

By the grace of God, Immanuel Christian School is opening its doors for the 49<sup>th</sup> year. Forty-nine years of striving to educate students to live as children of God and responsible citizens of Canada.

**Our theme this year** is based on Philippians 4: 6 & 7.

*<sup>6</sup> Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. <sup>7</sup> And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.*

Prayer is central to the life of every Christian. Prayer is our opportunity to talk with God as we walk with Him each day. Just as you would share different things when walking with a friend, so too, there are different things we share when we talk with God.

As we start the new school year, as we share and talk with God we offer our thanks and appreciation.

**We offer prayers of thanksgiving.**

We thank God for safety experienced by our students and parents this summer. We pray that the summer activities may energize them for another year of learning.

We thank God for the start of a new year and the students we are able to serve. We pray that the students may learn well.

We thank God for supportive parents, for a community that prays for the staff at Immanuel.

**We offer prayers of petition.**

We ask God for his blessing in the coming school year. May the students deepen their friendships and be empowered through their learning.

We ask for a blessing on the students, on their learning and on their social and emotional maturing. May they share the peace of God with their fellow students.

We ask God for safety for the bus drivers, now and when the winter weather comes.

We ask God for insight and clear thinking for our teachers as students and their varied needs are assessed and addressed.

We ask God to shower his blessings on us as we strive to faithfully serve Him.

**The Peace of God** is offered to anyone who asks. This morning during our Chapel time students had the opportunity to pass the peace of God to others. What a powerful way to begin a new school year!

Jasper Hoogendam, Principal/COO