

LHS Guidance Newsletter

October 2011

The Right Doors Open

The longer I live and the closer I grow to Jesus, the more I am amazed at how clearly His hand can be seen in everyday life. In his book *God's Story Your Story: When His Becomes Yours*, Max Lucado puts it this way:

You try one door after another, yet no one responds to your resume. No university accepts your application. No doctor has a solution for your illness. No buyers look at your house. Obstacles pack your path. Road, barricaded. Doorway, padlocked. Do you know the frustration of a blocked door?

God uses closed doors to advance his cause.

He closed the womb of a young Sarah so he could display his power to the elderly one.

He shut the palace door on Moses the prince so he could open shackles through Moses the liberator.

He marched Daniel out of Jerusalem so he could use Daniel in Babylon.

And Jesus. Yes, even Jesus knew the challenge of a blocked door.

When he requested a path that bypassed the cross, God said no. He said no to Jesus in the garden of Gethsemane so he could say yes to us at the gates of heaven.

It's not that our plans are bad but that God's plans are better.

"My thoughts are nothing like your thoughts," says the Lord.

"And my ways are far beyond anything you could imagine. For just as the heavens are higher than the earth, so my ways are higher than your ways and my thoughts higher than your thoughts." (Isa. 55:8-9 NLT).

Your blocked door doesn't mean God doesn't love you. Quite the opposite. It's proof that he does.

What beautiful words to remind us that even in the struggles of life - no, especially in the struggles - God's hand is there to guide us through and reassure us and hold us close. May this be your comfort today and every day as you rest in the knowledge that if God has closed one door, He has a much better one open and waiting for you.

Upcoming Events

Thursday, Oct. 20: Experience LTC. 8:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. This event is geared toward juniors and seniors and is a great opportunity to visit LTC's campus. Participants select two programs to explore, and they get to spend hands-on time learning more about that area. Whether or not a student is interested in attending LTC, this is a great chance to explore different fields. Students can attend multiple times and thus explore many different programs. Participants will also be able to speak with LTC students and staff and hear all about the services the college offers. As a bonus, attendees will have a chance to win a free Ipod Touch! To register, visit <http://www.gotoltc.edu/expltc/>.

Nov. 11: Right to Life Bowl-a-thon from 7-10 pm at Odyssey



Lanes. Interested students should see Bethany Berg to sign up and pick up a sponsor form. Our

Lutheran High goal is to raise \$1500 and bring home the Cup of Life trophy for the first time.

Dec. 20-22: Final Exams.

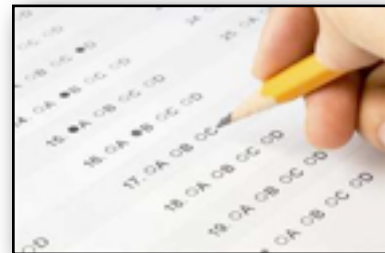
Thursday, Jan. 19: Financial Aid Night at Lutheran High (6-7:15 pm).

Feb. 18 & 19: College Goal Wisconsin. Workshops are held all over Wisconsin to walk students and parents through the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) process. Bring your tax materials, sit at a computer, have personal tutors to answer all your questions, and leave an hour later with the FAFSA completed. All this for FREE. What a deal! Visit www.collegegoalwi.org to find the closest workshop.

ACT Prep

UW-Sheboygan ACT Prep Courses. The UW-S hosts several prep courses throughout the year.

The course is a one-day (8-2:30) class with a cost of \$69. For



some students, this is a valuable review opportunity that reduces the stress of the test. To register, call the UW-S at 459-6617 or email jane.donlon@uwc.edu. Dates available are:

- ◆ November 19th
- ◆ January 28th
- ◆ March 17th
- ◆ May 19th

Quarter Report Cards & GPA

Printed report cards are not automatically sent home. If you need a paper copy, please don't hesitate to call or email me.

Also, if you need your student's Grade Point Average for the Good Student insurance discount, we now have a feature in Powerschool that might help. The current GPA will be listed at the bottom of the grades chart in Powerschool. This number will change daily as a student's grades fluctuate. But once the quarter is over, I will leave the final GPA of the previous quarter posted for a several days. If you print this page at the end of the quarter or semester, it may be sufficient to give to your insurance company. If not, though, I am always happy to print a transcript or sign a form. This is a nice feature for students and parents keeping an eye on the gpa and how it can change for the positive or negative. We do not have the ability to also post cumulative gpa, so just let me know if you need that information.

Growth Opportunities

HOBY: HOBY Application (Hugh O'Brian Youth Leadership Seminar) now open to **SOPHOMORES**.

"Inspiring, Educational, Altruistic, Energizing, Enthusiastic,

Motivating, Transforming, Long-Lasting, and Life-Changing. These are some of the words that students, schools, parents, alumni, volunteers and supporters use to describe Hugh O'Brian Youth



Leadership (HOBY) . . . HOBY programs provide youth selected by their schools to participate in unique leadership training, service-learning and motivation-building experiences" (www.hoby.org).

The HOBY application is open to all LHS sophomores who have a desire to further develop their leadership skills. The following information was give to students in late September: The ONE sophomore who is selected as the HOBY Ambassador will have the opportunity to attend the HOBY Leadership Seminar, a great honor. The seminar does cost \$150, but this is a relatively small fee compared to what you get in return. This program is so highly regarded that simply having it on your resume will make people take notice. Plus, you may have the opportunity to go on to the World Leadership Congress in Washington, D.C., where you can

interact with student leaders from over 20 different countries. Very cool!!

To apply, submit the following to Mrs. Lastusky no later than Thursday, Oct. 27, 2011:

1. Heading including your full name.
2. Essay of no more than 300 words, typed and double-spaced, on the following question: "Please describe the most rewarding and challenging aspect of being a leader in your school and community."

NOTE: A scholarship committee will select the HOBY Ambassador from the pool of applicants. The winner will be notified by November 18th, 2011.

Scholarship Opportunities

Have you been checking out the scholarship list lately? They are NOT just for seniors! In fact, there are many scholarships and essay competitions for grades 9-12 and even younger, so spread the word if you have children or siblings who are still in middle school.

One opportunity is the Voice of Democracy competition, where students write an essay on the topic, "Does My Generation Have a Role in America's Future?" They then record it on a CD. Last year,



LHS students Reid Schmideler, Rachel Bohnhoff, Max Schmideler, and Abby Hilbelink all placed (and won money!)

in this competition. This year we want to once again send the 1st place winner to the state level, so get your entries in (pick up entry forms from Mrs. L.). The deadline is October 31st! Check out this and other scholarships on the guidance link of the LHS website <http://www.lutheranhigh.com/scholarshiplist.cfm>.

Student Achievements

Badger Boys/ Girls State: Each year one or more juniors are selected to attend Badger State. This is a high honor for high school juniors, and an experience that helps to mold them into good leaders and solid citizens.

This past June, **Benjamin Steinert & Joshua Wheeler** attended Badger Boys State at Ripon College, and **Nicole Beine** attended Badger Girls State at UW-Oshkosh. All three enjoyed their experience. Nicole said, "I learned a lot about the government that I didn't know before. We had fun as we listened to the speakers and

helped pass bills to improve our 'city.'”

Joshua & Benjamin each wrote a short piece expounding on their experience:



Badger Boys State was an experience that everyone should take the opportunity to attend. It was a fun-filled week, loaded with activities and events that kept the "citizens" very busy. The week gave all 860 boys on Ripon College campus many chances to face their peers and give speeches persuading others to elect them in the many elections that took place throughout the week. The cool part of BBS was that everyone there seemed to have their head on straight, and it was hard to find people who were completely ignorant to politics in Wisconsin. The whole week we were all surrounded by genuine students, many of whom were great student-athletes, as we found out during our statewide sporting events. I learned a lot about how the

government works, how to properly conduct a meeting in council, and how to perform speeches in front of varying sizes of crowds. The food there was not all that bad. I'll admit I actually enjoyed it the first couple days, but yes, if I had to pick one thing to improve on the week, that would be my target. Another really cool part of BBS was that after the week ended, everyone I met has been staying in touch. We all joined a facebook group and continue to talk about whatever it is that comes to mind. We even started a fantasy football league for the kids in my "city." It's nice to know that we have that group of people willing to be there for us whenever we need each other, also. One of the kids told us all about his severe depression, and we've been there talking him through hard times since the week we spent together, and we all know that he would do the same for us.

~Joshua Wheeler

I arrived at Ripon College in Ripon, Wisconsin, along with 800 other excellent young men. We were broken into groups called "cities," given the opportunity to participate in extra activities like choir, and campaigned for elected positions. Eventually, we also learned the basic rules of the court in Law School. Everything we did targeted our leadership skills, but more importantly bonded us with

other goal-oriented people. I made friends with some great people who have interests similar to my own. I'm sure I will stay in contact with many of them, and am interested in knowing where they go, and what they do. Badger Boys State was so much more than I expected.

I learned how to be an effective leader. We all have certain strengths and weaknesses based on our personality type. Once given our personality types we learned how to use each aspect to make a group run effectively. I'm happy that I go to Lutheran High, because we learn here about what to lead people towards. God wants us to show others the Gospel and praise Him in everything we do.

~Benjamin Steinert

Badger State is an annual opportunity for students who want to grow in their leadership skills. Underclassmen are encouraged to keep this in mind and apply during their junior year.

Camp Enterprise

On October 6-7, six LHS sophomores and juniors had the opportunity to attend Camp Enterprise, sponsored through the Sheboygan Rotary Club. The event was at Camp Y-Koda and helped students build on the themes of leadership, group dynamics, and service.

Juniors **Elizabeth Falconer**, **Taylor Olsen**, and **Aaron Reseburg**, along with sophomores **Phillip Leibham**, **Joseph Meador** and **Martha Steffen**, were nominated by LHS teachers to attend Camp Enterprise. All six students had high praise for their time at the camp.

“My favorite thing was listening to all the speakers talk about what it meant to be an effective leader,” **Aaron Reseburg** commented. **Taylor Olsen** added, “The speakers really lead us in a positive direction, encouraging us to get more involved and in tune with service projects and leadership opportunities.”



“One thing I loved about the camp,” **Joseph Meador** said, “is that everyone was really excited to be there and got involved.” **Martha Steffen** agreed. “Everyone had a positive attitude about things and wanted to learn. I loved meeting new people from all around Sheboygan County who all had a great mind for leadership. We had similar goals in mind.”

Liz Falconer was a little hesitant about going because she wasn't sure what to expect. "But I met lots of new friends and I noticed that a lot of the people who attended were all very positive and accepting."

The students took away some great leadership lessons. **Phillip Leibham** said he learned "to set goals and volunteer as much as possible." Almost all of the students mentioned setting goals for themselves as an important take-away from the camp. **Taylor** said, "It is important to be a team member and work with a group - in a positive and respectful way."

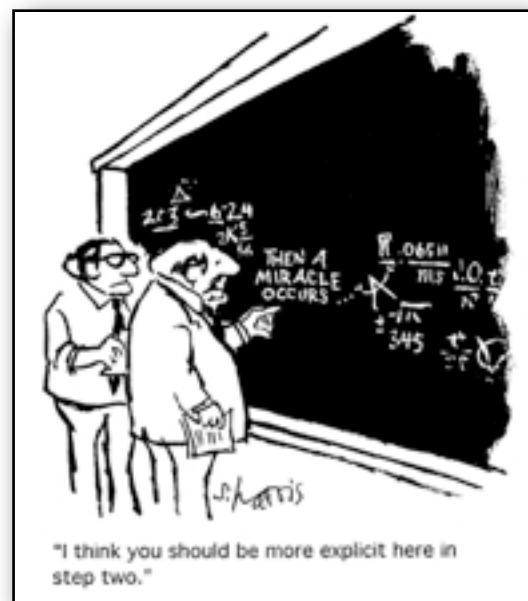
When asked why other students should attend Camp Enterprise, all six said that it is a great leadership opportunity. **Martha** summed it up by saying, "Camp Enterprise was so much fun and we learned a lot. We were also given great resources for volunteering and networking around Sheboygan. You get to meet people that have the same mind-set as you that you wouldn't normally meet."

HelpNow from Brainfuse: FREE Homework Help for Students

Mead Public Library just launched a new tool available to any student with a Mead Library card. Brainfuse offers free

unlimited online study help for all levels of high school academics.

Students can connect to Brainfuse by logging on to the Mead Library webpage at www.meadpubliclibrary.org. First-time users may want to take advantage of the homework coaches who will be available in the Maas Teen Learning Center at Mead Public Library to help students become familiar with this service and assist students in using it.



Students and parents can pick up a brochure from the LHS office to find out more about Brainfuse and HelpNow. Or just visit the Mead website and check it out for yourself!

Spotlight on ... University of Minnesota

The University of Minnesota's main campus is in the heart of the Twin Cities (UMTC), but it has four coordinate campuses across the state. It is one of the nation's largest schools and offers bachelor's, master's, and doctoral degrees in virtually every field.

Quick Facts about UMTC:

- ◆ Enrollment: 67, 932
- ◆ Student-to-Faculty Ratio: 16-1
- ◆ Free tuition for credits over 13 in a semester. This perk has allowed four-year graduation rates to double in recent years.
- ◆ The world's largest collections of Sherlock Holmes literature, artifacts, and memorabilia are housed in UM's Anderson Library. Also, on Sept. 2, 1952, the world's first successful open-heart surgery was performed at UMTC.
- ◆ UMTC alumni have founded more than 10,000 businesses in Minnesota, employing 500,000 people and generating \$100 billion in revenue. Wow!
- ◆ UMTC offers more than 250 student exchange programs around the world.

◆ UMTC is 2nd in the Big 10 with 101 freshmen who are National Merit Scholars.

◆ Wisconsin residents enjoy the reciprocity agreement that allows them to attend UMTC for the same cost as if they attended UW-Madison.



A Few More Fun Facts:

- ◆ 14 libraries containing 6, 975, 576 volumes
- ◆ 2,090,000 square feet of research space and laboratories
- ◆ 10 galleries and museums
- ◆ 1, 660,000 square feet of classroom space

For more information, visit www.umn.edu.