

# LHS Guidance Newsletter



December 2007

Malachi 3:3 says: "He will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver." This verse puzzled some women in a Bible study and they wondered what this statement meant about the character and nature of God.

One of the women offered to find out the process of refining silver and get back to the group at their next Bible Study.

That week, the woman called a silversmith and made an appointment to watch him at work. She didn't mention anything about the reason for her interest beyond her curiosity about the process of refining silver.

As she watched the silversmith, he held a piece of silver over the fire and let it heat up. He explained that **in refining silver, one needed to hold the silver in the middle of the fire where the flames were hottest as to burn away all the impurities.**

The woman thought about God holding us in such a hot spot; then she thought again about the verse that says: "He sits as a refiner and purifier of silver." She asked the silversmith if it was true that he had to sit there in

front of the fire the whole time the silver was being refined.

The man answered that **yes, he not only had to sit there holding the silver, but he had to keep his eyes on the silver the entire time it was in the fire. If the silver was left a moment too long in the flames, it would be destroyed.**

The woman was silent for a moment. Then she asked the silversmith, "How do you know when the silver is fully refined?"

He smiled at her and answered, "Oh, that's easy -- when I see my image in it."

Between final exams and 2nd quarter projects and extracurriculars and jobs, many of you may be feeling the heat of the fire. As you take a break from the chaos of the last few weeks, **remember that God has his eye on you and will keep watching you until He sees His image in you.** May God's richest blessings descend on you as you celebrate the birth of His Son Jesus Christ. Let Him purify your hearts and minds during this Christmas season.

## Important Dates Coming Up:

**January 1, 2008:** First day to complete your FAFSA (yes, I know it is exciting!). One step you can complete immediately is acquiring your PIN, which each student and their parents will need in order to electronically sign the FAFSA. Visit [www.pin.ed.gov](http://www.pin.ed.gov) to do this. If you want to brush up on the FAFSA before Jan. 14th (see below), visit [www.fafsa.ed.gov](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov).

**Monday, Jan. 14: Financial Aid 101 Information Night.** 6:00 p.m. in the LHS Music Room. This night is primarily for senior parents to help them understand the process of the FAFSA and other cryptic financial aid terms. Junior parents who would like to start thinking about college finances are also welcome to come. Students are encouraged to take ownership of their education and attend this night to learn the nitty-gritty of their college education. Great Lakes Higher Education will be presenting, and they will bring along many helpful materials for you to take home. This is a change in our usual Financial Aid night, so come and see what they have to share!

**Tuesday, Jan. 22: Freshman Registration from 4:30-7:00 p.m.** Incoming freshmen for the 2008-09 school year should register for classes on this night. Tell any friends who might be interested in

sending their 8th grader to SLHS! If you have questions, Kathy VanDeKreeke in the school office is a wealth of information.



**Tuesday, Feb 5: Career Fair.** 1:00-3:12 p.m. at SLHS. This is an afternoon of career exploration for our students. Learning for Life is helping to coordinate this special day.

Presenters from many different fields will be discussing their careers and giving students an opportunity to ask questions and truly get a feel for what the career entails. Learning for Life and SLHS would love to have some of our own parents presenting, so if anyone is interested, please call Mrs. Lastusky as soon as possible.

**February:** Scheduling for 2008-09 school year begins. Think about your 4-year plan and what your goals are. Talk to parents and teachers about classes that interest you. Be ready in a month or two to make those decisions.

## Future's Day Follow-up:

**Students & Parents:** The results of the EXPLORE (freshmen), PLAN (sophomores), and PSAT (juniors) have arrived in the last week or two. Due to final exams, there has

been no chance to visit classrooms and disperse the material. This will happen early in the third quarter. Parents, look for these test results to come home with your students by the end of January.

## Senior Notes

1. **Keep working hard!** All college acceptances are tentative until they receive your final transcript. Blowing off the last semester of your senior year would be a very bad idea. Focus on your goals!
2. **Apply for scholarships!** There are many opportunities for FREE money, but you need to apply in order to get any. Keep checking out the scholarship list on the Guidance web page and see Mrs. L. with any questions.
3. **Make your final decision** on which college you want to attend. Take care of housing payments and selection; talk to the financial aid office about scholarships, grants, and other forms of aid. Take care of the details, so you are ready to go in September.
4. **Make a Difference!** You have a little over four months left at Lutheran High. How do you want to be remembered? Grasp those opportunities to make a positive difference in the lives of others. Let Christ's Light shine!

## Scholarship Opportunities

**Calling all artsy-fartsies!** The Ruth DeYoung Kohler Scholarship for Artistic Merit is one of the biggies each year. Seniors who plan to pursue a career in the arts should apply. It is open to all fields of artistic endeavor, including music, writing, theater, the visual arts, dance and more. See Mrs. L. to pick up an application.

For MANY other scholarships, visit [www.lutheranhigh.com](http://www.lutheranhigh.com) and click on the Guidance link. There is another link for scholarships. Check it out!

## Other Opportunities:



**High School Poster Concept Contest:** Juniors & seniors! You can win money for college by designing a poster! ACT is conducting a Poster Concept Contest and the winners will be awarded scholarship money to attend the college of their choice. See Mrs. L. for details or visit [www.actstudent.org/postercontest](http://www.actstudent.org/postercontest).

## ACT/SAT Information:

**Seniors**, if (gasp!) you have not taken the ACT or SAT yet, sign up NOW for the February or March test. This is a critical step as you start applying to colleges! **Juniors**, you should start taking the test by spring but begin preparing now. Below are the test dates and registration deadlines:

### **ACT Test Date      Registration Deadline**

Feb. 9, 2008      Jan. 4, 2008

Apr. 12, 2008      Mar. 7, 2008

June 14, 2008      May 9, 2008

\*Register at [www.actstudent.org](http://www.actstudent.org)

### **SAT Test Date      Registration Deadline**

Jan. 26, 2008      Dec. 26, 2007

Mar. 1, 2008      Jan. 29, 2008

May 3, 2008      Apr. 1, 2008

June 7, 2008      May 6, 2008

\*Register at [www.collegeboard.com](http://www.collegeboard.com)

**Note on ACT/SAT:** For the majority of students, the ACT is the test they will need to take. In general, colleges and universities across the middle of the country require the ACT for admission. Schools on the two coasts are more likely to require the SAT. Some scholarships require students to submit scores from both tests. Some students will also take both tests in hopes that they will score better on one. See Mrs. L. if you have questions about either test or ask the schools you are considering what they prefer.

### **Spotlight on Lakeshore Technical College (a.k.a. LTC)**

Lakeshore Technical College is just up the road from Sheboygan in the huge metropolis of Cleveland, Wisconsin. LTC is a great resource

for high school students, traditional college students, and adult learners. Not only does LTC offer great one- and two-year programs, but it can be a terrific stepping stone on a student's way to a four-year college (and a great way to save some money!). Below are a few facts:

\*Offers 89 career programs, including associate degrees, technical diplomas and certificates, & apprenticeship programs.

\*\$92.05 per credit hour.

\*LTC has transfer agreements with many 4-year colleges and universities. Their admissions personnel can help you map out a plan to obtain your 4-year degree in a more affordable manner.

\*They are known for their hands-on job preparation. For students who are ready to jump right in, this is a great benefit.

\*92% of LTC graduates are employed within the first year after graduation.

\*Juniors and seniors can get involved NOW in the Youth Apprenticeship program. Earn high school & college credits all at once while getting on-the-job training (oh, and earning some cabbage).

For more information, visit [www.gotoltc.edu](http://www.gotoltc.edu) or see Mrs. L.