

Click [here](#) if you are having trouble viewing this message.



Message from your Regional Director

Fellow International Christian Educator,

Growing up, our parents enrolled my siblings and me into Christian schools. Yes, all nine of us! I remember one Christmas season when I was in 2nd grade, my classmates and I had to memorize Luke 2:1-20 and recite it at the annual Christmas pageant. I've attended enough school Christmas pageants in my career that I can imagine now how cute us boys and girls must have been in our little suits and dresses back in the 60s, but I digress. I can't recite that passage in Luke word for word right now but it's on the tip of my tongue to this day. There is one verse tucked away away in that beautiful story, that has come to mean a lot to me. It's this one:

"But Mary treasured up all these things, pondering them in her heart". Luke 2:19

Fast forward from second grade to my third year at Bible college when I purchased a small spiral notebook just prior to going on my first overseas trip (an M-trip). I bought that notebook with the goal of recording the new experiences I would have in culture, food, language, ministry, and in my walk with God. I wanted to try to write something every day while I was away. That humble beginning eventually led to a nearly 4-decade long journaling habit that has gone on to include not just moments like overseas trips, but also the ordinary, the highs, the lows, the joys, and yes, a few heartaches and fears of everyday life. Never did I think when I started that those handwritten notebooks and journals (one for each year) would take up nearly a bookshelf and a half of space today!

Back to Luke 2:19, I don't think Mary journaled, but I think she had the right idea. As a young lady in Luke 2, she had just experienced some of the most extraordinary things a person could ever experience, things she didn't ever want to forget ("Mary treasured up"), and things she surely couldn't fully understand in the moment ("pondering them in her heart"). I have found that writing/journaling is a lot like Mary treasuring and pondering. Journaling is not only a way to treasure our present moments, but with the passing of time and looking back occasionally, we can also come to fully see, or ponder, how God was working in our past for our good in the present. Of course, not every day is Christmas Day as in Mary's case, but every day for the believer is a day of new mercies (Lamentations 3:22-33) to be treasured and pondered.

What about you? Many of you are living abroad in obedience to God's calling on your life. There is much you can treasure and ponder as an international Christian educator. Any chance there a brand-new blank journal on your Christmas wish list? I hope so.

May you find time to treasure and ponder during this Christmas break.

Merry Christmas.

Tim

Tim Shuman, Senior Director, International Division, for the [International School Team](#)
Follow on social: [@tpshuman](#) [@acsiintlschools](#) [@acsiglobal](#) [@acsiusa](#)

[Tim Shuman, Senior Director, International Division](#)
[Caitlin Taylor, Global Activity & International Events Coordinator](#) to Tim S
[Tim Thompson, Director](#) of Accreditation (International/Global Division)
[Kimberly Park, Executive Assistant](#) to Tim T

Coming Up



Have you planned out your 2023-2024 calendar? Join us for some amazing upcoming conferences in Dubrovnik, Jakarta, and Prague!

- [ISLC 2023](#) in Dubrovnik, Croatia on 23–26 April 2023. **Registrations are filling up fast!**
- [ICEC Asia 2023](#) in Jakarta, Indonesia on 22-25 November 2023.
- ICEC Europe 2024 in Prague CZ on 20-23 March 2024.

[PFO2Go Online](#) course continues to be available anytime, anywhere for your newest staff.

News, Articles & Other Ideas

- In case you are wondering how I journal, here are a few of my own [FAQs](#).
- Here's a good take on writing out your prayers, [3 Benefits of Writing Your Prayers](#).
- Part 2 of the international school Salary & Tuition report is in the latest issue of ACSI's Research in Brief. This time we focus on [Tuition, Revenue, and Enrollment in International Christian Schools](#).
- This is a serious article regarding child safety that should be considered. The focus is on MKs, but can apply to all TCKs as well. [What Is a Missionary Kid Worth](#).
- ACSI's latest posts and resources:
 - [Building on God's Momentum in Your Christian School](#)
 - [Practicing Thankfulness in School Community](#)
 - [Outcomes Matter](#)
 - [Moving Forward Flourishing Series: Resource Constraints](#) (podcast).
 - [ACSI Schools Weather the Pandemic Storm](#) is an enlightening report on how US member schools performed vs US National Norms.
 - Please mark your calendars and plan to participate in the 2023 [ACSI Day of Prayer](#).
 - NEW – [Inspired to Teach](#) is a new ACSI resource designed specifically for Christian educators. Be sure to pass this on to your teachers.
- Here's a quick [6-minute video overview](#) unpacking ACSI's Flourishing School's research.
- Do you have a high schooler interested in becoming a teacher? The [International Teachers College](#) is an ACSI-accredited teacher education program in Indonesia that is training students from five continents to be Christian teachers. At less than 20% of the cost of a four-year degree in the USA, graduates receive a US-accredited B.Ed. from [Corban University](#) in Oregon, while studying on the beautiful [Universitas Pelita Harapan](#) campus in the suburbs of Jakarta. Full scholarships are available for students who are willing to teach in the [Pelita Harapan](#) system of schools after graduation.

- [Go Chatter Videos](#) is a Christian media ministry based in the UK. Their stated aim is to “get people talking about Jesus” via a series of short engaging videos for all ages. [Check it out](#) and consider using one of their videos in your class or chapel service and discuss.
- Michael Essenburg offers fresh reflections on flourishing in the international Christian school. [What comes to mind when you think of “get flourishing”?](#) Be sure to subscribe.
- The 2022 World Cup is underway and as usual I have divided loyalties. I’m sure many of you know what I mean. This article highlights specifically what TCKs go through when it comes to international sporting events. [Enjoying Sports as a TCK](#).
- Wow, check out [the technology imbedded in the official balls used in the World Cup](#) (thanks to reader Micah Powers for this resource.) And then there’s this... [These Bees Taught their Friends to Play Bee Soccer](#) (video). Shouldn’t it be “Bee Football”?
- And finally, let’s us end 2022 with a few seconds of pure joy: [Baby elephant interrupts Kenyan reporter](#).

Headship Openings Only

- Asuncion Christian Academy, Paraguay. [Learn more here](#).
- Carthage Classical Academy, Tunisia. [Learn more here](#).
- El Camino Academy, Bogota, Colombia. [Learn more here](#).
- Evangelical Christian Academy, Spain. [Learn more here](#).
- Faith International Academy, Philippines. [Learn more here](#).
- Lazarus Academy, Honduras. [Learn more here](#).
- Mountainview Christian School, Indonesia (2023). [Learn more here](#).
- Ukarumpa International Academy, Papua New Guinea. [Learn more here](#).
- Yongsan International School of Seoul, Korea. [Learn more here](#).

If you have a head of school opening coming up, please let me know. Be sure to check our [member school vacancy page](#) as well as the [ACSI Job Board](#). The ACSI job board is currently showing almost [6834 resumes](#) from job seekers, up again by 25 since last month! Use the filter to see the most recently updated resumes.

ACSI Announcements

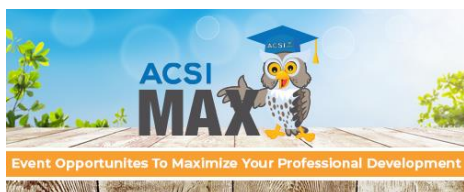


The best leaders are great coaches to those they lead. In this [Winter Webinar](#), we’ll explore the characteristics of effective



We have partnered with Classic Learning Initiatives (CLI), publisher of the Classic Learning Test (CLT), to provide Christian

Leader Coaches as well as give you a practical model to help you coach others using The COACH Model™. A recording will be available to everyone who registers.



Click [here](#) to see a list of all our [MAX events](#) January through April 2023, including HR and Employment Law for Christian Schools, Flourish Deeper: Sustainability, and Early Education: Cultivating Resilience.



New report on Christian schools during COVID-19 released

Recently, ACSI released a new [report](#) on Christian schools during COVID-19. The report finds Christian schools flourished, despite the challenges of the pandemic, by consistently maintaining high levels of academic excellence, responding quickly to students' learning needs, and experiencing student enrollment growth. Find the report [here](#).



We have moved our current Connexus Premium platform to **ACSI PD powered**

schools with a unique [college readiness assessment option](#). The assessment can be administered at Christian schools on a variety of dates in the fall and spring. The ACSI program will include Christian school comparison scores along with discounted member pricing. Learn more [here](#).



Invest in your next generation of leadership through ACSI's [Leadership U](#). Applications are being accepted through December for new and emerging leaders to go through a 14-month mentoring program. Study administration, governance, research, advancement, and best practices, grow with veteran mentors, and thrive in a community of fellow scholars who share your passion to lead with skill and integrity. Learn more [here](#).



We have updated our **Accreditation** protocol, called **Inspire**. Click the image above or watch the video about it [here](#).



by **Campus**. This upgraded platform will provide well over 500 hours of formal instruction for Christian educators while continuing to add new content. Click the video link above or go [here](#) to learn more.



We're always on the lookout for inspirational stories about Christian schools around the world. What exciting things are happening at your school? Take a moment to [share your story](#) with us by filling out this [form](#). We want to highlight the amazing things taking place at your school!

Change of Address Notice



Business Mail

Post Office Box 62249
Colorado Springs, CO 80962

Warehouse Shipments

ACSI/Slingshot
107 Pennsylvania Street, Dock 17
Marion, IN 40952

You can watch our recent [Maximize Your Membership](#) video about the 2023 Day of Prayer and download a PDF about it [here](#).



[ACSI Student Activities](#) offers international virtual and on-demand events that make it easy for member schools around the world to get involved! We pray that each of you experiences the wonder, joy, and peace of our Savior this Christmas.

ACSI/GCU STEM Competitions kick off early in the new year, so be sure to [register](#) your school by **December 9** to participate in an event near you, or virtually! We also invite you to engage with other Christian STEM educators by joining the [STEM Collaboration](#) group in the ACSI Community online.

Middle School Leadership Development [Virtual Adventure](#) and [Spelling Bee Kits](#) are still available for purchase. Both events are on-demand and provide your school with all the resources needed to facilitate an event on your campus this school year.

To learn more about ACSI Student Activities and to get involved in our [events](#), visit us online at [ACSI.org/StudentActivities](#) or [contact](#) an ACSI Student Activities team member.