



*Sapientia et Scientia*

## Samuel Fuller School

“...Christ, in whom are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge.”  
Colossians 2:2b-3

February 11, 2019  
*Volume 11.21*

### Upcoming Events

**February 18-22 –  
No School: Winter Break**

**February 27 –  
9AM-2PM: Open House**

**February 28 –  
6PM: K-2 Dinner Theater**

**March 7 –  
End of Term 2**

**March 14 –  
Noon Dismissal: Parent  
Teacher Conferences 4-8PM**

### Westminster Shorter Catechism

**Q18: Wherein consists the sinfulness of that estate whereinto man fell?**

**A:** The sinfulness of that estate whereinto man fell, consists in the guilt of Adam's first sin, the want of original righteousness, and the corruption of his whole nature, which is commonly called Original Sin; together with all actual transgressions which proceed from it.



## *Monday Missive*

### 3 Ways to Pass on Faith to the Next Generation

By Tim Keller, from TheGospelCoalision.org

It is impossible to lay blame neatly when one generation fails to pass its faith on to the next one. Did the first generation fail to reach out, or did the second generation just harden their hearts? The answer is usually both. Mistakes made by one Christian generation are often magnified in the next, nominal one. Commitment is replaced by complacency—and then by compromise.

An interesting example is early New England. Nearly all the first settlers in 1620 to 1640 were vital, biblical Christians. But by 1662, the first generation realized that many of their children and grandchildren were only nominal—believers in name only. They ended up instituting a “Halfway Covenant,” allowing people to vote who were baptized as infants but who as adults were not church members.

Deuteronomy 6:4–9 and 6:20–25 are instructive here. They show us what must be done in order to pass on our faith.

#### **1. Love God Passionately**

We love God wholeheartedly, having these commandments on our hearts (v. 6). This means we are not hypocritical or inconsistent in our behavior. The commandments are not only kept mechanically or partially; rather, God has an effect on all of us, through and through.

Young people are sensitive to any inconsistency. That is the first reason a younger generation can turn from the faith of an older one. One example is how Baby Boomer youth turned away from mainstream Christianity after seeing churches tacitly or even actively support racist policies and practices, and many established churches oppose the civil-rights movement.

#### **2. Impress Truths Practically**

We are to apply the gospel practically, not only academically or abstractly. Deuteronomy 6:7 is not promoting regular family lectures. The references to “sit . . . walk along . . . lie down and . . . get up” refer to the routines of daily life.

Instruction in God's truth, then, is not so much a series of lectures and classes; rather, we are to “impress” truths about God by showing how he relates to daily, concrete living. This is a call to be wise and thoughtful about how the values and virtues of the gospel distinctively influence our decisions and priorities.

#### **3. Give Testimony Personally**

Verses 20–25 tell us we are to link the doctrines of the faith to God's saving actions in our lives. We are to give personal testimony to the difference God has made to us, how he's brought us from bondage into freedom: “We were slaves . . . but the LORD brought us out.” We are not only to speak of beliefs and behavior, but also of our own experience of God. We must be open about our struggles to grow, and transparent about how repentance works in our lives. We are not to be overly formal and impersonal in the expressions of our faith.

In summary, we must be consistent in our behavior, wise about reality, and warmly personal in our faith. History and experience both show us that these three things are hard to carry out on a broad scale. Most Christians rely on institutions and formal instruction to “pass on the faith.” We assume that if we instruct our children in true doctrine, shelter them from immoral behavior, and involve them in church and religious organizations, then we have done all we can. But youth are turned off not only by bad examples, but also by parents who are not savvy about the lives and world their children are living in, or who cannot be open about their own interior spiritual lives.



## Announcements and News

### **OPEN HOUSE**

Our next Open House will take place on the last **Wednesday in February - the 27<sup>th</sup>**. Keep spreading the word to friends, family, and acquaintances! Word-of-mouth is a great way to promote the school. Please also share our Facebook event!

### **UTENSILS FOR LUNCH**

As you pack your child's lunch for each school day, please remember to pack any utensils needed to eat the food. We do not stock plastic utensils for student use, and metal utensils belonging to the church are no longer available.

### **BSO FIED TRIP CHANGE**

Our annual field trip to the Boston Symphony Orchestra has been switched to **Thursday, March 28<sup>th</sup>** since tickets for the Friday concerts were already sold out! Please make sure to mark this change in your calendars.

### **3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> RECITAL CHANGE**

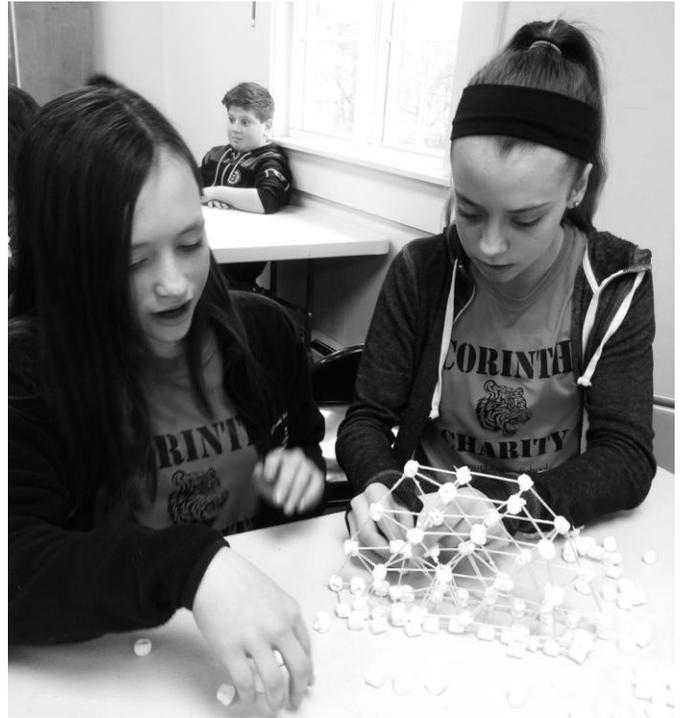
Since we needed to switch the day of our BSO field trip, we will also be moving the date of our 3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> grade recital to **Friday, March 29<sup>th</sup> at 7PM**.

### **K-2 DINNER THEATER**

We are eagerly anticipating our K-2<sup>nd</sup> grade students' performance on **February 28<sup>th</sup>**! A potluck dinner will be shared at 6PM, and the performance will take place at approximately 6:45-7PM. We will then enjoy dessert at 7:30PM.

### **6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> SPRING PLAY**

CASTING for our spring play "Mark Twain's Tom Sawyer" has been announced, and today your child should have picked up his or her script. Scripts are on loan to the students for the duration of the play. Lost or ruined scripts will need to be replaced at a cost of \$10 each. Please make sure that your child is reviewing his or her lines regularly, so that Thursday practices can be focused on dramatic presentation of the characters, not just learning lines.



### **SEAPERCH CLUB**

We are excited to announce the start of a new after school club at SFS - the SeaPerch program, which is sponsored by the Office of Naval Research and managed by RoboNation. In this program, students will work together in teams to build an underwater Remotely Operated Vehicle (ROV) and will learn engineering concepts, problem solving, design skills, and teamwork.

The club will be led by Mr. and Mrs. Davenport and will meet on **Thursdays after school from 3:00-4:30pm**. Some additional build times may be scheduled with times and days TBD. The first club meeting will be **Thursday, February 28<sup>th</sup>**. We are limiting this club to **two teams** (building two underwater robots) of **6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grade students** with a **maximum of 10 slots total**. Slots will be filled on a first come basis. Because of the cost of materials, the cost to participate in the club will be **\$50-60 per student** (depending on the number of students who sign up to participate). We plan to have our robotics teams compete in the SeaPerch Derby in New Bedford, MA on Saturday, April 6, 2019.

Please contact Mrs. Rivers with any questions and to sign your student up for the program.