



THE JOURNEY

LUTHER CENTER FOR LEARNING

P.O. Box 1018, Olalla, WA 98359 ♦ (360) 895-1782 ♦ March 2009

♦ www.LutherCenterForLearning.org ♦

Helping children discover their own greatness!

A Taste of Hawaii!



Come and enjoy a bit of island pleasure. Hawaii is this year's theme for Luther Center's dinner and auction. Dinner, entertainment, and ambiance will all favor the Hawaiian Islands. Bid in silent and live auctions offering many outstanding items—including hand-made specialty quilts; gift baskets; resort

condominium vacation; dinner at an exquisite restaurant; enjoy goods and services from local merchants and much more. Doors open at 5:30 p.m. Tickets are only \$30 and may be purchased in the school office, from a Luther Center parent, or by calling the school at (360) 895-1782.

We can still use additional items to auction. If you have something you can donate, we want to hear from you. Donate sports or event tickets, arts and crafts items, a theme basket of your favorite foods or other items, or how about the promise of a pie a month for several months? You can put on a dinner in your home or organize a party of three or four to do some spring yard work. Wash windows, anyone? Or maybe you have a special talent that you could share like painting or sewing. Let us know. Talk to **Sherri Cooper** at (360) 895-5663 or call the school office about any ideas you might have. Deadline for bringing auction items to the school is April 10!

Luther Center Annual Dinner & Auction

Date: Saturday, April 25

Time: 5:30 p.m.

Place: Spirit of Life Lutheran Church
3901 Mullenix Road

Tickets: \$30 (reservation deadline April 20)

Community Service Projects

Community service projects are a trademark of Luther Center. Students happily put into practice the Fruits of the Spirit (Galatians 5:22-23) as they help others. Recent projects have included participation in Scholastic Bookclub's Classrooms Care project. Students read over 100 books and by doing so Scholastic donated books to schools still recovering from hurricane Katrina.



Three of our parents (**John Rodriguez, Josh Sedeno and Kellie Matzen**) are currently serving our country on board the *USS John C. Stennis*. Our students brought in goodies and made

happy cards and letters to send to our parent sailors and their shipmates. Just a little love from home!

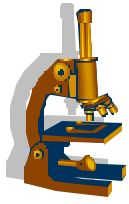


Kijabe, Kenya, is home to a school where the students are eager to receive some of the simplest things that we take for granted. Number 1 on their wish list is—would you believe it—

Kool-aid! Rift Valley Academy is a Christian boarding school located in central Kenya. The academy, a branch of Africa Inland Mission International, exists to provide a quality education in a nurturing environment for the children of missionaries serving in Africa. Candace Gentry, originally from Tacoma, sold her home and most of her possessions to answer the call to be a missionary in Kijabe Kenya. Gift boxes sent by Luther Center students went to support her ministry.

Other community service projects have included a food drive for Life Care Community Services and a school-wide recycling effort.

Going Green—Summer Science Camp



It's not too soon to register for Summer Science Camp. This year's theme is 'going green.' Students will be learning about the science of taking care of our environment—at school, in our community, and in our world. Summer science camp is July 13-17, noon to 2:30 p.m. Activities include experiments, nature and fun. Space is limited, so register early. Little Scientists is for children entering 1st to 3rd grades, and Big Scientists include children in 4th to 8th grades. Cost: \$75; registration deadline is July 8.

Love & Logic Parent Training

Imagine parenting without getting angry or raising your voice! Imagine having energy at the end of a day working with children. *Love and Logic* techniques for parenting help adults place the responsibility of problem solving where it belongs—with the owner of the problem—while at the same time being attentive and caring. Luther Center parents recently completed *Parenting with Love and Logic* training and are busy implementing what they have learned. If you are interested in becoming a *Love and Logic* parent, please contact the school to place your name on our class list.

In the Classroom



Luther Center students have just finished their parent/teacher/student conferences for the second trimester. What a joy for our teachers to have the opportunity to formally visit with parents about the fantastic progress their children are making in school. At Luther Center we value a strong academic environment. Understanding that each student is uniquely gifted, students are encouraged to work to their potential. Individual learning strategies are in place for all students to encourage children to do their best work and progress as rapidly as they are able. Our small class sizes and friendly Christian environment make

it possible for our students to achieve outstanding success.



The classroom is regularly extended into the community through the use of field trips. Recent field trips include the Pacific Science Center in Seattle. While the younger students visited the dinosaurs and butterfly garden and other fun and interesting exhibits, the intermediate students focused on the exhibit *Lucy's Legacy—The Hidden Treasures of Ethiopia* and "Mystery of the Nile" shown in the Eames IMAX Theater.

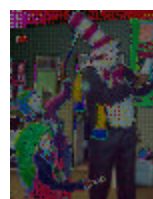
"The Phantom of the Orchestra" by Bremerton Symphony Association was a fun interactive concert that introduced students to the various orchestral instruments through the use of a mysterious Phantom lurking around the hall.

Our annual trip to Peninsula Dance Theatre's *Nutcracker* this year featured one of our very own students. "Mouse" Madi was fantastic!



Our recent Science Night & Open House was very well attended and featured all of our students' science projects. The theme was ecology, so our students educated the audience by showing us all how to reduce, reuse, and recycle. Intermediate students Kristi and Bridger helped us all visualize the importance of taking care of our environment through their electronic slide show presentation.

It's good to learn to be flexible, and that's just what we did. When snow forced the cancellation of the last two days of school before Christmas break along with our Christmas program, we rescheduled our program for January 7. Our post-Christmas (Epiphany) program "Light of the World" was a great reminder that each of us has the power to share the *Light* with others throughout our world.



At Luther Center we love visitors! Ronald McDonald came to Luther Center and Little Doves in January, and Dr. Seuss' "Cat in the Hat" came back to entertain students. Thing 1 and Thing 2 came along to share their mischievousness.

From the students' pencil

The teachers do the work for the kindergarten and primary class newsletters for parents, but it's the intermediate students who do most of the work for the intermediate classroom newsletter. In recent issues Madi described what she learned and Bridger assembled some fun facts to share.

"What We Did This Month"

by Madi

Although I learned many things this month, I thought that learning about electricity and the Continental Divide were the coolest. The Continental Divide runs along the crest of the Rocky Mountains and is also known as the Great Divide. Also, the Sierra Nevadas are west of the Rocky Mountains. Next, in science I learned about electricity. I learned that a parallel circuit has more than one path to follow and the series circuit only has one path to follow. I also learned that household appliances always run on alternating current. In conclusion, these were three interesting facts that I learned this month.

"Fun Facts"

by Bridger

1. There is an element called Einsteinium. Its atomic number is 99.
2. Silver and gold are also on the Periodic Table, AG is silver and gold is AU.
3. There is a number called a googol; it's a 1 with 100 zeros on the end.
4. There is a number called a googolplex; it's a 1 with 10^{100} zeros behind it (the number 10 raised to the power googol).
5. We all know that scientists think we came from monkeys, but where did monkeys come from...Squirrels!
6. Our mammoth hunting ancestors had an object called a spear thrower. It makes it so you can light the spear ablaze and throw it without cooking your hand.
7. The early Arabic numbers for 1-5 are
1 2 3 4 5
ا ب ج د هـ
8. Shrimp in Spanish is "camarones."
9. There are many fun picture books for older kids. One I've read talks about the real reason grown-ups tell you to eat your veggies, drink your milk, etc.
10. The Oviraptor was an herbivore.

Please Donate!

Yes, it's true. Donations from our supporters are absolutely essential in order for us to provide the quality education that has become the Luther Center hallmark. In October 2007, Luther Center launched its Gideon Project using the metaphor of the Old Testament story of Gideon for fundraising. Just as a

small band of soldiers under Gideon's command and using only torches and clay pots was able to defeat the very large army of Midianites, Luther Center is recruiting an army of supporters. Our Gideon Project recognition wall showcases the generosity of our donors. A gift over 12 months of one torch, valued at \$350, earns donors a place on our recognition wall as soldiers. Donations of two torches (\$700) are commissioned as Gideon army officers. A donation of four or more torches (\$1,400) is recognized as a commander.

Donations to the Gideon project can recognize a special person in the donor's life. Perhaps you would like to honor a son or daughter, a favored teacher, or a Luther Center student. No matter what rank you choose to become in the Luther Center army (Commander, Officer or Soldier), you will experience the satisfaction and joy of knowing your money is doing important work.

When you help educate a child, you give a gift that will last a lifetime. Won't you please send your tax deductible gift today!

Donations may be mailed to Luther Center at P.O. Box 1018, Olalla, WA 98359.

Our students deserve your support!

We Will Miss You!



Kindergarten teacher Kristi VanDuzer will be moving to San Diego to join her husband at his new Navy assignment. Kristi has been a fantastic addition to our teaching staff. She brings high energy and creativity to her

classroom. Her students love coming to school and are terrific little learners. Good luck Kristi. We will miss you!

Kindergarten teacher

Luther center is seeking a kindergarten teacher to begin in September 2009. If you or someone you know is interested in learning more about this opportunity, please contact the school at (360) 895-1782 or visit our website for a complete job description and employment application. www.LutherCenterForLearning.org