: HRCS 4925 Sohl Ave. Hammond, IN

Wear: clothes & shoes for working; bring work gloves

Questions: Contact Vicki Huiuzenga vhuiuzenga@highlandchristian.org

Sign-Up: [Sign-Up Here](#)

- **Building Christian Men:** Calling all 7th and 8th grade boys! We are excited to announce our next student event: **Beach Baking at the Indiana Dunes!** On **Saturday, March 21, 2026**, we will be taking a trip to the beautiful shores of Lake Michigan at the Indiana Dunes for a unique and memorable outdoor experience. More information can be found [HERE!](#) Any questions, please reach out to bcm@highlandchristian.org.
- **Parent Satisfaction Survey:** As a learning community, hearing from our parents is very important to us. We are asking every household to complete the [K-8 Parent Satisfaction Survey](#). Your responses should reflect the collective experience of your family. With this feedback, we are best able to make plans that align with our parents' feedback & our vision to academically equip, Biblically ground, and spiritually nurture to impact the world for Christ. Thank you for completing this survey by **Monday, March 23**.
- **Retirement Wishes!** Help us celebrate our special retirees by sharing your [well wishes here!!](#) We are collecting fond memories, words of encouragement and happy retirement blessings for **Joyce, Kathy, Gail, Diana, Laurie, and Cheryl**.



In addition to gathering your well wishes, we will be celebrating all of our retirees on **Thursday, May 7, 2026** with an Open House, serving cake and refreshments in the gym from 5:30 to 7:00 pm. Stop by and wish them well!

- **Employment Opportunities:** Do you know someone who loves kids, loves Jesus, and would be an asset to our school community? We have several new openings for next year and we need your help to spread the word!! To view all of our current openings, please visit our [website](#).
- **Donate to BAC** - Now is the chance to declutter your home and start your spring cleaning early. BAC (Before & After Care) is looking for lightly used toys, games, and art supplies. All donated resources can be dropped off at the HCS Office. Thanks for helping the kids before and after school have some new and improved resources!
- **Email Communication:** It has come to our attention that a number of constituents are no longer receiving all-school communication. We are investigating why this may be happening and are working with our

communications vendor to determine how to resolve this concern. Once we have more information, we will be sure to share it with you.

- Hot Lunch Menu- [March Lunch Menu](#)

ATHLETIC NEWS:

Flag Football: LAST CALL to sign-up for Flag Football. Illiana Christian is thrilled to start our Middle School Flag Football program. This program is open to all 6th, 7th, and 8th grade boys and girls. Registration ends on **March 18**. Sign up [HERE](#).

March 17: Boys Volleyball

- 7th grade @ Crown Point Christian (AWAY) 4:00 p.m.
- 8th grade @ Crown Point Christian (AWAY) 5:00 p.m.

March 19: Boys Volleyball

- 7th grade @ Lansing Christian (AWAY) 4:00 p.m.
- 8th grade @ Lansing Christian (AWAY) 5:00 p.m.

FAITH CORNER:

This is the fourth full week of Lent. Lent is a period of 40 days before Easter. Christians purposely use this time to prepare for the celebration and meaning of Easter. By spending time in God's Word thinking about **our need for God and Jesus' sacrifice for us** we will build strong faith practices and prepare our hearts for Easter.

Questions: What do you say when you bump into someone?
I respect my teacher by. . .
I respect my parents when I . . .
Did you ever feel that you were treated unfairly?
What happened?

Bible Passage: John 13: 1-17 (Jesus Washes the Disciples' Feet)

It was just before the Passover Feast. Jesus knew that the time had come for him to leave this world. It was time for him to go to the Father. Jesus loved his disciples who were in the world. So he now loved them to the very end.

2 They were having their evening meal. The devil had already tempted Judas, son of Simon Iscariot. He had urged Judas to hand Jesus over to his enemies. 3 Jesus knew that the Father had put everything under his power. He also knew he had come from God and was returning to God. 4 So he got up from the meal and took off his outer clothes. He wrapped a towel around his waist. 5 After that, he poured water into a large bowl. Then he began to wash his disciples' feet. He dried them with the towel that was wrapped around him.

6 He came to Simon Peter. "Lord," Peter said to him, "are you going to wash my feet?"

7 Jesus replied, "You don't realize now what I am doing. But later you will understand."

8 "No," said Peter. "You will never wash my feet." Jesus answered, "Unless I wash you, you can't share life with me."



9 “Lord,” Simon Peter replied, “not just my feet! Wash my hands and my head too!”

10 Jesus answered, “People who have had a bath need to wash only their feet. The rest of their body is clean. And you are clean. But not all of you are.” 11 Jesus knew who was going to hand him over to his enemies. That was why he said not every one was clean.

12 When Jesus finished washing their feet, he put on his clothes. Then he returned to his place. “Do you understand what I have done for you?” he asked them. 13 “You call me ‘Teacher’ and ‘Lord.’ You are right. That is what I am. 14 I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet. So you also should wash one another’s feet. 15 I have given you an example. You should do as I have done for you. 16 What I’m about to tell you is true. A slave is not more important than his master. And a messenger is not more important than the one who sends him. 17 Now you know these things. So you will be blessed if you do them.

Thoughts: In John 13, the disciples didn’t want to wash each other’s feet. Feet are smelly, and after a dusty day outside, they need a good cleaning. Washing feet was a servant’s job. But the day before Jesus gave His life on the cross, He taught His disciples an important lesson: **Honor other people by being a servant.** He did this by washing their feet.

Look at the people around you. They are **ALL** created in the image of God. “The image of God” means that each person reflects what God is like. You get to know God better through the people you meet. Our words and actions need to show that we respect people as made in God’s image. We need to follow Jesus’ example and serve each other.

Activities: Say “Good morning” to your teachers & friends when you walk into school.
Shake hands and say “Hello” to someone as you enter church on Easter.
Think about a compliment you could give to a friend or family member.
Bring your neighbor a small plant and an Easter card.
Donate some of your favorite books to a Free Book Library.
Fill a grocery bag with canned and boxed food. Drop it off at a *Blessing Box*.
Pick up garbage when you walk along the bike trail.

Prayer: Father God, thank you for lovingly creating us in your image.
Jesus, thank you for giving us an example of how to love and serve each other.
Holy Spirit, open our eyes to see others as created in God’s image.
Help us to see how to serve each other. Amen.

PTO NEWS:

- **K-2 Family Fun Night:** Our K-2 Family Fun Night is Friday, April 10th. Doors open at 6pm and the show will start promptly at 6:30p. Professor Wow’s Space Adventures is a show designed to introduce basic concepts of astronomy to our little ones. It will be a night of fun and learning of cosmic proportions!
- **Muffins with your Miss:** Mark your Calendars! Wednesday, April 29th is our “Muffins with your Miss” event.

T.R.I.P NEWS:

- **T.R.I.P. Schedule:** Our next order for physical gift cards is due on Wednesday, March 18 at 3:30pm. This order will be available for pick up on Tuesday, March 24 after 2:45pm. Cash & Carry is by email request at trip@highlandchristian.org. Upcoming Order Dates: April 8, April 15, April, April 22, April 29
- **T.R.I.P. Volunteer Schedule:** March 17-Team A, March 24-Team B, April 14-Team C, April 21-Team D

COMMUNITY NEWS:

- **Save the date for Dordt Discovery Days registration!** Every year, Dordt University, in Sioux Center, IA, offers a five-day academic camp for students who have completed 6th, 7th, or 8th grade. Camp will be June 22-26, 2026. This is a fun time for living and learning in an on-campus Christ-centered community while exploring new interests or diving deeper into familiar ones. Registration opens on Friday, April 10 at 10 a.m. (CT), and spots typically fill up in the first 20-30 minutes. Check out our website or follow Dordt Discovery Days on Facebook for more information. If you have questions, email becky.ringsby@dordt.edu.
- **Illiana Viking Academy:** Illiana Christian HS Viking Academy Registration is officially OPEN for sign-ups! Whether your kiddo loves sports, arts, or adventure, we've got a spot just for them. Don't wait - spots will fill up fast! Sign up today and give your child a summer they'll never forget <https://www.illianachristian.org/life-ichs/viking-academy/>
- **Theater Camp at Towle Theater:** This spring break we are offering a **Lights Up! Spring Break Theater Camp** for students ages 8–16, running **March 30 – April 3 from 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM** at the Towle Theater. Throughout the week, students will explore a variety of theater activities including **acting, improv, choreography, theater games, and scene work** in a fun and supportive environment. No previous theater experience is required.

