

2017 - 2018 Annual Report

Lumen Christi Catholic High School



Faith, Family, Excellence!



Inside this issue:

Pastor/Board President	2
New Faces!	2
UAA Scholars Program	3
"And Then Some" Award	3
Featured Student	3
Parish / School Financials	4
LUMEN-ary Drive	5
The Year in Pictures	6,7
"Lighting the Path" Donors	8
Alumni Snapshots	9
Gala Auction / Alumni	10
The Class of 2018!	11



Dear Parents, Alumni, and Friends of Lumen Christi,

On behalf of the staff and faculty of Lumen Christi High School, I am so very pleased to send you this Annual Report of our activities over the past year. As a ministry of Saint Benedict Parish, we continued to fulfill our mission of providing a rigorous Catholic education in a Christ-like environment to students in grades 7-12. In these pages, you will see our students and staff living out our Core Values of Faith, Family, and Excellence on a daily basis. Thanks to the commitment of time, talent, and treasure from so many in our community, you will also see how we sustained and improved Lumen's Catholic identity, maintained high standards of academic excellence and professionalism, and increased our marketing and development efforts in order to attract new families to your fine school.

Faith: Striving to strengthen our Catholic identity, particularly through growing in moral virtue, we commissioned beautiful hand-painted reproductions of Giotto Di Bondone's "Virtue Series" in our main hallway. Emphasizing the importance of fortitude and self-sacrifice, we took our Seniors on a first-ever offsite retreat focusing on "Servant Leadership." Our entire student body participated in Advent and Lent Reconciliation Services and several all-school novenas.

Family: Recognizing our baptismal call to serve others, our "family" is the greater community in which we live. Throughout the year, we supported faith in action/community service projects for hurricane victims in Texas, Clare House, Prestige Care, Bean's Cafe, H2O Water Project, Catholic Relief Services, and many others. We hosted several guest speakers, including a youth counselor, a representative from Catholic Relief Services, and the Director of the Vatican Observatory. We also organized student, parent, and faculty teams to participate in the Arthritis Foundation's "Jingle Bell Run" and the Special Olympics' "Polar Plunge" in December. We even had over 30 students and a dozen parents walk in the 2018 Fur Rendezvous Grand Parade in February!

Excellence: For the first time in our school's history, we chartered a National Honor Society, with four initial members. We were awarded a grant from the Reetz Foundation here in Alaska which will be used in the 2018-2019 school year to support our campus ministry program, to purchase additional science materials, and to fund teacher and School Board professional development and advancement.

For a small school, we sure do have a lot going on! I hope you will enjoy reading about these activities and more in the following pages. You can take pride in our school, our students, our faculty and staff, and our entire community. I know I do! We look forward to celebrating Catholic education during Catholic Schools Week 2019 from January 27 to Feb 2, 2019. On Monday, January 28th, at 7:00pm, please join us for our 3rd Annual "State of the School" Address, where I will highlight accomplishments and details plans for the future. Thank you, once again, for your continued support and commitment to Lumen Christi! May God bless you! —Principal Brian Ross

From the Pastor



At Lumen Christi we want to prepare our students for life; more importantly, for eternal life. We do that through authentically handing on the Catholic Faith in a Christlike environment. Our talented and dedicated faculty and staff encourage, support, and mentor our students. A loyal and generous community helps to make it all possible. We are singularly focused on one goal: graduating servant-leaders who emulate Christ and His teachings in a school community that is accessible, diverse and committed to pursuing the fullest potential of every student. Faculty, staff, parents, past-parents, grandparents, alumni, Saint Benedict parishioners, and friends of Lumen made gifts to Lumen Christi this past year through in-kind contributions, countless volunteer hours, and monetary support. It is in a spirit of deep gratitude that we offer this publication, celebrating the gifts, achievements, and generosity of the Lumen community this past year. We thank each of our benefactors whose immense support helps us realize our mission in service to our students and for the greater glory of God. Thank you, and enjoy! — **Fr. Tom Lilly**

Introducing... Mrs. Anne Gore!



We are very pleased to announce that Anne Gore will serve as Lumen Christi's new Administrative Assistant! Anne has over 20 years experience in various administrative capacities including working for the State of Alaska and the Anchorage Neighborhood Health Center. She is an active parishioner at Holy Cross Parish, serving on the Arts and Environment Committee and teaching faith formation classes. She serves on the Board of Directors for the Sitka Summer Music Festival and is a No One Dies Alone (NODA) volunteer at Providence Hospital. She has two fine sons at Lumen: Tate in the 8th grade, and his younger brother, Luka, in the 7th grade. Anne was chosen from a group of highly qualified applicants after an interview and selection process. While we were very sad to say farewell to Jessica Estes as a staff member, we are very excited to have Anne join the Lumen Christi team. She possesses the right skills, life, and work experiences, and personal and professional background to make a difference each day in our front office. We welcome Anne to our Lumen Christi family as our new Administrative Assistant! Tate and Luka: your mother is not going to cut you any slack!

From the School Board President



Thank you for your continuing participation in our school community. Since the nineteenth century, when Catholics first started arriving in America in large numbers, we have sustained parochial schools to educate our children in truth and excellence. I am deeply grateful for your family's participation in this work. Education is fundamental to our shared Catholic faith. As St. Thomas Aquinas taught, we know God through two faculties: faith and reason. At Lumen Christi, we teach our students to develop both of these faculties, and we are humbled by the privilege of bringing that education to your children. By enrolling your sons and daughters at Lumen you have done a service not only to them, but also to the whole community. When parents and teachers work together to educate in a faith-filled environment, we prepare our children both for their personal vocations – as future spouses, parents, clergy, and religious – and for lives as good citizens. For it is by Lumen Christi, the light of Christ, that we learn to see every person as God sees them, made in His image and likeness. And by learning to see one another by the light of Christ, we come to understand the full ramifications of that great command, to love our neighbors as ourselves. May this year be a time of unity and charity for all, and may we work together to bring the Christ's light to one another, to Anchorage, and to the world. — **Mr. Greg Gallagher**

Introducing... Mr. John Warren!



We are so pleased to welcome our new Athletic Director, Mr. John Warren, to the Archangel family! He earned a bachelor's degree in Exercise Science from the University of Nebraska. His extensive athletic and sports experience includes developing and launching the women's soccer program at Virginia Commonwealth University and serving as the Co-Head Coach for the men's soccer team at Nebraska Wesleyan University. In addition, he has served as an athletic trainer and physical therapist for numerous professional sports programs including the Green Bay Packers, the Washington Capitals, and the US Women's World Cup Soccer Team. He has also served as a youth soccer coach for several years with the Anchorage Youth Soccer Club. Mr. Warren and his family are active parishioners at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish here in Anchorage.

UA Scholars Award Winner - Kaare Helgesen!



The purpose of the UA Scholars Award is to provide an incentive for Alaska's middle and high school students to achieve academic excellence, to nourish efforts of schools to provide high quality education, and to encourage the top high school graduates from every community in Alaska to attend the University of Alaska. The UA Scholars Award is awarded to the top ten percent of all graduating seniors from Alaska high schools. It is a \$12,000 scholarship to any of the 15 University of Alaska campuses. Lumen's 2018 UA Scholar is Kaare Helgesen!

Kaare Helgesen attended Lumen Christi since the 7th grade. While at Lumen, he was involved in many extracurricular activities, including drama, Student Government, and basketball. Throughout high school, he always strove to do better and give back, culminating in his election as Student Body President in his Senior year. His experiences at Lumen allowed him to grow in self-confidence and become more of an extrovert. He enjoyed chess, classical and jazz music, and research writing. After graduating from Lumen Christi in May 2018, Kaare is attending UAA for a degree in Biochemistry, and then plans to move on to medical school in the Lower 48.

"And Then Some" ...Julianne Estes!



This award recognizes a student (junior or senior high school) who makes a significant and positive impact during the semester. To be considered, the nominee must go above and beyond that which is normally expected of a Lumen Christi student. Student accomplishments should set them apart from their peers and should have a noticeable contribution to the school and community at large. This is not an academic ability award nor is it an athletic prowess award. Rather, this award showcases a student that best exemplifies and lives daily our core values of Faith, Family, and Excellence...and then some! Lumen's winner for 2018 was Julianne Estes!

Julianne Estes continually goes above and beyond to help others! She is kind, humble, and demonstrates the power of her Catholic faith. Whenever a volunteer is needed, Julianne is the first to do so without hesitation. Her efforts extend from her class to the entire student body, such as in leading others to be successful in the "Big A, little a" mentoring program. Julianne is also quietly humble in how she prays, learns, leads, and acts. She has a genuine kindness that represents our school with pride. Whether it be on the soccer field, in the classroom, at Mass, or helping other students, Julianne can be counted upon to do it all..."and then some."

Student John McConnell Makes National News!



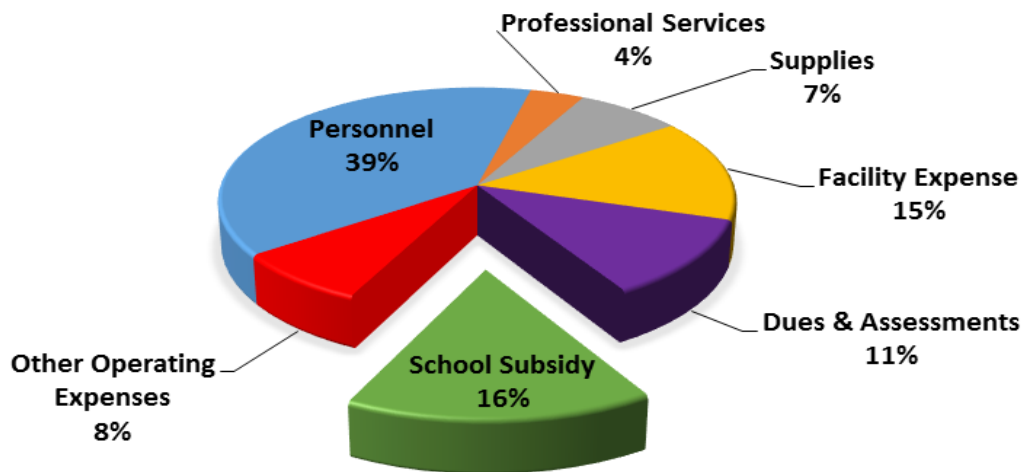
"I wish to play drums in a Revolutionary War reenactment!" 8th Grader John McConnell, a history buff and avid reader, spoke these words to the Alaska Chapter of the "Make-a-Wish" Foundation. He got his wish...beyond his wildest imagination! Make-A-Wish Alaska and Washington joined forces to welcome John, his sister, Jeanie (10th grade), brother Daniel (7th grade), mom (Jackie) and dad (Brian) to Boston for the granting of his wish on Patriots' Day! After viewing the historic reenactment of the Battle on Lexington Green, John met up with the Acton Minute Men at a midway point in their march from Acton to the Old North Bridge in Concord as they did

on April 19, 1775 in response to the British attempt to seize a cache of Patriot weaponry. Members of the Acton pushed John in an all-terrain wheelchair to the Old North Bridge where Anthony and the whole reenactment community were waiting. With John in the lead British regiments and Colonial Militia marched to the bridge to await his drum commands to prime and load, make ready, present and fire. The wish of one kid from Alaska who travelled all the way to New England left its own mark in history and in the hearts of the people who made it all happen.

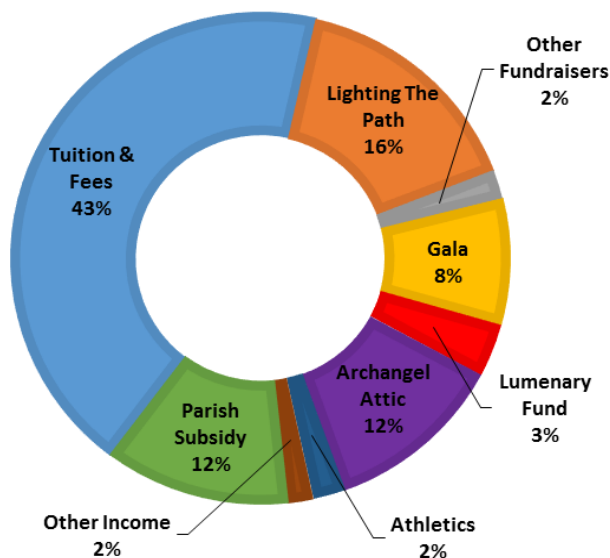
Financials - Saint Benedict Parish and Lumen Christi School

Parishioners of Saint Benedict Parish supported Lumen Christi with \$138,803 in FY18. Archangel Attic, a source of direct fundraising for the school, supported Lumen Christi with an additional \$134,630, for a combined support of \$273,443. This represented an investment of \$3,906 in each of the school's 70 students. This direct support accounted for 24-percent of the school's income. The real cost to educate a student at Lumen Christi was more than \$16,500 in FY18 and tuition averaged \$7,000 per student. The "gap" between the real cost of education and the tuition a family pays was made up through a combination of the LUMEN-ary Annual Fund, the Annual Gala Auction, other fundraisers, and the remaining direct support from the parish. With school expenses steadily increasing and parish income stagnant due to the local economy the school instituted a long-term development strategy entitled, "Lighting the Path to the Future." For more information on this successful development initiative see page 8.

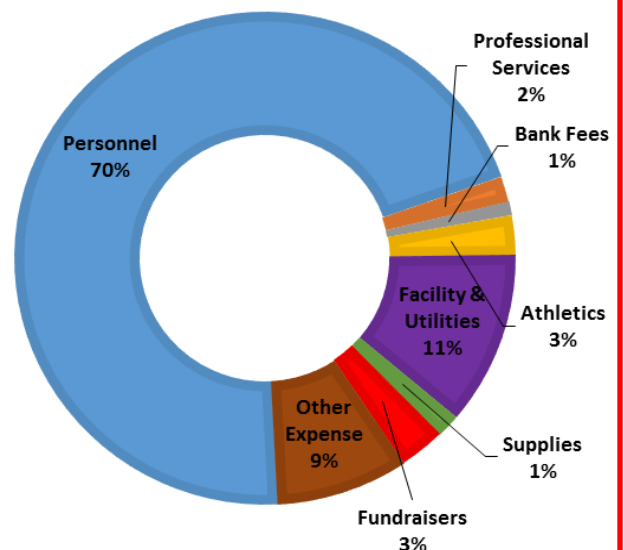
PARISH EXPENSE



SCHOOL REVENUE



SCHOOL EXPENSE



2017 - 2018 LUMEN-ary Drive Donors

Many thanks to the individuals listed below for helping us to “close the gap” between the real cost of educating a student at Lumen Christi (\$16,500) and what a family pays in tuition. Thank you very much!

Lonnie and Marcy (*) Adkins	Joan Harmon	Joseph Munoz
David and Denise Agosti	David Hart and Anne Gore	Hiro and Karen Nakayama
Alaska Association of Filipino-Americans	Todd and Joanna Hansen	Richard and Katie Novcaski
Joan Alles	Roald and Carly (+) Helgesen	Matt (+) and Karin O'Connell
William and Shirley Arnold	Andrew and Virginia Hepola	Tim and Stephanie O'Connell
Rafael and Marijes Apostol	Aaron and Elizabeth Hersh	Edith Opinsky
Mike and Kim Bakic	Charles and Dale Ann Hosack	Rich Owens
Allen and Mary Francis Barnes	Billy Hunt (*)	Beau (*) and Rachael Palumbo
Azucena Bantique	Filomena Iloilo	Augie and Ruth Paone
Michael (*) and Asia Bauzon	Julie Irving	Elaine Potter
Bonnie (+) and John Bezousek	Tom and Liz Janezich	Afimupo Pule
Michael and Lynn Boots	Loren and Dianna Jensen	Gerry and Mary Rapp
Jeff and Lea (+) Bouton	Betty Johnson	Diane Ray
Debbie Brewer (*)	Robert and Olive Jones	Marichu Relativo
Brian and Anne Marie Brigandi	Joseph and Charlene Kale	Clint and Erin Renfro
Larry and Nancy Brys	Greg and Celine Kaplan	Neil and Stacy (*) Robertson
Mari Burger	Eileen Keegan	Brian (*+) and Tracy Ross
Michael and Nancy Burke	Nick and Orielle Kinder	Tim and Nikki Ross
Genelle Cain	John and Rosemary Klem	Michael and Judee Rybicki
Antje (*) and Martin Carlson	Bob and Geraldine Kottre	Travis and Danielle (+) Rybicki
Doris Carey	Gary Kretchik	James and Suzanne Sabrowski
Sandra Connaker	Gerry and Alicia Kupris	Elmer and Lois Salontai
Cal and Alison (*) Craig	Greg and Ann LaBuz	Jeff and Ruth Sandstrom
James and Ann Curro	Larry and Kathleen Langer	John and Nikelle (+) Sherman
Patrick and Noel Danielson	Paul and Colleen Larson	Colonel (Ret.) Clair Shirey
James and Geraldine Deagen	Ife and Obi Lebechi	Ron and Jane Simono
Dave and Lila Dickhaus	James Leonard	Justin and Megan (*) Spillers
John and Marian Dunlevy	Fr. Tom Lilly (*+)	Mark and Dianne Stillion
Dennis Dupras	Bob and Judy Locke	Mr. and Mrs. William Stevens
Cheryl Edgren	Shane (+) and Amy Locke	Roy and Terry Stoddard
Cindy Emery	Drew and Elizabeth (*) Loeffler	James and Sharon Swendseid
Janet Esser	Alex and Galina Lych	Charles and Carol Szopa
James and Jessica (*) Estes	Rolando and Marina Macato	David and Judith Tedesco
Dr. Ralph and Cheryl Feriani	Deacon Les and Brenda Maiman	Tim and Loren Terry
Patricia Ford	Weichel Maloney	Alec and Kellie Thomson
Bernie and Beatrice Freeman	Jeff and Mary Manes	John and Gerianne Thorsness
Greg (+) Gallagher	Peter Mauro	Al and Jean Watson
Edison and Nancy Garcia	Brian and Jackie McConnell	Keith (+) and Ivy Williams
Wilfred and Pamela Garcia	Michael McLaughlin	Deanna Wlad
Kristin Garrison	Chris (+) and Sandie Michaelson	Sue Wolfe
Glenn and Ava Goodman	Josef Mey	Mike and Karen Wolski
Mark and Michell Goodwin	Kellie Miller	Dr. Ken and Joy Wynn
Jon and Melissa Gould	Reverend David Miller	Robert and Margarita Zabala
Theresa Gucker	David and Kay Mitchell	
Halcro Family Foundation	John and Patricia Mitchell	
Mary Halcro	Tim and Shari Morehouse	
Robert and Barbara Halcro	Gerry and Kara (+) Moriarty	
Father William Hanrahan	Bridgette Moses	
John Harmon	Thomas Mulchay	

We apologize if we have inadvertently omitted your name. Please call 245-9231 and we will include your name on our next acknowledgment. Thanks!

(*) Denotes faculty /administration
 (+) Denotes School Board member

LIFE AT LUMEN CHRISTI



THE YEAR IN PHOTOS



The Archangel Attic Nears \$1,000,000 in Donations!

Sometime in mid-winter of this school year, proceeds from the “Archangel Attic” will exceed the \$1 million mark! This is tremendous news! **Since the Attic re-opened in 2005 under the leadership of Mary Manes and her incredible staff of volunteers, our students and families have directly benefited...to the tune of \$1 million dollars!** Proceeds from the Attic translated into a reduction in tuition of over \$1,800 per student. Volunteering on Friday evenings this past year earned over \$10,000 additional income for our school. **School families: Volunteering at the Archangel Attic is one of the “Big-Five” ways you can help to keep tuition affordable.** Please stop by and give the volunteers a “high-five” for their heartfelt sacrifices. Please call the school office to volunteer. Thank you!

“Lighting the Path to the Future” - Investing in the journey of a student

“Lighting the Path to the Future” is an intentional partnership with the Archdiocese of Anchorage and the wider Catholic and civic community to support Catholic and non-Catholic youth who desire the excellent education and moral development offered at Lumen Christi. In its inaugural year in 2017, the Archdiocese, ten parishes, eleven members of the Knights and Ladies of the Holy Sepulchre, and eight individual donors represented the “inaugural partners” and together broadened the donor base to create a promising and sustainable future for students to attend Lumen Christi. **In its second year, Providence Hospital, four Knights of Columbus Councils, one additional individual donor, and the Filipino and Samoan communities of Saint Benedict Parish joined the 20 “first responders.”** An intentional portion of these funds are designated to assure financial scholarships for families who could not otherwise afford a Catholic education. Please contact Fr. Tom Lilly at (907) 317-9042 if you would like to receive additional information on how you or your business can invest in the life of a young person. We express our sincere gratitude to all who are witnessing and walking with us, “*Lighting The Path*” for our students at Lumen Christi Catholic School! **Thank you!**

- Supporters of “Lighting the Path to the Future” as of September, 2018 -

\$80,000

Anonymous
Anonymous

\$52,000

Archdiocese of Anchorage
Providence Hospital

\$26,000

AAFA

Anonymous
Bob and Letha Flint
John Harmon
Fr. Tom Lilly
Deacon Les and Brenda Maiman
Deb Mason

Filipino Religious Tradition of Saint Benedict Parish
Juliana Osinchuk (in memory of Mark D. Dawson)
Samoan Community of Saint Benedict Parish

\$7,200

Saint Christopher by the Sea, Unalaska

\$5,000

Wayne and Barbara Pichon

Parishes (\$26,000)

Holy Cross, Anchorage
Holy Family Cathedral, Anchorage
Our Lady of Guadalupe Co-Cathedral
Sacred Heart, Wasilla
Saint Andrew, Eagle River
Saint Benedict, Anchorage
Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton, Anchorage
Saint Patrick, Anchorage
Saint Francis Xavier, Valdez

Knights and Ladies (Total of \$26,000)

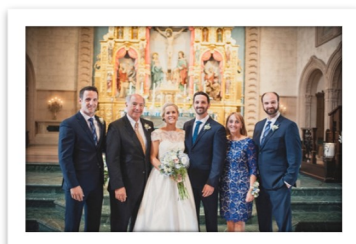
Deacon Kurt and Joan Adler
Carol Carlson
Mike Hawker
Matt and Stacey Heilala
Deacon Mark and Jeanie Merrill
Chad and Edna Resari
Dave and Elizabeth Roberts
Grant and Cheryl Roderer
Wayne and Ginny Ross
Kay Stevens (RIP)
Peggy Witzleben

Knights of Columbus (Total of \$7,000)

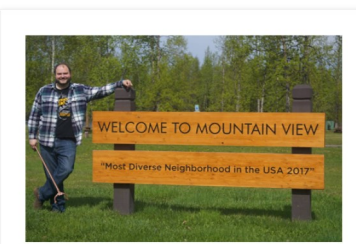
Saint Paul Miki (Council #10798)
Our Lady of the Snows (Council #4859)
Saint Benedict (Council #12290)
San Juan Diego (Council #12492)

Alumni Snapshots...

Attention all Lumen Alumni: we want to print your stories in this Annual Report each year. Let us know what you are up to these days! Contact Nikelle (Kruger) Sherman through the school office. Please stay in touch!



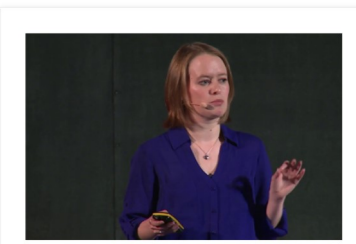
The Brauner Family: Isaac (02), is a family medicine doctor in Washington; **Noah (04)** is a radiologist in California; and **Adam (04)** practices corporate law in southern California. All credit Lumen Christi as the school that gave them a solid academic grounding, and helped them grow in their Catholic faith.



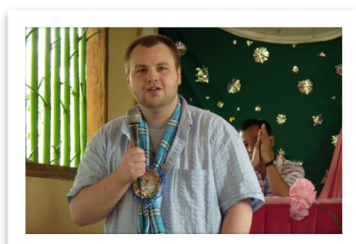
Daniel George (05), a 2009 graduate of Gonzaga University, has committed his life to serving his neighbors, specifically the community of Mountain View, having served three terms as Community Council President. He writes, I strongly believe in the quality of the education offered at Lumen Christi!"



Shannon (Craig) Berry (05) completed a degree in mathematics at the University of Portland. She worked with homeless youth at Covenant House in New Jersey following college. Now working in the family business (True Value Hardware), she married **Josh Berry (06)** and they are happily raising a son.



Katy Portell (08) currently works in England for the National Health Service Blood and Transplant program. Recently completing a Master's in Public Relations from Kingston University, London, she is a passionate voice in the field of organ and tissue donation, being a recipient of a heart valve transplant.



Tanner Berube (10), graduated from UAA with a degree in Finance. He is a recipient of the "Saint Francis of Assisi Award" for outstanding service. He says, "The individual attention I received at Lumen was life-changing. Lumen Christi is the backbone of my education, career, and future."

"Pick - Click - Give"

Thank you to the following individuals who supported Lumen Christi through the PFD's "Pick-Click-Give" program. We appreciate your help!

- Anonymous (x6)
- Kimberly Bakic
- Maeve Bakic
- Michael Bakic
- Shelby Benton
- Jessica Estes
- Mary Gore
- John Harmon
- Abigail Hoellering
- Alexander Hoellering
- Daniel Hoellering
- Danna Hoellering
- Thomas Hoellering
- Debra Jorgensen
- Sonja Jorgensen
- James Kvidera
- James McCormack
- Karen O'Connell
- Riley O'Connell
- Marilyn Picou
- Stacy Robertson
- Andrew Ross
- Brian Ross
- Emily Ross
- Matthew Ross
- John Schroder
- Mariacelia Simmons
- Carol Sturgulewski
- Hugh Sturgulewski
- Gerianne Thorsness
- Henry Thorsness
- James Yeargan
- Fr. Leo Walsh



2018 Gala/Auction: "A Walk Through New Orleans"



On February 10, 2018, our school and gym were transformed into our 23rd Annual "Mardi Gras" Gala and Auction. Attendees came for a fun filled evening to support our school, and were entertained with festive music as they walked down the streets of New Orleans and took part in the grand celebration. Lumen Christi's generous community supporters donated hundreds of items for our Live and Silent auctions, and participants took part in the Dessert Dash with great enthusiasm! The Gala is a large event to put on every year, and we couldn't do it without all our wonderful volunteers. It is always nice to see our Lumen Christi and Saint Benedict families work together to make all aspects of the night possible. Each year the proceeds from the Gala go towards the school's general operating budget, keeping the cost of tuition lower for families. **This year's Gala earnings offset the cost of tuition by approximately \$1,000 per student!** On top of that we raised over \$20,000 for our Scholarship Program, and another \$15,000 for our Fund-a-Project which paid for the installation of "smart televisions" for each of the classrooms as part of our technology upgrade. Planning has already begun for our 24th Annual "Winter Wonderland" Gala & Auction which will be on Saturday, February 9, 2019. For more information or to learn how you can help, contact the Gala Co- Chairs Danielle Rybicki and Julie Irving at 907-273- 1530 or gala@lumenchristiak.com. Thank you to all of our supporters who came together to support our kids. It was a wonderful evening. We hope to see you on February 9th!

It's Better to Give than to Receive...



Saint Benedict's Knights of Columbus and Lumen Christi's basketball team and staff members, Elizabeth Loeffler, April Alvarez, Fr. Tom Lilly and Ed Klem participated in the Polar Plunge to benefit Special Olympics of Alaska. Together, the team raised over \$6,000 for this special cause. They made a great splash! Now that Archangels have "made the plunge" for a second year, this is now a "long-standing Lumen tradition!" Students are already planning this year's plunge on Dec. 15th!



A merry band of Archangels, under the leadership of "Principal Angel," Mr. Ross, jing-jing-jingled their way through a five-kilometer run in December, 2017 to raise money for the Arthritis Foundation of Anchorage. This run is a fun way for our students, faculty, staff, and friends to get decked out and be festive, while racing to raise funds and awareness to cure America's #1 cause of disability. Put on your favorite Christmas garb, tie those jingle bells to your shoelaces, and come join "Team Lumen" for this year's run on Dec. 8th!

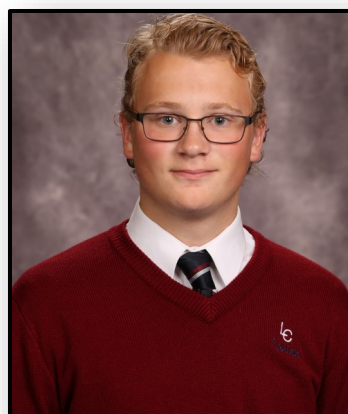


Talk about giving! Our "Lady Archangels" basketball team gave everything they had! Under the coaching prowess of Nikelle Sherman (Class of 2007), our girls cinched a Conference Championship before a packed Lumen gym. Our awesome "Lumen Ladies" then played their hearts out in their first State Championship Tournament in our school's 22 year history. Congratulations, ladies, on a fabulous season! We are very proud of our boys team, as well, as they "just missed" going to State by ONE point. Win or lose, our student-athletes are number one!

Presenting the Senior Class of 2018!



Maeve Bakic



Walter Bugden



Matthew Goodwin



Kaare Helgesen



Hagen Lirette



Mark Loeffler



Falon Methonen



Tomy Tran



Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit No. 854
Anchorage, AK

Lumen Christi High School

8110 Jewel Lake Road
Anchorage, AK 99502

Phone: 907-245-9231
Fax: 907-245-9232
Email: lcbs@lumenchristiak.com

Faith
Family
Excellence

Follow us on Facebook!
www.lumenchristiak.com

Congratulations, Graduates!



Lumen Christi offers a rigorous Catholic education in a Christ-like environment.