

# ¶¶ for Parents

*Each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve others, faithfully administering God's grace in its various forms. 1 Peter 4:10*

## *Community Building and Culture Building*

What a wonderful experience our seventh annual Talent Night was last Friday evening! Many thanks should go to CPF committee leadership - LeAnne Craig, Lacy Benson, Sherri Courtney, Pat Unruh, and Alicia Fodor; sixth graders for serving ice cream - led by Mary Beth Schannep and Kim Slone; Colin Reilly for emcee duties; Norma Roessler and Ellen Munguia for stage assistance; Julie Howard for producing the playbill; Scott Farris for sound, and to all of you faithful parents who helped and encouraged your children. It was truly a celebration of God's gifts!

Recently officers of Covenant Parent Fellowship, led by Susan Rosenberg, have been discussing a review of their by-laws in order to clarify that CPF exists to support Cornerstone Christian Academy through providing fellowship opportunities and fund raising efforts. At times some parents have seemed to emphasize one of these priorities over the other. In seeking a balance in these critical areas, it is important to have many families represented at the monthly CPF meetings where discussion of such ideas takes place.. In scriptural terms, the ethereal notion of "fellowship" becomes *incarnational* when we face each other (over a cup of coffee!) and tackle discussion of our mutual life together. **Our next general meeting is Wednesday morning, October 13<sup>th</sup> at 9:30 following chapel.** It would be great to see a host of new faces there!

Meanwhile we can all see that the shared experience of Talent Night (certainly not a fund raiser!) is a great way to share in each other's family's giftings for common enjoyment. This is community building at its essential level, and a more organically natural way to grow the body of Christ than sitting in our separate homes watching "canned" commercial entertainment.

But we want to be culture builders as well as community builders, and sometimes that means reflecting on the wisdom of what we are investing our finite resources of time and money in. Some thoughtful questions have come up in recent weeks concerning how best to identify what we have in common here at Cornerstone Christian Academy. With over thirty different churches (and multiple denominations and historic traditions) represented in our constituent community, we struggle at times to clarify what it is that holds us together. We want to be respectful of individual differences while holding to our unique heritages at the same time. Watch for a series of ¶¶ for Parents over the next few weeks (similar to last year's Shakespeare series) which will discuss various aspects of our culture building enterprise here at Cornerstone.

*He is before all things, and in him all things hold together.  
Colossians 1:17*